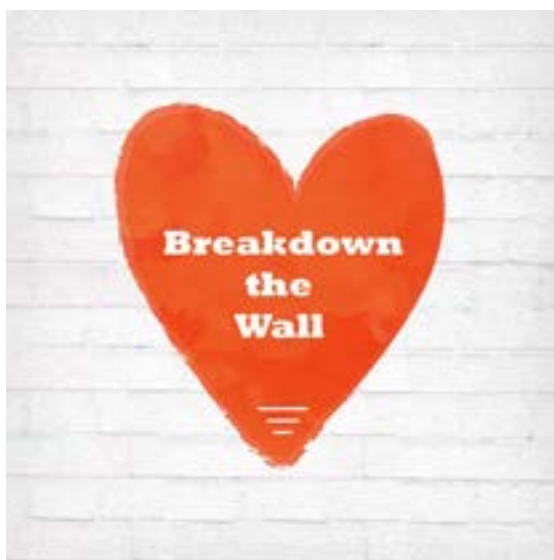


Breakdown The Wall

European Voluntary Service in Italy



Montesano Salentino (Italy)
31TH March 2017 - 28th September 2017

European Voluntary Service on:
INTEGRATION OF REFUGEES
EU CITIZENSHIP

with the support of:



in cooperation with:



International center for development
of education and training



Ballyfermot Youth Service



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THE PROJECT IN SHORT

**“YOU ARE GOING TO LIVE A 6 MONTHS EXPERIENCE IN
THE SOUTH OF ITALY SUPPORTING THE WORK OF SEYF
FOR THE INTEGRATION OF REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS IN
THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AND FOR THE PROMOTION OF EUROPEAN
CULTURE AMONG LOCAL YOUNG PEOPLE
ALL EXPENSES ARE COVERED BY US AND YOU WILL LEARN A LOT
AND HAVE LOTS OF FUN.”**

WHI WHE ARE



SEYF – South Europe Youth Forum is a network of youth organizations based in Italy and spread all over the European Area. SEYF has the aim to promote cooperation at international level and to facilitate access to opportunities at European level, as well as learning mobility and European cooperation.

SEYF mainly works in the fields of **Culture**, Youth & Sport, Environment & Territory, Inclusion & Human Rights, Education & Training.

The innovation of SEYF network consists not only in its capacity to be collector and promoter of contacts but in its making itself a social network for the promotion of relations among individuals participants and organizations in a logic of communication in step with the times.



Today SEYF gather in a strong cooperation more than 30 organizations from different countries. The main goal, shared by all partners, is to work for social and human development, to help in bringing forward positive change and social cohesion in a world that respects human rights and democratically involves all human beings in their personal development.

The Italian base of SEYF takes place in the Province of Lecce (and coordinates an international web network called “SEYF.EU”). At the moment SEYF is also settled on the Maltese Islands with the organization SEYF Malta.



THE PROJECT



Breakdown The Wall is a European Voluntary Service project that will be held in Lecce, Tricase and Montesano Salentino from 31st March 2017 to 28 September 2017.

The project will involve **2 volunteers** between the age of 18 and 27 years from **Bulgaria** and **Ireland**.

ORIGINs OF THE PROJECT

The project started as a result of events of **intolerance, racism** that continue to grow with the rising of the walls by European states, that by doing so they think it will solve the migratory phenomenon.

It is becoming more frequent, that due to the economic crisis, escalation of **populism** and **emergency migration in the Mediterranean**, that political integration does not have the desired impact in small communities and often it degenerates into episodes of great discrimination against young migrants who are being hosted in the local reception centres.



In the meanwhile, SEYF is currently managing a Center for Refugees and Asylum seekers where we host 40 young people from Africa. In this center, SEYF provide for all the basic needs of the young migrants.

Upon these lines, SEYF and its partenrs have decided to promote a project for setting **good practices of integration through the use of intercultural dialogue** and artistic and poetic expression, in order to convey messages of integration with an innovative, participatory and empathetic approach: this will happen by **collecting stories of local migrants** , setting up activities for fostering integration between the Community and the migrants and, in



the meanwhile, for stimulating a wider sense of EU citizenship among the local community. The success of this action and all the tools that will originate out of this project will be shared at Euro-Mediterranean level, and will be used by all partners as an example of good practice that can be easily replicated, spread and presented in other local communities.



OBJECTIVES

The main objectives are:

- To foster better understanding of the procedures of reception of asylum seekers and holders of international protection being in progress in the territories, with the scope to be understood as good integration practices and alternative development of the local and international community;
- To build interactive informative moments for foreign citizens that are being hosted in the reception centres in the area of Lecce, Tricase and Montesano, following an empathetic approach with the use of non-formal and intercultural dialogue.
- To support local and international movement of opinion, through practices that are easily replicated, spread and presented in other local communities.

METHODOLOGIES

The methodologies used to Breakdown the Wall meets the requirements of non-formal education of the Erasmus + program. The young volunteers will be able to learn and experiment with new methodologies for the involvement and animation of the local community, and will discover motives and stories related to the hosted migrant's community: the participants will be the main actors of the exchange and will be able to learn, assess and become aware of the dynamics of inclusive participatory processes. Volunteers will be the protagonists and will become messengers of the real meaning of being inclusive and an active European citizen in a small reality, away from the main circuits, where people have different conceptions of their role in society.



WHERE AND WHEN

WHEN



The project lasts 6 months ha una durata di **6 months**..

STARTING day: **31th March 2017**.

ENDING day: **28th September 2017**.

TOTAL DURATION: **6 months**

TRAVEL DAYS: the project foresees 2 travel days (come/back). Any different schedule can be planned together with the Hosting Organization.



WHERE

Participants are going to live in a multicultural context of the South of Italy.

Volunteers are going to live in **Tricase**, a nice city in Salento, the sub region situated in the South of the Apulia Region, in the Province of Lecce.

Activities are going to be implemented in:

- **Montesano Salentino**, where SEYF has got its Center for Refugees and Asylum Seekers;
- **Tricase**, where SEYF cooperates with local organization for the promotion of the Erasmus Programme and European Citizenship through events, linguistic tandems, seminars;
- **Lecce**, where SEYF has its mains office, for the organization of events with young people, local schools and other NGOs.

Participants will fall in love with **Salento**, in the unspoilt 'heel' of the country, for its great weather, beaches and party atmosphere. Every town and village has a yearly festa, so in summer there's a choice of several to attend every night.



PROFILE OF VOLUNTEER



- * Aged between 18 to 27 years;
 - * active, open-minded, creative, innovative, responsible and motivated volunteers;
 - * Volunteers need to have a genuine interest in learning to work with young people and migrants, non-formal activities, interculturality, traditions and cultural customs and other similar topics and be willing to learn and expand their skills on these issues. – This will consist the main selection criteria for the project;
 - * pro-active attitudes and dynamic persons are welcomed;
 - * able to work in multicultural teams, tolerant and open-minded;
 - * Any experience and/or educations in non-formal education and animation skills and artistic competences (basic, not professional) will be a plus so be sure to mention them in your CV/motivation letter. (However this is not a main selection criteria).
 - * The volunteers of this project should, above all else, show willingness to learn and see their EVS experience as a learning process.
 - * Basic level of **English** (being able to make herself/himself understood by the others – able to communicate).
- Any other language such us French** (mainly) and Arabic (secondarily) would be welcomed and taken into consideration, as the main working languages with refugees are currently English and French.



WHAT WILL I LEARN?

Our **learning methodology** is completely focused on the experiential education and on “learning by doing” methodologies: volunteers will have the possibility to get in contact with the practical applications of the knowledge to be acquired while having a professional working besides the volunteer and providing feedback. For the volunteers we aim to contribute to their Personal and Professional development targeting the acquisition of the following competences by the volunteers:



- * Learn about other **cultures**, intercultural learning process, values, principles, traditions and customs and learn how to operationalize them (break them into more understandable components);
- * Learn how to **interact with young refugees and asylum seekers** and to **organize activities suitable for their daily life** and able to empower them in their new life;
- * Learn **italian**: Free Online Linguistic Support from Erasmus Programme will be provided for each volunteer. Furthermore, Italian classes are already provided in the Center;
- * Learn how to **interact with local people**, in order to foster and stimulate integration between locals and refugees;
- * Learn how to plan and implement activities for **local young people** such as language courses, musical events and so on;
- * Learn from the cultures of the other volunteers as well as learning and being fully immersed in Italian culture;
- * Learn how to **disseminate and multiply information** and how to manage blog, social media and other communication tools;



- * Learn how to implement a long term activities programme for migrants and Italian young people;
- * Learn by practice how to work in teams, divide tasks, manage deadlines, administer finite resources, work with people, plan and evaluate, make long term plans, organize events etc.
- * increased sense of tolerance and understanding;
- * increased self-awareness about own culture;
- * learn how to prepare, implement and evaluate a non-formal educational activity;
- * learn about **project management, community facilitation**, risk management, fund raising and effective public communication;
- * learn about the European values and principles;
- * Learn how to communicate and work with youngsters and with migrants;
- * Learn about the ERASMUS+ programme, with a focus on EVS projects, learn about the management of such projects;
- * Learn to use animation and different non-formal methods as a tools to attract and work with youngsters, migrants and asylum seekers;
- * Develop a network of contact persons and institutions that can support your future personal/professional growth – by working within an NGO the volunteers can learn how such an organization works and have the knowledge to open one themselves;
- * Learn about and gain competences specific to the use of specific methods, tools and practices used in social/youth/cultural work;
- * Gain and develop skills such as team work, leadership, interpersonal communication, planning, goal setting and working with deadlines by working, planning and evaluating activities in an intercultural, highly interconnected and participatory managed team which will create the proper setting for acquisition of this skills.
- * Learn how to live on your own in a foreign country and develop personal skills such as cooking, take care of house chores, manage a personal budget, learn to live with others and accommodate for each other's differences etc.
- * learn how SEYF works in an international context at local level;
- * Make new friends.

... and much more :-)



PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS & FINANCIAL ASPECTS

TRAVEL: Participants will purchase tickets in previous agreement with SEYF. After the presentation of all the original tickets and invoices SEYF will immediately reimburse the participants, while the Sending Organisation will make sure that the volunteer is well informed, has all documents and gets safely on board. Upon the support received by the Erasmus Plus Programme, travel costs are covered until a maximum of 275,00 € per participant

from Bulgaria and from Ireland.



LOCAL TRANSPORT: will be covered by SEYF, upon arrival they will receive info on how to use public transport, a map of the transit lines etc.

ACCOMMODATION: SEYF will host the volunteers in a flat in Tricase, as previously specified. The accommodation will assure good living conditions (private rooms, equipped kitchen and bathroom, heating system, running cold/ hot water, Wi-Fi).

TRAINING: participants will attend specific training session organized by the Italian National Agency for Youth foreseen in the Erasmus Plus Programme.

INSURANCE: participants will be covered for free by the European insurance Cigna for the whole project period.

WORKING PROGRAMME: working hours are flexible and adapted to the schedule of the Center and in line with the needs of local NGOs.



Anyway, it is usually 30 hours/week plus moment for Italian classes, party, fun. Each volunteer is entitled to receiving 2 free days/week (typically weekends but in case that an activity requires work on the weekend the volunteer will be free in the next days) and a total of 12 days of vacation in the project that you can use as you want. Anyway, any change or plan will be discussed in advance with volunteers.

LANGUAGE SUPPORT: The volunteers will learn Italian. In particular, they receive a free licence of Online Linguistic Support ([for more info click here](#)) Italian language lessons as in the Center it is already provided Communication.

FINANCIAL ASPECTS: International travel, local transport, accommodation and utility fees, monthly communication costs, costs related to activities are covered directly by SEYF.

POCKET MONEY: 115 euro/month to the volunteer for additional personal expenses, issued monthly.

WHAT SUPPORT WILL BE AVAILABLE DURING YOUR EVS?

The **mentor** will be responsible for the general personal support of the volunteer. They are in charge of solving practical problems arising being the “first line of support” available. They will be the volunteer’s go-to person for any personal problems as well as being responsible for guiding the volunteer through the learning process. The mentor will be there to help you identify learning needs and opportunities, help you plan your learning process and help in the self-evaluation.

The **counterparts** (staff from the Center and local organizations) that will be supporting the volunteers in the actual implementation process of the activities. They will provide the volunteers with professional support in delivering their activities.

Additional support will be offered by SEYF in the form Preparation, Adaptation and Training programme which is a programme designed to transmit all the necessary skill and abilities for the project focusing on skills and abilities building programme, providing them with methods, tools and materials that will support and facilitate their activities in the project.



TAKE PART!

For participating please contact your sending organization in your country.

- For **Ireland**:

[Ballyfermot Youth Service](mailto:gerry@ballyfermotys.ie) - gerry@ballyfermotys.ie

- For **Bulgaria**:

[INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING](mailto:icdetbg@gmail.com) -
icdetbg@gmail.com

Please fill the form: <https://goo.gl/forms/TiKQmzTJWj0rVj3H2>

For **more information** feel free to contact us to:

info@seyf.eu



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