

RECRUITING NOW

KIDS IN ACTION 8

UNITED IN SOLIDARITY

SEPTEMBER 2021 - AUGUST 2022

Call for volun- teers.



EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS



FAMILIJA

IZOBRAŽEVALNI IN
TERAPEVTSKI CENTER



LONG-TERM VOLUNTEERING
PROJECT IN ŠKOFJA LOKA
SLOVENIA

HEY!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO:

Dedicate your energy, knowledge and time to improve the life of children, youth and different vulnerable social groups?

Would you like to spend 12 months in a lovely, picturesque, medieval town in one of the smallest, but greenest, European countries?

Would you enjoy the opportunity to become an active part of the local community?

Then apply now,

or before 31st August 2021, by sending your CV and motivation letter to matjaz@familija.eu.

We are looking for 1 more volunteer from any program country to join our long-term volunteering project, which will connect different organizations from the Škofja Loka area, Slovenia, by incorporating the international volunteers into their everyday work for the period between

September
2021
and
August
2022.

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The long-term ESC volunteering project “Kids in Action 8 – United in Solidarity” will connect 10 organizations or their units in the area of Škofja Loka:

- Familija (Youth Day Care Center Blok and Project Learning of Young Adults PUM-O),
- Center for Social Work Škofja Loka (DCΩ and DCM Podlubnik),
- Center for Social Work Kranj (Day Care Center DC Škrlovec),
- Kranj Educational Institution (Residential Home for Children at Risk Črnava),
- Šent Škofja Loka,
- Three local elementary schools (Jelo Janežič primary school, Cvetko Golar primary school, Škofja Loka - Mesto primary school).

The main target of the project is to continue a well-established tradition of connecting related local organizations, which carry out educational, social and preventive programs for children and youth, and for other

vulnerable social groups



Project overview

Project partners offer their users space where they feel comfortable and safe, where they can develop their social skills and where they can get quality support in their behavioral, emotional, learning and other needs. The aim of the programmes is to provide support to the widest circle of users, as well as to those with special needs and other problems.

Support is provided at individual level (work with each individual), as well as in cooperation with their families.

All the partner organizations of the project are similar to each other, they have a similar practice of work and similar target population. That is the reason why we came to the conclusion that the cooperation between them should be strengthened by hosting a joint volunteering project with volunteers from different countries. Each of them will be included in the everyday work in the above mentioned organizations for the period of one year, from September 2021 until August 2022.



The program includes group work and activities with colleagues, cooperation between various institutions, training, counseling, holiday camps, day trips, workshops, etc.





The project is not limited just to the basic partner organizations, but it is also complemented by the involvement of volunteers in the work of different local organizations, which will take place once a week. More people will come into contact with the project, and consequently, through the **exchange of knowledge**, a small place like Škofja Loka will gain a much needed European dimension of viewing the world.

Our volunteers will be involved in **classes**, various **workshops**, **excursions** and **camps**, as well as providing educational and **therapeutic assistance**, organizing leisure activities, assisting certain **administrative tasks**, and **promotion**, etc. They will get to know the theory and practice of **preventive work** with children, youth and people fewer opportunities within the education and social system in Slovenia.

All the included institutions represent a the very perspective environment for international volunteers, who are interested in working with youth or with other vulnerable social groups. The goal of all the organizations involved in the project is to gain new skills and experiences in order to increase the degree of tolerance, mutual acceptance, understanding and respect. Not only will volunteers gain from the project, but also from the **entire local community**.

Connect with us!

Here is our Facebook Group to add some visuals to your impressions:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/389667864441065>



Opportunities for volunteers

4 volunteers are already chosen, but 1 placement is still available. The selected volunteer will enrich the work of daycare center DC OM & Podlubnik, where most of his/her work will be done. But he/she will also have an opportunity to get to know the work of the other organizations involved in the project.

DC Om and MDC Podlubnik

DC Om and MDC Podlubnik (working hours 13:00 - 19:00) are run by the Center for Social Work Škofja Loka.

The program is primarily intended for children and adolescents from Škofja Loka between the ages of 6 and 18, and their parents, who are deprived of a normal family life experience due to diverse life challenges.

The purpose of the program is to help break down these barriers and pave the way to better educational, emotional, physical, and social well-being in a relaxed and supportive atmosphere.



We offer creative opportunities for positive peer interaction,

motivation to complete school work and improve academic achievement, development of problem-solving skills, acquisition of new life skills, fostering good working habits, advancing communication skills, nurturing means of integration, gaining a sense of acceptance and security, and building self-esteem.

We accomplish this through both structured and unstructured activities.

Structured activities include:

themed workshops and focused discussions (for example, computer skills, study tips, development of specific self-competencies, social networking, etc.), cultural events, sports and hiking, swimming, arts & crafts, trips, and more.

Unstructured activities include leisure things such as playing games, watching films, or just hanging out together.

Find us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/Dnevni-center-OM-%C5%A0kofja-Loka-156160397756878>

Who are we looking for?

The future volunteer should bring in their own ideas into the project and be prepared to create, plan and execute their own projects.

Abilities in music, sport, manual activities, handcrafts, dance, art and multimedia would be convenient.

Past experience in education and youth work is welcomed.

Volunteer profile

Candidates should show:

self-initiative, motivation, patience, flexibility, open-mindedness, creativity, good communication skills, interest in working with children, youth (and adolescents) and they should be able to speak English.

Guidance

Each volunteer will have their work coordinator who will integrate the volunteer in the work processes and inform him/her about the work of the organization and the people involved in the work.

“Each volunteer will also have to create their YouthPass at the end of the project. The work coordinators will ensure that the tasks of the volunteers are clearly defined and well-executed.”

Language support will include a Slovene language course, where volunteers will get acquainted with the Slovene language.



A group of seven young adults, four women and three men, are posing for a photo on a grassy hillside. They are dressed in casual summer attire like t-shirts and tank tops. In the background, a town with a prominent white building on a hill is visible, surrounded by lush green mountains under a clear sky. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

We will also provide the volunteers with mentors who will personally support and include them in the local environment, social life, local customs and lifestyle.

Supervision

Supervision over the work of mentors and work coordinators will be carried out by the project coordinator, who will, in the course of the entire project, be in direct contact with everyone involved.

His responsibility is a quality preparation and implementation of the project.

A photograph of two women sitting on a window ledge, smiling and covered with a dark grey blanket. The window is open, and the background shows a building facade. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent red rectangle.

Accommodation, food and transport arrangements

The volunteers will be accommodated in one fully furnished apartment (including gas, water, electricity and Wi-Fi) on the main square of Škofja Loka, an old historical town with about 13,000 inhabitants, located 25 km north-west from Ljubljana.

Each volunteer will stay in a private bedroom with shared cooking, washing, laundry and social facilities. Volunteers will cook by themselves, and a monthly food allowance will be provided of 176 €.

They will be also entitled to receive a monthly "pocket money" of 120 €. A bike will be provided to each of the volunteers as well as tickets for public transportation (if required for the purpose of the project).

Free time

Škofja Loka lies at the river confluence of Selška and Poljanska Sora and next to Škofja Loka Hills. It is 25 km from Ljubljana, 40 km from Bled and 120 km from the Slovenian coast.

Being located in Central Europe, Škofja Loka is a great starting point to visit other nearby European cities.

Budapest is 500 km from Škofja Loka, Venice 250 km, Vienna 350 km, Zagreb 170 km.

Be active.



Spending free time

Škofja Loka is a regional center with all the infrastructure that comes with it.

We have a library, post office, banks, numerous restaurants, pubs, four sports halls and other recreational facilities, a cinema hall, theater and many different clubs such as skateboarding, paintball, shooting, beekeeping, climbing, mountaineering society, mushroom picking society, animal welfare society, yoga, dance, basketball, soccer, knitting, orchestra and folklore.

Volunteers can join all of these activities, and many more.



The town is just small enough that young people know each other, but it is also an environment that enables individuals to creatively engage in the society.

The areas surrounding Škofja Loka have many possibilities for activities in nature, which also includes various forms of entertainment such as hiking, running, and cycling.

This gives individuals genuine contact with nature and additional opportunities for leisure activities. In summer, swimming in the Sora river is also possible.

Whereas in winter, skiing and snowboarding is available in the area.

The volunteers also have a stimulating impact on the Škofja Loka living environment.



Volunteering abroad during the pandemic



In times of stress, the best relieve is being surrounded by nature. Our country may be small, but it has got so much to offer; mountains, rivers, valleys, hills, lakes, sea.

The project will be adjusted to whatever the reality may be considering the needs of the organization (and its target group) and those of the respective volunteer.

If you want to live in a place where it is both vibrant and peaceful, come to Škofja Loka.

FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

We do not know for what the (near) future will look like, but we know for sure that we will continue our programs in one way or another and you can be a part of that.



You need some first hand information about the project?
Ask a question to any of the current volunteers.



Jeremy (POR)
jezantunes17@gmail.com)



Katy (GER)
k.hofke@web.de



Helena (CZE)
hhrychova@volny



Vera (HUN)
vera.darabont@gmail.com



Tom (NED)
tomdehaas@live.com

How to apply:



If you are from an EU country and you're interested in the project and want to be volunteer, send us your CV and motivation letter to matjaž@familija.eu or apply through European Solidarity Corps portal until 31st August 2021.

The first candidates considered suitable will be selected.
Your application should also be marked which of the proposed vacancies seems the most interesting for you.

During the selection period, we might contact you for further information through e-mail, Skype or Facebook!

We are almost sure you haven't heard much about Slovenia or/and Škofja Loka, here are some videos and links to ease your decision:

Useful links:

Slovenia:

- Video 1
- Video 2
- Video 3

Škofja Loka:

- Škofja Loka video
- Škofja Loka Tourism

SEE YOU SOON!

