

# VOLUNTEERS IN TUKUMS SOCIAL SERVICES

## Tukums, Latvia

### General information:

The project is going to host 2 volunteers in town of Tukums. Volunteers are going to work in Tukums County Social Services (Disabled people day centre and Youth social centre). At the moment there are 2 volunteers who are here 12 months starting from October 2014. They are volunteers from Germany and Italy and if you are interested about project and volunteers life in Tukums, please read their blog: <https://volunteersintukums.wordpress.com/>

### Duration of the project:

1.10.2015. – 30.09.2016. (12 months)

### About hosting organization Tukums County Social Service:

In 2009 Tukums municipality agency "Tukums County Social Service" (hereinafter - the Agency) is Tukums District Council (hereinafter - the Council) under the supervision of the existing local authority, established under the Law on Public Agencies to provide social assistance, organization and provide of social services Tukums county administrative territory in accordance with the management agreement between a council Chairman and Director of the Agency.

The Agency shall provide the residents of the municipality of the needs of social services and social assistance. In cooperation with other institutions, associations and foundations, non-governmental organizations and religious denominations to promote a favorable social environment in the territory of the municipality. The Agency manages and implements Tukums municipality projects and programs within their competence

The Agency has a duty to inform citizens about their rights and the possibility to receive social services and social assistance, on receipt of the order and the work of the Agency. Every day to provided social work with individuals, families and groups of people, professional assessment of the needs of people, material and personal resources; the person organizing the necessary social services and social assistance for solving social problems.. The Agency is created informative database, which can help to social assistance and social services. Ensuring exchange of information in cooperation with Latvian and international institutions.

Agency under the

- Social work and the social assistance department
- Department of Social Services and its units: Tukums shelter; Disability Day Centre "Saime"; Child Day Care Centre "Saimīte", Youth social center; Home care service, Slampe and Džūkste parish community center "Rīti", Irlavas Orphanage-shelter.

### **Project environment:**

The project environment is Tukums municipality. Tukums municipality consists of Tukums town and 10 villages.

Number of the municipality inhabitants - 33 318, its territory – 1198 sq km. Environment is rich with natural resources – woods, lakes and rivers. There is developed agriculture in Tukums municipality and except Tukums town rest of territory is rural. Tukums town is the centre of Tukums municipality. Town locates about 60 km from capital city Riga and less than 20 km from the Baltic Sea.

The weather in Tukums is similar to weather in Northern Europe. There are four seasons : winter, spring, summer and autumn. Nearby Tukums there are popular skiing and snowboarding places, but in summer time there are outdoor swimming resources.

There are 15 schools in Tukums municipality. Tukums municipality operates eight preschool (6 municipalities and 2 private).

Tukums Municipality operates more than 40 societies and associations and 20 sports clubs.

The target groups of societies are young people, seniors, disabled, families, cultural figures and sports staff. Activities of societies are providing information on social services, assistance to be integrated in society, cultural activities, sports events, organization of events for people with disabilities and participation in the municipality policymaking.

There are 11 culture centres in the Tukums Municipality. They are located in Tukums town and villages. Inhabitants can participate in the different more than 60 amateur art groups: Chorus, groups of folkdance, groups of modern dance, groups of retro dance. groups of sport dance, folk music groups, musicians playing saxophone, theatre companies, popgroups of children and youth, vocal music groups, groups of disco dance, groups of instrumental music and groups of linedance.

There are different kinds of handicrafts workshops available.

Inhabitants of Tukums municipality have possibility to do sport activities in Tukums Ice Hall, Tukums Sports and Recreation Centre, two football fields (with natural and artificial surfaces), two sports fields, skate park and motorbike racetrack.

### **Proposed activities:**

Tukums County Social Service locates in the centre of Tukums town in building where under one roof there are units of Department of Social Services - Youth social centre and Disability Day Centre "Saime". Volunteers will work with costumers in these units. The proposed activities are:

#### **Activities with children and youngsters in Youth Social Centre:**

- creative activities together with children
- language and cultural afternoons for children

- cooking activities together with children
- games, table games and other free time activities
- indoor and outdoor sport activities
- assistance for staff organizing camps , walks, celebrations, festivals and other activities for children and youngsters.

In Disability Day Centre "Saime":

- creative activities / workshops and handicrafts together with customers
- language and cultural afternoons
- assistance for staff in organization of activities for customers (indoor and outdoor activities)
- supporting customers in their activities in the centre.

A regular weekly schedule:

Monday-Friday

Saturday-Sunday: days off

Time to time organization has activities during weekends and late evenings so volunteer will need to be flexible and adjust their schedule. Volunteer will be actively involved in organization as a team member.

**Practical issues:** Volunteers will share rented flat in town of Tukums. They will receive money for the food as well they will be provided with lunch at hosting organization.

**For potencial volunteers:**

We are looking for volunteers who interested in work with people – disabled people and children and make their everyday lives more colorful.

We don't ask special skills or education background, but knowledge of basic English or Russian could be helpful for daily communication with our target group.

The volunteers will be chosen by the CV and the motivation letter and after that skype concersation.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED TO BE VOLUNTEER FOR THIS PROJECT, PLEASE SEND US YOUR APPLICATION TILL THE 1st OF APRIL TO EMAIL: [mobility@pozitivadoma.lv](mailto:mobility@pozitivadoma.lv)