



Short term EVS-project: Youth Center 'De Takel'

Organization and task description

Don Bosco Youthnet Nederland is looking for four European volunteers to do a short term voluntary service (two volunteers in July and two volunteers in August 2018) to be posted in 'De Takel', a Don Bosco center for youth care in Oostende, Belgium.

De Takel is a youth center for young people between 12 and 22 years (Mostly young refugees from different countries). It is a place where they can come together for all kinds of activities and socializing. The target group for De Takel consists mainly of: young people from disadvantaged neighborhoods of Oostende, refugees, minors.... It has also "project for girls" as a separate activity. This creates a very multicultural audience, with mostly indigenous youths and a large number of vulnerable young people.

The main task of the volunteers is to (take care of the bar and serve drinks, play with youngsters – games, pool, table tennis, activities inside and outside) build up a relationship with the youngsters and to gain their trust and to organize recreational activities together with staff members of De Takel. In this respect, the volunteer is expected to take part in the daily activities of the Youth Center. The volunteer will be supported in this by the experienced staff of De Takel. They have been working with EVS-volunteers for some years now, and have developed a good guidance system to work with the volunteers.

In 2018 De Takel has started with girls department to reach out to more girls from families living around De Takel. Step by step, with an attractive program and some nice initiatives, De Takel tries to build up an engaged group of girls.

More specifically, the tasks of the volunteers will consist of:

- To build up a relationship with the youths visiting the De Takel. Listen to their stories and establishing contacts with them.
- Assistance, being there for the visitors of the Youth Center
- To plan, organize and supervise creative, relaxing and educational activities in and outside the Youth Center. F.e. cooking activities, different hand crafting activities
- Organize/Guide sport activities for and with the young people

- Maintain the bar in the youth center
- To guide excursions in and outside Belgium during holidays
- To play games with the youngsters (board games, billiard, table tennis, table soccer...)
- To participate in meetings with the youngsters.
- To attend the meetings with the other youth centers and the youth council, eventually.
- To attend the 3-weekly staff meeting
- **Take part in Jeugdienst and European Don Bosco Youth-net activities**
www.donboscoyouth.net

Organizations involved

Don Bosco Youthnet Nederland will be the coordinating organization of this project. As the supporting organization of all Don Bosco playgrounds and youth centers, JDB has the necessary experience with EVS projects and with the mentoring and guiding of European volunteers. They already appointed one of their staff members to oversee everything with respect to the EVS-project in Oostende.

Youth center De Takel will be the hosting organization where the service will be done. They will support you in your daily (working) activities. Next to this, they will also help the volunteer with practical and administrative issues.

What guidance can you expect?

- Follow-up and evaluation meetings with the project coordinator of JDB
- Mentoring by a staff member' of De Takel
- Extra Dutch classes from a volunteer of De Takel
- Task related support by the staff members of De Takel

Volunteers' profile

The EVS vacancy is open to everyone. We are looking for **two European volunteers**.

Some requirements for the EVS-volunteer are:

- 22+
- able to communicate in English or French
- have some experience in working with young people (also informal)
- being an independent person
- open towards other cultures and to have an intercultural experience
- motivated and eager to learn

The youth center is 'attracting' mostly a male audience nowadays. This is something the volunteer should be aware of (but not be scared) of. But as mentioned before, the girls department is in full development and can/will need all assistance in this process.

Practical and organizational information

Erasmus+ and financial arrangements

Don Bosco Youthnet Nederland has already approved EVS-projects in the Erasmus+ program. So the project is approved, **Don Bosco Youthnet Nederland will receive a budget to cover next costs:**

- Monthly pocket allowance: € 110
- Food and Rent of the volunteers' accommodation
- Travel costs up to € 275
- Extra project costs for weekends and activities in Leuven, Brussels and Bruges

The pocket money will be given to the volunteers upon arrival.

The rent will be paid by Don Bosco Youthnet Nederland straight to Don Bosco house Oostende.

Volunteers will also receive a Youthpass at the end of the service. The Youthpass process will be guided by the staff member of Don Bosco Youthnet Nederland.

Duration

The project will take place **1 July 2018 to 31 July 2018** for two volunteers and the other will have their EVS from **1 August 2018 to 31 August 2018**. The volunteers will arrive in Amsterdam and first days, the volunteers will be in Don Bosco Youthnet Nederland Amsterdam.

Volunteers are also expected to take part in the weekend activities organized by the Jeugdendienst Don Bosco in July in Leuven, Bruges and Brussels. An ideal moment to exchange experiences, to plan new things, to reflect and to discuss with peers...

Working schedule

The volunteers are expected to **take part in a 25-30-hour week**, which also includes the time spent on the language course that will be provided. Compensatory leave will be possible in case of weekend performances. The volunteers will plan their timetable in consultation with the head of De Takel. This means that the volunteers will be able to determine how their working hours are puzzled into the opening hours of the Youth Center. These opening hours are.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Closed	19.00- 22.00h.	14.00- 18.15h 19.00- 22.00h.	19.00- 22.00h.	19.00- 24.00h.	14.00- 18.15h. 19.30- 24.00h.	14.00- 18.15h. 19.30- 22.00h.

On Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays during school holidays, the youth center is also open from 14.00 – 18.00 the opening hours can change to those of Sunday.

Accommodation

During the service, the volunteers will have their personal rooms in the community house of Don Bosco Oostende. There are max. 4 people living in the house. All basic needs are provided: kitchen, bathroom, tv, internet....

The rent is included in the Erasmus+ grant and will be paid by Don Bosco Youthnet Nederland.

Selection procedure and contact details

We would like to give a chance **to young people with fewer opportunities** to apply for this voluntary service. In this respect, we would be open to accommodate a young person who deals with economic or geographical obstacles and consider them as well as other candidates.

Are you interested in this exciting project, and do you want to become a volunteer for 'De Takel'? Send us your resume and a cover letter no later than 14th June to Andy Jebarus : andy@dbyn.nl

The most suitable candidates will be selected by the sending organization. Based on their interview, the most suitable candidate will be selected. Each step in this selection process will be taken through consultations between Don Bosco Youthnet Nederland and 'De Takel'.

Do you still have questions? Please send them to Andy Jebarus and he will answer them as soon as possible.

Finally, all other contact details that might be useful:

Vzw Werk van Don Bosco – De Takel

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