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Volunteering in Valmiera, LATVIA 2019/20

Position: Youth coordinator & Photo-video at the foundation

Project title: Volunteering for community 2019/20

Travel dates: December 2019 – November 2020
(11,5 months)

Venue: Valmiera, Latvia

Coordinator of the project and host of this position is Valmiera Region Community Foundation (*Valmieras novada fonds*). See details below!



Valmiera with nearly 30'000 inhabitants is the 8th largest town in Latvia, economic capital of Vidzeme (Northeastern region). While it is not too big in European context, it provides all services one might need, including shopping, restaurants, culture, medical treatment, full range of education etc.



Distance to Riga is 110km, closest seaside is just 70km away, but Estonian border – 50km.

POSITION: YOUTH COORDINATOR & PHOTO-VIDEO AT THE FOUNDATION

In our foundation's office we will host 1 volunteer.

You as Youth coordinator & photo-video person will take a photos and make video stories about events of our organisation. You will be in close touch with the second Youth coordinator from Latvia. Both of you will be helping each other to diversify daily routine and support fundraising activities or any other initiatives of local youths. Also you will have a chance to cooperate with other foreign volunteer, who will work with youngsters in Youth house "Vinda".

TIMELINE: due to delays, dates can be negotiated with each volunteer. Arrival – as soon as possible :)

VOLUNTEER'S PROFILE

It does not matter if you have just graduated secondary school or if you have had 10 years of working experience. You only have to be open-minded, and ready to be away from your home sweet home for almost a year!

We expect our volunteer to be:

- aged between 18-30 years because European Solidarity Corps programme says so;
- creative, having fun at being productive;
- self-organized;
- ambitious to get the most out of your own abilities;
- ready to learn on your own;
- previous experience in or highly motivated to work with youth;
- with at least basic knowledge and high interest to learn video and photo production.

YOUR TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

In addition to leading the youth team, our foundation is always trying to keep up an active social media presence. In terms of visual material, that is where you come in!

Your responsibilities will be:

- Coordinate the youth of Valmiera cooperating with Latvian coordinator;
- Shoot and edit photos and videos of our charity events;
- Create promotional clips, online banners and posters, also for print.
- Help your fellow volunteers with their projects.

WHAT YOU WILL GAIN

- Developing ideas and concepts together with Latvian youth in fundraising activities.
- Learning to use professional programs like Adobe Premiere, Photoshop, InDesign and Illustrator on a semi-professional level.
- Working with Latvian youth who are active in local philanthropy and community projects.



PRACTICAL AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION

6 volunteers from different countries will be accommodated in apartment, rented by the foundation for ESC volunteers.

Apartment has fully equipped kitchen, WC, bathroom, heating system, internet. Each room will host 1-3 volunteers.

Accommodation will be located within 5-30min walk from work, as Valmiera is not too big town. City buses are available. Also, 4 bicycles are available for volunteers to share.

See **Google map** to find ESC-related locations in Valmiera:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1zo5tP-IVFaINHZvvBBn28IXIs8BzJgLU&ll=57.524170624014175%2C25.40107627770999&z=14>

Food money is 150 €/month, which covers food and basic household stuff. It is enough for homemade meals or our contracted diners, some meals at simple restaurants and even high-class restaurant couple of times a month. For example, our office has daily lunch in diner for 2-3 €.

Travel costs includes ground transport from your home to nearest airport/bus station and also from Riga to Valmiera. Onward trip will be reimbursed upon your arrival, but return trip can be purchased directly by us.

Pocket money is 4 €/day, and can be used for whatever you want. No reports needed.

Distance	Covered travel costs
From 10to 99 km:	20 €
From 100 to 499 km:	180 €
From 500 to 1999 km:	275 €
From 2000 to 2999 km:	360 €
From 3000 to 3999 km:	530 €
From 4000 to 7999 km:	820 €
8000 or more km:	1500 €



Previous EVS volunteers with one of mentors during award ceremony "Volunteer of the Year 2017"

Funding will be transferred once a month to your **bank account** (Latvian or any other EU bank) or paid in cash if you don't have EU bank account: pocket money – at the beginning of month, food money – after report with receipts is given.

Volunteers get Latvian mobile phone number. (We kindly ask to have your own device, please, but we have one spare old fashioned handset.)



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ABOUT COORDINATING ORGANIZATION

Valmiera Region Community Foundation is philanthropic organization that supports local people's initiatives to improve their lives in Valmiera and its surroundings, emphasizing that our own resources and forces can do a lot of good work. Fundraising and communication with our donors and local community is our main job.

Meanwhile, we coordinate EVS projects since 2013, but host volunteers in office – since 2016.

Short movie about EVS in 2016/17 is here:
<https://youtu.be/prwt7OIVMgo>

Video about volunteers of 2017/18 is here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYImMvKdk5>



Foundation's team on boat trip in August 2017:
staff, some board members, local and EVS



The YouthBank of Valmiera or “Lab of Youth Ideas” (this is how we call it in Latvia) is an association of young people under the VRCF who are part of the global YouthBank International network. Young people organize various fundraising activities to gain resources for the ideas of other young people that are supported through a grant-giving project call.

HOW TO APPLY

Please send your CV and motivation letter to our sending partner in your country with an e-mail title: “Application to Volunteering for Community 2019-Latvia”:

- **Germany:** Eurocircle Deutschland (Berlin), info@eurocircle.de, www.eurocircle.de
- **Czech Republic:** European Youth Centre Břeclav, eycb.info@gmail.com, www.eycb.eu

After reviewing applications, Skype/phone interviews with selected candidates will take place.

After interviews, we will let you all know results.

If you have any questions to clarify, do not hesitate to contact your sending organization or us:

Gunita Vītola, Project coordinator

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Mobile phone: +371 29936869

Website (Latvian only): www.vnf.lv

Facebook page (good for pictures): www.facebook.com/ValmierasFonds