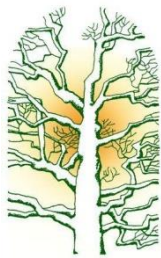




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## ***Project: Corners of Europe***

### **Open Call for Volunteers.**

**For whom:** EVS volunteers from European countries who want to try themselves as youth workers and high school teachers; enthusiastic, creative, with different experience and willing to devote themselves to youth work, contribute, collaborate and share the year with lots of young people around. Unfortunately, **ONLY** volunteers from EU who **DO NOT NEED VISA** to Latvia.



**Where:** Latvia, Vaiņode. (Vaiņode is a very green and very small place on the Latvian boarder with Lithuania.)

**When:** since January 10, 2020 or as soon as volunteers are found.

**How long:** 7 months (basically till the end of the school year and a couple of summer months if possible) till 30.07.2020

**Organisation:** Vaiņodes vidusskola (high school) together with Radi Vidi Pats (Liepāja).

**Working place:** Youth House, which is just a big room at school, which needs creativity used for making it more comfortable and alive.

Having experience in hosting two EVS volunteers we have learned how to and how not to relate and cooperate with volunteers. We have our clearer vision of work needed, however, we will appreciate freedom in managing the main task: to help boost our young people's leadership, entrepreneurship and more active citizenship.

The two main needs and goals for having volunteers in our school are:

1. To assist in the project on Human Rights and Democracy at school, and in the international projects, which comes with the objectives:
  - to help with eTwinning project on the same topics,
  - to help create three outdoor escape rooms devoted to Human Rights and Democracy theme.;
  - to assist in organising events when international visitors come.
2. To assist work with children and teens:

- during the long breaks and after classes playing different games (we have some interesting board games available and plan to get more), watching and discussing films and especially work with the kids with communication difficulties;
- in sport events and activities.



Vaiņode's vidusskola is a great place to grow safely and carelessly. A cosy building, warm atmosphere, fresh and tasty food; school staff is democratic, learning materials, resources-all for free; free extracurricular activities such as sport, dances, art, robotic, other activities, breaks are 10-15 minutes, discipline is good, our headmaster is friendly, school transport guaranteed... International projects, school trips abroad... Yes, too cool for school! That is the reason our youth are too relaxed and too much sure that future is about to be the same: taken for granted. That is why they need a push. They need a challenge, a quest, or, maybe, they need a special friend or better two. Or just new people around to understand that people can be different, interesting, willing to help or to share a different story. Therefore, Vaiņodes vidusskola invites 2 volunteers to help with youth work at school and in community.

We need new friends and leaders who like spending time with young people sharing with them their experience, knowledge, challenge, worries.

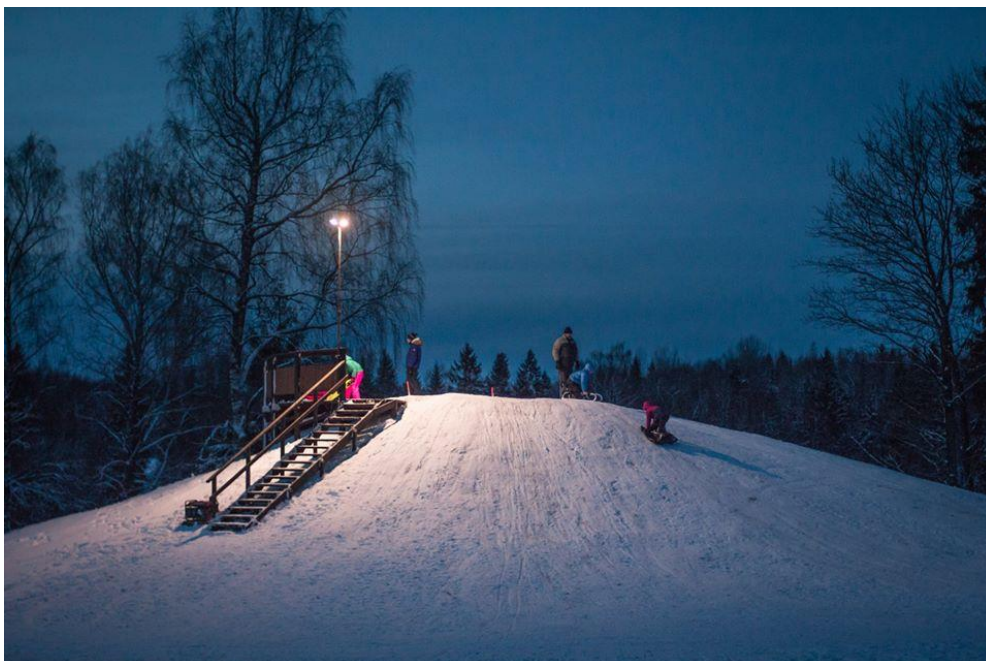
Work with Vainodes school students and community's youth representatives might also involve:

- Non formal learning and coaching: outdoor activities improving and developing survival and camping skills. Participation in non formal learning and training activities. During summer a camping event or hiking should be organised. School apple orchard has plenty space to develop, design and plant.
- Fishing is quite popular among young people in Vaiņode. They can teach to fish, and together have lots of fun and fresh fish.
- Creative workshop/ DIY crafts with young learners and students with special educational needs. Crafts and arts fair organising.
- Youth House meetings. Once a month. Food? Vegan food? Food fads and trends? Searching, learning and making food together with high school students and community youth representatives. Lunch with high school students and community youth;

- Social work in community to assist senior residents of the community together with high school students and community youth representatives.
- Finding out the needs of the community. Planning and sharing responsibilities for social work. Helping and assisting community people in need. Assisting young people in organising charity work for those in need.
- Youth Club activities with high school students and community youth representatives: board games testing, playing; new/old films, animation watching, discussing; music and songs creating (Vainode's youth are very talented and more than 50% of them play a musical instrument and 90% sing!);
- Sport activities with high school students and community youth representatives. Handball is our specialty: there are all age handball groups (even senior!) to join, but there is a need for other sports: basketball teams and other sports are very waited for.
- Latvian language learning. Latvian is one of the most unique and beautiful languages in Europe. It is possible to learn it, it is proved!



- Language and culture learning events organised by volunteers with high school students and community youth representatives. Like European Countries Day.
- Cycling teamwork. Involving high school students, parents and community youth representatives into more active lifestyle. Searching of potential cycling routes to cycle safely and with pleasure to enjoy nature. Organising cycling events/marathons. Skiing, skating and ice hockey as alternative for winter.



All the activities proposed have already some potential, experience, resources and budget.

Two great young people, with a great experience of one-year mentoring are waiting for EVS volunteers to help them and mentor. Both are active and enthusiastic about the project. One of them has been a volunteer herself in Turkey.

Accommodation will be sufficient. A modest, but fully equipped two room apartment, which has been used by previous volunteers. Breakfasts and lunches can be provided at school.

The closest big town is Liepāja, 60 km away, one of the most beautiful and cosy places in Latvia. The beach in Liepāja is another beauty, not to miss for outdoor events. There is sufficient public transport to Liepāja, not as to Rīga, the capital. However, school or municipality van goes to Rīga quite often, which is a solution. Thanks to school trips, there are great possibilities to see Latvia and neighbouring countries, too.

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Links:

[vvskola.lv](http://vvskola.lv)

<http://www.vainode.lv/tourism/>

