

Please briefly present your organisation, including information on its aims, target groups, regular activities and other relevant aspects.

Fondazione Angelo Passerini is a home for elderly people located in Nozza di Vestone (Brescia). The Home for elderly People is composed of four divisions on two floors for a total number of 99 beds. In our organization a centre for people suffering from Alzheimer is present with 24 available beds. In addition to this, there is a Senior Centre that can host about 20 people. Furthermore, there is a Hospice with eight beds for terminal patients. The Foundation works on the territory for a service of ematic drawings by a convention set with the hospital of Desenzano del Garda. Fondazione Angelo Passerini has an agreement with the University of Brescia, the University of Verona and the University Cattolica of Brescia to host respectively students in geriatrics and apprentices in educational sciences.

The structure consists of:

- a low ground with a kitchen, a laundry, some administrative offices, a canteen, a gym for physiotherapy (open to non resident people, as well), a centre for 20 guests, the reception, the Senior Centre and a small church;
- on the 1st floor there are the centre for Alzheimer patients and two other divisions for a total number of 79 guests, the infirmary, the doctors' offices and the Hospice;
- on the 2nd floor there are the stock of medicines and 3 small apartments for the volunteers;
- a buried floor/basement where the stocks and the death chambers are located.

What are the activities and experience of your organisation in the areas relevant to future participation in the Erasmus+ programme?

Fondazione Angelo Passerini takes care of elderly people in difficult situations, but despite the presence of qualified staff, there is often the need to respond adequately and comprehensively to the relational needs of the guests. In fact, there is a widespread tendency to give priority to the needs related to personal care (hygiene, nutrition, medical care, physiotherapy) instead of emotional and relational needs that are equally important for our seniors. From this point of view, the contribution that European volunteers can offer to our organisation is undoubtedly an added value because, due to their presence, the animators are able to involve a larger number of guests and to pay individual attention to elderly people, in order to improve their quality of life.

The Foundation adheres to the European Voluntary Service since 2001, and when we decided to participate in the programme, the host organisation did not think that the results could be so brilliant. In fact, the volunteers have helped to increase the value of our work, mainly due to their intercultural contribution. So, being very satisfied with the support received from volunteers and with the non-formal competences acquired by them and the excellent collaboration with Cooperativa Tempo Libero, we desire to repeat the experience of EVS with renewed enthusiasm.

The intergenerational dialogue among young and elderly people contributes to mutual growth and to overcome of stereotypes and prejudices that sometimes mark out our community.

At the same time, volunteers have the opportunity to perform non-formal learning experiences, which will be useful for their future both personally and professionally. In fact, thanks to the European Voluntary Service, they have the opportunity to acquire knowledge and competences on health care in Italy, which will bring new ideas and innovative methods, valorising the different social contexts of the volunteers.

Please give information on the human resources of your organisation (i.e. staff and volunteers), and describe the skills and expertise of the persons that will be involved in the future Erasmus+ activities, with specific regard to organising mobility activities.

At the Foundation different professionals work such as doctors, nurses, medical attendants, cooks, administrative staff, physiotherapists and educators for a total number of about 120 people. Volunteers collaborate especially with the mentor and with two educators who are present in the organization.

Please outline the context (e.g. geographical, social and economic) and the local community where the activities will take place.

The Foundation Angelo Passerini is in Nozza di Vestone, a village in the province of Brescia, in Lombardy. Nozza is 50 kilometres away from Brescia, 25 kilometres from Salò on Garda Lake, 6 kilometres from Idro and 60 kilometres from the winter resort of Madonna di Campiglio. It is in Vallesabbia, a land which is rich in history and culture.

Vestone, which is in the Alta Valsabbia, has a community of 3500 inhabitants: its economy is mainly industrial with two big engineering industries and a myriad of artisan firms. In addition to this, there are a theatre, a cinema, two youth clubs, a gym and various voluntary associations (members of the Italian Alpine Groups, ambulance and firefighters, etc.).

The nearest airports are in Montichiari (Brescia), Verona and Orio al Serio (Milano/Bergamo), while the nearest train stations are in Brescia and Desenzano. The village is far away from important centres but it is not isolated insofar as it can be reached through two main roads that get directly from Brescia and Desenzano. Vestone is connected to the town of Brescia, Idro and Garda Lake through a service that supplies buses every hour from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m..

RULES AND CONDITIONS

Volunteers are required to respect the following regulation which is given to them upon their arrival:

- 1) the flat has to be periodically cleaned and kept tidy;
- 2) the hall outside the apartments must be cleaned, tidy and ventilated;
- 3) it is forbidden to introduce food of the canteen in the hall or in the rooms;
- 4) the timetable of the meals must be respected, as well as the reservation for dishes;
- 5) it is strictly forbidden to allow non resident people to enter the organization: the only exceptions are admitted upon agreement with the tutor;
- 6) electronic equipments (TV, DVD and video recorders) can be used but can not be moved to a place different from that assigned to them.

Please give examples of typical tasks for the volunteers and how they will be involved, describing also what you can offer to them in terms of learning opportunities.

The main activities in our organization are:

- cooperating with the entertainment staff during outdoor and indoor activities;
- reading and commenting on short stories, games whose aim is stimulation and reasoning, one-to-one entertainment through dialogue, caresses and smiles; help in the orientation to reality, sensorial stimulation, activities for encouraging relations among elderly people, among guests and the whole organization; activities in groups with the support of multimedia instruments;
- supporting the staff during the moments of surveillance or during the main meals of the guests.

The activities are organized as follows:

Stimulation of memory and attention through

- repetition training, recognition or completion of lists of words, couples of words, numbers
- sequences of events to reorder according to a logical connection
- reading and comment on short stories taken from book and newspapers
- enigmatic;
- Puzzle;
- linguistic games (similarities, vocabulary);
- vision and comment on a movie;
- group of reminiscence in which elderly people live again their life stimulated and helped by the information collected in the personal dossier or by personal objects.

Therapy of orientation to reality through the information about year, month, day, time, place that are provided to elderly people through the calendar at the beginning and during the day usually before the reading of a newspaper;

Discussion group and the reworking of past experiences with a special attention to the enhancement of the emotive situation and their self confidence and stimulation of reduction of the depressive feelings;

Work therapy consists in creating objects related to an event or a project arranged with elderly people (for example: the restoration of objects with the decoupage technique, knitting or works with the salty/maize dough);

Socialization activities: parties, songs, dances, group exercises, bingo and quizzes.

Entertainment activities organised outside the structure or with external collaboration (supported by the staff of our organisation):

Excursions, sea stays, outings to the market or to the mall;

Visits to parents, friends or other structures,

Organisation of cultural and recreational events in which the elderly people are protagonists or audience;

Participation to events organised by the community or other institutions.

The volunteers will have the opportunity to create their own project with people suffering from Alzheimer (supporting them for example during the session of music-therapy or art-therapy) and with other elderly people (suggesting creative activities as manual works, music that could stimulate the cognitive functions and memory).

The volunteers will have to follow the instructions given by the person in charge of the project in order to carry out their duty and to take care of elderly people at their best. In addition to this, they will have to be in possession of a medical certificate

The entertainers' coordinator will decide with the volunteers the concretization of a project and, during the equipe meeting, it is offered to them the possibility to express their opinions on their own and on others' projects. Taking part in the monthly equipe meetings the volunteers will have the opportunity to deal with qualified staff to acquire specific skills and above all, to mature a professional experience.

The day in the Home for Elderly People is organized in two shifts, as follows:

Morning shift:

8.30 assistance for the breakfast helping elderly people;

9-11:00 entertainment activities (in the morning the local newspaper is usually read and commented with elderly people, going to the mass in the church inside the home, outings to the market are organised when the weather is sunny);

11-12 assistance for the lunch supporting elderly people;

12-14.30 lunch break in the canteen of the structure;

Afternoon shift:

14.30-17.30 entertainment (in the afternoon to elderly people are usually proposed activities as bingo, knitting, puzzle, crosswords, discussion groups, creation of objects during the work therapy, singing, music therapy, theme parties and birthday parties, outings to the shopping centre are organized, etc);

17.30-18.30 assistance for the dinner supporting elderly people.

What will be the background of participants you would like to host? How will you ensure an open and transparent recruitment process and accessibility for all young people?

We are looking for volunteers with the following attitudes:

- Interest in working and motivation to have a relationship with elderly people;
- Availability to put himself/herself in the game in the relationship with the guests;
- Interest in social integration and equal rights.

We would prefer a balance in terms of gender. In any case there will not be discriminations based on gender, provenience, age, social background, foreign language knowledge and formal competences. Each candidate will be evaluated according to the documentation provided by them or by their sending organisations (CV and motivation letter, application form) and to eventual Skype interviews. All young people interested to take part in our projects will be informed about the final decision either directly, or through their sending organisations.

Please describe the practical arrangements for the volunteers (e.g. proper accommodation and local transportation)

The volunteers will be hosted in 3 rooms located at the second floor of the building. On the second floor there aren't any rooms for the guests.

Concerning local transports, the host organisation will support the volunteers to find proper means of transports in order to reach Brescia and to travel all over Italy, providing them with timetables, maps and every kind of information useful to facilitate them to move around.

Which measures will you put in place to support the volunteers during the volunteering experience (e.g. monitoring)?

Upon their arrival, the volunteers will be involved in a welcoming session, allowing them to know each others, the environment, the staff and the guests of the hosting organisation. Also the responsible of the coordinating organisation will take part to the meeting.

It will be a precious opportunity to clarify and to share every details and potential doubts about the project.

The staff of the Foundation and a technical supervisor will be daily available to support the volunteers during their activities, while the mentor will take care of personal issues, linguistic support, social integration, recognition of non-formal skills acquired during the project.

The coordinating organisation will organise monitoring meetings involving all the volunteers currently hosted by the hosting organisations. Since the middle of the project, Youthpass will be used as a crucial instrument aimed at recognise the in-progress acquisition of non-formal competences and to make the volunteers aware of their learning outcomes (especially in terms of social inclusion and social cohesion, European awareness, intercultural learning).

The Training Cycle organised by the National Agency will be a key moment for volunteers' monitoring and non-formal competences evaluation.

There will be 2 crucial moments organised by the hosting and coordinating organisation: a mid term evaluation and a final evaluation. Both the meetings will take place at the hosting organisation and will involve the volunteers both individually and in group.

Also the Final Report to be filled in by the volunteers will be used as an in-progress instrument to evaluate their experience.

How will you guarantee a safe living and working environment for the volunteers? What measures will you put in place to address problems and conflicts during the project period (e.g. due to personal conflicts with other volunteers or organisation's members, demotivation of volunteers in relation to the tasks they are asked to carry out, etc.)?

Volunteers supporting our organization are constantly supported by the staff. All of them must conform to the safety rules provided for by the internal "Prevention and Protection Plan".

Volunteers will be supplied with all the necessary instruments, such as clothes and tools to work in total security. Furthermore, European volunteers could daily relay on the support of the mentor, of the supervisor and of the staff of the organization.

In situations of crisis we count on the support of the coordinating organization (Tempo Libero Soc. Coop. Sociale ONLUS) which provides additional support both to volunteers and to the mentor/supervisor.