

## 2007-DE-302 CVJM Leipzig e.V.

Accreditation	Sending organisation, Host organisation, Co-ordinating organisation
Approval Date	07/02/2008
Validity Date	07/02/2011
Location	Leipzig (Germany)
Theme 1	Anti-discrimination
Theme 2	European awareness

### Project environment

A.

The YMCA Leipzig is organisationally and financially independent. It belongs to an alliance with 25 million members in over 100 countries all over the world. It is divided from the local associations over national federations and unions of the continents up to the world league with seat into Geneva. In Germany, 2.500 associations with 250.000 members is in existence. The YMCA Leipzig has a clear Christian self understanding with an interdenominational adjustment. (data to activities and staff under part of II)

The YMCA Leipzig is located in the Leipzig-Schönefeld district which is close to the center of the city. Most of the activities take place in the headquarters of the YMCA. In addition, there is 6.000 qm open area which belongs to the complex due to its large park.

Leipzig is with approximately 500.000 inhabitants the second largest city in the eastern part of Germany. It was considered a city of political revolution in 1989. The "Peaceful Revolution" began here. Leipzig is a city of music and culture. Here the music of Johann Sebastian Bach is alive and lives still in the youth culture. Thousands of students from all over the world make life here colorful. Therefore Leipzig is a good place to live and to work.

The quality of life is distinguished: open-minded people, pulsating scenes in different quarters, extensive parks and green areas, rivers and lakes for recreation an for sports, various congregations with different theological input. At the same time however, there is high unemployment in the city and the region, paired with social problems.

B.

We offer:

- Teamwork (additional and career oriented employment)
- Variety of work forms which we developed in to an integrative concept
- Social environment orientation and community work
- Cooperation with schools
- The goals of being innovative and future oriented

We expect the participants to show inclinations and capabilities of a volunteer (which will lend

experience to after departure of the seminar):

- Employment in the open youth projects (cooperation in the youth cafe, play and creative offers)
- Deepening projects (assumption and/ or developed projects, sport, experience-education, music-creativity and more)
- Cooperation in a children group
- Consultation and briefings
- Co-operation with a holiday travel tour
- Co-designing of projects with a intercultural character.

The volunteer ist merged into a team of employees and participates in their team meetings. Decisions can be co-designed in such a way by the volunteer. Beside a set work time schedule, there is a chance to initiate and do sufficient activities with children and young people (see exemplary week plan for the European Voluntary Service in the appendix).)

C.

The participants are expected to engage in the existing conditions, particularly to have a desire to work in a large city situation and quarter which is shaped by strong social deficits and typical migration problems, parts and a communication of the own culture, if necessary, to have musical and creative abilities, readiness for teamwork

Advertisement are seen under:

- WebPages of the YMCA Leipzig
- WebPages and printed media of the YMCA of general association in Germany and the committee of the YMCA in Germany
- when possible, over the WebPages of "Youth for Europe"

The YMCA Leipzig stands in no direct co-operation with assignment organisations in European countries. For entrance acceptance the YMCA Leipzig grants the passing-on of the advertisement at assignment organisations over the organisation office of "Youth for Europe". After successful accreditation, the YMCA Leipzig publishes application periods and assignment area.

Applicants with experiences in the work with children and young people and a Christian lifestyle are preferentially treated. Other conditions for entrance are considered and exclusion criterion is applied.

D. -

E.

The volunteer is paid according to the valid guidelines of the EFD in terms of pocket money and remuneration for food purchases.

Appropriate housing in traffic-favourable situations to the place of work is made available. The remuneration for rent is likewise reimbursed.

For the time of employment, a full-time Mentor from the team of the YMCA is assigned to the volunteer and is at their disposal. The mentor leads regular briefings and is responsible for the technical company and the social well-being of the volunteer.

The legal personal responsibility of the volunteer remains unaffected by it. If necessary, an additional mentor with same language is assigned. Treatment of conflicts in the context of the employment are dealt with immediately.

In the exchange with the volunteer the process of the employment is reflected.

With under age volunteers, the agreement of the educate-entitled is presupposed.

A increased intention is particularly put in the view of regulations pertaining to labour law (in the program manual "Youth in action 2007 - 2013", conditions 01-2007, as indicated by the age limit as 18 years, see page 71). The personal maturity must be evaluated in the application procedure and seen as sufficient. In principle, in the service community of the YMCA a great importance is attached to the mutual welfare service. In the special situation of an European volunteer, particularly consideration is seen to that.

The security for foreign citizens is not excessively endangered at present the filing of an application in the city of Leipzig.

## Motivation and EVS experience

The YMCA of Leipzig has still no experience with European Voluntary Service at present. However, the programm the possibiltiy to convert the international basic idea of the worldwide YMCA is available. With the participation in the EVS, the YMCA wants to enable young people from other Eueopean countries:

to get to know people from another cultures and languages,  
to experience a foreign country and its people very closely,  
to promote communication and exchange,  
to strengthen the consciousness of young people within Europe,  
to be able to intergrate their own culture and language,  
to develop and upgrade their own abilities and gifts,  
do discover occupation and study possibilities,  
to provide an insight to social work with children and young people particularly by within contex of employment

## Description of the organisation

The work of the CVJM Leipzig addresses itself to children and young people with the following goals: promotion of personal development, leisure activities, assistance and support with disadvantage and discrimination, orientation for a Christian life, organisation without conditions for members, promotion for harmonious living together between different nationalities, denominations and social layers.

The international symbol of the YMCA triangle describes that humans are to be accepted and promoted as a holistic (three corners = body, soul and spirit).

Young people are to experience a free space, to experience their increasing majority and ability for joint responsibility.

Activities:

- School social work at a secondary school in Leipzig with a high portion of pupils with migration backgrounds
- Open youth work in a youth cafe, which is opened 5 days a week, offers a diversity of leisure activities
- Social work with youth suffering from; (learning disturbances, school refusal, delinquent behaviour, culpable young people)
- Group work with children, young people and adults with different conceptions (2 sports groups, a choir, sex-conscious workshops for girls and boys, a dancing group, cultural youth work based on music)

- Projects and activities during holidays focusing on age groups, educational projects with an adventurous character (climbing, canoe tours)

Target groups:

Children (7-12) in male/ female groups

Young people (12-25) in open youth work an youth social work

Adults starting from 25+ up in different groups

The participants live predominantly in the Leipzig-Schönefeld quarter and in adjacent quarters as well as within the whole city Leipzig.

Staff:

6 Employees (Social workers, graduated teachers, religious instructors) working in the children and youth work sector

1 person doing civil service

1 person doing social service

regularly one or more trainees within the different projects

more than 30 voluntary members (administration of the association in the executive committee, cooperation in groups, project-related cooperation, youth activities)

## Contact Point

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