

Make a difference!

Volunteering activity from 01.09.2023 until 31.08.2024 in Aschaffenburg, Germany.



Project description

You like working with toddlers, children, and adolescents? You are sensitive to their needs, understanding, patient, creative and open to learn? Then the kids of Aschaffenburg are looking for you!

You would help and support the team in a creche and an after schools' club for disadvantaged children with learning disabilities in Aschaffenburg.

You help plan and participate in all kinds of activities. Also, you get creative with your own project. The two locations are located close to the center of Aschaffenburg. With 70 000 inhabitants, it is a very vibrant city with lots of opportunities to go out. Cinemas, theatres, museums, language schools, pubs, clubs and much more! Also, Frankfurt am Main is just 50 km away.



Money, accommodation, food, and transport arrangements

You share a flat with another volunteer close to the center of Aschaffenburg. You have your own room with a shared bathroom and kitchen. The flat has a washing machine. Internet access is available for free. All costs related to the accommodation as well as the monthly food allowance of 288.00 € is paid by the hosting organization and 6 € per day pocket money by IN VIA. We also provide a bike to get around, a bus pass, train discount card, free access to museums and leisure center, and a language course in town.

Training during the project

- On-Arrival Training
- Mid-Term Training
- language course
- possible: first aid course, in-house seminars



Volunteer profile

- you have an ESC sending organization and are registered in PASS.
- you are experienced in working with children and adolescents.
- you are mature and responsible.
- you have good knowledge of the German language.
- you are curious about Germany and its culture.
- you bring in your own ideas into the project.

How to apply

Send an email with your CV and motivation letter to the coordinating organization IN VIA Aschaffenburg (europa@invia-aschaffenburg.de), stating the full details of your sending organization.

Project Details:

The main objectives of the project:

- to give the volunteer the opportunity to implement his/her own idea and exchange good practices.
- to develop new skills and abilities for the volunteers and young people involved.
- to raise the youngster's awareness of becoming active European citizens.
- to create awareness of personal, socio-cultural, and national aspects of identity.
- to develop a quality framework for informal educational activities.
- to strengthen the sense of European identity.

The chance to work as a volunteer is a challenge and an opportunity to exchange experiences and good practice between all people involved in the project and the local community.

The volunteer will take part in many different tasks, according to her/his interests, abilities, and skills. The volunteer will plan activities to be carried out during his/her ESC together with the staff and mentor.

There won't be any strict schedule settled from the beginning, just a draft one that will be adjusted and modified according to the organization's needs and the volunteer's abilities.

The ESC activities will generally consist in giving support to the project staff in their daily activities. The tasks weren't designed to achieve profit, because the organization is non-profitable and doesn't intend to make financial gain from its activities.

The service will take place at:

Städtische Kinderkrippe „Dämmer Frösche“, Lange Straße 46, 63741 Aschaffenburg
and

Offener Ganzttag der Fröbelschule, Friesenstr. 2, 63739 Aschaffenburg

About the organizations

Host organizations:

Stadt Aschaffenburg is running several creches, kindergardens and schools. One of them is Mini-KiTa "Dämmer Frösche" and the after-school's club at Fröbelschule, a school for kids with learning disabilities.

The Kinderkrippe is working with toddlers 1-3 years old, some of which are disabled (i.e., hearing impaired), it's an integrative institution. (No website available).

The after-school's club at Fröbelschule provides afternoon activities for children aged between 7 and 14 years of age. The children have learning disabilities.

[Fröbel-Schule Aschaffenburg | miteinander leben und lernen \(froebelschule-ab.de\)](http://froebe-schule-aschaffenburg.de)

Coordinating organisation:

IN VIA Europabüro is coordinating the overall project together with Stadt Aschaffenburg. The project coordinator is helping the volunteer to integrate into the project and organising the frameworks of the project.

Activities:

The European volunteers are an enrichment to the daily life of the children. We welcome them and they are treated as an additional team member. The children and teenagers are curious and open to learn more about other cultures.

Dämmer Frösche (mornings):

The volunteer will assist in a toddler group, 1 - 3 years.

- Playing, singing, creating with the children
- Help to prepare meals, helping at mealtimes, light cleaning tasks (around the mealtimes)
- Accompanying outside activities

Offener Ganzttag at Fröbelschule (afternoons):

- After schools club
- giving general assistance to the children and teenagers: homework, leisure activities
- participating in the organisation of leisure activities (doing sports, crafts, games, outdoor activities)
- cooking together, e.g. snacks from the native country of the volunteer or a typical German snacks, dessert or cake
- preparing parties, open days, anniversaries, carnivals

After settling-in, the volunteer is expected to bring in his or her own ideas. Courage and initiative to realise them together with the children and teenagers are very welcome.

Working hours and days off:

The volunteer will work a maximum of 38 hours per week (approx. 8 h of the 38 h per week are set aside for the volunteer's own creative activities or projects which contribute to the visibility and dissemination of the ESC and to improve the language skills), having 2 free days a week and 2 days off per month during the project. Days off and holidays should be in accord with the team.

Possible schedule:

Monday to Friday:

09:00 - 12:00: Dämmer Frösche

Lunchbreak

13:30 – 16.30: Fröbelschule

Volunteer Allowance (Pocket Money):

The volunteer will receive a monthly allowance provided by the coordinating organisation (6€/day) via bank transfer.

Accommodation and Food:

The volunteer shares a flat with another volunteer near the centre of Aschaffenburg. The volunteer will have her own room with shared bathroom and kitchen. The flat has with a washing machine. Internet access will be available. All the cost related to the accommodation will be supported by the hosting organisation.

Address of the flat: Frankenstraße 15, 63739 Aschaffenburg, Germany

A monthly food allowance of 288.00 € will be provided via bank transfer for the volunteer by the hosting organisation.

Language Training Course:

The volunteer is eligible to receive linguistic support through an online course offered by the European Commission. The volunteers knowledge of the German language will be tested before arrival. If a language course in Aschaffenburg is available, the volunteer will be enrolled by IN VIA and can access the course for free.

Leisure activities:

IN VIA offers leisure activities like guided city tours, international youth club meetings, days out and cultural events to the volunteers at the weekends and evening times on a regular basis. Every volunteer is supported by a peer mentor, who has been abroad themselves and acts as a link between the organizations and the volunteer.



Aschaffenburg and Surroundings:

- Aschaffenburg is a beautiful, old city with a castle. The city offers diversity, has several cinemas, theatres, museums, a language school and a music school. The volunteer can access museums and swimming pools for free.
- Aschaffenburg is only 45 km away from Frankfurt/Main (airport) which has 700.000 inhabitants.

Local Transport:

The volunteer is provided with a bicycle. It takes 10-15 minutes to reach the project and the city centre, by walk it takes 20-30 minutes. The volunteer can also use the city bus. The free ticket will be organised by the coordinating organisation.

Risk Prevention, safety, and protection:

To guarantee protection and safety, the volunteer will be informed about general procedures in case of a dangerous situation. The volunteer will also have the main telephone numbers and localisation of useful services like national emergency number, fire department, police office, hospitals, and pharmacies. She will also be aware about the contact people inside the organisation like mentor, tutor, team, etc.

The volunteer will also be covered by health and accidents insurances, to guarantee their safety and protection.

Learning Outcomes:

The ESC volunteer will be able to develop several competences to improve his/her performance. Therefore, the hosting organization will provide the opportunity to the volunteer to have learning opportunities in different fields, such as:

approach to the tasks of the project; develop responsibility for the project; become more open to new ideas; develop the sense of initiative; ability to plan and organize activities for the project; flexibility/adaptability and coping with new challenges; proactive attitude and independent work; leadership abilities; ability to face problems; ability to manage conflicts; develop a positive attitude in difficult situations; positive attitude in order to take pride in team performance; team work with colleagues to achieve desired goals; ability to maintain open communication; ability to contribute to a motivating environment.

Team orientation: work effectively with other volunteers and other members of the team; active attitude to contribute to the achievement of group and organizational goals; acceptance of shared responsibility and ownership of projects; maintenance of open communication among team members; assume commitment to team success; consistent contribution with new ideas to the organization / new projects.

Innovation and creativity: ability to develop and implement innovative ideas in the projects; ability to provide unique/different perspectives to improve activities; ability to encourage developing themselves and others.

Personal characteristics: maintain a positive attitude at work; ability to act responsibly; ability to share information willingly; ability to make judgements and decisions.

Cultural expression: knowledge about German culture; willing to show the culture of the volunteer and spread it among children and youngsters in multicultural projects.

Communication in a foreign language: ability to communicate in German to feel more integrated among the others; positive attitude towards the learning process of the German language; persistence to improve communication in German.

The volunteer is invited to take part in our regular meetings of the "Café International" (as well students, au-pairs, and other young foreigners). The Café International will be open once a month and is at the address of the coordinating organization: Pestalozzistr.17, 63739 Aschaffenburg.

The coordinator and the hosting organization will do their best to find a good way to meet the requests of the volunteer, to offer more possibilities for experiences outside the "normal" ESC activity.

Crisis Management:

The ESC volunteer will have a mentor to whom she can turn in case of problems. The mentor will be also responsible for crisis management, to guarantee a good atmosphere among team members.

The volunteer will be given advice on crisis prevention and management during their on-arrival training. He/She will also be provided with 24-hour emergency phone numbers.

The hosting organization will have all necessary personal information and emergency contact details for the volunteer. Also, the mentor offers a 24-hour emergency phone number. Besides that, the mentor also offers the volunteer a direct contact with the possibility to talk about any problem that might occur.