

AMO-MICADOS

(Waiting to be accredited by the Belgian national agency)

Theme 1: Early School Leaving / combating failure in education

Theme 2: Access for disadvantaged

Project period

EVS activity will start on 01/02/2017 for a duration of 12 months

The hosting organization

Micados is an AMO-“aide en milieu ouvert”: a prevention service with an open scope of intervention, which means we can be active on the streets or anywhere else.



Our public is made up by children and youngsters (0-18) and our mission is helping them to keep a balanced relation with their social, family and education backgrounds.

We work with and for youngsters to improve their skills in order to foster their autonomy and social emancipation.

Equality of opportunities and equal access to services are values we stand for in our daily activities.

Micados is recognized and financed by the Belgian Youth social service of Wallonia-Brussels federation. We are based in Marche-en-Famenne and we work in Marche-en-Famenne administrative district which is made-up by 8 rural or mid-rural municipalities (Marche, Hotton, Erezée, La Roche, Barvaux, Nassogne, Tenneville and Durbuy).

We have two branch offices: in La Roche and Barvaux.

Our action is based on two main working axes:

Individual support

A social and educational service based upon a listening, accompanying, orientation, support and mediation work, whose aim is to foster youngsters thriving in their family, scholar and social environment.

We intervene up to a youngster or his/her family's request, always respecting youth social service moral code. The youngster can decide to stop asking our support at any time.

Community action

The objective of the community actions is to improve youngsters' environment and to bring a global answer to individual problems and to the individual social demand.

We work to develop a local dynamic network: many initiatives are taken and projects implemented as a response to the needs expressed by individuals and families or as a consequence of our field analysis.

We work with youngsters around different themes:

- How to deal with addictions (for example to drugs...);
- Schooling and school dropout (**this year we are implementing a new project called “Sac Ados”: a civic gap year, whose aim is to support youngsters who left school and to encourage them to try to find again their place in the official education system or to start a professional training**);
- Parenthood, and relations with parents;
- Leisure activities, always entailing reflection moments (work-camps, sport activities...);
- Self-esteem and youth representation.

Our EVS project will especially take part in the **“SacAdos project”**, devoted to youngsters’ orientation. At the same time our EVS volunteer will also take part in other collective and community projects Micados is active in.

EVS experience

We hosted many EVS volunteers since 2008.

All these experiences have been positive and enriching.

We think that welcoming an EVS volunteer within our staff allows our public of young people to open themselves to other cultures and to develop a new relationship with somebody. EVS volunteers’ presence at Micados offers the opportunity to the staff to introduce their world to somebody foreigner to the department and to promote and value their work. Also, we think an EVS volunteer working at Micados will have the opportunity to acquire many skills and to meet a lot of people coming from different realities of the town of Marche-en-Famenne.

Our hosting association is supported by a coordinating organization, Compagnons Bâisseurs, a youth organization based as well in Marche-en-Famenne and coordinating other EVS projects in the town.

Location of the project

The AMO-Micados is located in Marche-en-Famenne, a 17 000 inhabitants town of the



province of the Belgian Luxembourg. This unique situation will allow the volunteer to share the semi-rural life style of the area, but also to meet young people coming from different realities and horizons. During his/her EVS, the volunteer will live and mostly work in Marche-en-Famenne.

The town offers all modern facilities (shops, supermarkets, sport center, cinema....).



COMPAGNONS BÂTISSEURS
A.S.B.L.

For the urban-life-style-lovers, it is however IMPORTANT to note that our town is located in a semi-rural area. Even if it is not far away from the biggest Belgian cities (57 km from Liège, 106 km from Brussels, 47 km from Namur) and well connected by train, Marche-en-Famenne can sometimes look remote and very quiet.

The volunteer will be in contact with other EVS volunteers being hosted in other projects in the municipality.

The project

Our EVS volunteer will have as main mission to be involved in the project “SacAdos”.

The aim of this project is to allow youngsters between 15 and 20 years old in school dropout situation, to have a reflection period about their future by taking part in manual works or social actions which are useful to all our community (environment activities, building and painting activities, open space maintenance activities, activities for elder people, children or refugees, building music instruments for developing countries...).



By taking part in these activities, these youngsters have the opportunity to reflect about their future (go back to school, starting a professional training...).

SacAdos activities will take place next to our local partners (a local rest home for elderly people, the asylum seekers center of Melreux, the environmental education center Natagora, Music Found, Accueil Famenne...).

Our aim is that these youngsters will develop personal and social know-how as punctuality, ability to take responsibilities, solidarity, social commitment, better self-esteem and ability to leave in group.

Under the frame of the SacAdos project:

- From February until June – the EVS volunteer will take part in the activities for the youngsters participating in SacAdos program;
- From July until December- the EVS volunteer will take part in the evaluation of the project to understand what to change for the next edition (finding new partners, preparation of workshops, accompanying the youngsters having participated in the project in their future personal initiatives...);
- From January until February – the EVS volunteer will contribute to implement the activities of SacAdos project for the next edition and next EVS volunteer.

The volunteer will always work with the educator of MICADOS who is in charge of the SacAdos project. Thanks to this, the volunteer will have the opportunity to develop skills of accompanying youngsters, listening to them, supporting them, orienting them...

The volunteer will also develop practical skills (gardening, building, painting...).

L'asbl Compagnons Bâtisseurs est une association de chantiers de jeunes reconnue et subventionnée, en tant qu'Organisation de jeunesse, par le Ministère de la Jeunesse de la Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles, membre de la Confédération des Organisations de Jeunesse (COJ) et de l'Alliance européenne des associations de service volontaire (ALLIANCE).

According to his/her skills and interests the volunteer will have the possibility to propose other activities and to implement a personal project.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The volunteer will also be involved in other activities proposed in MICADOS which mainly concern children and youngsters animation (for example children animation during the summer camps we organize). S/he will also take part in our weekly team meetings and will help us in some administrative task at the office.

Moreover, the EVS activity within MICADOS is part of an EVS group project that aims to increase European awareness among youth in the town of Marche-en-Famenne and to maintain a close collaboration among the local youth services. For that reason, some activities will be run with other EVS volunteers (hosted in Marche-en-Famenne by other local youth organizations).

The volunteers will work together especially during special events organized once a year in the town: intergenerational events, youth services opening day.... The volunteers will help to prepare and follow-up these events. In some occasions, they could hold an information stand presenting EVS program and youth exchange opportunities. They could also organize a “European night” in the local youth house to present therefore their country and traditions.

Profile of the volunteer

Our project is open to anybody motivated by volunteering and who wishes to be involved in our organisation and work with children and youngsters regardless to their nationality, religion, believes, diploma, professional experience.

We would prefer that our EVS volunteer is at least 20 years old, as s/he will mainly work (mainly but not only 😊) under the frame of our SACados project and the youngsters who benefit from this program are in between 15 and 20 years old.

Because the majority of the youngsters attending MICADOS activities don't speak any other language than French, the volunteer must have **some skills in French** before starting the service.

We expect the volunteer to build an atmosphere of confidence with the youngsters; be ready to involve him/herself in the several tasks we do with them (**practical and artistic skills are welcome!**); be able to work together with the staff; be interested in social inclusion and youngsters' support and be ready to bring new ideas, new energy and enthusiasm!

Number of EVS volunteers hosted

One on this project but s/he will have regular contacts with the other EVS volunteers hosted in Marche-en-Famenne (4 in total).

How to apply

We request a specific **motivation letter for this project as well as a CV on 4th September 2016 at latest**. Once the applications received, the pre-selected volunteers will have to fill in a questionnaire and send it back by September 9th.

The application of those who will send their motivation letter and CV later than September 4th won't be taken into consideration.

We encourage the volunteers to learn French before the beginning of the project.

Responsibilities and practical arrangements

Responsibilities: The EVS volunteer will always work under the responsibility of youth workers of MICADOS. S/he will have the autonomy s/he'll need to develop his/her own initiatives and personal projects, but s/he won't be responsible of an activity on its own.

S/he will always get the advice and support of a youth worker.

The activities s/he will take part in will always be prepared with the staff.

Preparation meetings will allow the staff to inform the EVS volunteer about the rules to respect, about all in risks prevention and safety.

Accommodation: The volunteer will be hosted in a house that s/he will share with other EVS volunteers. The house is located in the centre of Marche-en-Famenne and has all the modern comfort needed. The volunteer will receive a monthly allowance and will take care of the meals by her/himself.

Risks and crisis prevention: Risks prevention is firstly linked to a good preparation. We will provide the volunteer with complete and true information before s/he will join our project. The sending organization will be in charge to follow the volunteer during the pre-departure process, to inform him/her about the EVS program, about the rights and responsibilities of the different actors involved, about the administrative obligations the volunteer has to respect before to leave his/her country, etc.

When arrived in Belgium, the volunteer will participate in the on-arrival seminar and the mid-term evaluation organized by the French speaking National Agency.

At the very beginning of the project, we'll especially take care to welcome the volunteer, to show him/her interesting places of our town and Belgium and to present him/her to other young people.

We'll also check that everything is in order with the insurance.

The EVS volunteer will participate in our weekly meeting in order to be integrated in the team and to have the chance to talk about the difficulties s/he lives.

An evaluation of the EVS experience will be made on regular basis with his/her mentor. If there is a problem, a meeting with the project coordinator will be held in order to solve it.

In case of crisis/emergency, we'll require the intervention of the specialized services required, according to the situation.

As we are the hosting organization in this project we are in charge, together with our coordinating organization Compagnons Bâisseurs and our national agency, to provide the resources that can help in case of any serious casual problems.

Contacts

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