

EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE 2021-2022

FONDATION LA FERME DU BONHEUR, PORRENTROY - SWITZERLAND

(French speaking area)

Activity duration: 5th April 2021 - 31st October 2021 - 7 months

Their website: <http://fermedubonheur.ch/>



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International Cultural Youth Exchange
Internationaler Jugend- und Kulturaustausch
Echange Culturel International de Jeunes



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GENERAL INFORMATION CONCERNING THE EVS PROGRAM IN SWITZERLAND

The European Voluntary Service (EVS) is an exchange programme financed by the Swiss government and not the EU because Switzerland is not member of the Erasmus+ programm. It is open to young people between 18 and 30.

The volunteer will work about between 32-38 hours per week for 7 months. S/he will receive a certificate of participation at the end of the volunteering period.

The European Voluntary Service programme is managed by the Swiss Agency for Exchange and Mobility, Movetia.

The scholarship covers the following benefits:

- Travel expenses (400CHF)
- Board and lodging
- Pocket money (250 CHF/month)
- Language support
- Liability, health and accident insurance



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LA FERME DU BONHEUR

La Ferme du Bonheur Foundation aims to introduce children and disabled people to farm life and the surrounding nature. It welcomes about 1500 visitors per year. The farm offers a wide range of activities, including holiday camps for children, stays for institutions, accommodation for groups and much more.

During their stay at the farm, the children are entirely responsible for the maintenance of the animals. Horses must be taken out and brushed, horses and stables must be cleaned. We need to feed the pigs and check up on all the animals. These activities are not only intended for children who do not have contact with nature and the country side. Here everyone learns to take responsibilities and performs a range of manual tasks. The day often starts with the making of bread for breakfast.

Of course, there is still time left for discovering the region and the nature surrounding the farm. The children get to know the forest, the river and their inhabitants. The games also take an important part and the space surrounding the area offers an ideal place for adventures.

EXAMPLE OF VOLUNTEER'S TASKS (NOT EXHAUSTIVE!):

- help preparing meals and do the dishes, cleaning (dormitories, sanitary facilities, common rooms), laundry
- animation of workshops on the farm for children between 6 and 14 years old
- feeding animals with the children, cleaning stables, collecting the eggs
- Assistance in running workshops for people with disabilities
- Help with the maintenance of the farm's crops and grounds (removing invasive plants, repairing fences, cleaning up forest edges. Preparation of wood for the fire)
- Help with the maintenance of the animals and equipment (Cleaning the pens, taking the goats and horses to the meadow)
- Help with the renovation of the farm and the reception area. Small carpentry works, masonry, demolition, painting.
- Help with the upkeep of the area around the gîte and the vegetable garden (mowing, weeding, planting, watering, etc.).
- Help in welcoming the families of the equestrian gîte
- Possible help with some administrative work (rare)

REQUIREMENTS

There are no special skills needed, but you should be motivated and interested in learning and be able to work independently. The volunteer will be supervised by the site manager, who provides training and coaching.

There is a lot to do here, but the location and working atmosphere is very good.

You should be comfortable with children and families. We work with a French and German speaking public. A small knowledge of one or both languages is a big plus in order to be able to lead a workshop independently.

Are you in good physical condition? Do you feel like giving of yourself to brighten up the faces of our visitors? Are you punctual, helpful and motivated to learn in a stimulating environment?

The work schedule is established one month in advance. Normally we do not work on Sundays. Two days off work per week are guaranteed. During the high season (May-June) the working hours can increase a little and then be compensated with holidays during quieter periods (e.g. September). The holidays (14 days for 7 months) are fixed with the manager. In principle it is during the last week of August and the first week of September.

Profile: Woman or man, between 18 and 30 years old, Interested in working in a farm, construction work and working with children and families.

INTERESTED?

Application form and other information: [link](http://www.icye.ch) (www.icye.ch)

Deadline: 8th November 2020

Questions? Contact us at adelie.clement@icye.ch