

EVS Project in Switzerland: 2019-2020

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE HOSTING ORGANIZATION

L'Arche- La Corolle, Versoix-Geneva (French speaking area)

Period of activity: 19th of August 2019 –18th of August 2020 (12 months or less)

Requirements: Interest in working with people with an intellectual disability and basic knowledge of French.

<http://arche-suisse.ch/larche-la-corolle-geneve/>



General information concerning the EVS program in Switzerland

- This project is **funded by the Swiss government** (and not by the EU, as Switzerland is not a member of Erasmus+ anymore),
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- The volunteers will live **in one of our community homes**. The candidate should be motivated to share the life of people with an intellectual disability, members of the l'Arche community and other volunteers.
- The contribution for **international travel costs is CHF 400**.
- The volunteer will be insured through the **ICYE group insurance**.
- The volunteer will receive **pocket money of CHF 300 per month (about 275 EUR)**
- The volunteer will work about **38 hours a week**.
- The duration of the EVS is **12 months**.

The volunteer will receive a **certificate** filled in by ICYE Switzerland and the hosting organization,, not a youth pass.

L'Arche proposes/offers :

The encounter with the person who has a disability :
a unique and extraordinary experience.

Brave the adventure!

La Corolle is a "l'Arche community" where 42 adults with an intellectual disability (30 in houses and 42 in workshops) live in 4 homes and work together in 3 to 4 workshops.

La Corolle is an institution welcoming people with an intellectual disability, as well as a "l'Arche community". L'Arche creates communities where the members, with and without intellectual disabilities, share daily life together. Each member receives support to grow, to attain their goals, and to contribute their gifts and abilities. In L'Arche, we try to "live with" people with a disability, rather than "do for" them, thereby breaking down the barriers in the traditional care giving relationship. Mutual care, respect and compassion transform these relationships. The persons supported and those who support them help each other reach their full potential.

Community life is based on three dimensions : the community dimension, the professional dimension and the spiritual dimension. The community dimension is characterized by our 'living together' in mutual and fraternal relationships. The professional dimension is necessary in order to accompany people with an intellectual disability. There is a shared spirituality in L'Arche that includes finding mystery in the ordinary things of daily life, celebrating the unique gift of each person, and seeing our need for one another as a pathway to inner freedom, mutual care, unity, and communion.

Living in a community

As a volunteer, you live and work in a house alongside people with a disability, assistants and leaders, thereby creating a "home". Supporting the educational staff, you contribute to bringing the soul of the home to life, both through your presence and your personal qualities. You participate in everyday activities, in the home and at work: meals, celebrations, housework and relaxation activities. You accompany people in their everyday routines. In short, it's like a family where everyone helps keep the house going!

Going to encounter the unexpected

Through a supportive, people-centered approach, the volunteer sets out to discover different cultures, traditions and nationalities. Life as a volunteer in L'Arche is a journey towards acceptance of difference: it is placing the weakest person at the heart of our lives and growing with him or her. It's being ready to be overwhelmed by an unexpected encounter from which you emerge transformed. It is allowing yourself time to reflect on your life choices and expectations. The spiritual dimension of each community allows and reinforces the value of this search.

Training and taking on responsibilities

As a volunteer, you are at the heart of life in the home and are supported by a team of professionals who train you, guide you and encourage you to take on responsibilities.

You live in a L'Arche-Corolle home. You are given board and lodging.

- You receive formation, which enables you to perform your role.
- You are accompanied by a tutor.
- Each week you are there entitles you to days off.

To apply, please fill in the form and send it to evs-sve@icye.ch