

# *EVS Project in Switzerland: 2019*

## GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE HOSTING ORGANIZATION

**Synergy Village, Feldbach (German speaking area)**

**Activity duration: 1st of April 2019 – 31st of December 2019 (9 months)**

*Requirement: Interest in working outside and basic German knowledge.*

[www.synergy-village.org](http://www.synergy-village.org)



## General information concerning the EVS program in Switzerland

- This project would be **granted from the Swiss government** and not the EU, because Switzerland is officially no more a full member of Erasmus +.
- The volunteers will live **in the project**. The candidate should be motivated to share the life of other volunteers and the community of the project and live an intercultural exchange with them.
- The contributions for **international travel costs are CHF 400**.
- The volunteer will be insured through the **ICYE group insurance**

- The volunteer will receive a **pocket money of CHF 300 per month (about 275 EUR)**
- The volunteers will work about **32 hours a week**.
- The duration of the EVS is 9 months.
- The volunteer will receive a **certificate** filled in by ICYE Switzerland and the hosting organization not a youth pass.

Synergy Village is an organization run by a group of family and friends. It's situated on a centuries-old property, which was used as a traditional farm back in the days. It's a beautiful place with a magic grotto, idyllic gardens, green farmland, and old traditional houses. Also a private spot at the Lake of Zurich is part of the property.

The aim of Synergy Village is to make the place accessible to visitors and to use the space for cultural, social and sustainable activities. As the name Synergy Village indicates, many of the activities are based on the principle of "creating synergies" or simply understood as the idea of "give and take". As an example, volunteers help the project with their work and knowledge, while they have the opportunity to learn new things, develop their own ideas, immerse into a new society and meet people from all around the world.

The place is a meeting place for people from all around the world. In the summer, the main house is run as a guesthouse for international visitors and larger groups. From autumn to spring, all the rooms are rented out to long-term tenants. The house has then the feeling of a shared housing community. The principle of Synergy Village is that everyone who visits is part of the community that is always set up by the current visitors (guests and volunteers).

Furthermore, Synergy Village rents out spaces in the barn for events of all kinds such as cultural, social and creative events, workshops, corporate or private events. In addition, Synergy Village also organizes its own events for the public, such as a yearly open day. For 2019, it is planned to open a small café for visitors.

The organization Synergy Village consists of 4 board members and a number of active members who regularly help on the property.

Volunteers have many opportunities to get involved:

- Help with accommodating visitors and guests (guesthouse, events, café)
- Outdoor maintenance, depending on season
- Cleaning and guesthouse preparation
- Gardening (vegetables and flowers)
- Landscape gardening
- Creative and decoration work
- Help with renovations
- Cooking and baking

Synergy Village aims to be a "Place of Inspiration" where people can be creative, try new things and learn from each other. Therefore, volunteers are encouraged to bring in their own ideas and work on their own project, beside the daily tasks.

The Volunteers stay in a shared room for 2 volunteers. The food is mainly vegetarian. There are two friendly cats on the property that also stay in the house.

To apply, please fill in the form and send it to [evs-sve@icye.ch](mailto:evs-sve@icye.ch)