



Asociația de Tineri din Ardeal
Youth Association from Transylvania
Cristuru Secuiesc, Székelykeresztúr
str. Libertății nr. 69, Harghita, 535400
office.ata@gmail.com
www.ata-ro.eu



Are you aged 17 to 30?
Want to do
EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE?

HERE'S WHAT WE, THE YOUTH ASSOCIATION FROM TRANSYLVANIA OFFER!

The Youth Association from Transylvania - an NGO from Cristuru Secuiesc, ROMANIA - recognizes the need of the local and regional community to have young people coming from other countries, who can contribute to developing the potential of the area from a cultural, social and economic standpoint. For this reason **since September 2013** we coordinate EVS projects. **Until now 50 EVS** volunteers did successful long term EVS activities with us. Now we are hosting **26 volunteers from Estonia, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain** for an approved project.

Activities are planned in the following FLOWS:

- **9 volunteers** from the 7 countries, started on September 1st 2017, for 6 months.
- **9 volunteers**, from the 7 countries, starts between 1st of March–1st of April 2018, lasts 6 months.
- **8 volunteers** from the 7 countries, starts on September 1st 2018, for 6 months.



The **role of the volunteers** within our organization is **to act as support person** to the activities and initiatives that already exist or that are being piloted in the community or our NGO. They will have to bring their own motivation and plans in order to fill in the frame of these actions with meaningful, efficient content. The EVS activity of each volunteer is constructed as follows: they will have to allocate **70% of their time to work on the main activity they choose** and to help other volunteers with theirs. 20% of the time, their task will be to do common monthly events, activities which are done around the hobbies of the volunteers and the yearly community traditions, events, happenings and holidays of our



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community. 10% of their time will be spent to promote their own EVS activity and to do community volunteering in the city. The venues of their activities will be in **Cristuru Secuiesc** and the villages and cities around it.

During the first 2 weeks, the activities will be more general, where the volunteers get used to the community, to the culture, the habits, the logistics and the main activity. **In the first 3 months** they will have Hungarian and Romanian language lessons.

ACTIVITIES, IN MORE DETAIL:

1 Recycling and up-cycling education manager - 3 Spanish volunteers, 1/flow - We are looking for a person who wants to learn how to work with children and youth and who wants to learn how to protect the environment by reusing our waste. **Context:** Cristuru Secuiesc and the region has a lack of options to recycle and act sustainable ecologically. To aid this lack, we continuously have volunteers who do activities on recycling and up-cycling with workshops, bazaars and other educational activities for teens and youths. This activity is done to make the children and youth who participate more aware and sensitive to trash, its negative effects and possible reuses. To achieve this, workshops need to be carried out by the volunteers in the EVS house in local schools and in villages, both for children and teenagers. Also, bazaars need to be organized so that the community sees and uses the creations of their youths and of the volunteers. 3-4 workshops should be done weekly and 1 bazaar every 2 months. During the activity the volunteer will collaborate with the primary schools, NGOs and the village schools of the region.



2 Support person for the online radio - 3 Estonian volunteers, 1/flow - We are looking for someone who wishes to develop their communication and journalist techniques. **Context:** Our association has an online radio which focuses on the local community (mainly youth and kids) and on EVS in Romania and Europe. The volunteers will do daily live shows in this radio also and they will play continuous 24/7 music according to their own tastes and hobbies. This activity is done to have local radio coverage of the news in the online radio. To achieve this, volunteers need to do live show in the radio and to have daily broadcasts in the online radio, with a minimum of 4 hours of live show and playlist music 24/7. Interviews of EVS and local happenings should be done and local guests and youths can also be given space to do their own emissions.



3 Support person for the keresztur.info news portal - 3 Hungarian volunteers, 1/flow - We are looking for someone who aims to be a film editor or a journalist, who wants to learn how to make interviews, edit videos and be in the field where news happens. **Context:** We work closely with the local news portal in the city. A volunteer would do TV field work with them, gathering local news, presenting portraits of local personalities and doing personal cultural shows. They will also write the articles connected to their videos. Volunteer have the necessary training, tools and materials in order to film digital raw material, edit and broadcast. This activity is done to answer to the lack of video coverage of the local happenings and news. To achieve this the volunteers will have to be on the spot at events, make interviews, and have filmed materials of the events and then they have to edit them and make articles for the keresztur.info news portal.





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4 Support person for the kindergartens - 3 Hungarian volunteers, 1/flow - We are looking for a person who wants to learn how to include non formal activities in a kindergarten, who wants to develop as an educator for small children. **Context:** The local kindergartens are understaffed and can offer only a minimal range of activities for their children – we will have a volunteer who will collaborate with one kindergarten. The volunteer will be organizing daily workshops for the children to teach foreign languages, boosting creativity, learning about the world, developing dexterity, all with non-formal teaching methods. He/she will do this in 1 class for a week and rotate in the classes weekly. This activity is done to make children aged 2 to 6 receptive to English as an important communication language, to diversity and creativity. Being exposed to this in a young age will make the children more open to learning foreign languages as they grow up. For this the volunteer goes to a kindergarten every morning and does language lessons and creativity activities with the kids. Every week in a different class, always rotating. Larger monthly events can also be organized for all the kids.



5 Support person for the herbalists of the region - 3 Portuguese volunteers, 1/flow - We are looking



for a person who wants to learn how to create medical and general products from herbs, who wishes to reconnect with traditional ways of living and also with the countryside. **Context:** The green areas in the region have a lot of unique and abundant herbs which are only partially gathered and used. To this opportunity we will have a volunteer who would join some local herbalists, associations and businesses and they will help in gathering, drying, packaging and commercializing these herbs. Besides this they would

catalogue the working processes needed for different plants and they would create information tools and do promotional activities. This activity is done to show the people who are interested in herbalism or who is doing it as a hobby, that there is still interest in such practices, that there is a need to conserve the practices and to create new markets for these products. The volunteers will try to achieve all these things and will also promote herbalism through workshops and events.

6 Support person for the Hosting Organization - 2 Hungarian volunteers, 1 in flows 1 and 2 - We are looking for a person who wants to become a youth worker, who wants to learn about NGO management and non formal education.

Context: We have a youth group who organize many local sports, cultural and leisure time events. One volunteer will support the activities of this group, both with ideas and direct support. Beside this, the volunteer will also work directly with the staff and the volunteers of the NGO, in the office, supporting all the activities carried out by us on every level. This activity is done to help the youth group that is active in organizing events and activities in the city because they need a foreign an outside perspective with new ideas, with management skills. Also, we as hosting organization aim to do our local activities with volunteers support, so that we always get fresh and new ideas. The volunteer will need to support both of us by coming up with monthly ideas and implementing them.





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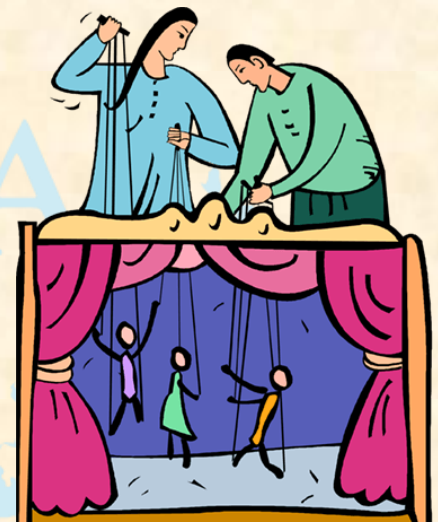
7 Amateur Astronomy club manager - 3 Italian volunteers, 1/flow - We are looking for someone who



will be fascinated by the night sky, who wants to learn about astronomy, but also who wishes to develop their non formal education skills. **Context:** There are a many green areas around the city, which have ideal, unused possibilities for astronomy activities so because there was interest voiced on high-school level in 2014, we started an astronomy club where EVS volunteers do non-formal teaching activities on basic astronomy and sky observation, with night workshops and camps organized for youth, children and parents. This activity is done to run the astronomy club that is always managed by EVS volunteers and local youth. 2 workshops

and 2 stargazing events need to be organized each week, with optional astronomy movie nights to achieve all this.

8 Puppet Show Group Manager - 3 Latvian volunteers, 1/flow - We are looking for someone who want to develop their handicrafts creativity and self expression skills, but also someone who wants to learn how to work with children. **Context:** Our city used to be very active in doing puppet shows for the children of the community. This got lost and we want to revive it with volunteers who can establish a club on city scale that will have local and international members who will prepare and present puppet shows every 2 months in the office of the NGO, kindergartens and schools in the region. This activity is done to create a group of children or youth who want to do puppet shows every 2 months for the children in our community and neighboring villages. This will include learning about puppeteering, rehearsing, making the puppets and doing the shows.



9 Support Person for the Providence Association - 3 Slovenian volunteers, 1/flow - We are looking for



someone who will want to gain skills in working in the social field with youths who live with disabilities. **Context:** This partner NGO does weekly therapeutic workshops, mainly for youths with disabilities, but also for babies, expecting mothers and the elderly. They have 1-1 expert for each target group and volunteers will support these experts with new ideas and methods in order to develop the versatility of the workshops. They will also help with the annual events. This activity is done with this local, church managed center where certain members of the community like youth with disabilities who live at home, soon to be mothers or

with babies, the elderly go daily for therapeutic and leisure time, community activities. The volunteers will help the only staff member specialized on helping the youth with disabilities.



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HOUSING and LOGISTICS



The volunteers will be housed in a **rented house** which has 6 bedrooms that have 1 and 3 beds in each, with bathrooms in the hallways. The house is fully furnished:

- kitchen (image ←) has 2 fridges, stove, microwave, dishes, glasses, furniture, etc.
- the 5 bathrooms have toilets, showers, washing machines and cleaning appliances.
- bedrooms have furniture, beds and also internet connection with Wi-Fi connection (image ↙).



For meals, volunteers will receive an amount allocated for meals, to buy and cook their own food and provide bills for all the purchased food.

The house where the volunteers live is in the center of the city of Cristuru Secuiesc and it is a part of the small **youth center** and main **office** (image ↓) of the NGO. The house also features a living room and **workrooms** for some of the activities, such as the radio, the TV activities and the recycling and upcycling activity. There is no local bus service in the city but we can provide a few **bikes** to the volunteers who require one.

The **working language** in the city and in the greater region is **Hungarian**, so the main focus will be put on learning this language first and after that Romanian which will be needed in trainings, evaluation meetings and free time touristic activities in Romania.

The rules of conduct regarding mutual collaboration and respect between volunteers, association and community will be set up within the specific projects and **activity agreements** with the volunteers.



FINANCIALS and VOLUNTEERING HOURS



Each volunteer will receive **120 € as food allowance and 60 € as pocket money each month**. Everything else, including house rental costs, gas, electricity, water and internet costs, appliances **and activity related costs** will be managed by the hosting organization. International travel is also reimbursed. **Volunteers will do their activities in a flexible way**, for about 6-7 hours/day and 5 days every week. Two days are free every week and 2 other days are holidays every month. Beside these all regional and national free days and holidays are also considered free for the volunteers.



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VOLUNTEER PROFILE

The Youth Association from Transylvania is looking for any youth aged 17 to 30 who is **serious and motivated to come to a small city and support us** in the development of a community with a lot of potential. We do not require volunteers to have any pre-determined skill sets or aptitudes in order to carry out the activity, only an inquisitive demeanor and an openness to learn new things which may be needed for the activity. Also, we do not require participants to have advanced or intermediate English (or other foreign language) speaking skills, we only require them to have a basic skill in English and **an openness to learn the local language** in order to effectively communicate with the local community. Last but not least, **we are looking for energetic, creative open minded and independent youth**. If the potential volunteers do not possess these attitudes, they will certainly develop them while working together with us.



RECRUITMENT PROCESS



For anyone wishing to join us as an EVS volunteer, we will firstly require a **CV and a motivation letter**. **DEADLINE for applying is the 31st of March 2018**. We encourage candidates to be creative with their applications, to include anything that might reveal their individuality, their likes, dislikes and potential skill sets. **These can be sent to sending organizations or directly to us at office.ata@gmail.com**. Also, we require all candidates to fill the short application form on this link:

<https://goo.gl/forms/kQiMI4tpkXNdNjCU2>, where it is extremely important to carefully choose the **primary and secondary activity** that volunteers want to do and **also the flow** when volunteers want to do their activities. Upon receipt of these, the board of the NGO will decide whether the presented profile is appropriate for our activities, In light of this decision we will either refuse candidates or move on to having a Skype interview with the candidates in order to evaluate motivation and personality in a direct and oral environment. After the interview, the board will take a decision and inform the candidates.



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ABOUT THE TOWN

Cristuru Secuiesc lies at the eastern end of the Transylvanian plateau between the towns of Odorheiu Secuiesc and Sighișoara, in the valleys of the Târnava Mare, Goagiu and Nicoul Alb rivers, 390-395 meters above sea level. As far as nationality is concerned: in 2011 there were 9491 inhabitants, 9266 of which were declared Hungarian, 183 Romanian and 8 German while most of the Roma community declared themselves as Hungarian or a few, Romanian.



In 2011 there were 4438 reformed, 3354 unitarian, 1248 Roman catholic, 208 orthodox and a few baptists, evangelists, Greek catholics, Jehovah's witnesses and adventists as well. There are four churches in the town: reformed, unitarian, roman catholic and orthodox. The city has 4 primary and high-schools one of them being a vocational high-school, it has a folklore museum, the Dr. Molnár István Museum, the PIPACSOK folk ensemble, a civil fanfare, a philharmonic. There are a lot of hills, meadows, rivers and forests for hikes and the Harghita Mountains are also close. The city also boasts with a Theatre, a Lidl supermarket and many smaller general stores, several restaurants and pubs for leisure time with a tradition of having live musicians singing slow music. The youth community is quite abundant, with youth from all around the region pouring out from the 3 high schools and also the youth moving back from universities in the area.

Beside this main headquarter, after gathering a bit more hands on experience, a few of the activities may also be organized **in the neighboring villages** and a larger city, **Odorheiu Secuiesc**.

