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EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS

LA PALMA, CANARY ISLANDS, SPAIN

Ayuntamiento Santa Cruz La Palma



EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS

EVS vacancy 2019

Santa Cruz, La Palma

1.9.2019.-1.8.2020.

Description

La Isla de San Miguel de La Palma, also known as La Palma is one of the 7 Canary Islands. La Palma is the most northwesterly island of the Islands and is called by many Canarian people "La isla bonita" - The beautiful island. La Palma, like the other islands of the Canary Island archipelago, is a volcanic oceanic island.



Placement



The Voluntary Service will take place in a city and a municipality in the eastern part of the island of La Palma in the province of Santa Cruz de Tenerife of the Canary Islands. It is situated on the east coast. Santa Cruz de la Palma is the second largest city (after Los Llanos de Aridane) and is the capital of the island. It is located along an old lava flow coming out from the Caldereta (small caldera), a volcano located just south of the city. It has a population of 16,330 people and is a capital city of island La Palma.

Since the city is the capital of the island that is the point on the island with most commercial and cultural activities, but in comparison with other bigger islands there is a lot of space for improvement. Actively cooperating in the advances of the society. That is why we are convinced that the European Voluntary Service is the ideal tool to introduce new cultures and new perspectives to the local young community by involving the European volunteers in the society of Santa Cruz and La Palma! The final goal is to include those volunteers in the planned activities of the municipal office.

The Island is a specially conserved territory, with a unique flora and fauna worldwide! The approximately 83.000 inhabitants of the island of which 16% are youngsters, are considered as a very open minded and peaceful community rooted to traditions like their

agriculture, fishery, art...Most of those traditions are deeply connected to the nature.

What's in Ayuntamiento Santa Cruz La Palma?

The local young community of Santa Cruz and the island as a whole is confronted with a series of difficulties because of the lack of opportunities. It is hard to get an employment and/or superior and professional schooling. The immense unemployment, shortage of public transport, risk of social exclusion, lack of European awareness (Erasmus+) and child poverty are most of the issues of the youngsters we work with on the island, but first of all to introduce opportunities to develop personally and to learn.

We think that introducing the European Voluntary Service to the municipality is of extraordinary help, as it will improve the inclusion of the youth in the program and as well the exchange of knowledge, traditions and culture between the local and international youth. The volunteers will be accommodated in the urban center near to their working place and the zone of social activities, so they can get a part of the local community and spread the call of the Erasmus+ program. The volunteers will be able to learn new skills and get numerous new qualifications by working in this field and especially under those conditions. Working in a Canarian organization, therefore, not only allows the volunteers to get to know the work we do, but as well what it means to live (with) and think about the people, culture, traditions, advantages and disadvantages of La Isla Bonita!



So, what would you do there?

Our aim is to make concept of Europe closer to a local youth generation. It is very important that the volunteers are dynamic, outgoing, that they know to empathize with young people and are ready to engage in activities that we offer. Also, create new activities that will support the idea of connecting the youth with European values, for examples, conducting a weekly radio program, making the township cultural tours for youth groups, making videos of Erasmus+, or even making videos of making traditional food! We will adjust each project according to capacities and interest of each volunteer.

“We work as volunteers in the local government of Santa Cruz de La Palma, in the department which engages with the neighbourhood council. On top on that the department is also in charge of consumerism and the local markets of the city. This means that during our working hours we work closely together with the citizens as well as with the people who work for the government and get to make the decisions. At the moment, we are participating in two big projects organized by our department; “Cuida tu Mar” and “Capital de Color”. Cuida tu Mar aims to teach children the importance of taking care of the environment, especially the sea. Capital the Color is a long running project about making the city more appealing by decorating it with different kinds of murals. Other than that, we help out where we are needed with all kinds of smaller tasks. This project might be something for you if you are interested in how the local government of a small island functions. And if you want to help out in a number of different projects about making the city a more enjoyable for the local people. For us it is also interesting to be able to participate in the initiatives of the citizens of Santa Cruz and note the influence they can have. It also ascertains a quick integration into the community as you get to know a lot of people every day.” – Febe & Mateja, volunteers



What are we looking for?

Please have in mind that there are several important issues about this project: We are selecting volunteers who will be participating in the project that will start in September 2019 and end in August 2020. We need volunteers who can commit to this period of 11 months and most importantly to this project. It is important that potential volunteer understands that this position asks for devotion toward development of youth and society, to be willing to embrace the experience and promote solidarity and equality.

The project itself has an established time-table, but we are counting on ideas and initiatives of the volunteers. They need to be conscious that they will be representing a Public Body, therefore punctuality, responsibility and kindness should be on a high level. Every violation of the rules will have consequences, which are established in the Activity Agreement, in agreement of all parts involved.

You

- Young people between 18 and 30 years
- Dynamic, entrepreneurial, outgoing and participative
- Creative and open-minded
- People who like to be in touch with the nature and like to live in rural areas.
- Interested in working in youth projects and with youngsters
- A basic level of Spanish so they can begin to help with basic tasks
- Passionate about culture (Spanish) and youth and eager to discover new cultures and experiences
- They should be motivated to continue developing new projects within the Erasmus+



Next steps...

If you are interested in the project, please fill in the Google Form <https://goo.gl/forms/5zWA2Q0muIViW2Jt2> and attach us your CV with the the subject: **SANTA CRUZ EVS 2018**