



BUILDING INTERCULTURAL BRIDGES

ASSOCIAZIONE DIAKONIA
BERGAMO
VOLUNTEERING PROJECT
SEPTEMBER 2020- MAY 2021



WELCOME TO BERGAMO

Associazione Atelier Europeo (coordinating association) and Associazione Diakonia (hosting organisation) welcome you in Bergamo: «Bergamo is a real masterpiece of history, culture, music and landscape, with a medieval heart on top of a hill surrounded by the majestic Venetian Walls an UNESCO World Heritage Site.”

Bergamo is located just an hour's drive northeast of Milan in the Lombardy region,. Home to 120,000 people, this cozy yet cosmopolitan city is tucked into the scenic foothills of the Alps. But this doesn't mean it's inaccessible. In fact, in addition to adjacent bus and railway stations, Bergamo even has its own airport. Also known as Orio al Serio, Il Caravaggio International Airport is now one of the busiest stopovers in Italy.

The architectural and artistic treasures of Bergamo are widely touted. From an enchanting mix of medieval and Renaissance architecture in the heart of the old town, the Piazza Vecchia, to the small hilltop village of San Vigilio, astounding views can be found everywhere you look. The church of Santa Maria Maggiore, the Rocca, the Cittadella, and the Donizetti Theatre are just a mere handful of the abundance of breathtaking things to see in Bergamo.

The European Commission recently heralded the important role Lombardy has played in promoting scientific and technological progress through a commitment to research and innovation. This has made it one of Europe's premier manufacturing regions, as well as a leader in many other industries, including agri-food, aerospace, life science, living environments, smart communities, mobility, green chemistry, energy, environment, construction, and smart factories. If you're looking to live in a dynamic culture at the forefront of innovation, think Bergamo.

PROJECT BIB IS A VOLUNTEERING PROJECT THAT WILL HOST 2 FRENCH VOLUNTEERS IN BERGAMO 1.9.2020- 31.5.2021.

DURING THE PROJECT VOLUNTEERS WILL SUPPORT ASSOCIAZIONE DIAKONIA ACTIVITIES, IN PARTICULAR PROJECT FILEO IN THE BEAUTIFUL SAN PAOLO D'ARGON ABBEY.

Associazione Diakonia (HO)

Associazione Diakonia aims to promote social equality and equity and to enhance the individuals' sense of responsibility to community and to others, especially the most vulnerable ones.

The core values of Associazione Diakonia and its activities are solidarity, peace, social equity and the equality achievement.

Associazione Diakonia works in social field and focuses its activities on the most vulnerable ones.

Atelier Europeo (SO)

As coordinating organization for this project, our aim is to empower young people in order to raise their level of participation in the society and increase their awareness on volunteers values in day-to-day life while developing actual solid skills on managing their life in a way that promotes employability, intercultural skills and inclusive growth.

PROJECT TASKS

Volunteers will be involved in various activities aimed to regenerate and requalify the Benedictine Abbey of San Paolo d'Argon, located in St. Paolo d'Argon town, near Bergamo.

The Benedictine Abbey of San Paolo d'Argon was funded in 1097 by a community of Cluniac monks and it is part of the artistic heritage of Bergamo Municipality: in fact, within there are different frescos by Paolo De Matteis da Napoli, Giuseppe Maria Crespi da Bologna e Sebastiano Ricci da Venezia and some local artists.

The Abbey was renovated in the early 2000s with the aim of becoming a cultural hub and promoting different inclusive and social activities.

Now, the Abbey hosts the activities of project FILEO, which promote an intercultural approach, and it aims to raise awareness on inclusion both in social and religion field. Its activities are aimed to promote researches on human migrations and intercultural integration processes; raise awareness on the different religions and cultures and on the mix of different religions and cultures as a source of enrichment for communities. Research, trainings, promotion of travels with social aims and “narration” are the four main topics.

Activities have just begun and Associazione Diakonia has started with the implementation of topic “narration”, with the promotion of events and the inauguration of a “intercultural” library (the main topics of the books are intercultural approach, migration, interconfessional approach etc.)



PROJECT TASKS

The volunteer will work 5 days a week, approximately 35 hours. The working hours are usually from 9-16 including lunch break, but sometimes work times can vary depending on events that the association is taking part in.

Volunteer will be involved in following activities:

- Promotion of events;
- Setting up and managing of website in English;
- Promotion of EU history and citizenship in schools and during local events which will take place in St. Paolo d'Argon Abbey;
- Supporting other operators in daily activities (e.g. setting up rooms for events; help in Abbey café, help in library etc.).
- Promotion/creation/ideation of new activities which could take place in Abbey.



Street art in Associazione Diakonia's street

PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

We offer the volunteers:

- A chance to live in a new culture
- Possibility to do volunteer work for the local community
- A chance for intercultural learning
- A project where you can use your creativity

We expect from volunteers:

- Openmindedness
- Respect
- Ability to follow the rules and schedule

Regarding the volunteer profiles, we think that the following characteristics can be useful both to implement the project with success, and to grant a satisfactory experience to the protagonists.

Interest in the project: it is important for volunteers to participate fully in the project, having the desire to contribute actively and agree on the objectives. Under these conditions, the experience can become an opportunity to determine the human and professional growth of the volunteer.

Experiences and competences: it's preferable that volunteers have past experiences of work, either volunteer or paid, in the education area and are sensitive and involved in social issue as poverty issue, solidarity/charity and intercultural dialogue. Italian language skills will be especially appreciated but it's not a basic condition.

Personality: Generally, we need positive, flexible and willing people able to work in group and in a multicultural context.



Accommodation

The volunteers will be accommodated in Monterosso, a city district in Bergamo close by Associazione Diakonia. The block is a growing neighborhood which offers many occasions, either cultural or of leisure, it is a thriving community with an enthrallingly diverse population.

The volunteers will live in a flat, each one of them will have its own private room, they'll share kitchen and bathroom. The flat has wi-fi connection and all commodities.

Support Measures

Volunteers will be supported by a supervisor and a mentor from A. Diakonia. Weekly meetings will be scheduled as meetings with Atelier Europeo.

According to the funding rules of Erasmus+, travel will be reimbursed till 180€.

The pocket money will be 5 € per day, it will be paid at the beginning of each month, along with a sum covering food.



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For application, please send your CV and
motivation letter at:
europa@atelieruropeo.eu

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