

Our organization

"Therapeutische Gemeinschaft Steiermark" was founded in 2000 and is an organisation with the goal to support children and youngsters. We are attending families in difficult situations and work with deficits concerning e.g. family system, personal development and school. In our work we are focussing on abilities, strengths and resources of our clients.

The project

We are now planning an international project to enable youngsters to work on the topic of democracy in the way of a *youth exchange*.

We are intending to

- promote the social exchange with youngsters from other countries (and also other cultures)
- sensitize youngsters for politics
- promote social learning in groups
- promote non-formal learning
- creative and abstract thinking

After getting to know each other youngsters will work out necessary aspects to found a town where all needs of the citizen are satisfied (in the style of a village/ town from the 19th century). The results will then be summarized and broken down to the essential elements (catering, basic materials, trade). The participants will work in groups to establish buildings out of carton for each field, which in the end will be composed to a town. The participants then will work out the functioning of the town, how to keep it running and the necessities for its development. The

groups will be led step by step to the issue of democracy and its importance. The aim of the project is to empower young people to practice democracy in their town, in order to develop a deeper understanding for democratic systems.

Who:14 to 18 year olds (about 30 persons)When:August, 9th to 16hLanguage:English

Our expectations:

Partners should:

- sensitize the participants for the topic of democracy in advance
- participate in an advanced planning visit in June 2014

We are offering:

- 8-day-stay in a youth hostel in Tragöss surrounded by wood and nature
- Youthpass

Application deadline: April 6th 2014

If we have awaken your interest in our project please contact us:

