

CALL FOR PARTNERS ON A EUROPEAN COOPERATION PROJECT WITH “IL SOGNO DI UNA COSA”, TORINO.

PROJECT: “Leaving the nest”.

Proposal for learning and development of self-reliance and skills by young people with mental disability entering in adult life.

The Italian no-profit cooperative “Il Sogno di una Cosa” is seeking European partners to share a project of international exchange in the framework of Erasmus+ Program KA1 – youth exchange.

“Youth Exchanges allow groups of young people from at least two different countries to meet and live together for up to 21 days. During a Youth Exchange, participants, supported by group leaders, jointly carry out a work programme (a mix of workshops, exercises, debates, role-plays, simulations, outdoor activities, etc.) designed and prepared by them before the Exchange. Youth Exchanges allow young people to: develop competences; become aware of socially relevant topics/thematic areas; discover new cultures, habits and life-styles, mainly through peer-learning; strengthen values like solidarity, democracy, friendship, etc. The learning process in Youth Exchanges is triggered by methods of non-formal education. The rather short duration makes the involvement of young people with fewer opportunities appropriate; as such a Youth Exchange offers an international mobility experience in the safety of a group with the possibility of having an adequate number of group leaders to take care of the participants. A Youth Exchange can also be a good setting for discussing and learning about inclusion and diversity issues. Youth Exchanges are based on a transnational cooperation between two or more participating organisations from different countries within and outside the European Union. “

THE LEAD PARTNER - “IL SOGNO DI UNA COSA”

<http://www.ilsognodiunacosa.org>

“Il Sogno di una Cosa” is a social cooperative, not-for-profit, based in Torino.

Born in 1982 as a society of actors with a social commitment, the cooperative aims to promote research in social welfare and cultural education.

During the years it involved itself in developing services to support needs of people with problems, of their families and of the citizens in general.

In detail the cooperative deals with:

- management of day centers and residential services of sorts for disabled people, both young and adults;
- related activities for the families;
- projects with schools;
- inclusion projects with others territorial actors;
- national civil service projects, promoted by the *Ufficio per il Servizio Civile Nazionale*, presso la Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri, addressed to young people 18 - 28 years old;
- learning projects to self-reliance bent to young disabled;
- learning projects addressed to teachers and voluntary workers.

The cooperative works together daily with public services, private societies and volunteers.

COOPERATION PROPOSAL, IN BRIEF, AND THE DESIRED PARTNERSHIPS

The cooperative “Il Sogno di una Cosa” would like to collaborate with similar organizations in France and Bulgaria in exchanging and welcoming of two international groups of ten people each, composed of young disabled and their guides.

The application field of the exchange project is to promote a growth experience of a group of youngsters with mental disability living in Torino and the surroundings. The group is participating in an educational path named “Abitanti”, organized by the cooperative since 2015 and aimed to encourage the learning and development of self-reliance in personal life, housing and work training.

It isn't simple for young disabled people to make those experiences that allow them to gain adulthood, skills and self-reliance, and to live life in a very independent way. The project “Leaving the nest” aims to offer a meaningful experience of this sort, experimenting the welcome of young foreigners, and sharing with them knowledge and educational, enriching paths.

This international exchange project aims to be another element of our path, through an experimental proposal able to promote, at a local level, the chance to meet young disabled from other countries of the European Union, and to develop a positive knowledge, in a welcoming, friendly and sharing atmosphere, to increase self-reliance and consciousness of the world around them.

The suggested activities are:

ACTIVITY 1.

January 2017: international preliminary meeting in Torino with the involved educators.

ACTIVITY 2.

February/March 2017: selection of participants at every local level of the three involved Countries.

ACTIVITY 3.

April/May 2017: in Torino, organization of logistic welcome and lodging.

ACTIVITY 4.

June 2017 (end of the school): realization of a theoretical-practical workshop aimed to teach self-reliance and skills, in collaboration with two local training agencies. We plan to assign a ‘guide’ role to the host disabled youngsters in some initiatives. The project will be documented by a video production.

- Day 1 – Welcome to participants, first meeting to present the organization of the workshop. In the afternoon, teaching of basics of Italian language, paying particular attention to ‘key words’ of self-reliance. Evening is free.
- Day 2 – **Theme: orientation in the area.** Training and exchange of technologies and their use to find the way and gather information, location of interesting points in Torino, organization of a route. In the afternoon fulfilment of the route to test orienteering skills, use of public transport, competence in asking information. Welcome evening, with role-playing games and significant activities of knowledge and exchange.
- Day 3 – **Theme: orientation in the area.** Practice to test the skills and competence in space-time direction, training on reading and following route information, pedestrian independence and basic knowledge of rules of the road. Afternoon is free. In the evening, visit of the city.
- Day 4 – **Theme: food and diet.** Training and simulations to test skills and competence about diet, organization of a balanced food shopping and cooking. In the afternoon, practice on the field by shopping of food and cooking of a shared meal. In the evening, meeting and discussion on food and diet; sharing of recipes and traditional dishes.
- Day 5 – **Theme: food and diet.** Visit of a teaching farm in the surrounding of Torino, to discover farming and treatment of food. Outdoor workshop on food processing, hold by farmworkers. Evening is free.

- Day 6 – **Theme: housekeeping.** Training and discussion about housekeeping and use of domestic equipment. Practice and simulation on the field. In the evening, expressive activity on housekeeping.
- Day 7 – **Theme: using money.** Simulations and practice on the field about independent shopping strategies. Learning to know and count different banknote denominations, reading and evaluating prices and so on. Free afternoon. In the evening, games on the theme.
- Day 8 – Guided discussion on the experience, conclusions and showing of a video about the path. In the evening party with traditional food and final greetings.

PROJECT FUNDING

The project will be organized in the framework of Erasmus+ Program. If approved, every activity will be supported by the lead partner. Other partners won't be asked a financial contribution. The application deadline is 26th April 2016.

CALL

Thanks to a following project, the cooperative "Il Sogno di una Cosa" would like to make an exchange (with a similar program of Torino project) in one partner's country, of the two of "Leaving the nest", maybe in June 2018.

CONTACTS

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