

# Volunteering project in Jönköping, Sweden

**Location:** Jönköping, Sweden

**Project dates:** from 1st of September 2022 to 31 August 2023

**Duration:** 12 months

**Applicants:** EU and non-EU residents aged 18-30 years old

**Application deadline:** 8<sup>th</sup> of May 2022, 23:59 CET

**Hosting organisation:** Jönköping Municipality, Culture and Leisure Department

## **Project description:**

The project activity focuses on bringing the international dimension to the local youth work of Jönköpings kommun. The youth centres and the local civil society are all working to increase integration and inclusion. The youth centres are working mostly with youth 10-19 years of age. They offer either after-school activities for younger youth or evening activities for older youth in Jönköping. Their work need continuous efforts to broaden and improve understanding and tolerance among youth but also consciousness about similarities and differences in Europe. Our project objective is to increase solidarity between different cultures through meaningful local activities in youth centers that promote inclusion of young people in our municipality.

We plan to host 4 volunteers with a start 1 September 2022. The 4 volunteers will be working side by side at the youth centres and will be sharing their experience from their participation in European Solidarity Corps. Two volunteers will do their volunteering at Stråga fritidsgården, and two will be active in Råslätt fritidsgården. Here is a short description of these locations:

- **Stråga youth center** is located in Gråshagen, ca 4 km from the city center of Jönköping. The youth center has two floors and it is accessible for people with physical impairments as well. On the first floor, one can find tables and chairs, and a pool table. There is a cozy corner with sofas, video games, various crafts and board games, and a kitchen area. Downstairs, there is a smaller sports hall, a gym with a dressing room and shower, table tennis, and an office. In the afternoons (13-17), they work with children between 10-12 years old, and on Wednesdays, they have "Mini-Funkis" for children with disabilities. During three evenings a week (18-21), Stråga welcomes "Funkis" group, which consists of youth with disabilities aged 13-25. The youth center is open on Thursday evenings for people between the ages of 25-45. You can check Stråga's Instagram page: @fritidstraga

- **Råslätt youth center** (also called Stadsgården) is located within a complex that consists of a youth center, a swimming pool, cinema, library, and gym. The youth center is open for activities for children aged 10-12, and activities for teenagers aged 13-19. The activities for children are run from Monday to Friday between 14-17, while activities for youth are held between 18-21 on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. As Råslätt is an area characterized by a low socio-economic status, the youth center aims to reach youth who are at a disadvantage to their peers because of migrant background, and economic and social barriers. The most common activities implemented in the youth center are hanging out with friends and leaders, playing X-box, table tennis, Playstation, games, doing crafts, using computers and much more. Stadsgården is also open during the winter or fall break, Easter holiday, Christmas holiday, etc. You can check Råslätt's Instagram page: @raslattsfritidsgard

**Profile of the applicant:**

- Interested in working as a volunteer with children and young people, as well as target groups of Stråga and/or Råslätt
- Willing to take initiative to plan, organize, implement, and evaluate activities within youth centers
- Ready to work on your own, as well as in international teams
- Open-minded and tolerant towards differences in backgrounds and abilities
- Willing to engage in learning opportunities offered during volunteering
- Experienced in arranging and organizing learning activities for children and youth (local and/or international environment)
- Advantage: interested/experienced in the topics of inclusion, youth mental health, online activities

**Task for the volunteers:**

- Contributing to the daily youth work activities of youth centers by sharing new ideas and applying prior experience
- Developing leisure time and meaningful activities together with youth leaders, civil society, and the youth
- Assisting other youth centers in their activities during special occasions - e.g. during Easter break, Halloween night, LGBTQAI+ activities, summer camps, ESC promotion events
- Promoting the European Solidarity Corps and Erasmus+ program to young people of Jönköping
- Communication tasks: creating posters/flyers, updating information about activities on the Instagram or Facebook accounts of the youth centres, and of Instagram account @escjonkoping

**Learning opportunities for the volunteers:**

During the project duration, the volunteers will get an insight into a common daily youth work within a youth centre in Jönköping. The volunteers will improve leadership and communication skills, and will also learn how to cooperate in groups with both colleagues and youth. Further on, the volunteers will get to learn basics of Swedish language, and will improve their cultural awareness and expression competence.

**Funding**

If you are accepted as a volunteer, some of your costs will be covered by the project. This includes travel expenses, insurance, accommodation, and food and pocket money throughout your stay.

**Application:**

To apply as a volunteer for the project, please send your CV with a photo and a motivation letter in English to: [welcome@jonkoping.se](mailto:welcome@jonkoping.se)

When writing the motivation letter, please mention which youth center (Stråga or Råslätt) fits your interest and background more, and how you can contribute to its activities.

We will conduct virtual interviews with the selected candidates during the selecting process.