

ESC IN THE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FIELD

INFOPACK



HOST ORGANIZATION: GUARDAVANTI

WHEN: OCTOBER 2020 -
OCTOBER 2021

WHERE: SOMMA LOMBARDO
(VARESE), ITALY



Joint



Who we are



The association **GuardAvanti: per il futuro dei bambini** is a non-profit organization, founded in 2011, involved in the international cooperation field, promoting the integration of cultures, a constructive coexistence in solidarity and a more equal and sustainable future.

The core for Guardavanti is the will to go beyond the categories of “rich” and “poor”: the association operates both in developing and developed countries, supporting projects around fair trade, economic self-development and emancipation from poverty.

A continuous exchange of knowledge and experiences between the association and partners in Italy and in the South of the world, allows that the projects, from concept to implementation and conclusion, are a fruitful result of a mutual learning process.

The association, based on the encounter of believers and non-believers of different nationalities, is free from political, ethnical and religious bonds.

What we do

In Italy GuardAvanti is active on global citizenship education in all levels of schools and:

- supports international campaigns,
- manages sponsorship,
- organizes fundraising campaigns
- does social media communication

Abroad GuardAvanti is active, in particular, in Democratic Republic of the Congo and in Zambia, in the field of education and sustainable development.

In addition, we've already had an experience with European volunteers in 2018-19 with two volunteers coming from France and Portugal.



Project context

Based in Lombardy, a region in the North-West of Italy, Guardavanti has headquarter in Villanterio. Moreover, it has an operational point in **Somma Lombardo**, where the volunteers will be based.

Somma Lombardo is a small town in the Varese province of just over 17,800 inhabitants, located 50 km from Milan, 20 km from Varese and next to other cities, at an altitude of about 300 meters above sea level.

Somma Lombardo is well served by **public transport** (airport at 10 minutes) that connect it, several times a day, with Milan and Varese. The proximity to these cities allows to combine the possibility of living in a country town, and to experience life in the city of medium (Varese) and large size (Milan). By train you can also reach the beautiful Lago Maggiore in 20 minutes.

Somma Lombardo is a nice, **easy to live town**, with a city life rhythm characterized by different intercultural events (international event, Christmas market...) and weekly events (market, concerts...).

This city is a good environment to help the volunteers to develop their curiosity about Italian cooking (restaurants, local food...), Italian language (Italian course in town) and **Italian culture** (castle of Somma Lombardo, conferences, projection of movies, library...).

The territory offers various **sports and recreational facilities**, in particular a municipal soccer field with a little field for training; a municipal gym for schools or sport groups and a swimming pool; a municipal library; a musical academy.

The area near Somma Lombardo is also part of Parco del Ticino (with diga del Panperduto), where it's possible to take naturalistic walks among the varied local flora and fauna.



Volunteers' activities

INTERCULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN ITALY

Interactive workshops in schools in the provinces of Varese, Milan and Pavia. Volunteers will support the educators in the conduction of laboratories in schools of all levels on the theme of interculturality and integration of students of foreign origin; interactive training sessions on the stereotypes commonly attributed to migrants from the mass media and other topics of education for global citizenship.

Activities in town: ESC volunteers will collaborate with locals to organize activities for the integration of different ethnical communities living in the area. The volunteers will have the chance to know other associations and will participate or can be promoters of partnership initiatives.

ORGANIZATION OF ACTIVITIES DESIGNED BY VOLUNTEERS

One day a month could be dedicated to activities conceived by ESC volunteers. Meetings of interethnic cuisine, sporting activities, parties, inter-ethnic parades or other activities created by volunteers can be organized, with the aim of improving mutual knowledge and to overcome the fear of the different.

ORGANIZATION OF EVENTS TO PROMOTE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

The ESC volunteers will participate in organizing the events that the association commonly carries out to promote its activities, including participation in local fairs with recreational spaces dedicated to children (creative makeup, animation, balloons, installation of a banquet with sugar yarn). The volunteers can then devise new promotional activities, contributing in first person to make known the association in the territory.

ORGANIZATION OF THE XMAS CAMPAIGN

The ESC volunteers will participate in organizing, implementing and monitoring all phases of the fundraising Xmas Campaign: for example, agreements with the commercial partners, selection of people involved in the fundraising activities, logistic support for the promotional materials, training courses before and after the campaign for unemployed people participating in the Campaign.





MANAGEMENT OF THE GUARDAVANTI WEBSITE AND SOCIAL NETWORKS:

Translation of the association's new website: volunteers can translate together with high school students and volunteers the new website of the association in several languages, including their mother tongue.

Management of GuardAvanti social networks: volunteers could publish articles on the social networks of the association in Italian and in the language they prefer. In particular about sustainability, global citizenship, international cooperation, human rights, active citizenship, fair trade and critical consumption, world news, songs and proverbs from the world.

MANAGEMENT OF PROJECTS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Volunteers could support the project manager in the phases of needs analysis, planning, monitoring and reporting. The activity may also be carried out in a language other than Italian, depending on the institutional donor and the project partners. The volunteers will have the opportunity to work in an international and multicultural context. Furthermore, volunteers will be able to play an active role in the activities planned in Italy around projects abroad (for example awareness, communication, organization of events).

The volunteers will be working for a total of 30-35 hours per week, 5 days a week generally Monday to Friday. Occasionally they will be asked to take part in events organized on Saturdays and/or Sundays and in this case they will be guaranteed, however, additional free days per week.

They will work along with the staff in Somma Lombardo and they will be supervised by and in contact with the other staff members of the association who live abroad. In this way the volunteers will experience remote working that is now becoming mainstream.

Accommodation & financial support

The ESC volunteers will be hosted in a flat in Somma Lombardo (province of Varese).

GuardAvanti will rent for the volunteers a flat composed by two bedrooms, a fully equipped kitchen and a bathroom.

When ESC volunteers will participate in institutional activities of Guardavanti located out of Somma Lombardo, the association will cover any related expense, previously authorized by their supervisor.

Volunteers will be given **monthly financial support**, along with pocket money, which will allow them to do their shopping and prepare meals for themselves in the kitchen of the apartment. Every volunteer will be given monthly a pocket money of 5 euros a day

The **travel costs** will be reimbursed up to a certain amount allocated by the European Commission.

How to apply

Send the **CV and the application form** to apply.esc@associazionejoint.org with the subject line “Application for GuardAvanti” as **soon as possible**. Only shortlisted people will be contacted to arrange an online interview.

Thank you, everybody, for your
interest and time and...

GOOD LUCK!