

# ESC IN RESIDENTIAL CENTERS FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS INCLUDING UNACCOMPANIED FOREIGN MINORS



**ORGANIZATION:** LA COMUNITÀ ONLUS

**WHERE:** GENOVA, ITALY

**WHEN:** OCT. 2020 - OCT. 2021

**DURATION:** 12 MONTHS



# WHO WE ARE

The Cooperative La Comunità is a social enterprise active in Genoa since 1979 in the field of educational activities to combat and prevent minors' distress and sustain fragile families through the design and management of socio educational, animation and cultural services. It works in cooperation with other cooperatives, volunteering organizations and public institutions. Our work focuses on the promotion of children and families' active participation in care intervention. With this approach, the cooperative's work doesn't limit to the provision of services, but aims at building a culture based on solidarity and hospitality and to value families and citizens' potential contribution to social life. Furthermore, the management of socio-educational services aims at people's social reintegration and the creation of opportunities for its happening reducing the risk of social exclusion.

The cooperative offers project design and management of socio-educational services in different areas: children and childhood, adults in difficulty, elderly people and community development.

# OUR ACTIVITIES

Since 2014, La Comunità is part of a project for managing hosting placements for asylum seekers in Genova. It also runs a CAS (Centro di accoglienza straordinaria - emergency reception centre) for asylum seekers. In these centres professionals are supporting people in understanding Italian reality, in their legal process for asylum request and in schooling and training paths aimed at social and working integration. Concerning residential high threshold services for minors, La Comunità is managing a CEA (Comunità Educativa d'Accoglienza Residenziale- Educational Residential Centre) in Municipio Centro Est in Genova, which is hosting minors aged 6-18 years old. CEA are hosting minors who are at risk with personal distress situations and also with severe behavioural problems who are taken in by social services and temporarily separated from their natural family.

CEA is operating in intensive and high-risky educational situations, with the aim of trying to reconnect, sustain and develop all relationships involving children and adolescent users. In the CEA they can live, grow, study, have fun and create significant relationships with peers and educators. La Comunità has recently opened up a residential centre for unaccompanied foreign minors called "Tuin - Il giardino" in Genova, where 16 minors are living and developing their personal projects with the support of educators in cooperation with Genova Municipality.

# PROJECT CONTEXT

Genova (Genoa) the most important port of the Mediterranean and one of the most important ports in Europe, it is the sixth most populated city in Italy and is part of the industrial triangle that connects Turin and Milan. Its privileged location, as the “door to the Mediterranean”, has made Genoa one of the most prosperous financial and commercial centers and one of the most influential of the West. The city of Genoa has in recent decades been going through a time of economic and social hardship caused by the de-industrialization and impoverishment of the economy in general. For this reason, the Ligurian capital has undertaken in the last 20 years a significant process of urban renewal. The activity of La Comunità is spread all over the city in different neighborhoods. ESC volunteers will live in the city center in an apartment provided by the Supporting Organization P.E.CO. and use local transports.





# VOLUNTEER'S ACTIVITIES

- Recreational activities for children and adolescents such as games and workshops
- School and language support for children and adolescents
- Overall support to children, adolescents and staff members in the daily activities such as pedagogical support, short trips and visits, sport activities, taking care of the common spaces and sharing meals.

# IDEAL VOLUNTEER

The ideal volunteer is autonomous, mature and responsible, open to share and meet other people and, above all, motivated to join our activities. Volunteer should be aware of its extremely important role in the centre and available to cooperate to the educative and training process of La comunitat. Since this involves a delicate role in contact with young people that often come from complex family situations, the volunteer must be fitted with qualities such as tolerance, patience, firmness, creativity, and above all excellent communication and interpersonal skills.



# FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The volunteers will live in Genova in a shared apartment with double rooms.

5 euros per day of pocket money and food or a food allowance will be provided.

The travel expenses will be reimbursed on the basis defined by the European Commission.

# HOW TO APPLY

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If you are interested in joining us, please send your CV, motivation letter and questionnaire filled in in English at:  
**[apply.esc@peco.genova.it](mailto:apply.esc@peco.genova.it)**

