

# WELCOME TO OŁAWA

## CITY COUNCIL IN OŁAWA

OŁAWA/POLAND (LOWER SILESIA REGION; 30 908 INHABITANTS)

DURATION: 12 MONTHS

### INFO ABOUT RECEIVING ORGANIZATION

Our organization is focused on the town of Oława – a well-  
infrastructure and developed town, distanced 26 km from Wrocław,  
connected with the last one by a lot of trains and buses. There is a  
lot of young active citizens in Oława and we predict significant and  
active participation of the local population representing local  
societies. Volunteers will be accommodated in Wrocław or Oława in  
rented flats or student houses/dormitories.

As a City Council we work for the local community. Between the  
boundaries of our city we are responsible for the activity of three  
youth centers the aim of which is the elicitation of children and  
teenagers as well as the prevention of their social exclusion. We  
offer the children and teenagers such activities as: helping with  
doing homework, teaching English and participating in different  
workshops.

**DESPITE OF A WIDE VARIETY OF WORKSHOPS TO CHOOSE FROM, CHILDREN CAN ALSO PLAY BILLIARD, TABLE TENNIS, TABLE FOOTBALL AND LOTS OF DIFFERENT BOARD OR CARD GAMES (THE ACTIVITIES ARE VERY OFTEN ACTIVITIES DEPENDING ON THE SEASON, E.G. BARBECUE AND CYCLING IN THE SUMMERTIME). THIS WAY WANT TO HELP THE YOUTH WE WORK WITH IN BREAKING THEIR SOCIAL BARRIERS.**

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN WORKING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE LIVING IN A SMALL BUT WELL-DEVELOPED CITY IN POLAND? ARE YOU A PERSON HUNGRY FOR NEW EXPERIENCES AND CHALLENGES, INTERESTED IN PROMOTING YOUR OWN COUNTRY ABROAD?**

WE ARE LOOKING FOR CREATIVE AND SOCIABLE PEOPLE WHO HAVE THE MOTIVATION TO SERVE AS VOLUNTEERS AND THE ABILITY TO WORK AS PART OF A TEAM. THE EVS PROJECT IN POLAND IS THE GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO KNOW THE PEOPLE FROM OTHER CULTURAL ENVIRONMENTS AND INFLUENCE THEIR WAYS OF THINKING AND SEEING THE WORLD! IF YOU HAVE MENTIONED SKILLS AND PREFERENCES, DON'T HESITATE AND SEND US YOUR APPLICATION OR CONTACT US FOR FURTHER INFORMATION'S!

## ROLE OF EVS VOLUNTEERS IN THE HOST ORGANIZATION

THE STAY OF YOUNG FOREIGN VOLUNTEERS AT OUR PLACE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY ENRICH OUR REGION AND LOCAL COMMUNITY WITH NEW, INTERESTING INTERCULTURAL EXPERIENCES AND SKILLS AND WILL BRING LOTS OF BENEFITS TO THE LOCAL SOCIETY, WHICH WE WORK FOR. WE HAVE NOTICED THAT SUCH A FACE TO FACE CONTACT WITH VARIOUS CULTURES IS A PRICELESS EXPERIENCE FOR LOCAL SOCIETY EDUCATING THEM AND WIDENING THEIR HORIZONS AS WELL.

YOUNG VOLUNTEERS WILL ALSO HELP OUR ORGANIZATION GREATLY. WE NEED DAILY OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE EXPERIENCES WITH YOUNG PEOPLE REPRESENTING OTHER NATIONS, COUNTRIES AND CULTURES. IT IS VITAL FOR US TO EXCHANGE EXPERIENCES, OPINIONS, THOUGHTS AND SUGGESTIONS. WORKING WITH FOREIGN VOLUNTEERS WILL ALLOW US TO GAIN A LOT OF NEW EXPERIENCES, AS WELL AS BROADEN THE HORIZONS OF OUR ACTIONS.

**THERE ARE MANY ACTIVITIES TAKEN BY OUR STAFF, MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS IN OUR YOUTH CLUBS AS WELL AS OUTSIDE THEM, WHICH CREATES A WIDE RANGE OF TASKS THAT COULD BE PROPOSED TO A VOLUNTEER SUCH AS:**

- working with children and teenagers in youth centers;
- planning and organizing events in our youth center (giving presentations about the culture and customs typical for the volunteers' native countries, themed cuisine evenings, concerts, festivals in co-operation with SLOT art festival etc.);
- co-operation in organizing different actions and projects;
- participating in promotion of voluntary service, creating ideas;
- preparing and organizing interactive cultural-educational presentations about culture of volunteer's origin country, targeted at the local society including the youth and aged population (for example: national and folk songs, multimedia presentation, poem-reading, cabaret show, short shows with the use of national motives, knowledge competition, folk dance show etc.);
- creating promotional materials, multimedia, stands;
- talking with young people about being volunteer, giving trainings to local volunteers, helping them to work with different people, showing how important it is to give them volunteer support (e.g. foreign languages, different trainings for kids or teenagers etc.);
- organizing discussions about important values and issues (civil society, freedom of speech, democracy, youth participation, intercultural activities, self-governance etc.) for local youth organizations, local activists, journalists, local authorities, self-government representatives;
- organizing inter-generational events in the local society;
- participating in meetings of organization's staff and volunteers, proposing new ideas and conceptions, expressing views and opinions about our activities, support in making decisions about organizational issues;
- leading "wall newspapers" about the project in youth centers;
- spreading results of volunteer's work (visibility and promotion of the EVS project in the local area and whole Poland and Europe as well);
- supporting organization in projects and everyday work.

## BENEFITS FOR VOLUNTEERS PARTAKING IN THE PROJECT

The activities during the project duration will be adjusted to the profile of each volunteer and reflect his/hers individual capabilities, needs and expectation. Each volunteer will receive respectively individual support from the side of coordinator, mentor, and other people involved in the project possessing respective competencies. We believe that the stay of EVS volunteers in our organization will be a very good experience for the volunteers themselves.

It will undoubtedly allow them to learn new skills, improve their personal capabilities, get to know Polish culture and gain new experiences. We would like the stay to be a great time for volunteers, during which they will learn:

- working in a team;
- working with kids and teenagers;
- time management;
- creativity and self-reliance, self-confidence in unexpected or new situations;
- public speaking;
- learning and understanding of Polish culture and mentality;
- language and communication skills;
- organizational skills (organizing different events);
- inter-generational communication skills;
- tolerance and respect for other cultures and the understanding of diversity;
- practical knowledge about activities of non-governmental organizations and participation in their projects;
- promotion, creating image of organisation;
- understanding of role of volunteers in nowadays and future Europe;
- Implementation of projects financed by different institutions.

#### **INFORMATIONS ABOUT THE TOWN OF OŁAWA**

[HTTPS://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/O%C5%82AWA](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/O%C5%82awa)

#### **FACEBOOK PAGE OF TOWN OF OŁAWA**

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/URZADMIASTAOLAWA/](https://www.facebook.com/urzadmiastaolawa/)