

Let's live Europe in rural area in France! -4

ESC project (11 months) - 17.08.2020 / 17.07.2021

1 project – 6 vacancies for youth from the European Union

Europe is looking forward to your contribution! Help develop the cultural openness of young pupils and students from rural areas and participate in their learning of citizenship and tolerance.

Support their curiosity on intercultural aspects and encourage them to discover Europe! Become a volunteer in the training centre for teenagers and young people who are not familiar at all with Europe in the rural area surrounding the city of Le Mans.



CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

This project will involve 6 volunteers from 6 different European Union countries. Each one of them will volunteer in one of the 6 local training centres for teenagers from the area of Sarthe, France.

The local training centres are called: the “Maisons Familiales Rurales” or MFR (literary translated as the “rural family houses”). The volunteer will work daily in one of the 6 MFRs. Each MFR hosts young pupils that have difficulties with the French traditional school system and that are looking for a new way of learning. The MFRs are all located in Sarthe, a rural region which has the city of Le Mans as a capital, but each MFR is located in a different village. The 6 volunteers will be accommodated together in a house in Le Mans but each of them will have to go by car or by public transportation to his MFRs. Some MFRs put a car at the volunteer's disposal to go to the MFR (1-hour round trips per day). Otherwise, volunteers need to take the train or the bus (2-hour round trips per day).

One of the challenges of this project is to bring Europe in **rural areas** toward pupils that **have no knowledge at all about Europe and its country**, therefore, the transports issue is important and all applicants **must have a driving license**.

You can choose to apply for the 6 vacancies, or chose specific training centres regarding to the topics of the diplomas for example.

Volunteers will be regarded as full members of their team and will be included in the daily work of each centre. They will have an opportunity to use and improve their own abilities: volunteers will develop their sense of initiative, gain new skills and knowledge through organising and realising different activities for the MFR (workshops, courses, individual support, sports, games, plays, presentations, lectures). **The volunteer must therefore be willing to work with teenagers and to use non formal learning's methods.**

During the project, the volunteer will mainly be in touch with the young people that are hosted in the MFR, but not only. They will be encouraged to submit and implement their own projects, with possibilities of partnership with other local organisations. The volunteer will act as **an ambassador of**

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his country, and thus will try to promote values such as diversity and intercultural actions. The purpose of the French MFR is to develop a global approach of education, by using strictly formal, non-formal and informal learnings. Their practices are based on a **work-linked training**: students all spend one week in the MFR and then the following week in the company where they got a traineeship.

In the MFR, young people and adults find a pleasant environment especially adapted to develop their abilities. The school ensures the pupils **full boarding**, and organises lots of **collective activities** so that everyone works with one another. It also tries to open minds to cultural life thanks to activities led during the day or the evening, and prepares youngsters and adults to a successful integration into society in which they can find a place and take responsibilities. **The volunteer will be asked to organise and lead some of these collective activities.**

An MFR works in the area where it has been set up. The rooms are set up in such a way that everyone can feel comfortable and have relationships in a family atmosphere though there are some demanding rules regarding education in general. There are a limited number of pupils or adults at the “Maison Familiale Rurale” each week. The team of teachers (called “moniteurs” in MFR) is limited as well.

The volunteers will follow and help the “moniteurs” in their daily activities. The “moniteurs” stay all day long at the “Maison Familiale Rurale”. They have various functions: they favour relationships in the group, they teach, they take an active part in the education aim while supporting each youngster's project. They are qualified to implement the alternate training system and they know very well the “Maison Familiale Rurale's” environment, youngsters, their families and the training managers. They get involved in the development of the area where the “Maison Familiale Rurale” has started its activities.

Watch the full movie about the project : https://youtu.be/y_BuB3JKp9A **or take 7 minutes to watch the sum up :** https://youtu.be/1JkSD_derOQ

The MFRs in figures: 440 MFRs in France, 70 000 pupils, apprentices or trainees and more than 600 MFRs abroad (in 30 other countries).

MISSIONS

The volunteer will work full time with the team of the MFR from Monday to Friday, on a 30-hour week basis. There is a total amount of 1240 hours to do throughout the year: it means that some weeks are around 40/45 hours of work, and some are around 20. The planning will be organised in each training centre at the beginning of the project, regarding activities, languages courses, transportation system, and holidays of the training centre. Once a week, they might be asked to take part in evening gatherings with the students. From time to time, the volunteer will have the opportunity to work in Le Mans with the other volunteers in order to build a common project.



The main missions for the volunteer will be:

1. European cultural openness

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At various times during the pupils' training (evening gatherings, lunch time, breaks, study time, etc.), the volunteer will set up activities meant to promote discovery, exchange and cultural approach of countries. They can be presentations of the volunteer's country (through photos, videos, arts, national cuisine, games, etc.) The volunteer is also expected to help prepare young people for European mobility.

2. Educational and pedagogical mission

As a full member of the team, the volunteer will participate in the activities lead by the members of the teaching team, will lead activities in the MFR, and will enable communication (via videos, booklets, Facebook, interviews). The volunteer will have the opportunity to talk about his/her mission or country during other events organised outside the MFR. The volunteer might participate in some school trips, study visits... in France or abroad!

3. Joint project with the 6 volunteers of the 6 training centres...

The volunteers will participate in a joint project: they will take part in the organisation of Europe Day in Le Mans around the 9th May 2021. They will be supported by the teams of the MFR and the Maison de l'Europe. As such, they will regularly go to Le Mans.

ACCOMMODATION

The volunteer will be accommodated in Le Mans, with the other 5 volunteers taking part in this project. They will live in a house next to the train station in Le Mans, not far from the city centre. Each volunteer will have his own room, with areas in shared use (garden for example). The house is fully furnished and was renovated last year.

Accommodation and transportation fees are under the responsibility of the host organisation. Money will be given to the volunteer every month to cover food expenses, as well as pocket money. Insurance will be contracted by the host organisation for the volunteer.

COORDINATION

This project is coordinated by the House of Europe in Le Mans. You will mainly be in touch with us during the application process, and at the beginning of your ESC to settle in Le Mans. All administrative and financial aspects of the projects are managed by the House of Europe.

More information about us: <http://europe-en-sarthe.eu/a-propos/about-us/>

Application: to consider your application complete, we would like to receive from you a CV, the application form fully completed and a video answering the questions in the application form. You can send your application to evs@europe-en-sarthe.eu. If you already have some knowledge of French, please don't be afraid to apply in French! No matter if there is mistake, you are here to learn! And don't forget that English is not well spoken (or not spoken at all) in French rural areas!

Don't forget to let us know if you're applying for the 6 different places or to some specifically.

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PRESENTATION OF THE 6 DIFFERENT MFR

1. MFR BERNAY-EN-CHAMPAGNE

The MFR of Bernay-en-Champagne welcomes 275 young people, studying in two fields: social and care-based jobs or agricultural education, from 14 to 25 years old.

They all spend one week in the MFR and one week in the company where they got a traineeship. It is a work-linked training (50% of time in school, 50% in the company).

- Two orientation classes, to get a first diploma and discover working environment. Students spend one week in the MFR, one week in the company. Traineeships are mainly in agricultural field.
- A professional baccalaureate degree in 3 years called "CGEA" (conduct and management of a farm).
- A professional degree in 2 years called "Careers in agriculture".
- One class for the last year of the professional baccalaureate degree about social and care-based jobs (the first 2 years are in another MFR nearby)
- One higher education diploma called ESF "social and family economy"
- One higher education diploma called ACSE "Analysis and management of operating strategies".

This MFR is the biggest of all the MFR with a lot of pupils and "moniteurs". For this reason, we would appreciate having a volunteer that already has some work experience with teenagers and young adults and that is already autonomous in its work. The main activities will be to organise pedagogical activities during lunchtime, evening gatherings and inside the student recreation room.



TRANSPORT

To reach Bernay, the MFR will provide a car to the volunteer so that (s)he can drive from Le Mans to Bernay (25 kilometres). The volunteer can also organise car-sharing with the volunteer from the MFR of Coulans which is near.

2. MFR COULANS SUR GEE

The MFR of Coulans welcomes every year approximately 200 young people, from 14 to 20 years old on following diplomas:

- Two orientation classes, to get a first diploma and discover working environment. They all spend one week in the MFR and one week in the company where they got a traineeship. It is a work-linked training (50% of time in school, 50% in the company).

Students spend one week in the MFR, one week in the company. Traineeships are mainly in agricultural field.

- A professional baccalaureate degree called SAPVER (a degree to become social worker or commercial/seller in rural areas) in 2 years. This professional degree prepares young people for several care-based jobs, such as working with children, caring for the elderly and the disabled, activities related to tourism, community centre activities, reception, secretarial work... and also commercial jobs, like seller in bakeries, in supermarkets, in farms...

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- A professional baccalaureate degree called SAPAT (a degree to become social worker). This professional degree prepares young people for several care-based jobs, such as working with children, caring for the elderly and the disabled, activities related to tourism, community centre activities, reception, secretarial work...
- A professional diploma called CAP “Young children”; to prepare to all kind of jobs with young children.

TRANSPORT

To reach Coulans, the MFR will provide a car to the volunteer so that (s)he can drive from Le Mans to Coulans (20 kilometres). The volunteer can also organise car-sharing with the volunteer from the MFR of Bernay which is near.

3. MFR FYE

The MFR of Fyé has existed for 54 years and welcomes young people from ages 14 to 20 (80% of them are girls). This is a rather small MFR with a very friendly and familial atmosphere.

It offers two types of work-linked training (50% of time in school, 50% in the company):

- Two orientation classes, (14- and 15-years old pupils);
- A professional baccalaureate degree called SAPAT (a degree to become social worker). This professional degree prepares young people for several care-based jobs, such as working with children, caring for the elderly and the disabled, activities related to tourism, community centre activities, reception, secretarial work...
- Continuous training modules (nursery assistants, youth worker, future agricultural employees).

These are the activities the volunteer will be in charge of:

- Taking part in a weekly evening activity (games and fun activities)
- Being in charge of lunchtime one day per week
- Launching projects on your own (ex: presentation of your country of origin)
- Promoting the European Solidarity Corps (in the media, job fairs, etc.)
- Accompanying and supporting the MFR’s team and students in their daily activities (ex: visits, classes, etc.)
- Being a contact person for the students, in case of questions, requests for help/support, etc.



TRANSPORT

To reach Fyé, the volunteer will take the train from Le Mans to La Hutte (37 minutes). Then, (s)he will use the car of the MFR to reach the training centre (3 kilometres). For the way back, the volunteer will drive the car to the train station of La Hutte, leave it there and take the train back to Le Mans. This means approximately 1 hour to go from the accommodation to work, and 1 hour back.

4. MFR LA FERTE BERNARD

The MFR of La Ferté Bernard, also called the “School of Forest”, is specialised in the protection of the environment and biodiversity. It welcomes 130 pupils every year, from the age of 14, in different classes:

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- Two orientation classes, to get a first diploma and discover working environment. Students all spend one week in the MFR and one week in the company where they got a traineeship. It is a work-linked training (50% of time in school, 50% in the company). Traineeships are free to be chosen by pupils, to discover any working environment.
- A professional baccalaureate degree on Forest Management.
- A professional baccalaureate degree on Management of Natural Habitats and Wildlife.
- A higher education degree on Management and Protection of Nature

TRANSPORT

To reach La Ferté Bernard, the volunteer will take the train from Le Mans to La Ferté (26 minutes). Then the MFR will provide a car so that the volunteer can drive to the MFR (3 kilometres). For the way back, the volunteer will drive the car to the train station, leave the car there and take the train back to Le Mans.

This means approximately 1 hour to go from the accommodation to work, and 1 hour back.

5. MFR NOGENT LE BERNARD

This year, the MFR of Nogent-le-Bernard welcomes 76 pupils, divided in 4 classes.

- Two orientation classes, to get a first diploma and discover working environment. Students all spend one week in the MFR and one week in the company where they got a traineeship. It is a work-linked training (50% of time in school, 50% in the company). Traineeships are free to be chosen by pupils, to discover any working environment.

1) 16 pupils between 14 and 15 years old, 11 boys and 5 girls.

2) 21 pupils between 15 and 16 years old, 6 boys and 15 girls.

- A professional baccalaureate degree called SAPVER (a degree to become social worker or commercial/seller in rural areas) in 2 years. This professional degree prepares young people for several care-based jobs, such as working with children, caring for the elderly and the disabled, activities related to local tourism, community centre activities, reception, secretarial work... and also commercial jobs, like seller in a bakery, in supermarkets, in farms...

1) 24 students, 21 girls and 3 boys.

2) 15 students, 14 girls and 1 boy.

This MFR is the smallest and the most rural of the 6 MFR of the project. The atmosphere is very familial and friendly. The school level of the pupils is very low and they rather like learning through games and discoveries than through formal lessons.

The MFR is looking for a volunteer that gets along well with teenagers.

The volunteer should preferably already have some experience working with teenagers and some knowledge of how managing a group of young people. The volunteer will have the possibility to propose and lead special activities of its own choice during one-hour weekly with the 14-15 years old. He/she will also be involved in the evening activities and could lead his/her own activities.

TRANSPORTS

To reach Nogent-le-Bernard, the volunteer will take the bus from Le Mans to Bonnétable (1 hour). Then, (s)he will use the car of the MFR to reach the training centre (10 minutes). For the way back, the volunteer will drive the car to the train station, leave it there and take the bus back to Le Mans. This means approximately 1 hour to go from the accommodation to work, and 1 hour back.

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6. MFR VERNEIL LE CHÉTIF

The MFR of Verneil le Chétif welcomes this year 147 young people (135 boys and 12 girls) divided in 8 classes.

- Two orientation classes, to get a first diploma and discover working environment. Students all spend one week in the MFR and one week in the company where they got a traineeship. It is a work-linked training (50% of time in school, 50% in the company). Traineeships are free to be chosen by pupils, to discover any working environment. (Pupils 14 to 16 years old).
- A professional baccalaureate degree in the field of agriculture and landscapes in 3 years (6 classes).

As the MFR will work on artistic projects, the MFR is looking for a volunteer that has artistic sensibility (theatre, music, art, drawing, etc.).

The volunteer should already have some experience with teenagers and some knowledge of how managing a group of young people.

As only one person in the team speaks English and Spanish, the MFR would be glad to work with a volunteer that already has some basic knowledge of French or that is willing to learn French fast.

TRANSPORTS

To reach Verneil le Chétif, the volunteer will have to take the train to Mayet (26 minutes), and then take a car to reach the MFR (4 kilometres). The MFR will provide a car that the volunteer will drop every evening in the train station of Mayet and take back every morning. This means approximately 1 hour to go from the accommodation to work, and 1 hour back.

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