

Asociația de Tineri din Ardeal Youth Association from Tarnsylvania Cristuru Secuiesc, Székelykeresztúr str. Libertății nr. 69, Harghita, 535400 <u>office.ata@gmail.com</u> <u>www.ata-ro.eu</u>



Are you between 18 and 30? From Italy or Germany or Slovenia or Portugal or Hungary

# Want to do Long Term EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE at the Youth Association from Transylvania? Here's what we offer!

The Youth Association from Transylvania recognizes the need of the local and regional community to have young people coming from other countries, who can **contribute** to developing the potential of the area from a cultural, social and economical standpoint. For this reason since September 2013 **we have EVS projects**. Currently 10 EVS volunteers are doing activities with us. **We are looking for 1 volunteer from Italy or Germany or Slovenia or Portugal or Hungary. Activity would start in November, lasting 12 months.** 

The role of the volunteers within our organization is to act as support person and as execution agent to the activities and initiatives that already exist in the community or our NGO. They will have to bring their own motivation and plans in order to fill in the frame of these actions with meaningful, efficient content. The way the EVS activity of each volunteer is constructed as follows: they will have to allocate **60-70%** of their time and activity, to work on this main activity. **20%** of the time, their task will be to do common activities with the other volunteers, activities which are done around the yearly community traditions, events, happenings and holidays of the community. **10%** of their time will be spent to create and do visibility materials and promotion activities for the NGO and especially for their own EVS activity. The venues of their activities will be in Cristuru Secuiesc. In this context, here is the activity we propose for 1 volunteer from Italy or Portugal or Slovenia or Germany or Hungary:



## Amateur Astronomy Guide – 1 volunteer

The volunteer would work together with another volunteer from Germany, doing non-formal activities on basic astronomy and sky observation for children and youth. Together they will have to start up 2 clubs for the 2 age groups, do activities where groups get to understand basic astronomy, do activities where the groups build amateur telescopes and astronomic measurement devices and organize night sky observation outings for the groups. Also, they will work directly with the staff

and the volunteers of the NGO, in the office, supporting all the activities carried out by us on a local, regional, national and international level.

Besides all these, in terms of actually doing the activities, **during the first month** of each volunteers activity, the activities will be more general ones, where the volunteers get used to the community, to the culture, the habits, the logistics and the main activity. Also, in the first months they will also have Hungarian and Romanian language.



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**Logistics** - The volunteers will be housed in **a rented house** which has 5 rooms, 1. 2 and 3 beds in each, with bathroom in the hallways. The house is fully furbished:

- kitchens will have fridge, stove, microwave, dishes, glasses, furniture,

- bathrooms will have toilets, showers or bathtubs with shower, washing machines and cleaning appliances

- rooms and bedrooms will have furniture, beds, television and also internet connection with Wi-Fi connection





For meals, volunteers will receive an amount allocated for meals, to buy and cook their own food and provide bills for all the purchased food.

The house where the volunteers live is in the center and it is a part of the small youth center and main office of the NGO. There is no local bus service in the city but we can provide bikes to the participants which require one.

The **working language** in the city and in the greater region is **Hungarian**, so the main focus will be put on learning this language first and after that Romanian which will be needed in trainings, evaluation meetings and free time touristic activities in Romania.

The rules of conduct regarding mutual collaboration and respect between volunteers, association and community will be set up within the specific projects and activity agreements with the volunteers.



### Volunteer profile

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The Youth Association from Transylvania is looking for any youth aged 18 to 30 who is serious and motivated to come to a small city and support us in the development of a community with a lot of potential. We do not require volunteers to have any pre-determined skill sets or aptitudes in order to carry out the activity, only an inquisitive demeanor and an openness to learn new things which may be needed for the activity. Also, we do not require participants to have advanced or intermediate English (or other foreign language) speaking skills, we only require them to have a basic skill in English and an openness to learn the local language in order to effectively communicate with the local community. Last but not least, we are looking for energetic, creative open minded and independent youth. If the potential volunteers do not possess these attitudes, they will certainly develop them while working together with us.



#### **Recruitment process**

For anyone wishing to join us as an EVS volunteer, we will firstly require a CV and a motivation letter. Besides requiring the full and honest information regarding their profile and motivation, we also encourage candidates to be creative with their applications, to include anything that might reveal their individuality, their likes, dislikes and potential skill sets. Upon receipt of these documents, the board of the NGO will study the applications and will decide whether the presented profile is appropriate for

our needs and activities, In light of this decision we will either refuse candidates or move on to having a Skype or telephone interview with the candidates in order to evaluate motivation and personality in a direct and oral environment. After the interview, the board will take a decision.

Also we ask for patience and understanding from all candidates regarding the fact that from recruitment until start of activity the preparation procedures and activities take time, especially in the case of candidate volunteers who are recruited prior to submitting an application.

## About the Town

**Cristuru Secuiesc** lies at the eastern end of the Transylvanian plateau between the towns of Odorheiu Secuiesc and Sighișoara, in the valleys of the Târnava Mare, Goagiu and Nicoul Alb rivers, 390-395 meters above sea level. As far as nationality is concerned: in 1910 there were 3766 Hungarians, 71 Germans, 25 Romanians and 24 of other nationalities whereas in 2011 there were 9491 inhabitants, 9266 of which were declared Hungarian, 183 Romanian and 8 German while most of the Roma community declared themselves as Hungarian or a few, Romanian.



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In 2011 there were 4438 reformed, 3354 unitarian, 1248 Roman catholic, 208 orthodox and a few baptists, evangelists, Greek catholics, Jehovah's witnesses and adventists as well. There are four churches in the town: reformed, unitarian, roman catholic and orthodox. The city has 4 primary and high-schools one of them being a vocational high-school, it has a folklore museum, the Dr. Molnár

István Museum, the PIPACSOK folk ensemble, a civil fanfare, a philharmonic. There are a lot of hills, meadows, rivers and forests for hikes and the Harghita mountains are also close. The city also boasts with a Theatre, a Lidl supermarket and many smaller general stores, several restaurants and pubs for leisure time with a tradition of having live musicians singing slow music. The youth community is quite abundant, with youth from all around the region pouring out from the 4 high schools and also the youth moving back from universities in the area.



Beside this main headquarter, after gathering a bit more hands on experience, a few of the activities will also be organized in 2 larger cities close



Cristuru Secuiesc, which are Sighișoara and Odorheiu Secuiesc.