

EU-funded Volunteering project at

# Pro Juventute Mikado

Foster children in care



**Pedagogy & Daily support**

**Apply for a 12-months project in Kirchbichl, Austria**  
**EVS starts in October 2018**

**Only open for residents in the EU and EEA!**

## Hosting Organisation:

### [Pro Juventute Mikado](#)

Located in Kirchbichl, Austria

- Pro Juventute Mikado is part of the Pro Juventute network. It is a Social Pedagogic Community (a little bit like a children's home, but much more family-like) taking care of children whose parents aren't able to care for them – some live there for one or two years and some until they are adults, depending on social or health problems of the parents.
- The children who live at Mikado can be very young (only a few years old) up to the age of 17 years
- The aim is to allow children and teenagers in the rural area of Kufstein a life in a safe, sheltered and positive environment. The organization cares for children withdrawn from their families by the youth welfare, due to of violence in the family, neglect, death or illness of the parents or because they cannot cope. Pro Juventute gives children a home and the chance for a healthy development. Thus, some children are troubled and this shows in their behaviour in the daily life.
- Sometimes we take part in the national projects of our board of trustees. So the volunteer might have the possibility to get to know other parts of our organization. If the volunteer is interested, it is also possible to take part in special pedagogic training or seminars.



Eating area in Mikado with all volunteers

This project is funded by the EU- programme “Erasmus+: Youth in Action”. The EVS is financed by the EU and the hosting and coordinating organisation. The ONLY financial contribution that the selected volunteer will need to make is to pay a small share of the travel costs if necessary. This project is already approved by the Austrian national agency with the budgetary rules of 2017.

## Tasks & Activities of the volunteer:

The volunteer will be involved in the team in a volunteering role. He/she will work together with the staff members and care for the children in their daily life.

The working time will be up to a maximum of 35 hours a week. The working times will mainly be in the afternoon, sometimes also the whole day during the holidays or at weekends. He/she will get a duty rotation.

Proposed daily tasks for the volunteers:

- Be part of our team and participate with new ideas and motivation in the daily work
- Cooking, playing, spending time with the children and teenagers, helping around the house whenever needed
- Taking time to observe and get to know the children
- Support the team tasks: helping the children with the homework, accompanying them to appointments, personal talks, patience;
- Taking part in the leisure and free time activities which involve the whole team and children group (Skiing, tobogganing in winter, swimming, volleyball matches, holidays together with the kids in summer).
- Developing own ideas with the children group or in small groups, according to the volunteers own interests and experience.
- Solving conflicts with the children, learning from staff about the pedagogic concept, taking part in team meetings



## **Practical information:**

The volunteer will have a room in a shared flat (probably in the town of Wörgl, nearby Kirchbichl). The kitchen, living room and bathroom will be shared with another young person (probably another volunteer in another organisation or a student). The volunteer has to accept the house rules of the apartment and of the hosting organisation.

Kirchbichl is a small village and lies in the middle of the Alps and there are warm summers and cold winters. The volunteer can reach the working place by bus or by bike (bus is easier). The transportation expenses will be covered and a bike will be made available.

There are several possibilities for summer and winter sports. The close-by towns of Kufstein and Wörgl have good infrastructure, bars and stores or outdoor and indoor facilities for leisure time and good train connections to Innsbruck, the capital of Tyrol. Innsbruck is at 45 minutes by train. Local people speak a German dialect ("Tirolerisch"). The majority of people in Tyrol can speak English, especially young people.

The volunteer will receive monthly EUR 120,-- of pocket money and a sufficient amount of food money. Additionally, the volunteer can have meals at the hosting organisation Mikado during working times. The volunteer's public transportation to the host organisation will be covered.

The volunteer will attend a German course according to his or her level.



Kirchbichl in Tirol

## **Volunteering duration:**

12 Months: The project starts in the first week of October 2018, until the end of September 2019

We ask you to be committed to participate the whole duration, it's important for the project, your own learning development and for the hosting organisation!

**The application deadline is on the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 2018.**

## Profile of the volunteer:

We are looking for a volunteer who can identify with the project description and is willing to enrich our team.

We would like to host an enthusiastic and open-minded volunteer, who is willing to play an active part in working with the children by being creative and motivated to bring in his/her own culture and interest into the project.

It would be good if he or she is able to speak some German or is very willing to learn a bit of German before the EVS in order to be able to communicate with the children (they speak some Tyrolean dialect of German). Without German knowledge, a medium level of English is important in order to communicate with the team and coordinator.

It would be good if he or she would be ready to reflect his/her own experiences and behaviour, so he/she can learn many things from working with people. Of course he/she should be an honest and trustworthy person and everything he/she learns about the children and their families underlies professional discretion.

It is important to be aware that the children who live at Mikado have experienced some traumatic things in their life and that this is of course also present in the daily life and in their behaviour.

**Only European Union (EU) or European Economic Area (EEA) residents may apply.** Due to project approval criteria, we can only accept volunteers in this placement who do not require a visa or residence permit for 11 months in Austria.



## Coordinating organisation:

The coordinating organisation of this project is InfoEck, a youth info centre in Innsbruck. InfoEck coordinates 14 volunteers in the region of Tirol. The coordinator is ready to answer open questions and to prepare the EVS project with the hosting organisation, the selected volunteer and the sending organisation. InfoEck will link all volunteers in Tirol during the EVS and give regular support. The coordinator is Erika: [erika.mischitz@infoeck.at](mailto:erika.mischitz@infoeck.at). More info: [www.mei-infoeck.at](http://www.mei-infoeck.at), InfoEck Facebook, Instagram and Youtube.



**Embrace the challenge. Be open to leaving your comfort zone several times. Be curious about yourself and others and ready to meet inspiring people. Try new things and learn for a lifetime!**

## Support during the project:

The volunteer may have regular meetings with her or his mentor and with the hosting organisation, to talk about the wellbeing or about the project activities.

In the hosting organisation the volunteer will receive orientation and support for the activities from the main responsible employee and from the entire team.

The coordinating organisation InfoEck will hold a regular group meeting with all volunteers in Tyrol in order to share experiences, give support to one another and to stay connected. At the end of the project we will evaluate it together with the volunteer and look at what he or she has learned and which competences he or she has gained and as a result the volunteer can fill in the Youthpass certificate. Volunteers are involved in common projects.

The volunteer will get to know other volunteers from various countries and will be invited to participate in monthly free-time activities, organised by young Austrians.

## How to apply:

Please send your CV and the enclosed APPLICATION FORM in order to apply! Please address Mr. Daniel Harrison (EVS responsible at Mikado) in your application and send it to the coordinating organisation, E-mail: [erika.mischitz@infoeck.at](mailto:erika.mischitz@infoeck.at) Your applications will be passed on to Daniel after the deadline.

The deadline to apply is the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 2018.

Only complete applications will be considered. Option: You can additionally send something creative to express your motivation (this is not demanded).

Mikado or InfoEck will get in touch with you after the deadline, so check your e-mail regularly. A few applicants will be invited for a skype / phone call. The final decision will be taken about two to three weeks later by the host and all applicants will be informed about their status.

**We are waiting to hear from you!**

