



EVS PROJECT

“Open the European window for Youth in Cournon!”

City of Cournon d'Auvergne & Association CONCORDIA Auvergne

France, 12 month (from September 2018)

Concordia Auvergne is coordinating this EVS project which will be hosted by our partner: the city of Cournon d'Auvergne.

The coordinating organisation: Concordia

Concordia is a national, French, non-governmental and non-profit making organisation, founded in 1950 by English, German and French youngsters. Their aim was to enhance the values of tolerance and peace after the 2nd world war by organizing international work camps for young volunteers.

Concordia is promoting volunteering through different actions: international work camps, EVS, Civil Service (French long-term volunteering), trainings, youth exchanges.

The main objectives of Concordia are the following:

- Education, by helping young people to grow up through the experience of collective living.
- Culture, by favoring youth exchanges on an international level, always emphasizing the values of peace, friendship and mutual respect.
- Social, in taking part in concrete actions of solidarity, as well as supporting a civic attitude.
- Social economy, in contributing to the realisation of local development, in favor of the environment, heritage, tourism and socio-educational activities.

The Paris head office supports the activities of the 10 regional offices, including Auvergne, based in Clermont-Ferrand

Concordia has the accreditation of the French Ministry of Youth and Sports and the Ministry of the Environment.

More information about Concordia here: www.concordia.fr

The host organization: the city of Cournon d'Auvergne

The local authorities of Cournon d'Auvergne will host the volunteer, in its Educational Department. With its partners, the local authorities of Cournon d'Auvergne is acting for the elaboration and the establishment of a consistent education policy.

Its local educative project aims to guide people from their childhood, in their familial and self fulfilment. The main goals of this educative project are:

- To create a fulfilling leisure environment that respects the rhythm of daily life



- To promote social diversity
- To value “living together” and socialisation
- To involve the public in the city’s life
- To collaborate with all our educative partners

There is a strong will not to substitute the family but to support it in its educative approach.

To implement the district's education policy, the Educational Department is divided in different poles from the early childhood (children from 10 weeks to 6 years old) to animation for teenagers. The Municipal Animation Center is opened for every children from 3 years old to 17 years old.

Project environment

The volunteer will **work in Cournon d’Auvergne**, but will **live in Clermont-Ferrand**.

Cournon d’Auvergne is a city next to Clermont-Ferrand and counts around 20,000 inhabitants. As part of the Child-Friendly City partnership with UNICEF since 2004, Cournon is giving priority to children and is committed to fulfilling their rights.

Considered for a long time as a dormitory town of Clermont-Ferrand, Cournon is now asserting itself as a proper city possessing all necessary infrastructures, services and activities for its own development. It is very active in the field of sport.

Despite its small dimensions, Cournon is an ancient town, founded between the 10th and the 11th century, with a lot of history. Nowadays, it is still possible to visit the old town, which preserves traces of the Roman occupation, the Middle Age and the “Ancien Régime”. In the end, Cournon offers a wide range of cultural events and traditional fairs during the whole year.



Clermont-Ferrand is the regional capital of Auvergne, its urban area gathers 300 000 inhabitants.



Beyond an industrial past, the city gradually oriented its economy on the service sector. Development of important university poles was also targeted, and today Clermont-Ferrand hosts around 35 000 students. This makes the city dynamic: there are a lot of cultural and sportive activities. The city centre is rich of a great historical patrimony such as the Clermont-Ferrand Cathedral, the medieval centre, etc. The whole urban area has various recent equipment, enabling to access to a wide and numerous offer of live performances: the music festival *Europavox*, for instance, is held in May and aims to understand the diversity of European music production. The city also hosts the [Short Film Festival](#), in February.

For those interested in nature, the urban area of Clermont-Ferrand is at the door of the Regional Park of the Auvergne Volcanoes. There are a lot of opportunities for hiking, climbing, etc. in the natural area around the city.

For more informations:

- <http://www.cournon-auvergne.fr/>
- <http://www.clermont-fd.com/>
- <https://clermont-ferrand.fr/>



Role and tasks of the volunteer

The main role of the volunteer will be to bring a European and intercultural opening to the actions of the Educational Department and its partners, particularly the schools and the local Municipal Animation Center.

The goal is to bring open-mindedness towards the world to the local young people as well as mobility and interculturality through regular contact with a young European volunteer and participation in related activities.

Tasks of the volunteer during his/her mission:

- **leading activities** in the local Municipal Animation Center as a part of an animation team. The volunteer will not be considered as a group leader but he/she will be there to enrich the team;
- **leading complementary pedagogical activities** on intercultural topics such as discovery of other European cultures proposed to children after school.
- working with **secondary and high schools** in the frame of homework support;
- **collaboration** with the local leaders in order to develop new actions and approaches to the working methods and to get mutually richer with various experiences and opinions;
- participation in the activities led by the Educational Department as well as other services (cultural, school, sports).
- **Preparation and animation** of holidays camps
- **Promotion** of mobility and volunteering among different audiences.

The volunteer will work considerably more during the school holiday periods as he/she will be engaged with the activities led by a local Animation Center. Otherwise, the volunteer will work mostly on Wednesdays, with the team of the Animation Center. During the scholar week the volunteer will spend some time at the office of the Center or school to prepare the activities and study the feasibility of setting up new projects. Every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday the volunteer will be expected to participate in complementary pedagogical activities proposed to children after school and work in the library providing a homework support for middle and high scholars. All activities mentioned above are yet a subject to discussion.

At the beginning of the project, the volunteer will participate in various activities led by the Educational Department, the tasks can evolve according to his/her wishes and profile. Also, the volunteer will be able to **suggest his/her own project**, to the Educational Department staff, to develop his/her own ideas. If the project effectively match with the Educational Department's goals and are approved by the team, it will be confirmed and put to action.

The volunteer will have an active role in the project, with a level of autonomy adapted to his/her needs. Nevertheless, he/she will always be supported by a professional of the Educational Department in his/her tasks.

At the end of the project, the volunteer will have gained the following competences:

- French language
- Skills in animation field
- Discovery of the functioning of the regional Youth Service
- Discovery of the territory
- Work organisation and team work



Volunteer profile

We are searching for an active and motivated person with the following qualities:

- Adaptability;
- Good communication and presentation skills;
- Flexibility and ability to communicate with different audiences;
- Experience with children (work with children, taking care of them,...)
- Good level of French, to facilitate the communication with the children.
- Interest in developing pedagogical activities.

Practical Information

- **Activity period:** From September 2018 to August 2019 (12 months)
- **Working Hours:** The volunteer will work from Monday to Friday, approx. 20 hours per week, but will have to work more during the holidays approx. 50 hours per week and will be supposed to attend staff meetings on Saturdays sometimes. He/She will also work on evenings from times to times. The volunteer will have 2 days of holidays per month. (to take according to his/her needs and in accordance with the host organisation)
- **Working and living conditions:** Accommodation will be provided. The volunteer will live with another EVS volunteer. The flat has three rooms, a kitchen and a bathroom, so the volunteer will have his/her own room. The flat is well equipped and furnished to ensure a comfortable stay. This accommodation is located in the centre of the city: train station, bus station, and historical area of Clermont-Ferrand are just 10 minutes away by walking. The accommodation, house services and Internet fees are 100% covered by Concordia.
- The volunteer will get **financial support (for food):** 7,50€ per day, as well as **pocket money:** 5€ per day. The **travel costs** will be covered based on the unit costs of the Erasmus + program, as there is maximum amount of reimbursement. Internet access will be available. The volunteer will use local transport (bus) to go from Clermont-Ferrand to Cournon.
- The volunteer will be individually followed by a **dedicated mentor** from Concordia (the organisation that also coordinates the global EVS project).

Deadline

We are waiting for your application until **March 30!**

We are looking for volunteers **from Erasmus + Programme Countries.**

To apply, you have to **fill the application form** [following this link](#). You can also send us any document that you want showing your motivation to take part in this project.

We look forward to read your application!

Contact (Concordia Auvergne) : Leila Zingaretti

va.auvergne@concordia.fr





Anna's testimony – the previous EVS Volunteer

Hi there! I'm Anna and right now I'm in the middle of an EVS project you're probably looking for! To help you a bit with making a right decision of choosing this project or continue looking for another one I'll tell you in a couple of words how it's going here.

The most of your time you'll spend working in a small but nice city of Cournon together with a team of animators, teachers and youth workers. The more or less detailed description of the project you can find in the official call-paper for volunteers, here I'll just state some details maybe not mentioned there that I guess could be interesting for you.

So, the City of Cournon that seems dormant at first sight turned out to be a descent opponent for Clermont as it conceals more dynamism and opportunities that you could have imagined. If you're into sports or clubs make sure to consider the wide choice but don't forget the last bus leaves to Clermont bit after 9pm. Just in front of the Animation Center there is a skate park (one of several) in case you're interested. If you are more of a couch potato (same as me) and looking for a nice quite place to rest after the working day or during your lunch break there's a nice park by the river and another one by the lake within walking distance.

Speaking about your daily working routine the nice bounces will be short leisure trips with kids such as going to ski or beach resorts. The City of Cournon itself is named to be a city for children by UNICEF so you make consider this while developing your personal project. Another part of your responsibilities will be closely connected with representing your own country. The aim group is children aged 6-11 so think how exactly you could do that in a no-boring way.

And here your working day ends (sometimes it's just 3 hours per day) and you take a bus to Clermont-Ferrand (prepare to spend 40 min reading, listening to music or enjoying the views of a national volcano park).

Then you find yourself in a nice and cozy apartment that you will share with another EVS volunteer which is just perfect for two people. Each volunteer has a separate bedroom (one has a nice balcony

but no radiators so be careful with your choice) plus shared kitchen all equipped (we even have a blender, but you'll have to learn to live without a microwave) and a common room (all the previous generations of volunteers worked hard to make it pretty with small decorations and various interesting books and CDs). Yes, there is central heating system but I bought my own electric blanket anyway. The apartment is as well equipped with washing machine, irons (2!), vacuum cleaners (2!) and wi-fi.

The location of the apartment deserves a separate abstract. It's on top of Concordia office in a historical late 19th century building 10 min from the city center, 2 min from one of the biggest parks in the city (swans and a small pond are included), less than a min from bakery, Spar, bars and restaurants area, gym and bus/tram stops.

The city of Clermont is full of young people which means there are numerous occasions, events and alike that happen every day as long as you have energy to go out. The cultural life of the city is supported by numerous major events and festivals all year long just ask google if interested. When tired of all that noise and people just take a public bus to the volcano park and enjoy nature to its full.

Finally, just remember that whatever you do or say you're there as an EVS volunteer to encourage development of tolerance and empathy toward other cultures and your obligation is to create a more positive image of your country. Stay tuned, stay motivated ☺

