



SPW- FIYE AND WIELISZEW COMMUNE

SPW-FIYE

WHO ARE WE?

FIYE Poland:

- a vibrant Polish non-governmental and non-profit organisation
- active in the field of voluntary service, particularly committed to international youth exchange programmes
- established in 1993 to enable Polish youth to participate in international voluntary movement and to promote international voluntary service among youth and local communities

SPW-FIYE

WHAT DO WE?

- organise voluntary programmes in Poland by running about 15 short-term projects during the summer
- handle international exchange of approximately 350-400 volunteers each year (incoming - 150, outgoing - 200)
- host and send Mid-Term and Long-Term volunteers in the frame of various programmes
- organise trainings for mentors and leaders as well as information meetings and promotional activities for volunteers and our partner organizations



COOPERATION OF WIELISZEW COMMUNE AND FIYE POLAND

- The Wieliszew Commune began running workcamps with FIYE support in 2005 after Pawel Kownacki (at that time a worker of the Commune Office and the president of the youth association “eMka” , currently the Head of the Wieliszew Commune) had gone to a workcamp in Holland and imported this idea to his local community.

WIELISZEW COMMUNE - WORKCAMPS

- The Wieliszew Commune is organising 1 or 2 environmental workcamps each summer
- WORK: Volunteers will be cleaning banks of river Narew, tourist paths and the Wieliszewskie Legi Nature Reserve.
- They will also help in setting up the Sailor Songs Music Festival. During the festival volunteers will have a chance to create and show their own performance to the audience as well as to organize various activities for kids on the beach of the Zegrzynski Lake.

WIELISZEW COMMUNE -EVS

- At the beginning of 2013 the Wieliszew Commune has made the next step in international voluntary service and began hosting long-term volunteers in the framework of European Voluntary Service programme
- At the moment first 2 volunteers from Slovakia and Armenia are promoting environmental protection and sports in the Commune as well as active engagement on the local and international level.

Youth Association for Development 'eMka'

- Neither of the projects could exist without help of the local volunteers who assist foreigners, make them acquainted with the local community and environment and gain intercultural skills at the same time. These volunteers represent the Youth Association for Development “eMka”, established in 2003, which can boast wide experience in involving youth in life of the Wieliszew Commune.



Sample actions of the Youth Association for Development

“eMka”

- **Our Talent Competition:** Every January we organise a competition named “Our talent”. It gathers people from our community who are talented in many ways, for example they sing, dance and show us all their talents.
- **Japanese Culture and Art:** At the beginning of 2013 eMka began workshop about Japan, in which young people from the Wieliszew Commune can participate. The program includes for example a trip to the Embassy of Japan and learning how to do origami.

Sample actions of the Youth Association for Development

“eMka”

- **Charity Ball:** At the annual charity ball organised by the association there is an auction which profits are spent on scholarships for talented youth.
- **Ballons on the Independence Day:** every year on the Independence Day, November 11th, we gather inhabitants of the commune and all together let go balloons in the national colours to the sky.
- **Theatre Workshops:** This project, organised twice, gave youth of our community an opportunity to participate in theatre workshops, which were finished with performances. Performances were organised in the auditorium of the Commune Office and gathered large audience.

Aleksandra Sosnowska, “eMka” member

- EMka” is created by people who want to share their free time and energy to develop education, culture, sport and tourism in our commune. Within 10 years we have organised many events to promote and integrate our local community. In the holiday season together with volunteers from around the world we clean up our commune, making it a friendly place for rest and recreation. We also care about the sights of our region. With support of the Stefan Batory Foundation - Local Scholarship Fund EUREKA “eMka” awards scholarships to several talented young people from the Wieliszew Commune. **We want to show that young people from rural municipalities can and want to influence the surrounding reality.”**

Thank you!

