

# EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS VOLUNTEERING TEAMS PROJECTS

The **European Solidarity Corps** is the new European Union initiative which creates opportunities for young people to volunteer or work in projects in their own country or abroad that benefit communities and people around Europe.

In this specific frame, **Volunteering Teams** are solidarity activities allowing teams of 10 to 40 European Solidarity Corps participants from at least two different countries to volunteer together for a period between 2 weeks and 2 months. Such solidarity activities could especially contribute to the inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities.

Participants are covered by **complementary insurance** and they can access a range of support services such as **online linguistic support** and training. Their **travel costs** from home to the venue of the project and back will be covered (up to a maximum amount), as well as their **accommodation and food**. Participants will also receive a **small allowance** for their personal expenses.

## Basic requirements:

- Volunteers must be between **18 and 30 years old**.
- Volunteers have to be **resident in one of the eligible countries** as stated in the programme guide : *EU Member States, Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Jordan, Kosovo, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Montenegro, Morocco, Norway, Palestine, Republic of North Macedonia, Russian Federation, Serbia, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine*.
- Sending organizations will need the European Voluntary Service (EVS) or Erasmus+ **accreditation**. If not, it must apply for the **ESC Quality Label**.

Participation in volunteering activities must be **free of charge for the volunteers** who should not be charged any sending or participation fee.

Their **travel expenses** will be partially reimbursed according to the ESC distance calculator (180€ for a travel between 100 and 499 km, 275€ for a travel over 499 km) upon the presentation of original tickets. They will also receive **pocket money** during the project (6€ per day).

Volunteers will have to **register on the PASS** (the European Solidarity Corps Portal) and **complete a participation report**, submitted online through the portal.

Concordia France will organize the matching between the volunteers and the project on the ESC portal and will give the pocket money to the volunteers once they arrive on the project in France.



**CONCF-121-ESC**

**LA BOISSIERE-ECOLE – Between Nature and Heritage**

**La Boissiere-Ecole**

**28/06 - 12/07**

**RENO/KIDS**

**15 vols**

**18+**

**Project:**

A project surrounded by nature and heritage: come to take part in different works of rehabilitation and embellishment in the park of the castle and the primary school “Heriot”. At the heart of a huge tree-filled park, close to the forest of Rambouillet, you will immerse yourself in nature. You will work and live in beautiful 19th-century buildings.

During your work, you’ll be joined by kids and teachers. You will share these unique intercultural and intergenerational moments with them. You will also take part in a rally during which you will discover the village and its natural and cultural richness, along with the inhabitants and the youngsters of La Boissiere-Ecole.

**Work:**

At the heart of the park of the Regional Primary School Heriot, you will help to embellish the surroundings, to restore the old gates of the castle and the jetty on the pond, surrounded by “Water Lilies” worthy of the famous Monet painting.

Two camp leaders will accompany you during your working hours and your whole stay. You will work along with kids and teachers, inhabitants and young locals. You will share the different collective tasks and prepare meals together.

**Accommodation and food:**

You will be accommodated in one of the dormitories of the Regional Primary School Heriot. You will share the different collective tasks and prepare meals together.



**Location and leisure:**

La Boissiere-Ecole is a small village of 765 inhabitants, located in the department of Yvelines in Ile-de-France, close to the forest of Rambouillet and 75 km from Paris.

The Primary School Heriot was built in 1886 by Major Heriot who aimed to create a military orphanage dedicated to children between 5 and 13 years who had lost their fathers at war. At that time, military schools ruled by the state only received children between 13 and 18 years old. Today, the school Heriot has become a public school also welcoming boarding school children in the middle of its 20 hectares park.

**Special requirements and remarks:**

Don't forget to bring gloves, clothes which could be stained by paint and work shoes. Nights can be chilly, bring a warm sleeping bag.

Foreigners belonging to the European Union must bring with them a personal EHIC (European Health Insurance Card), and everybody must, in any case, bring their insurance certificate. If health issues happen on the project, volunteers will have to pay for it, and will then be reimbursed once back in their home country.

**Meeting point:**

Gare de Rambouillet (78)

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**CONCF-033-ESC****AUBUSSON – A sustainable development garden**

**Aubusson**

**10/07 - 31/07**

**ENVI/DISA**

**14 vols**

**18+**

**Project:**

The staffs of «Les Meris» residence is waiting for you to work together on embellishing their Park. Located at the heart of the town of Aubusson, "Les Meris" residence aims to involve the resident mentally disabled adults in social activities. You will participate in improving their living environment by transforming a park into a vegetable garden, where the residents can enjoy gardening. The objective is to make this natural space livelier by favouring ecological practices. This is the second camp that will take place in this house, after the first one in summer 2017. The residents loved a lot welcoming international volunteers and they are looking forward to meeting you! All of this will take place during the pleasant summer time, perfect for living and spending time in Aubusson!

**Work:**

«Les Méris» educational team wants the residents to invest in their park, where they can reconnect with nature. Your aim will be to transform this area into a welcoming garden. In order to do this, many little jobs will await you: development of the permaculture, creation of the garden of medical plants, planting herbal tea, construction of a compost, construction of a hut to accommodate a wood workshop, creation of containers and planter boxes, etc. Being accompanied by a technical leader, you will gain more experience in using tools and you will discover some new ecological practices while performing these tasks.



### **Accommodation and food:**

You will be accommodated in two-person tents and a collective tent or a room for socializing. The group will be sharing the cleaning chores and preparing meals together. The budget will be allocated to the group leader and you will participate in the preparation of dishes with good products from the market and local producers. During the week, you will have lunch with the residents in the canteen at “Les Meris” residence. You will get around on foot or by minibus between the campsite, the worksite and Aubusson's town centre.



### **Location and leisure:**

Aubusson is located in the Creuse department, which is one of the wildest French departments in terms of nature and it is located in the "Millevaches" regional natural reserve. Here you will find natural protected areas and many hiking paths, lakes and outdoor activities, all just a stone's throw away from the town. Since Aubusson is also the international capital of tapestry, you will be able to meet people who make handcrafted tapestries and discover the history of this traditional artisanry. Aubusson is a lively town and during the summer you will enjoy discovering its historic centre and ancient alleyways, relaxing on the shady terraces of the town's bars and going to concerts and shows organized by the Tourist Office.

For more information visit: <https://www.tourisme-creuse.com> and <https://www.tourisme-aubusson.com>

### **Special requirements and remarks:**

During this work camp you will be working with mentally disabled adults. We expect you to be responsible and respectful, and adapt to the needs of residents and employees of “Les Meris” residence.

Bring work clothes, walking boots and a backpack. Nights can be chilly, so take warm clothes and a good sleeping bag. You can also bring recipes from your home country, musical instruments and games. You will get around Aubusson by foot and car.

Foreigners belonging to the European Union must bring with them a personal EHIC (European Health Insurance Card), and everybody must, in any case, bring their insurance certificate. If health issues happen on the project, volunteers will have to pay for them, and will then be reimbursed once back in their home country.



**Meeting point:**

Aubusson train station.

**Closest airport:**

Limoges or Paris

**CONCF-157-ESC**

**EMMAUS ESCALQUENS - Fighting exclusion**

Escalquens

09/08 – 30/08

SOCI/MANU

10 vols

18+

**Project:**

You will work with the Emmaus community in Escalquens, in the Midi-Pyrénées region. The secular solidarity movement of Emmaus was born in 1949 to help people in need. Under the leadership and example of Abbe Pierre, founder of the movement, the “Compagnons” have been working all around the world in order to help impoverished people find security, dignity, and autonomy through work and mutual support.

They collect all kinds of objects (furniture, clothes, household appliances, etc.), which they either fix and resell or recycle. The profit from the sales is used to help people in need and continue expanding the organisations work.



**Work:**

You will work at the “Bric a Brac” with the Compagnons of Emmaus and volunteers. This will involve recycling, sorting, renovating, and selling many different objects.

**Accommodation and food:**

You will stay in tents on the site of Emmaus Escalquens. You will have access to a bathroom and showers. You will share meals with the Emmaus Compagnons.

**Location and leisure:**

You will interact with young locals and decide together on what to do during your free time.



Escalquens (6000 inhabitants) lies at the gates of the Laurageais area and is nestled among sunflower-covered hills and small charming houses. In this beautiful setting, you will find a bridge from 1772, a pink brick castle from 1568 and a 14th-century church. At the Cousquille crossroads, you will discover local shops and the Sunday market.

During your days off, you can reach Toulouse in less than one hour by bus. Toulouse is a beautiful, innovative, cultural and dynamic student city famous for its rich heritage.

In the surrounding area, you will also get to discover villages, castles, and wine estates, as well as the UNESCO World Heritage site, "Canal des Deux Mers."

**Special requirements and remarks:**

You need to submit a **motivation letter** in order to apply to this project.

You will live with the Compagnons, who may come from difficult backgrounds; they are spending a year in the Emmaus facilities as part of their integration process. They have often experienced professional or social difficulties related to their age, health or unstable situation. You will share the same space as the Compagnons, and therefore the same rules will apply to you. You will work mornings and afternoons (about 6-7 hours a day), help cleaning the space. Your days off will be Sunday and Monday. During the day, you will share the Compagnons schedule, and you will have time to mingle with the other volunteers in the evenings. Visitors are not allowed outside working hours, and alcohol is forbidden on the premises without exception.

Consider taking work clothes and shoes (waterproof if possible, in case of rain). Bring a warm sleeping bag and a good camping mat (for sleeping in the tent); nights can be chilly and wet. Tents will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own. Do not hesitate to bring activities from home, such as photos, games, musical instruments, food etc.

Foreigners from the European Union must bring their personal EHIC (European Health Insurance Card), and all participants must bring their insurance certificate. If health issues arise during the program, volunteers will need to cover all costs; they will be reimbursed upon their return to their home country.

**Language:**

English.

**Meeting point:**

Escalquens train station.

**Closest airport:**

Toulouse