

Proyecto SVE

Theme: Disabilities

Location: Athens, Greece

Work starts: January 2011

Work ends: January 2012

Application deadline: December 10, 2010

Decision date: December 20, 2010

Vacancies: 1

Languages

Languages:

Project: English, Greece

Local: Greece

Language lessons will be provided. During the first two months of your stay you can attend an intensive Greek course.

Project Description:

KAAPV (more commonly known as PIKPA) is a public institution that hosts about 100 disabled children and youth from 1 to 30 years old. They have moderate to heavy physical and mental disabilities. Most are abandoned by their parents and have little contact with their family so PIKPA is practically an orphanage. KAAPV is also running 2 sheltered apartments for 16 former KAAPV residents of 18-35 old, in a residence outside the institution called 'Elliniko'. There are around 10 long-term and two short-term volunteers living in PIKPA during winter and around 15 in the summer.

Detailed

Work:

Every volunteer has a different programme depending on the children s/he is working with and the personal capacities and needs of the volunteer. However, we all share the following tasks:

- 2 hours per day helping the nurses (bathing, feeding, brushing teeth, changing diapers, accompanying children to school or therapy),
- 1 hour per day keeping company to children with heavy disabilities (walks, music, massage, simple games)
- 3-4 times per week swimming in the sea (in the summer) and 1-2 afternoons taking some children for swimming lessons in Glyfada.
- 2 times per week organisation activities with the residents of 'Elliniko' sheltered apartments

Besides, we organize and carry out the following activities: Stimulation for babies and severely disabled children (play room, music, walks inside the institution or just physical contact) - Individual learning project for specific children (e.g. practicing self-help skills, learning the alphabet, learning how to use money etc) - Physical education or sports - Cooking lessons - Computer lesson- English language workshop - Social integration (visit to a supermarket, to a bank, a museum or a post office etc) - Entertainment (organising parties, going to the movies or to a festival etc). Artistic expression (painting, handicraft, singing, dance, etc) - Outings in Glyfada or Athens - Beauty group - Excursions - Informing the local community about disabilities and trying to involve Greek people to volunteer in the institution - Fund-raising to sponsor activities with the children - Any other activity depending on our abilities and interests and the needs and desires of the children.

Information:

The volunteers participate also at the summer camp which is organised every summer by the hosting organization. It is for two weeks, in July at a mountain near Athens and the volunteers are responsible for organising activities for and with the children in cooperation with the accompaniers of the camp.

In short, we are responsible for helping the children spend their time in a constructive and enjoyable way.

Working schedule: 7 hours a day, 5 days a week (language lessons and meetings included).

Requirements:

Age: 18-30 years old.

The volunteer should like children and disabled people and be very motivated to work with them. Enthusiasm, responsibility and commitment to stay for the whole period of the project are ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY as well as motivation, patience and sense of humour are necessary. No previous experience or education in the field is required as the work can be hard and Greeks are rather chaotic and hot-tempered. **You should enjoy living and working with a big group of people.**

If you look for a place where you can take initiative and develop your own ideas, then PIKPA is the place for you! You will give a lot of yourself to the children but will get much more from them in return.

Accommodation: in a shared room, with other volunteers. The room is located in a building that belongs to Pipka; it is situated in Athens, Glyfada neighbourhood.

You will have to prepare your own meals. Cooking is done together with the other volunteers.

Insurance

Fees: no additional fees

Pocket money: 95 Euros/month

Others: drinking or using drugs on PIPKA premises is strictly forbidden. If the volunteer is found drunk or stoned inside the centre, he/she will be asked to leave the project. Smoking is permitted (all over Greece), but please respect those who don't smoke and don't smoke near the children.

We are strongly advising you to get vaccinated against hepatitis B beforehand.