

Call for ESC-Volunteers at Caritas Upper Austria INVITA

“ARE YOU READY TO TAKE ON A NEW EXPERIENCE IN YOUR LIFE?”

Project-Starts:

February, March or April 2023



Caritas
invita



Call for
volunteers
2022/2023
in Austria!



**Ready for a new
experience uproad?**

Join us now!
Become part of the European
Solidarity Corps at **Caritas
Upper Austria invita** and join
one of our different projects that
support people with disabilities
in different life and living
situations.

Send your request now to:
office@4yougend.at
„Caritas invita projects“



 **EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS**
THE POWER OF TOGETHER.



1. Our Volunteering Opportunities & Project groups

At Caritas invita we have different project groups, which are looking for volunteers and a fresh spirit. You can choose your preferred project group from the list below. The locations of our Activity Groups and Assisted Living groups are in Engelhartzell and in the surrounding of Engelhartzell, as well as in the locations of Pfaffing and Ebensee in the south of Upper Austria (in the Salzkammergut area). Volunteers, who will support our groups in the near surrounding of Engelhartzell will commute to and from the project group with our shuttle service. The accommodations in Ebensee and Pfaffing are in walking distance of the groups.

Total volunteer opportunities: 2 volunteers can start between **February and April 2023**. (*Announcement/FYI: Next volunteering opportunities will start in September/October 2023.*)

Duration: about **10,5 months** (latest until 20.02.2024)

You can choose your volunteering from the groups below:

ASSISTED LIVING GROUPS:

Location: **Engelhartzell**, Upper Austria, District: Schärding

- 1 place at the Assisted Living Groups #1
 - 1 place at the Assisted Living Groups #2
 - 1 place at the Assisted Living Groups #4
- Accommodation location: Engelhartzell

Location: **Haibach ob der Donau**, Upper Austria, District: Schärding

- 1 place at the Assisted Living Group “Haibach”
- Accommodation location: Engelhartzell

Location: **Pfaffing**, Upper Austria, District: Vöcklabruck

- 1 project at the Living groups # 1
 - 1 project at the Living groups # 2
- Accommodation location: close to Pfaffing, within walking distance

Location: **Ebensee**, Upper Austria: District: Gmunden

- 1 project place at the Living groups
 - 1 project place at the Living groups – for the mother/child-project
- Accommodation location: Ebensee, next to the project place

ACTIVITY GROUPS:

Location: **Engelhartzell**, Upper Austria, District: Schärding

- 1 project at the Activity Group “Laundry Shop & Operational Kitchen”
- Accommodation location: Engelhartzell



Location: Engelhartzell



Location: Pamingerhof



Location: Pfaffing



Location: Haibach

2. What is Caritas Upper Austria invita about?

In the beautiful countryside of Upper Austria – just next to the Danube – in a small village called Engelhartzell – the headquarter of Caritas INVITA is located.



invita staff and clients at a Summer Party, Engelhartzell

INVITA is part of the Caritas Upper Austria, and **attends to people with psychological and physical disabilities** in living, working and educational interests. The overall aim is to include people with disabilities into society and to enhance their autonomy in daily life. INVITA's acts based on the principals of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Disabled and on the Upper Austrian Equal Opportunities Act. INVITA's living and activity group locations a spread throughout the different districts in Upper Austria.

INVITA's clients are female and male grown-ups, with different psychological and physical disabilities. We offer to our clients living opportunities at the Assisted Living Groups and work opportunities at the Activity Groups, as well as Mobile Care. The volunteers will support the team on the groups in their daily work for our clients. Each team has a teamleader, and the size of the team varies according to the need of the clients. The team consists of qualified staff members, with proven qualifications and professional experience in the field of working with people with psychological and physical disabilities. Some groups are also supported by trainees, civil attendants, and other volunteers.

3. The Projects

Assisted Living Groups: This are the groups where our clients live. Volunteers in the Assisted Living Groups support our staff in their daily work routine. The daily routine is to support our clients to run their



Dinara on the Living Group



Volunteer taking a walk with a client

household, prepare food, support with dressing, cooking, writing, reading, talking, cleaning, etc. Also typical maybe to accompany clients to their work places, and to accompany them during their leisure time (e.g. taking a walk, out- and indoor activities, handi-craft work, etc.). For detailed description of each groups see the fact-sheets "Steckbriefe" of the groups, which will be sent to you after we have received your application form.



Gemma supporting a Activity Group



Hairstyling project from Burcin

Activity Groups: This are the groups where our clients work. The daily routine is to support our staff and clients in their work environment and their activity tasks and given chores. Depending on a client's condition the tasks will vary. For detailed description of each groups see the fact sheets "Steckbriefe" of each single the groups, which will be sent to you after we have received your application form.



Armagan on the Activity Group



Enver on the Activity Group

Your own project: The volunteers are invited to bring in their own ideas, set up projects within their project groups and/or together with the other volunteers. Whatever the project idea is, we will try to support to bring it to life.



Painting project from Ana

German lessons: Every volunteers, who has no sufficient knowledge of the German language will take part in the arranged German language course (level A1). This can be present or a distance learning course in self-studying or with a teacher. Afterwards volunteers shall proceed with learning the German language via the OLS (Online language support).

Trainings of the National Agency in Austria: It is mandatory for volunteers to participate at the offered trainings of the National Agency in Austria (On-Arrival-Training, Mid-Term-Training).

Accommodations: The accommodations for volunteers who are in groups near and in the surrounding of Engelhartszell are located in Engelhartszell. For volunteers which are located in Pfaffing or Ebensee is close to these groups. Every volunteer will have his/her own furnished bedroom in an shared apartment with a shared bathroom/toilet, living room/kitchen. The shared rooms are equipped with a TV, free WiFi, and a washing machine. You might live together with other volunteers or civil servants.

Food: Caritas INVITA in Engelhartszell has an operational kitchen for the staff and for the clients. You will have the opportunity to get 7 days a week free lunch in Engelhartszell. Those who are at the groups located outside of Engelhartszell, will have the possibility to have lunch at these locations on their working days. For breakfast and dinner you have an equipped kitchen in your apartment, to cook on your own or with your co-volunteers.

Financial Support: You will receive a monthly food and pocket money.

Establish your ESC-Volunteers Family:

Right from the beginning it is very important, that you set up good forms of communication with each other, a good social network with your Co-ESC-volunteers. You should see yourself as part of the ESC-Volunteers-family. You will spend your time together, live together, socialize together, share commons and differences, support each other, etc. Also to be self-motivated, and self-reliant will help in many different asps.



Volunteers with their mentor Theresa

The location: Engelhartzell: To give you an idea about where Engelhartzell is: it is about 56 kilometres from Linz, the capital of Upper Austria and about 29 kilometres from Passau, Germany.

The place where you will be accommodated, Engelhartzell or “Ezell” (how we call it), has about 1.000 inhabitants and is a village in the countryside, just next to the Danube. It may be small but especial for lovers of the countryside and the outdoors it has plenty to offer.



Engelhartzell

Engelhartzell has a few shops, a supermarket, a doctor with an in-house pharmacy, a fire department, a police station, a emergency medical service, and a lot of air to breathe. By car, the next bigger cities are about less than an hour drive away. Passau (Germany) is within 29 km, Upper Austrian’s capital Linz is 56 km away. In these cities you will find malls, movie theatres, nightlife, etc. Smaller cities are Peuerbach or Schärding. Engelhartzell has also a public transportation system (busses), which runs on a regular basis on weekdays to Linz or Schärding, and on a reduced schedule on weekends/holidays.

The location: Pfaffing & Ebensee: These two locations are in the south of the Upper Austrian district. In (Ebensee) and close to (Pfaffing) the world heritage of the “Salzkammergut”, which will be the European Capital in 2024. The locations are close to the mountains and multiple lakes. The locations Ebensee and Pfaffing are small villages, with good infrastructure. You are very well connected with trains to the bigger cities as Linz or Salzburg.

Company car, bicycles for rent, and public transportation system: Volunteers living in Engelhartzell will have the possibility to use our company car for leisure time activities on the weekends. Therefore it is necessary, that the volunteers are in possession of a valid driving license class B, to have driving experiences, and are also able to handle a car with shift gears. Depending on availability,



ESC-Volunteers taking a bike ride

we also may have some bicycles that you can rent for a deposit, if needed. As for the other locations Pfaffing, and Ebensee you have a very good public transport net, which you can use.

Physical and psychological stability: As you are volunteering in the field of people with physical and psychological disabilities, and as you are also facing a new culture, a new language, a new surroundings, new people, and different challenges so **it is MENDATORY, if you volunteer for INVITA, that you are in physical and mental/psychological stable health conditions!**

What do former volunteers say about volunteering at Caritas invita?

Have a look at the reflection reports of some of our former volunteers, that have been are published on the Caritas websites (in German only):

Yusuf: <https://www.caritas-ooe.at/spenden-helfen/freiwilliges-engagement/unsere-freiwilligen-stellen-sich-vor/freiwillige-stellen-sich-vor-detail/news/92258-freiwillig-bei-invita-yusuf-siyahas/>

Vasylyna: <https://www.caritas-ooe.at/spenden-helfen/freiwilliges-engagement/unsere-freiwilligen-stellen-sich-vor/freiwillige-stellen-sich-vor-detail/news/91765-vasylyna-kedo-ukraine/>

Paula: <https://www.caritas-ooe.at/spenden-helfen/freiwilliges-engagement/unsere-freiwilligen-stellen-sich-vor/freiwillige-stellen-sich-vor-detail/news/91767-paula-vilaplana-coll-spanien/>

Maria: <https://www.caritas-ooe.at/spenden-helfen/freiwilliges-engagement/freiwillige-mitarbeiterinnen-gesucht/eu-freiwillige-maria-reyes>

Auregan: <https://www.caritas-ooe.at/spenden-helfen/freiwilliges-engagement/unsere-freiwilligen-stellen-sich-vor/eu-freiwillige-auregan-nedelec>

Ebru: <https://www.caritas-ooe.at/spenden-helfen/freiwilliges-engagement/unsere-freiwilligen-stellen-sich-vor/eu-freiwillige-ebru>

Enver: <https://www.caritas-ooe.at/spenden-helfen/freiwilliges-engagement/unsere-freiwilligen-stellen-sich-vor/eu-freiwilliger-enver>

So take on the chance on a new experience in your life!
We are looking for motivated and self-reliant volunteers who are interested to spend a long-term volunteering possibility at
Caritas Upper Austria INVITA!



Refer to “**Caritas INVITA-Projects**” and send your application directly to:
[**susanne.rosmann@4yougend.at**](mailto:susanne.rosmann@4yougend.at)