**EVS at Café Utopia PIC 946950376**

* Contact person: [Maria](http://www.youthnetworks.eu/ShowPerson.aspx?Person=vibe-gronfeldt-in-denmark) Palmvang
* Coordinating organisation: [AFS Interkultur](http://www.youthnetworks.eu/ShowOrganisation.aspx?Organisation=afs-interkultur)
* Host: Café Utopia: <http://www.cafeutopia.dk/>
* Location: Holstebro, Denmark
* Deadline: 31/10/2017
* Start: 01/09/2018
* End: 01/07/2019

**Café Utopia**

Café Utopia is a high profile café catering for the general public and operated in the same way as other cafés with the only difference that the people employed there have a mental diagnosis such as schizophrenia, manic-depression, borderline etc. The concept behind the café is the idea that the best treatment for this group of people is for them to work in a proper work place, receiving a salary and thus living a life like everybody else. In that way they can feel needed in society and gain both competences and self-esteem through meaningful work.
The café is a so called social/economic project, which means, that it is a non profitable project for people with disabilities.
The café is open daily (except Sunday and Monday) from 10.00 AM to 05.00 PM, Friday to 10.30 PM and Saturday to 03.00 PM. The café is hosting different cultural activities such as concerts, art exhibithions and it also hosts minor seminars and private functions.
For the moment we have three fulltime staff members (a manager and two chefs), 20 persons on social benefit (15-25 hours pr. week), 8 persons in an employment subsidiced by the government (25 hours pr. week). The staff work in different teams: waiting, cooking, cleaning or doing office work.

**Tasks**

Through a stay at Café Utopia the volunteer will get insight in all aspects of operating a café. Moreover, he/she will get knowledge about people with mental diseases and get a deeper understanding on how to engage with them. The volunteer will also learn about social/economic organisations and the benefit they provide to the greater community. The volunteer will work alongside the staff in various areas depending on the background, education and interest of the particular volunteer. Activities could include waiting on tables, assisting in the kitchen, general maintenance in the café and office work, but there will also be plenty of opportunities to make his/her own activities such as organising different kinds of events.

**Criteria and how to apply?**

The project is open to everyone; however, volunteers with a high level of English will be preferred. We are very flexible concerning the profile of the volunteer. He/she may have a background/interest in social work, catering or culture; however, the most important requirement is that the volunteer has both empathy and the understanding of dealing with mentally vulnerable people.

In order to apply please fill out the application form attached and send it along with your CV to maria.palmvang@afs.org as soon as possible and before the 31th October 2017. If you have been shortlisted for the project we will contact you for a skype interview before the 15th December 2017.

* *Regards, Maria Palmvang, EVS Coordinator at AFS Interkultur.*