

# SUPPORTING LOCAL COMMUNITIES: BUENAVISTA CENTER

*European Solidarity Corps project*

REAL DE Gandía, Valencia (Spain)

**STARTING ASAP for 12 months**

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## 1. What is ESC?

ESC (European Solidarity Corps [Volunteering projects], *former European Voluntary Service [EVS]*) is an **international volunteer experience** funded by the European Commission. It allows young people (17 to 30 years old) resident in Europe to have a full-time international and intercultural volunteer experience in an organisation abroad for a period of time between 2 and 12 months. It provides the travel expenses, full board (food and accommodation) and an amount of pocket money per month (it varies depending on the country).



More info: [https://europa.eu/youth/solidarity\\_en](https://europa.eu/youth/solidarity_en)

## 2. Hosting organisation

The **"AMIGÓ FUNDATION"** is a non-profit organization created on 1996 in order to contribute to the social and individual transformation of vulnerable people, especially for children and youth in difficulty and their families. It is based on the defense of human and childhood rights, developing its work through socio-educational and psychosocial intervention.

The Foundation aims at research, training, awareness, assistance and technical cooperation in educational and social fields for human development, quality of life and improvement of prevention, assistance, integration and rehabilitation of excluded and vulnerable people, especially children, youth and adolescents who suffer abandonment, marginalization, alcoholism, drug addiction, delinquency, mistreatment, isolation and poverty in the Spanish State and abroad.

The **Buenavista Center** is part of this Foundation as a resource for minors that provide comprehensive and educational care for children and adolescents in custody and / or guardianship who are deprived of a suitable family environment, providing them with a place of residence and coexistence and care aimed at their development holistic and community. More info can be found at [fundacionamigo.org/buenavista](http://fundacionamigo.org/buenavista)



The capacity of the center is 24 places of specific attention to unaccompanied migrant minors, aged between 12 and 17 years, both inclusive, regardless of whether they may present behavioural problems and require a socio-educational intervention focused on acceptance, internalization and compliance with norms and in the acquisition of social skills that allow them an adequate adaptation to their environment, while attending to the social, educational, emotional and personal needs caused by their lack of protection.

## **PLEASE READ VERY CAREFULLY:**

**This is a very challenging project volunteering with migrant minors who arrive to Spain and they do not have a family.**

**Often the background of these minors is very delicate with very difficult life situations that provokes that their behaviour might tends to be verbally aggressive and complicated.**

**It's very demanding but also extremely enriching and satisfying for volunteers.**

**Please take this into consideration before applying for this project.**

### **3. Coordinating organisation**

***XERACION VALENCIA*** is a non-profit youth cultural association created in Gandia (Valencia, Spain) in 2014 by an enthusiastic group of people who decided to leave their regular jobs and try to enjoy their day by day while doing something enriching and meaningful for their local communities. It's an active member of the Council of Youth of Gandia and some of our objectives are:

- To encourage and facilitate the international mobility of youth and youth workers (especially for groups with fewer opportunities).
- To empower youth in order for them to have their own critical thinking and analysis, an active citizenship and participatory democracy.
- To enhance values of tolerance, human dignity, interculturality, solidarity and cooperation, social justice and integration.



More info can be found at [xeracionvalencia.org](http://xeracionvalencia.org)



## 4. Summary of the project

More than 4.700 minors arrived to Spain during 2018 without any family, an increase of 78% compared to the previous year.

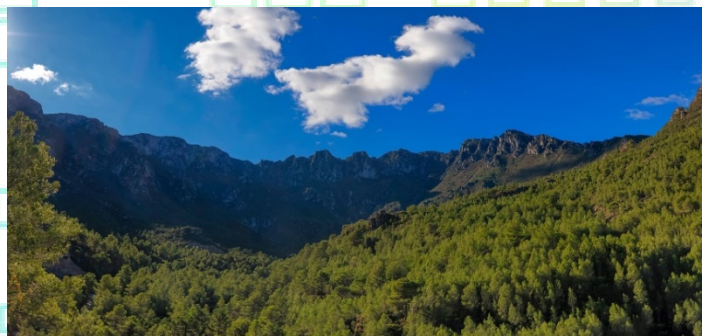
And despite the fact that according to the latest available official data on crime in Spain (2016), only 6.4% of the crimes registered in Spain are committed by people of African nationality, some political parties blame them for ending up in criminal circuits and to deteriorate the coexistence in the neighbourhoods, even going so far as to say that "they are out of control." And as if that were not enough, these young people face an even greater problem when they turn 18 and reach their legal adult age, since the situation of these migrants changes radically because they are no longer under public guardianship.

In reality, many of them are left unprotected and without a residence permit, despite the fact that the authorities should have provided them with the necessary documentation to obtain it. By ceasing to be minors many of them are on the street, in the most absolute social marginalization.

In this context, we think that it is absolutely essential to have centres like ours, where we have a resource for minors providing comprehensive and educational care for children and adolescents in a situation of custody and guardianship who are deprived of a suitable family environment, providing them with a place of residence and coexistence and an attention oriented to its holistic and community development.

## 5. Location

The project will be developed in "Residencia Buenavista" near a very small village called "Real de Gandia" in the region of "La Safor". The biggest town around and capital of the region is Gandia, with a population over 80,000 people in the Mediterranean east coast of Spain between the cities of Valencia and Alicante.



La Safor is an attractive region, divided between the coast and mountainous interior. The natural habitat of the high mountains of Mustalla, Safor, Agulles and Grossa is rich with vegetation, while the coastal border is made up of plains of wide groves, long beaches and also a dense urban area.

## 6. Activities

There will be a very wide range of possible activities available for the volunteers, with a maximum of 6 hours per day and being able to help and give support in tasks such as:

- Planning, implementing and evaluating their daily schedule and educational activities (literacy, workshops ...) as well as making sports and leisure resources for minors.
- Planning, designing and evaluating socio-educational and psychosocial intervention with the minors and accompany them to medical appointments.
- Participating in the coordination meetings of the Working Group and the Educational Team.
- Recording data and prepare and write reports that are required by the Technical Team.
- Requesting transportation needs to Management at the educational team meeting.
- Recording weekly outings planned for your tutelage in the diary field, and interviews and communication with family members (if possible) to follow up on their evolution.
- Supporting with the management of purchases for the needs of minors or for the activities that are carried out, as well as clothing inventory.
- Completing the documents included in the Individualized Intervention Project (P.I.I.): Initial Observation Record, Prolonged Observation Record, Follow-up Record and Final Report.
- Supporting the creation and development of activities, campaigns and events (cultural, environmental, social) for children and youth to promote the values of the center.
- Helping with the coordination of local volunteers, as well as getting new people interested in collaborating to perform tasks of all kinds in the center.
- Promoting ESC and the Erasmus + program to encourage youth to participate.
- Helping with the maintenance of the website, as well as social networks (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Tik Tok ...) for dissemination of the center's activities and help eliminate the stigma suffered by these young migrants.
- Create audiovisual material (photography, videos, time-lapses, stop motions) and design of logos or other promotional material that allows to give visibility to the day to day of these young people thus eliminating the status of criminals that is attributed to them on many occasions.



## 7. Practical details (participants, food, accommodation...)

This project has been designed for **3 volunteers (any nationality) with residence in any EU programme or neighbour country.**

The accommodation will be in private rooms in a 6 bedroom shared apartment situated in Gandia (together with other ESC volunteers from other project) and all the expenses in the house will be paid by the organisation (electricity, internet, water, gas). Each volunteer will receive a SIM card for their telephone and a bicycle to move around locally.

In addition, they will have the option of getting a fertile small holding for themselves to grow their own vegetables, fruits and herbs. We will give them all the support needed to start, but they will have to compromise to take care of it.

Once a month (starting by arrival date) each volunteer will receive their pocket money and food money for a total of 300€ (5€/day as pocket money and 5€/day for food).

### **VERY IMPORTANT INFO!**

“Hogar Buenavista” is located near a very small village called “Real de Gandia”. However, volunteers will be living in Gandia town and every day they will have to go by bicycle from their house to the centre and back. **This is a distance of 4,3 Kilometers and around 15 minutes ride.** Here you can check the route:

<https://goo.gl/maps/EiPrtFNxVJSY3AWc7>

**Please take this into consideration before applying!**

## 8. Application/contact information

We are looking for **one last highly motivated volunteer (any nationality)** from any of the [EU programme countries](#) with a very **positive attitude and initiative**, adaptable to change, with **problem-solving capacity** and able to work both independently and as a team member. The ideal candidates should have some experience, studies or a major interest in:

- Social Education and integration, Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology or similar.
- Audio-visuals, Web management, Social media or any related topics.
- Working/volunteering with minors, refugees or disadvantaged youth.

**Based on previous experiences at least an intermediate level of Spanish language (B1/B2) is required for this project.** If you want to join us, please [APPLY HERE!](#)

**Applications will be open until a suitable volunteer is found ☺**

Muchas gracias!

