



EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS



Steinbeis-Innovation Centre
European Projects

Start your future: Voluntary service with the ESC
- Discover your strengths, find your path!

The Steinbeis Innovation Centre “European Projects” is an institution of the Steinbeis-Foundation which was founded by the Federal State of Baden-Württemberg in Germany.

Within the European Solidarity Corps (ESC) Program it is accredited as a coordinating and supporting organisation (OID: E10206422), for hosting volunteers it co-operates with several institutions of the german social and health care system e.g. the Schwarzwaldwerkstatt Dornstetten.

Germany has a long tradition of national voluntary service programs (e.g. FSJ, BFD) and a lot of young people are joining these programs for professional orientation whereas facilities and institutions of the social and health care system are using these programs for recruitment of future staff.

Volunteering in health and social care facilities offers young people an orientation and a preparation for a vocational training in the field of nursing.

For young people from abroad there is the opportunity to join the ESC voluntary service, which provides in addition to the german programs also language and intercultural training.

Find your path: Voluntary service as a springboard for your future!

Not sure which career really suits you? Discover your strengths, gain practical experience and make a difference - with ESC voluntary service! Whether in organisations for social or health care: here you can try out what suits you and do something good at the same time.

Orientation: get to know different professional fields.

Experience: gain valuable practical experience for your CV.

Personality: grow with new challenges.

Start now and actively shape your future!



Benefits:

Participation in the European Solidarity Corps is free of charge for participants. Except for a possible contribution to travel costs, the participant must not be charged, neither fully or partially, nor directly or indirectly, for taking part in a European Solidarity Corps activity.

- travel costs from home to the venue of the project and back will be covered
- free board and lodging
- pocket money (210 €/month)
- two consecutive free days per week (unless arranged differently in mutual agreement)
- two days of holiday per month of service
- complementary coverage of the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)
- language training by a qualified trainer
- all participants will receive a European Solidarity Corps certificate of participation

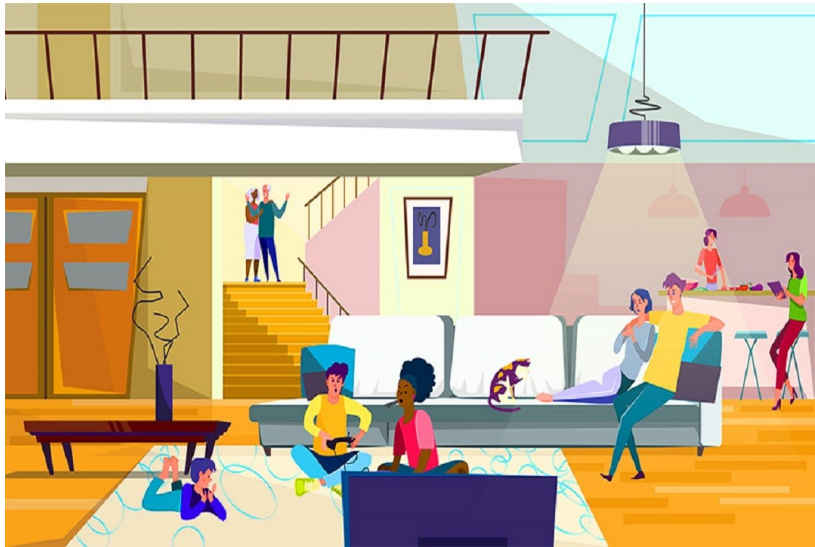
The hosting organisation:

Schwarzwaldwerkstatt Dornstetten is a non-profit organization that offers people with disabilities a wide range of work, educational and residential opportunities.



With locations in Dornstetten and Freudenstadt, it employs around 330 people in areas such as assembly, sewing, carpentry, mechanical production, warehousing/logistics, kitchen services, vehicle workshops, catering and garden and landscape maintenance.

The workshop attaches great importance to individual support and education in order to enable people with disabilities to lead a self-determined and fulfilling life.



It also operates modern residential homes and external residential groups in Dornstetten and Horb as well as other forms of housing such as assisted living and family living for around 100 residents.



The location:

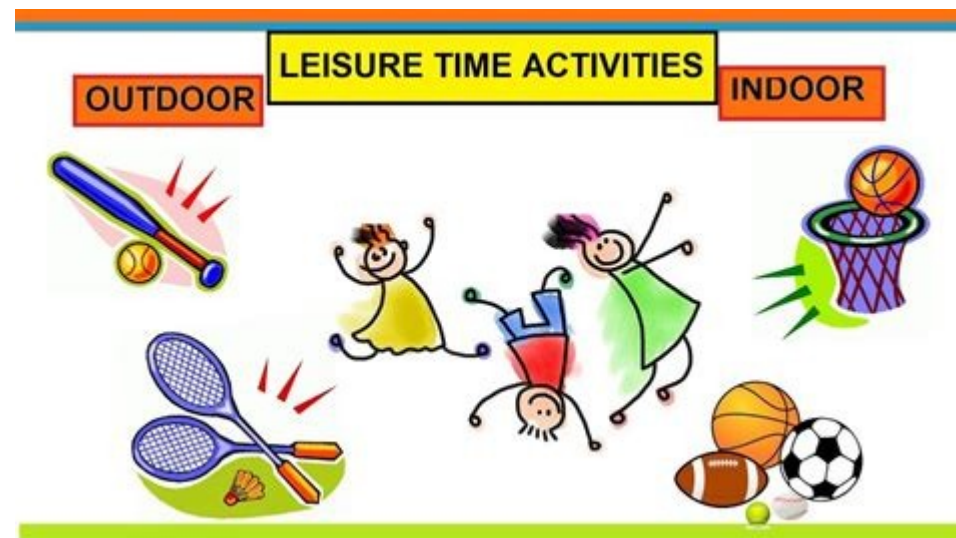
Dornstetten is an idyllic small town in the district of Freudenstadt in Baden-Württemberg, nestled in the gently rolling hills of the northern Black Forest.





The historic old town delights visitors with its well-preserved half-timbered houses, winding alleyways and medieval charm, which transports visitors back in time.

Dornstetten is an ideal place for relaxing and active leisure activities. Hiking and cycling trails lead through the idyllic landscape of the Black Forest. Events such as markets, festivals and cultural events also provide variety and entertainment.



The town offers numerous leisure activities, including hiking trails, cycle paths and cultural events. Particularly popular is the local history museum, which provides insights into local history and traditions.



With its warm atmosphere, strong community and good transport links, Dornstetten is an attractive place to live and a worthwhile destination for visitors.

What you can expect:

Volunteers are given a single room in a shared flat together with another volunteer. The flat is close to the main building of the organisation. Another option will be accommodation in a guest family in Dornstetten or in the neighbouring city of Freudenstadt.

In order to maintain contact with their home country, volunteers are provided with internet access. This can be either WLAN access in the house for their own internet-enabled device or the use of a house PC with internet access.

On workdays volunteers are expected to take part in the communal catering in the workshop, for days off they receive a meal allowance.

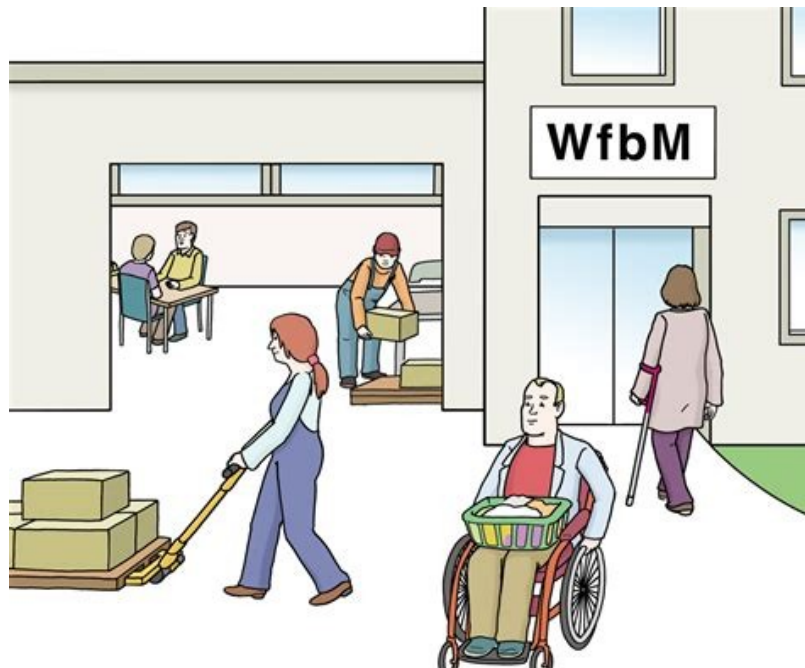


ESC volunteers receive a D-Ticket, which allows them to travel easily and flexibly throughout Germany - whether by bus, train or S-Bahn! It is valid for all local transport, from their home town to the coolest cities, festivals or to visit friends across the country (not valid in high speed trains like IC/ICE/EC!).



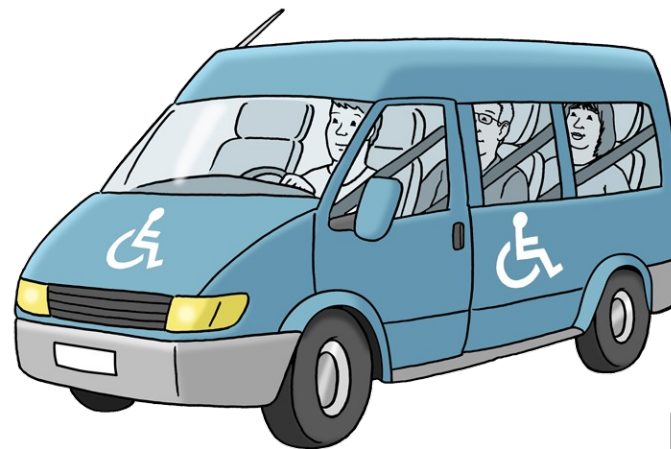
Spontaneous trips to the lake or hikes in the mountains are also easy. With the Deutschlandticket, leisure time becomes an adventure - just hop on and go!

Tasks of the volunteers in the workshop



Volunteers work in the main workshop or branch workshop. They are a part of the assembly teams (putting things together) or specialization groups. They support the qualified staff. The volunteers help and instruct people with disabilities in their work. Volunteers also help with the production work. Besides the work duties, it is important for the volunteers to control the individual work steps and to check the end products.

Volunteers are also involved in all group activities. The volunteers also support or participate in day trips and camps offered by the workshops.





Support and care area

We promote, support and provide practical assistance to disabled people who are not or not yet able to work. The aim is to develop and maintain the individual's physical, mental and social abilities, whether they are lost, present or remaining. To this end, we design and develop individual living spaces, quality of life and life prospects for severely disabled people. We give them the opportunity to participate in life in the community and promote the realisation and further development of their personality. The close proximity to the workshop opens up numerous opportunities for encounters; our orientation group offers the chance to test and develop one's own abilities.

In the Residential Home:

The volunteers work along with the trained staff, support the different residential groups in the residences. Volunteers will support and encourage residents for all house-hold duties. The duties could be: washing clothes, cleaning their room and house. Volunteers also support and help residents with everyday practical things, such as: helping the residents with shopping, going with them to doctors/therapists or different public offices. Another area of support is the care and nursing of the residents. After a training term volunteers can perform different duties. For example, they can help the residents wash and shower or help them change their clothes.





Volunteers can also help during meal times if residents cannot eat their meals independently. Volunteers also help with day-to-day activities and social events, for example: activities after work or on weekends such as, walks or visits to the theatre, musicals or concerts.

In the residential area, each volunteer receives a shift schedule. They are scheduled for an early shift or late shift. There will also be shifts on the weekends. If a volunteer is scheduled on a weekend, they will have their time off during the week.

Values of our work, which should be followed by European Volunteers:

- To accept disabled people together with their own individual characters
- To assist disabled people in difficult times of their lives
- To support and work together with all the organization workers
- Be true to the organization and act responsibly in line with the organization's purpose
- Be excited and help develop future chances for young disabled people
- Be ready to use imagination and to accept change



Through their work, the volunteers can

- make a valuable contribution to everyday life in the workshop
- gain insights into care for the disabled
- get an orientation into the field of nursing
- gain intercultural experience
- improve language skills
- develop social skills



What comes next?

Voluntary service thus enables many young adults to familiarise themselves with the world of work and get used to it, in a sense a 'first contact' with professional work, which can serve to specify individual plans for the future. In any case, volunteering activities make it easier to make decisions about training, study and career choices.

Desired profile of volunteers:

Our projects are outlined for young people with less opportunities in terms of education, therefore we don't accept graduates (Bachelor/Master) or students from university.

We prefer young people without university entrance qualification who might be interested to start a vocational training in Germany after the voluntary service.

Volunteers should be interested in working in the social and health care sector and be open to working with elderly and/or disabled people and people at risk of exclusion.

Volunteers should be able to develop and plan activities on their own initiative, but also be able to contribute innovatively and collaborate within the team.

A basic knowledge of German would be helpful and a willingness to learn German is expected.

A class B driver's license would be helpful

We expect a long term participation (min. 10 months) because the persons cared for in a sheltered workshop need stable personal relationships, therefore it's not possible to change the volunteers frequently.

How to apply?

Since in the ESC program volunteers need a supporting organisation in their home country they should first look for a suitable organisation in the database on the internet:

https://youth.europa.eu/volunteering/organisations_en

Interested candidates should send their CV and a project related motivation letter to the project coordinator Mr. Ekkehard Lippold, e-mail: stz1099@stw.de

After reviewing the documents, we invite suitable applicants to a video interview in which the responsible persons from the sending organization, the host organization and the project coordinator participate alongside the applicant.

The final decision on the admission of the applicant is made jointly by the coordinator and the host organization.