



**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 gGmbH – 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 the Steinbeis Innovation gGmbH 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 Residential Home for the Elderly Brenzheim in Wolfach.

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:

Johannes-Brenz-Altenpflege in Wolfach is a facility dedicated to the care and nursing of elderly people with heart and expertise. In a warm and familiar atmosphere, the well-being of the residents takes centre stage. Individualised care concepts and a dedicated team ensure that residents not only receive the best medical care, but also social and emotional support.



With the motto ‘People at the core’, the Brenzheim attaches particular importance to friendly and personal attention, caring and reliable care as well as upholding the basic values of Christian charity combined with a high level of professionalism.



The location:



Wolfach, a picturesque town in the heart of the Kinzig Valley in the Black Forest, combines historical charm with natural beauty.

Characterised by half-timbered houses and narrow alleyways, the old town invites you to take a leisurely stroll.



In the surrounding area, there are various sports facilities and leisure destinations. These include swimming facilities, sports grounds and sports halls, hiking trails, winter sports facilities in the Black Forest, cycling opportunities, climbing facilities, sports clubs, dance schools and fitness studios.

What you can expect:

Volunteers are given a single room in the Brenzheim or together with other volunteers, trainees, interns etc. in a separate flat nearby.

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.

A television is also available in a common room.

Volunteers can take part in the communal catering in the house, for days off they receive a meal allowance or can come to the Brenzheim for meals.



In addition:

ESC volunteers receive a D-Ticket, which allows to travel easily and flexibly throughout Germany - whether by bus, train, tram or S-Bahn! It is valid for all public transport, from your 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 care for the elderly:

- Playing board games together with residents
- Reading aloud from newspapers or books
- Providing support at mealtimes by keeping company
- Having simple conversations and listening



- Regular visits to individual residents
- Small errands within the home
- Accompaniment to events in the home
- Liaising between residents during joint activities
- Support in maintaining contact with other residents

Support with group activities:

- Assistance with handicrafts and creative activities
- Assistance with gymnastics and movement exercises
- Participation in singing groups
- Support with seasonal celebrations
- Accompanying the residents' groups on excursions



The volunteers encourage and promote the independence of those in need of care. They learn to develop tolerance for the individual circumstances of those in need of care. They help with food preparation and follow-up and assist with shopping and housekeeping from an economic and environmentally conscious point of view.

Through their work, the volunteers can

- make a valuable contribution to everyday life in the home
- gain insights into geriatric care
- 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 nursing home 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.