

EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS 2021-2022

RISE TOGETHER

October 6, 2021 - August 1, 2022

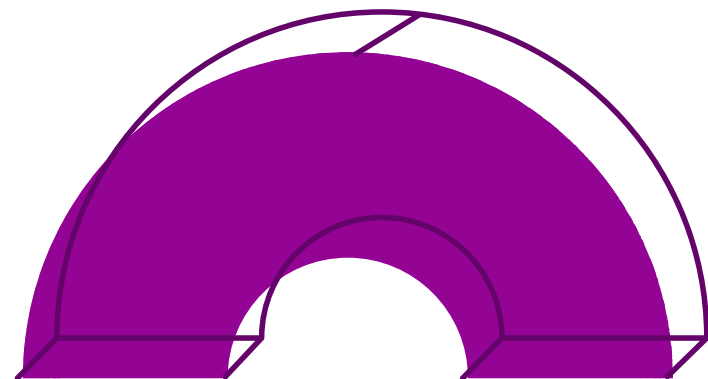


EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS

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About



GROW TOGETHER | REINVENT THE PRESENT | BUILD THE FUTURE

VulcanicaMente is a non-governmental organization (NGO) founded in 2012 and based in Lecce, Italy. It was born as an open platform to offer opportunities for international mobilities, and intercultural and intergenerational learning.

Our **mission** is to develop and enrich our Salento area, beginning with young people, to create a generation of active European citizens.

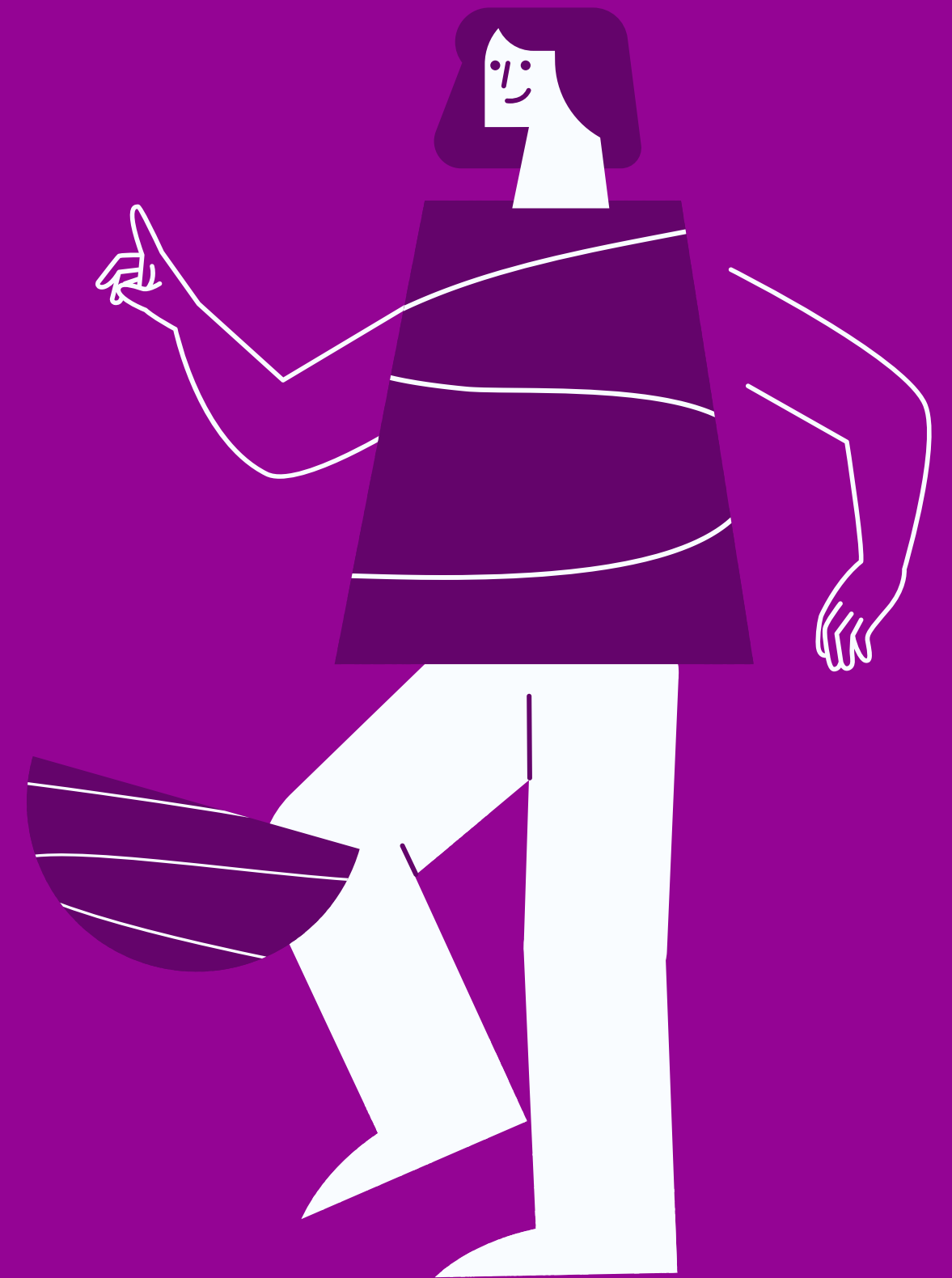
Rise Together is a long-term volunteering project inspired by the women's empowerment movement to raise awareness about gender equality and the issues impacting the lives of European women. The project will highlight how through collaboration and productive conversations, people of all genders can rise together to reap the rewards of a more equal and just society.

Through our team's guidance and collaboration with local partners, volunteers will have the opportunity to **give back and support** the local community. They will be empowered to be active citizens fighting toward the development and improvement of all Europe, while gaining and improving a variety of skills. By the end of the project, volunteers will receive a [Youthpass Certificate](#).

MALALA YOUSAFZAI

**"I raise up my voice
not so that I can
shout, but so that
those without voice
can be heard."**

Let's Reinvent the Present!





A Word from the VM Team

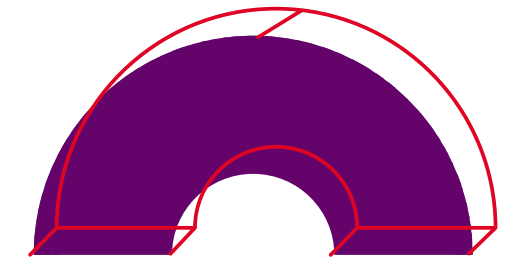
Gender inequality is a United Nations recognized global issue, negatively impacting the lives of half of the world's population. Around the planet, **women and men** are rising to the occasion and protesting the continued imbalance between the genders.

VulcanicaMente was founded by four women and understands the obstacles impeding women's development, as well as the positive impact female leadership can have in communities. As responsible citizens of the EU, we must educate others in the fight for the equality of women in order to boost the quality of life of all members of our society.

When gender equality is advanced, poverty is reduced and the health, education, protection and well-being of girls and boys increases.

We believe that **no issue is too uncomfortable to confront when the end results benefit everyone**. Now is the moment to develop the structured action necessary to fight for gender equality in order to raise awareness and "Rise Together."

Volunteer Profile



We are searching for volunteers from Estonia, Germany, Spain and Turkey (total of four), between the ages of **18 and 30 years old**, and possessing the following personal qualities:

Motivated

Volunteers should be motivated to learn, work hard, support our activities and help the community.

Caring

Volunteers must be open minded and respectful towards other people, spaces and cultures.

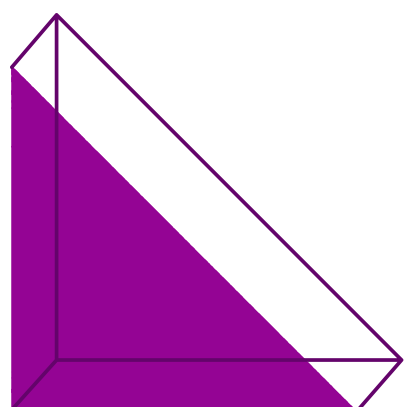
Creative

We are looking for creative and proactive volunteers who propose personal projects and ideas.

Green

VulcanicaMente maintains an eco-friendly environment. Our volunteers should embrace this lifestyle and be willing to use bikes as their main transportation.

Activities & Tasks



Creation of Social Awareness Campaigns

Volunteers will create a variety of social and online campaigns addressing gender equality issues. Campaign activities will include Women's Day initiatives, gender role play, mindfulness workshops, social media call to actions, human rights debates, intergenerational gender equality forums, tolerance workshops combatting stereotypes, and much more.

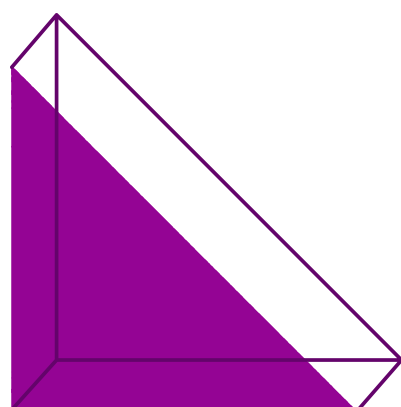
NGO Management

During their project, ESC volunteers become part of the "vulcanic" team, shadowing staff and learning the ins and outs of running an NGO. Weekly volunteer tasks will allow them to develop a variety of management and professional skills in support of all of VulcanicaMente's efforts. Occasional work in Erasmus+ projects will include cleaning and kitchen duties.

Event Management

Throughout the project period, volunteers will be expected to organize and manage a series of local events (in-person and online) complementing the project's topic and in support of other VulcanicaMente community development activities.

Activities & Tasks



Language Teaching

Volunteers will conduct a variety of language learning activities, teaching English to locals and students through the use of non-formal education (NFE) methods. Language teaching activities will include monthly IngLecce gatherings, Unitandem (university language exchange) and assistance with formal language courses.

Social Media and Content Creation

ESC volunteers will assist with the creation of social media content promoting their project activities, Erasmus+ opportunities and other VulcanicaMente efforts. Additionally, they will develop editorial content to be published on the dedicated volunteer blog, offering the opportunity to learn professional communications and writing techniques.

Personal Projects

All volunteers will have the opportunity to develop and lead their own personal projects, showcasing their skills and a topic of interest inspired by their learning during the volunteering period.

Time Expectations



PROJECT LENGTH

Rise Together will begin on October 6, 2021 and run through August 1, 2022. Volunteers will, therefore, commit 300 total days to the project.

WORK HOURS

Volunteers are expected to work five (5) days a week, up to 38 hours per week, Monday through Friday.

TIME OFF

Volunteers are entitled to two days off per month, to be agreed upon with staff at least seven (7) days in advance. Additionally, volunteers will have weekends and national holidays free.

SCHEDULES

Project managers will create specific work timetables each week, as needed, to assist volunteers with time management.

Language

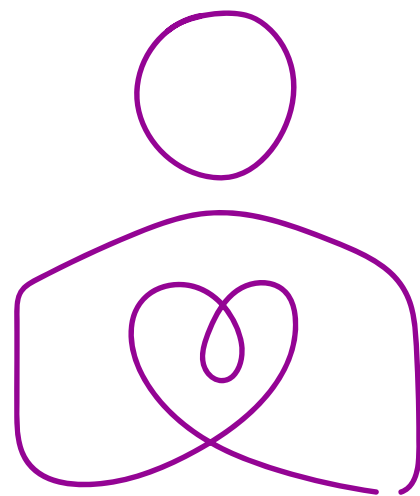
The working languages for the project will be **English and Italian**. Volunteers will receive basic Italian language instruction online through the [Online Linguistic Support \(OLS\)](#) software. Additionally, volunteers will have private Italian lessons with a local teacher. Interactions with locals and participation in diverse external activities will augment volunteers' language learning opportunities.

In the past, VulcanicaMente volunteers have reached an A2-B1 level in Italian by the end of their volunteering period.

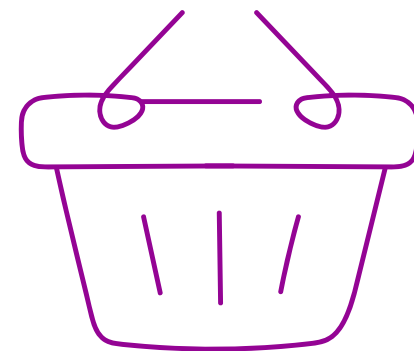


Financial Support

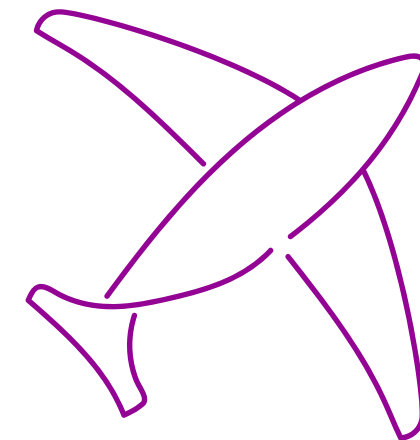
ESC strives to create an inclusive environment for all European youths, especially those demonstrating fewer opportunities. To that end, volunteers are fully funded during their term with a monthly allowance, housing and travel costs (arrival / departure) covered.



Volunteers will receive 150 euros per month in pocket money based on completion of their monthly tasks.



Volunteers will receive an additional 150 euros per month for food.



Travel budgets will be as follows: Estonia (360€); Germany, Spain and Turkey (275€).

ACCOMMODATION

Volunteers will share a furnished four-bedroom, two-bathroom apartment in Lecce. Each volunteer will have their own room and share the fully-equipped kitchen and bathrooms.

The apartment is comfortable with ample natural lighting, five balconies, 10 minutes from the center and the main bus station steps away.

Basic amenities such as sheets and towels will be provided and volunteers are welcome to make their rooms their own. All volunteers will be expected to share housing cleaning tasks, take care of the spaces and furniture/art already in the apartment, and maintain a sustainable lifestyle with responsible recycling and use of water and electricity.

Rent and apartment bills are covered by VulcanicaMente.



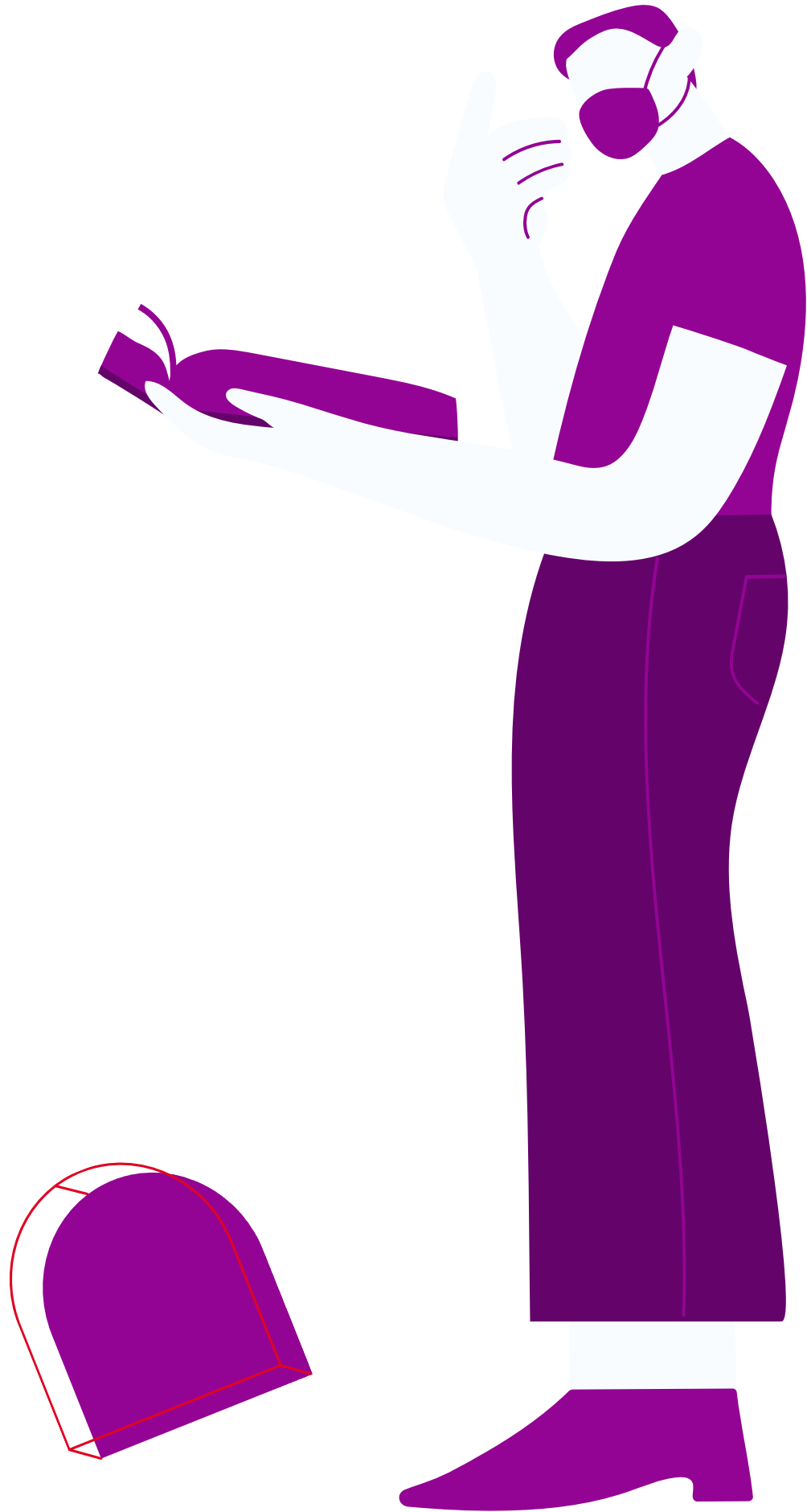
Health Insurance

WHAT IS COVERED?

All volunteers will be fully covered by health and medical insurance through [Cigna](#). Coverage is provided by the European Commission. Additionally, volunteers are required to bring their [European Health Insurance Card](#) with them to the project.

Information about coverage, as well as proper registration, will be completed before the project start with the assistance of VulcanicaMente's staff.





Covid-19

The Covid-19 situation is ever changing and VulcanicaMente is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all volunteers and staff as follows:

- Safety measures will be guaranteed both in working spaces and the volunteer apartment, including regularly disinfected spaces and the availability of hand sanitizer.
- All in-person events, initiatives or activities will be held in accordance with national and international safety regulations.
- Volunteers will be reminded to personally commit to keeping physical distance as necessary, wearing masks when appropriate, maintaining their spaces and self clean, and staying updated on the situation.
- All volunteers must be in possession of the EU Green Pass (or their country's equivalent) to participate.



Local Transportation

GO GREEN!

Lecce is a compact town with everything reachable by foot or bike, and little need for the use of public transportation.

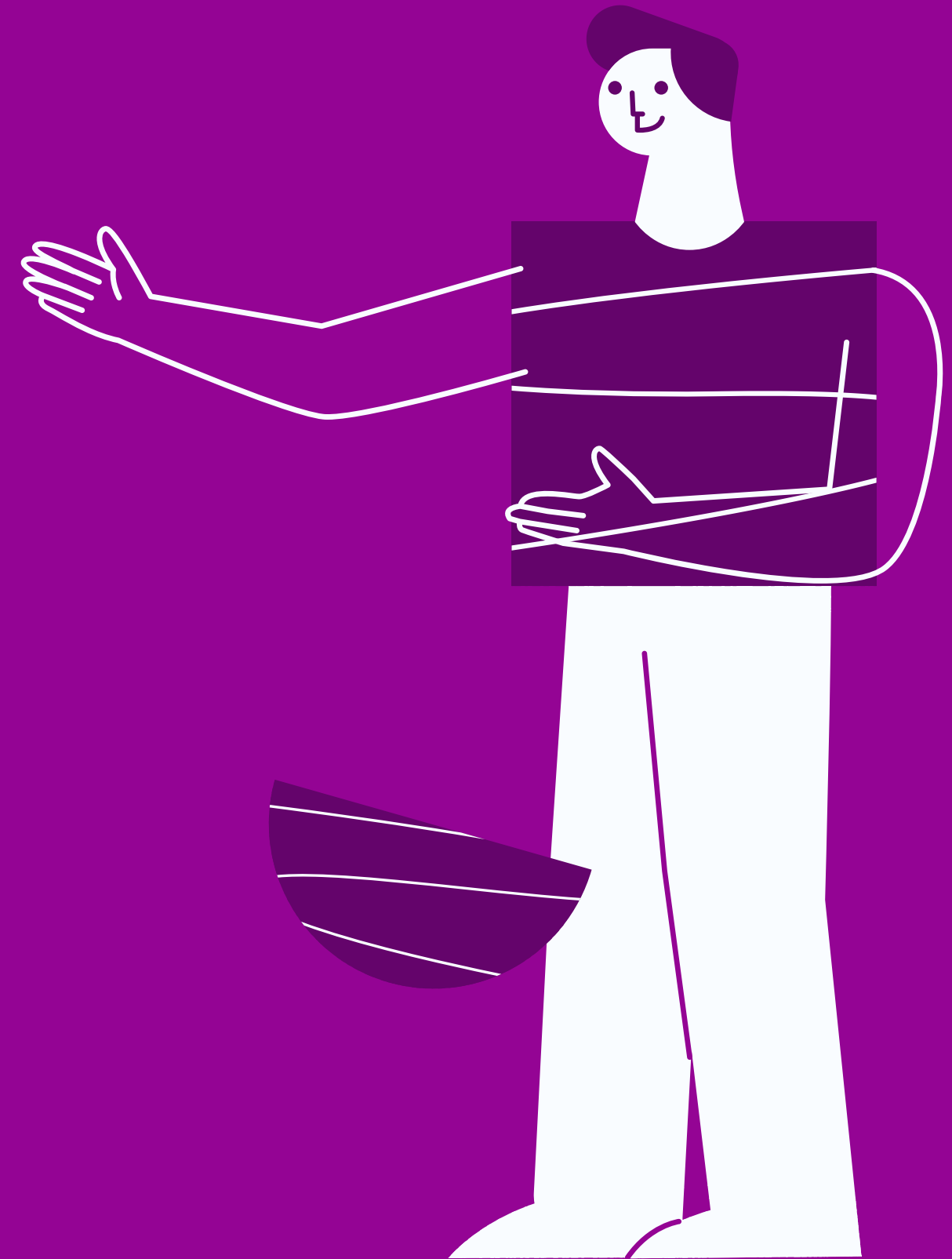
VulcanicaMente has partnered with the local organization [Ciclofficina Popolare Knos](#) to assist volunteers in repairing and preparing a bike for their personal use throughout the project duration. While volunteers wait on the completion of their bike, a temporary rental one will be provided.

Occasional travel to and from our second office in San Cesario di Lecce will be covered by the project (up to 20€). Volunteers, however, are encouraged to use their bikes and enjoy the natural beauty of the surrounding countryside during the short bike ride to San Cesario.

How much do you want to evolve?

Let's Grow Together!

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Skills Development



DIGITAL

Volunteers will complete tasks that build a variety of digital skills including: graphic design, web publishing, website maintenance, social media content creation and promotion, photography, video editing and more.

SOCIAL

Through local activities, volunteers will improve their social skills: community development, public speaking, leading workshops/trainings, intercultural connections, language learning and teaching, intergenerational learning, non-formal education methodology and more.

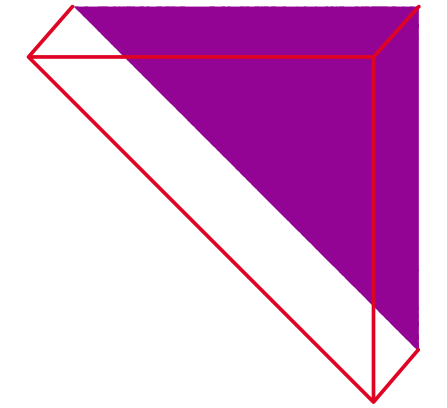
MANAGEMENT

As members of the VulcanicaMente team, volunteers can learn new management skills: event organization and management, and NGO management (budgeting, accounting, project development, marketing, participant selections/interviews).

COMMUNICATIONS

Volunteers will be responsible for a variety of written content including: all content for dedicated volunteer blog following professional editorial methods, newsletters, project info packs, digital posters, completion of business writing course and CV prep.

Our Values



ESC volunteers become team members of VulcanicaMente during their period in Lecce. As such, they will represent the organization and its values in the office and the local community. Volunteers will sign agreements acknowledging that they understand the rules and consequences of unacceptable behavior, including the possible termination of their volunteering experience if they are broken.

01 Kindness & Respect

VulcanicaMente strives to create an environment of kindness and respect. There is zero tolerance for discrimination, aggressive or violent behavior, harassment, bullying, or any other kind of behavior which may make staff or other volunteers feel abused, excluded and/or disrespected. Volunteers will sign an agreement upon the project start, certifying their commitment to upholding these values.

02 Responsibility

The volunteering experience is a wonderful opportunity for participants to grow both professionally and as human beings. All volunteers will be expected to work responsibly, showing up on time to work and events, and ready to take on new tasks. VulcanicaMente is proud to work with young adults who take responsibility for their actions, are reliable, and excited to learn new things and take on diverse challenges.

03 Dedication

Volunteers will be selected primarily on their demonstrated motivation both in the application and during interviews. VulcanicaMente is a small and hardworking organization. Volunteers will be welcomed as respected and valued members during their time in Lecce with us. As such, they will need to show initiative and leadership, as well as work toward improving at all times.



Ready to apply?

Let's Build the Future!

Application

How do I apply?

Fill out the application form and attach your CV. The deadline is September 6, 2021: <https://cutt.ly/1Qt1d1>

Who are the supporting organizations?

Estonia: Youth for Society - tairi@nyh.ee

Germany: Natur Kultur - irma.franz@naturkultur.eu

Spain: Viaje a la Sostenibilidad - movilidad@viajealasostenibilidad.org

Turkey: Türkiye Avrupa Vakfı - mobility@turkiyeavrupavakfi.org

What should I include in the application?

Please answer all questions to the best of your abilities. We encourage you to be creative and think outside the box. Share any information which paints an entire picture of who you are as an individual, any obstacles you face, hidden talents, fears, proudest moments, what you expect from the project, how you will contribute, etc.



What's Next?

All applications will be carefully reviewed by the sending organizations and VulcanicaMente's staff. The project's managers will then select potential candidates and invite them for a 45-minute follow-up Zoom interview. The interviews will allow us to further gauge your motivation and fit for the project.

DEADLINE TO APPLY:
September 6, 2021

APPLY HERE:
<https://cutt.ly/1Qt1Id1>





Contact Us!

VulcanicaMente.it

VulcanicaMenteLecce.org

Project Managers

Jacopo Sgrò: vulcanicamente.project@gmail.com

Sandra Pérez: sandraperez.eu@gmail.com

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