



INFORMATION REGARDING VOLUNTARY WORK AT THE “ASILO VALDESE IN LUSERNA SAN GIOVANNI FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE”



The Asilo Valdese, a non-profit organization belonging to the valdesian evangelical church, was established more than 100 years ago to assist aged persons.

It has 80 places for non self-sufficient persons and 20 places for persons which are self-sufficient. There is also a day room available for encounters of local residents of Luserna San Giovanni as well as neighboring villages.

Asilo valdese is staffed with doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, animators, and personal assistants, as well as kitchen, cleaning, maintenance and administrative personnel. Many local, as well as some foreign volunteers assist the asilo for simple everyday services.

Volunteers are offered a comfortable accomodation located in the Asilo. The flat has two bedrooms (one single and one double), a bathroom, a dining room with a tv and stereo. There is also a kitchen where it is possible to prepare breakfast and small snacks. Lunch and dinner are available at the Asilo. A washing machine is also available for laundering personal clothes, the bed sheets are washed by the Asilo institute during their stay. The Asilo guarantees room and board (7 days per week) as well as laundry services and cleaning products for the flat as well as personal.



Asilo Valdese is situated in the center of the village of Luserna San Giovanni, with 8,000 inhabitants.



Luserna San Giovanni, is situated in northern Italy about 50 km away from Turin (and 17 km from Pinerolo) in the region of Piedmont. It is located in the Pellice valley, which neighbors the French border. The entire valley consists of 9 communities including 25,000 inhabitants. Pellice valley, together with other two valleys (Val Germanasca and Val Chisone) are known as the "waldensian" valleys and since the middle ages they have been the center of the waldensian movement which gave birth to the protestant religion in the Italian peninsula.

This important fact has contributed to increase tourism in the area as well as developing a social/cultural condition for facilitating volunteers work in the Waldensian organization.



Volunteer service is for five days per week (normally from Monday till Friday). During the normal working hours the volunteers provide supporting service for "animation", "physiotherapy", "daily center" or according to a program of activity to be decided with the responsible service staff. The volunteer will help in different kind of workshop, as gardening, painting, cooking, reading books.

The volunteer will be asked also to implement the relationship with the local communities, by helping in the organization of public events, and to update pages of the placement in the social networks. The volunteer will be actively involved in the weekly planning of the job, and according to his/her own personal interest and skills he/she will have the opportunities to propose her/his own activities.

The volunteer will be part of a group of volunteers from the Italian national civil Service, usually two of them, and from other international program, one volunteer from Germany and one from Hungary.

The volunteers will be offered from the coordinating organization of the project, Diaconia Valdese, a training cycle including the on-arrival training, a mid-term seminar and an evaluation seminar. During this seminar he/she will have the possibility to meet all the volunteers hosted by Diaconia Valdese. In fact Diaconia Valdese has several project of international volunteering, lot of them in the villages Luserna San Giovanni and in the neighbor village Torre Pellice. All the volunteers together (around 15 between German, French, Hungarian, etc.) will attend an Italian course offered by Diaconia Valdese.



Furthermore, as foreseen from ESC project, the volunteer will attend the seminar organized from the Italian National Agency.

The Volunteering Office of the Diaconia Valdese is located in Luserna San Giovanni: the volunteer will have the chance to have a direct contact with the central office, although it is always recommend to first have contact and relationship with the responsible in the placement, the tutor and the mentor.

The volunteer is a young person between 18 and 30 years old. The pocket money will be of 150/155 euro a month (5,00euro

a day). The travel will be reimbursed up to a maximum of 275 euro. The volunteer is expected to come on the beginning of September to start with the on-arrival seminar organized by Diaconia Valdese. The ESC will last 11 months. Some variations in the starting/ending dates are possible due to the Covid-19 situation.