

Voluntary Service at our organisation starting this August or (at the latest) September/October 2020

We are still looking for 1 motivated volunteer for Voluntary Service (european solidarity corps)

in Witzenhausen/Germany, staying here for around half a year. If you know someone

who is looking for an experience in the field of community gardening, self-organised cultural, political and ecological house-project in the centre of a small but special (eco and international) town in Germany- **just share the information, contact us (info aettt ttwizenhausen.de).**

Volunteers may have interest or experience in the field of community gardening, self-organisation and cultural, political, ecological activism in the centre of a small but special (eco and international) town in Germany. The volunteers can learn to design and develop projects (related to climate change and communitybuilding), work with media and more.

Keyfacts: 08/2020 to begin/mid 2021 (or from September/October 2020 on)

150€ pocket money per month, up to 275€ for travel expenses, food and accomodation for free, workingtime min. 30h per week (-holidays), you must be under 30 years old (https://europa.eu/youth/volunteering/organisation/50833_en , info aettt ttwizenhausen.de , phone 055426170347)

Here is a short description:

Transition Town Witzenhausen is an initiative founded in 2009, and at the same time a major project to transform the town of Witzenhausen in a sustainable, post-fossil fuel future as part of the worldwide Transition Town movement. Witzenhausen is a very special small town in northern Hesse with a Faculty of Ecological Agricultural Sciences, a tradition of fruit-growing (especially cherries) that attracts a variety of alternative actors and initiatives.

In this setting, we initiate different actions and sub-projects:

A self organised Transition House-project in the centre of the town is used all year as a meeting point, office, workshop etc. Volunteers are also expected to help in the daily running of the Transition Haus. Again, all of the groups who support us in the community gardens can be seen in the house, along with activists for social and environmental change and seminars on related topics.

We are also looking forward to introducing volunteers to our shop-for-free, where a group of 20 dedicated volunteers (some retired ladies from the small Russian community here, some university students, senior citizens and parents with young children) coordinate a shop throughout the week, where a wide range of good quality

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donated goods can be obtained for free or a voluntarian small donation. There are plans to establish new repairing projects making use of the large quantities of extra stuff that is donated to our "gift" shop.

Participants can work with mechanics in Radhaus, Witzenhausen's self-service bicycle repair institution. Transition Town Witzenhausen is a founding member of this initiative, along with the local Diakonie. The main customers are refugees who can obtain servicable bikes, or support with repairs for free or for a donation. Students are also often here.

Volunteers will support us in our two community gardens here. The two gardens are part of our longterm participatory project UnvergEssbar that creates beautiful, diverse and edible landscapes, increases biodiversity in and around Witzenhausen and helps that people can supply themselves almost all year with regional and healthy fruit, berries and vegetables regardless of his / her social and financial circumstances. In the gardens we have any number from 2 - 15 volunteers helping us out each week. It is an open invitation for townspeople to come and go as they please.

Our Organisation, over the years, helped diverse people: refugees, people with disabilities and mental health issues, children, toddlers, troubled teenagers, retired people and students from the university.

The volunteers can grow edible plants, harvested in, maintain, process the harvest and collect seeds at different (public) places in Witzenhausen. The volunteers can learn to design and develop projects (related to climate change and communitybuilding), work with media and more. The volunteers can learn how group decisions can be made and how networking works in a small town. The volunteers can participate in our campaignwork and visit events and meetings in the town that are relevant for the political and ecological decision making of the local actors.

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