



European Voluntary Service (EVS) VACANCY 2023

Läbesschuel - Schloss Glarisegg, Switzerland

1 volunteer for 8 months (from January to August 2023)

Use your enthusiasm for non-formal education in the School of Life and live in Schloss Glarisegg Ecovillage, Switzerland!

INTRO

This long-term EVS project was designed for 1 enthusiastic & motivated young person age 18-30 who are interested in **non-formal alternative education** and **sustainable living**, and who want to gain experience and participate in a innovative educational space full of activities such as: Non-formal education, forest school, communications as well as community-building, self-development and work in intercultural teams. During your months of stay you will get to know the life of a Swiss community and seminar center, Schloss Glarisegg and the wonderful educational methods of Läbesschuel.

WHAT IS THE EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE (EVS)?

Young people who do European Voluntary Service live in another country for a period and work there, individually or in groups, in a non-profit-making project of benefit to the public. In this way, they gain valuable experience abroad and can further their personal development on many levels. The receiving organisations are given active support. Both sides benefit from the intercultural exchange.

The possible fields of activity for an EVS are very varied: cultural, social and health sphere, child, youth and community work, environmental protection, etc. The tasks of the volunteers should reflect their interests and their profile as far as possible. Working hours are between 30 and 38 hours a week. Voluntary service must not, under any circumstances, replace a paid job. An EVS is not a traineeship. Rather, its purpose is to help young adults to develop and flourish. The EVS is open to everyone and no professional or vocational knowledge or particular training are required.

During the EVS, the volunteers take part in Support Seminars organised by [Movetia](#). The purpose of these is to reflect on the experiences and to support the volunteers in their learning process. You can find more information about the EVS in Switzerland [here](#).

WHO IS IT FOR

Young people aged between 17 and 30 can take part provided they are resident in one of the participating countries. In general, each person can take part in an EVS only once. However, in the case of short EVS stints, it may be possible to take part again.

ABOUT Läbesschuel / School of Life:

The **Läbesschuel / School of life** is a project within the intentional community of Schloss Glarisegg. The Läbesschuel started in August 2016 with 15 children, in 2019 we had 37 children registered. There is a Forest School for children from 4 up to 5 years old, connecting with 1st to 9th class (from 6 until 16 years old).

Our wish is to welcome you as EVS volunteers in our project and to open the door to different cultures, both for the learning experience of the children but also for the team.

Our work is mostly non-formal education and based on self-reflection, so expect to be welcomed into a different culture all together.

All the activities take place at Schloss Glarisegg community. There are different places within the premises.

- There can be work outside (forest, beach, neighbour farm or garden)
- In 'Montessori' room
- The main school building (kitchen, a workshop, a library, a technic room and a main room)

ACTIVITIES

Main activity within the EVS is to support **accompanying the children** in their learning journey. You will be able to participate in all the different classes if you wish, and you can choose which age group to work profoundly with.

Like the staff members of our small team, volunteers are expected to pitch in with a variety of tasks as they arise, whether it's logistics or administration and other tasks (e.g. cleaning, cooking). Supervisors will help the volunteers define and work towards their personal development objectives for their stay.

The smallest children are mostly spending their time in the forest. One day a week, the children go to Mammern (neighbouring village) by bicycle to do sports in the gym of the local school.

The team of the school will help you to discover your competencies and strengths, your project goals and visions, if you wish so. As we use alternative methods of teaching, you will learn a lot about non-formal education, for example:

- Working with emotions and the body.
- Technical tools from different pedagogies (inspired by Montessori, Freinet, Waldorf, André Stern, Gerald Hüther)

- the field of teamwork, relationships and social and emotional topics through daily and weekly check-ins
- During the time when the children are not in school, you'll be able to work on your own project, developing your own personal tools

Speaking the German language is a general requirement as you will be working with Swiss and German children.

What the program offers:

- Accommodation and all meals covered with pocket money
- Erasmus+ Program provides health insurance and travel expenses, plus training seminars at arrival and mid-term
- Weekly German lessons (optional)
- Pocket money
- Continuous mentoring and support since arrival and throughout all the stay
- Final certification about the work done and competences acquired
- The practical and logistic matters will be handled by your sending organisation. SCI Switzerland will organize all administrative matters like insurance and visa.

ACCOMODATION & COMMUNITY LIFE:

The living conditions in Schloss Glarisegg will be simple even though special - living in a castle in the country side. You may expect shared housing and common facilities, natural rural environment and diverse social activities together with the group of volunteers. You will have your own room as a private space; however you will meet, cook together and share the same flat with other volunteers.

Upon arrival, there will be a volunteer coordinator offering you a tour of the community, a deeper understanding of our culture and you will be assigned a mentor. This mentor is your main contact point and bridge, supporting you on your journey in volunteering, community life and topics that you wish to share. The mentor together with the volunteer coordinator can support you with your emotional or practical needs regarding the community.

You are requested to attend the a weekly volunteer community circle and check-in in about your experience, together with the other volunteers from the Garden and the Schloss Glarisegg Seminar Center.

There are weekly circles the community attends to, and a general friendly, loving atmosphere is present here. It is casual that people get to know each other, are polite and keep in contact when they meet, share openly about their inner world and are generally communicative and helpful. Your mentor will organise a get-together with the community so you can get a chance to connect to this beautiful space.

What to Bring:

- Open-mindedness!
- Biodegradable soap and toothpaste
- Laptop or tablet
- Clothes for all weather
- Small flash light (you might need it in the night)
- Some cash or money on bank card if you are going to the town
- Thing you want to share from your country to the celebration times

LOCATION

The Ecovillage - Community that will host the volunteers is [Schloss Glarisegg](#), a seminar center and living community of 50 adults and 12 children.

Schloss Glarisegg is an intentional community settled in between an amazing lake and a beautiful forest. Besides the school, Schloss Glarisegg is hosting an active and vibrant seminar centre with weekly workshops and seminar happening on site. More about intentional communities here: <https://gen-europe.org>

There are several close towns around (eg. Stein am Rhein, Winterthur, Konstanz), beautiful adventure trips and activities to do in your free time. As well, the community offers open circles of yoga, celebration or games in which you can take part of.

TRAVELLING TO GLARISEGG

Adress: Schloss Glarisegg, Steckborn 8266

Closest Swiss town - Frauenfeld, Winterthur

Closest German town – Konstanz

Check it on google maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/MJRUoXwuhjTSXb3Z8>

TICKETS REIMBURSEMENT

The travel expenses will be covered from the project. The more money we all save on travelling, the more we will have for food or other activities, as the project budget is limited and quite tight. Please try to find as cheap way of travelling as possible.

In order to get reimbursement for the travelling, please **save the receipts or original tickets**. Only if we have your receipts and originals we can reimburse the cost, as we need to show a proof of your travelling to the funder. Please try to buy all tickets yourself and they will be reimbursed the first week after your arrival. **Absolut maximum cost which can be reimbursed (both ways): 400 CHF.**

HOW TO APPLY

If you feel the impulse, feel free to write to evs@scich.org if you are interested in becoming our new Erasmus+ volunteer. Please note that you can only apply if you are between **18-30 years old** and if you have **not volunteered through the Erasmus+ before**.

Send your application via email to your [Sending Organisation](#) with the subject "**EVS L bensschuel 2023**", and include all the following documents in English or German:

- 1) CV (Curriculum Vitae)
- 2) Motivation letter for the project

Deadline for the application: as fast as possible

The selection will be done after interviews with the candidates.

Thank you for reading! Looking forward to meeting you! See you in Glarisegg!

Relevant websites

Global Ecovillage Network: www.gen.ecovillage.org

Global Ecovillage Network of Europe: www.gen-europe.org

Schloss Glarisegg: <https://schloss-glarisegg.ch/>