



Learning during volunteering and follow-up

Grundtvig SVP: „New Horizons for Active Seniors“

Participating organizations:

- HESTIA – National Volunteer Centre, CZ
- Gemeinsam Leben und Lernen in Europa, GE
- First exchange: May-June 2011, 7 German volunteers came to Prague /3 Czech volunteers came to Passau
- Special type of participating volunteers: mostly highly motivated professionals, long experience in volunteering/ social sector, e.g., supervisor, psychiatrist, artist



Learned knowledge and skills: COMPLEX SYSTEM

1. Facts and figures: how many volunteers, laws, social system, health care system
2. Reality: meeting staff/clients during every day work/life
3. Intercultural: different mentalities – planning, management
4. Human dimension-relationships: group dynamic – internal/external, development of the relationship-friendship

In between fighting prejudices...



Sharing volunteer's knowledge and skills

- In contact with the staff of hosting organizations and other visited organizations
- During the organized discussions with clients, visitors...
- Through arranged F2F meetings with professionals, who are interested
- By meeting with ordinary people on the streets/pubs
- From each other

How can the learning dimension of adult volunteering best to be strengthened?

1. Promoting the learning dimension of volunteering

Difficult situation in CZ – volunteering has negative connotation from previous communist times

Favorable global situation for promoting LLL:

- knowledge society, quickly changing labor market, persisting demand to be flexible for the whole life
- Well being, active ageing

2. Recognition and formal validation of the acquired skills and knowledge



Tip for other model of SVP:

Language lessons can be added to the voluntary service – approximately 2 hours daily

Thanks for your attention.

Hana Kušková

tel.: 224 872 076

mobil: 724 334 407

e-mail: hana.kuskova@hest.cz

www.hest.cz

www.dobrovolnik.cz