



Alternative Therapeutic
Program for Addicted Individuals
www.argothes.gr

‘ARGO’ INFOPACK



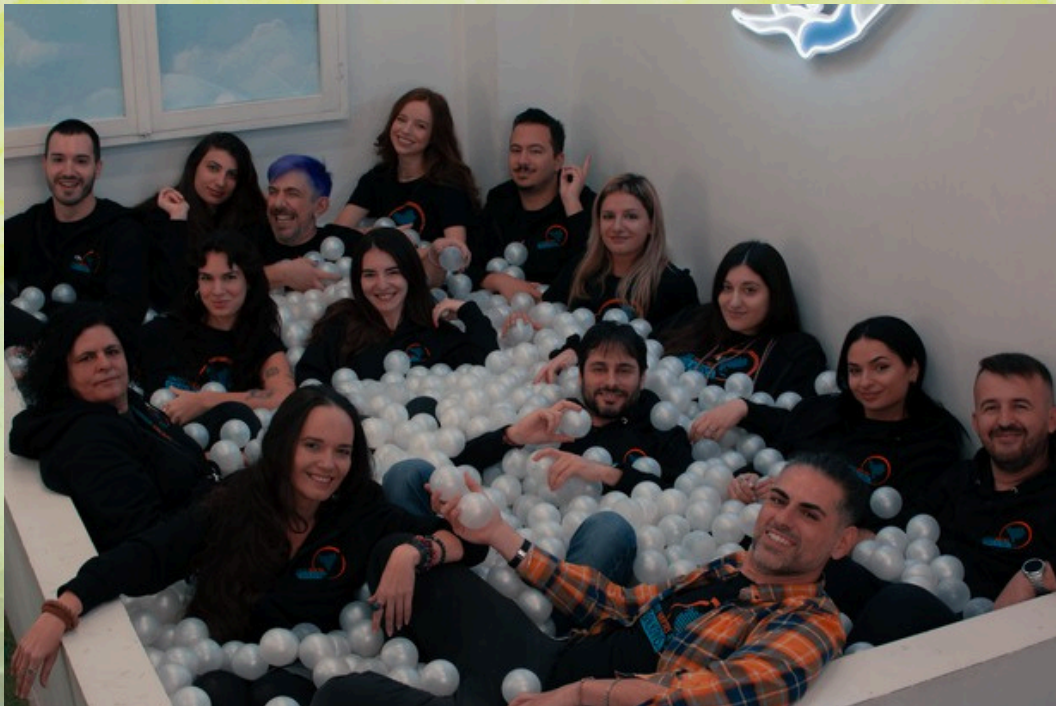
**EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS**



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UNITED SOCIETIES OF BALKANS



United Societies of Balkans (U.S.B.) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization based in Thessaloniki, Greece, working in the field of youth mobility, participation and promoting youth awareness of social issues. It was founded in 2008 by the initiative of a group of active young people who wanted to address the social issues which affect the youngsters in the Balkans and Eastern Europe., so it needs to be flexible, meaningful, and consistent enough for future issues.

Objectives

The goal of the organisation is the promotion of youth mobility, youth involvement and participation, voluntarism and human rights. We make it through:

- Promoting the values of non formal learning, voluntarism, active citizenship and democracy for the creation of a better future for the European youth;

- Involving minorities and immigrants into youth activities; Building
- healthy cooperation bridges between countries in the area of the Balkans and Eastern Europe with the rest of Europe;
- Using New Media and Citizens' Journalism methodologies to encourage youth expression, to raise awareness of Human Rights and to promote intercultural dialogue;
- Utilizing arts as a tool for the cultivation and expression of youth;
- Breaking down prejudices and stereotypes among the European countries and amongst youth.

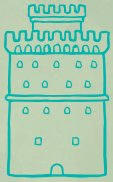
In order to make more effective all our actions, USB is also member of several networks, such as Anna Lindh Foundation, Thess Diktio, Youth for Exchange and Understanding.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Volunteers will support the organisation ARGO and its actions within the premises of the Psychiatric Hospital of Thessaloniki in activities for the inclusion of previous drug addicts and people dealing with mental health issues through organic farming.

This reintegration program started to be operative in 2000. Its main objectives are to promote their mental health, to transmit skills about environment caring and to establish and develop the identity of the patients and people who recover from addictions as workers.

Volunteers will support ARGO's organic farming project, in which previous and current members of the therapeutic program are employed for their journey towards recovery from drug addiction. Additionally, they will contribute to maintaining green spaces on the premises and organizing events and workshops aimed at promoting social inclusion among the target groups, as well as promote adoption of healthy customs.



THESSALONIKI

Thessaloniki is the second biggest city in Greece, and it is located in the North- East part of the country. It is a coastal city full of life, with a lots of youngsters and students. In 2014 it has been the European Youth Capital. It is also a city with a long history and tradition. It has always been a crossroad between the West and the East and a trading harbour for many Balkan countries. It embraces many immigrants and cultural groups from many areas of the wider region of the Balkans, which renders it a colourful mosaic of cultures and trends. More information is available on the website of the municipality: www.thessalonikicity.gr





VOLUNTEERS' PROFILE

The selection of the participants is mostly based on their motivation and personal interest in the topics of the project. Our ideal volunteer candidate is an open minded person willing to learn, to improve her/himself and to help other people. It is important to be ready to work in a team and to share the daily life with people from different backgrounds.

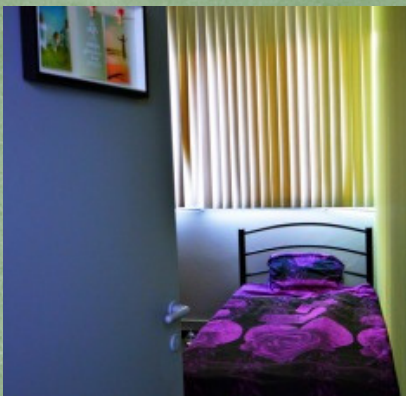
Some experience with similar target groups (mental health patients, drug addicts, etc) will be a pro. Having a background or knowledge in agriculture would be a valuable asset. Volunteers need to also be ready to engage in some more “physical” tasks as part of the activities, as they would have to work in an organic farm.

Although it is not required to have a high level of English, the volunteers need to have at least a basic knowledge of the language for their everyday communication with international and local people but also for their safety.



ACCOMMODATION

Volunteers are going to be accommodated in a fully equipped building located in the city centre (Anagnostara, 13) near the main bus and train station of the city. It is an autonomous 5 floored building of 150 m2 per floor and a terrace on the 6th floor. There are two living rooms and a big kitchen, showers in the common floors and toilets in every floor. In the building there are also accommodated the volunteers who participate in other projects in the city coordinated by our organisation. Each volunteer will share their room with one or three more people (we have double and big quadruple rooms). In the building are living up to 35 volunteers. More info about the rules are in the residence statute. There are also single rooms for people with special needs or for interns. Wireless internet is available in the whole building. The House Manager coordinate the cleanings and the organisation of the spaces in the house and work every morning in the common spaces from Monday to Friday.





FOOD POLICY

We provide our volunteers with three meals per day through a catering service that prepares the food according to their preferences and allergies (also if they are vegan or vegetarian). Mamma's tapper (<http://www.catering.gr/>) is the local catering company that provides food to our volunteers. In this way the volunteers will have the possibility to get in contact with the Greek cuisine and culture, but at the same time on Saturdays and Sundays they can cook and enjoy their own food. In the weekly days the House Tender will prepare the breakfast. The kitchen is always available for the volunteers if they want to cook something more or add ingredients to their food.



DAILY WORK

Working program will be 6-7 hours per day, from Monday to Friday. The organisation can ask them to work more hours or during the weekends if needed, for a maximum of **35 hours per week**. In that case, they will receive extra free days to use later on. They will have free days during Greek national holidays too.



INSURANCE AND HEALTH

The participants will have a private insurance by HENNER, which covers needs for private doctor visits if needed, for the whole duration of their project and even after that (for a few months). The registration to the insurance is made by the organisation.

A network of doctors and hospitals is already available in order to meet all their needs, even the most urgent. The Mentor is responsible for all the issues connected with health and insurance. Volunteers are also kindly requested to bring their European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) with them if free of charge.

Henner

Here to care



YOUTHPASS

Youthpass is the official recognition tool for non-formal & informal learning in youth projects. Through it participants of Erasmus+ projects can describe what they have done and show what they have learnt. Volunteers have to keep a diary of their activities and learning in order to fulfill it properly at the end of their project. The Mentor is the responsible for the Youthpass and will support the volunteers for it.

OUR TEAM



President

Supervise the project and support the team

Aris



ESC Manager

General coordination, practical arrangements

Christian



ESC Manager

General coordination, practical arrangements

Christos



Coordinator

Daily support
Volunteers' team leading

Stelios



House tender

House cleaning, all house issues, meals.

Dionisis



Mentor

Personal development,
Personal project
Health and social issues, Youthpass

Ourania



Accountant

Ticket reimbursement
Financial issues

Christina



Useful links



European Youth Portal : https://europa.eu/youth/solidarity_en

Project website: www.balkanhotspot.org

Thessaloniki's info: www.thessalonikicity.gr

Website: www.usbngo.gr

Email: volunteer@usbngo.gr

Facebook: facebook.com/usbngo/

Twitter: twitter.com/usbngo

Instagram: [usbngo](https://www.instagram.com/usbngo)

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