



Caritas  
Archidiecezji Gdańskiej

# DEAR VOLUNTEER FOR THE EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS (ESC) IN GDANSK, POLAND!



We are very happy that you are interested in ESC program and this is one of the most challenging moment when you decided to change your life and look for new experience, knowledge, country, culture, traditions, language and people, This info-kit should help you to know better about Caritas Archdiocese Gdansk and the work we do, Please take few minutes of your time to read it!



**THE ESC ACCREDITATION NUMBER - 2018-1-PL01-ESC52-061336**

**CARITAS DATES - 15.01.2021 – 15.31.2021**





# WHO WE ARE?

**CARITAS ARCHDIOCESE GDANSK** (CAG) is a church charity organization established on 25 April 1990. The organization brings help to every single person in need regardless worldview, religion, gender, age or health status. Charitable and humanitarian activities of the organization are dedicated to the spiritual and material needs of people.

Main groups of people who are supported by CAG:

- **Youth and children (from communities at risk of social exclusion),**
- **Elderly people,**
- **People with disabilities (including mental disabilities), - poor and homeless people,**
- **Center for chronically ill people where they get daily care, professional medical support and rehabilitation assistance,**
- **Center of single mothers, who have difficult situation, they do not have financial resources or any support from their families**

Work and various activities of CAG is supported by employees, volunteers, church members, school leaders.

Caritas Archdiocese Gdansk (CAG) is very experienced organization in national and international projects connected with volunteering, since 2005 Caritas Archdiocese Gdansk has hosted more than 170 volunteer from various countries: Germany, Italy, Turkey, Portugal, Ukraine, Georgia, Spain, Belarus, France, Armenia, Finland and etc.

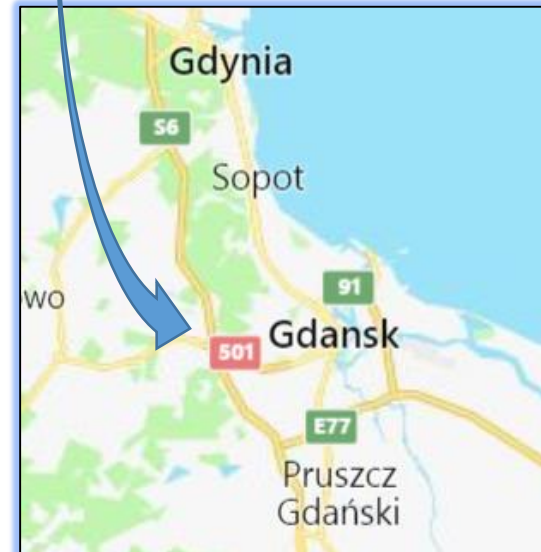




# WHERE WE ARE?

The Tri-city is made up of three cities - Gdańsk, Sopot and Gdynia each proudly independent, each with its own city government, and, most importantly, each with its own unique history.

- **GDANSK** → like a ministate all to itself, Gdańsk has a unique feel that sets it apart from other cities in Poland. Centuries of maritime ebb and flow as a major Baltic port; streets of distinctively un-Polish architecture influenced by a united nations of wealthy merchants who shaped the city's past; the toing and froing of Danzig/Gdańsk between Teutonic Prussia and Slavic Poland; and the destruction wrought by WWII have all bequeathed a special atmosphere that makes Gdańsk an increasingly popular destination.
- **SOPOT** → The smallest of the Trójmiasto (Tri-Cities), the Baltic Sea spa town of Sopot is smack between Gdansk and Gdynia, just a few miles from each. A retreat for the rich and royal for centuries, Sopot's exclusive air remained even through the Communist era, and the tony town has undergone a building boom in recent years. Boasting beautiful beaches and ritzy resorts, Sopot is also known for its Wooden Pier (the longest in Europe), the lovely mid-woods Forest Opera and lively Monte Cassino Street.
- **GDYNIA** → Gdynia is one of the youngest Polish cities, which is reflected in its appearance and atmosphere. Its bustling centre and harbour are visited mainly in the summer, due to its maritime location and the long sandy beaches. Throughout the entire year, it plays the role of one of Poland's major seaports and a major shipbuilding area. Apart from the shipyard, Gdynia is a thriving centre of business, boasting the status of the most prosperous Polish city.



# WHO ARE OUR TARGETS?

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTERS (GDAŃSK, SOPOT)

### Youth in age 5 -18 year old

- From difficult backgrounds, were families having problems with alcohol, drugs addiction, poverty, prison, unemployment, violence, illiteracy, often incapacity of life, being in families where are many children in a small flats where is no conditions to learn, Sleep, have fun etc.
- Having problems in learning, in general not speaking in English, having emotional problems, problems with communication, often hyperactive, sometimes aggressive.

Above description might seem to be scary but they are good children who need attention, positive attention not the one which they often have at school. There, they are perceived as people without any chances to live in a "good way". However our experience show that those children and youth are very active, they know what is team. They are willing to act, play together etc. We see the results of the therapy, of our work if only those children get the chance, if you believe in them they are able to act and create something good. They just need attention of other person, good warm words.

## Club of Seniors Elderly in age from 65 year old

This is a day center for elderly people, a space where they are able to spend pleasant time together, play games, do handmade things, get new information, do physical exercises in order to keep them active.

## Centers for People with disabilities

Therapy centers for people with disabilities where they get educational, social and psychological support. Art is a main form of therapy and rehabilitation for the disabled, therapy, spiritual, intellectual and physical development is the main goal of the employees of the center.





# WHAT ARE OUR ACTIVITIES?

- To support the project/work Coordinator to plan, implement and evaluate programme events, seminars and other national/international events, provide input and support with creative ideas for strategic development of the centers.
- To take a lead role in implementing outdoor, cultural, educational activities,
- work as a member of the programme team, leading and developing activities for our beneficiaries.
- Take part in various activities of Caritas.
- To ensure that beneficiaries are provided with relevant educational, cultural programme information and practical help.
- Cooperate with project and work coordinator.
- To respond to programme correspondence from potential participants in a timely manner.
- To maintain / improve programme materials and equipment.
- To provide input to promotional material on programme events for the CAG website, newsletters and other publications providing research and marketing material for events and potential marketing opportunities; updating website & other social media.



# WORKING AND LIVING CONDITIONS

## WORKING CONDITIONS

- The centers will be provided to the volunteers all the materials which are necessary for activities.
- Also we have computers with internet access in our office and volunteers will have possibility to prepare the event in the work place, of course, for more comfortable use, we can advise to bring your own laptop.
- Your free time and days off depends on agreement and the season.
- We are asking the volunteers to take longer period of holiday especially during winter season, because our activities are limited because of snow and cold, but still, it is a matter of our agreement.
- In general, less rest and greater flexibility is expected from the volunteers during spring and summer and larger opportunities for the holidays and more rest are possible during the winter months.
- However, we always try to balance leisure time and activities by the rules of ESC program.

## LIVING CONDITIONS

- There are 6 ESC volunteers all together however they live in flats (for 3 person) .
- Each volunteer has got their own bedroom and shared kitchen, bathroom with other ESC volunteers. The flats are situated quite close to the means of transport.
- The volunteers get ticket for the transport to get from the flat to the workplace. Apart from pocket money, they get also money for food each month.