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Voluntary Work with Migrants

AWAS – Agency for the Welfare of Asylum Seekers

AWAS is the Agency for the Welfare of Asylum Seekers in Malta. The agency’s vision is to achieve high standards of professional and organizational development to excel in the delivery of services to refugees, persons enjoying international protection and asylum seekers. AWAS offers a variety of services to assist asylum seekers in Malta. These include managing accommodation facilities (seven ‘open centres’ for families, unaccompanied minors, single males adults and single females adults), helping persons identified as vulnerable, providing information programmes in the areas of employment, housing, health, welfare and education, and promoting the Government’s schemes related to resettlement and assisted voluntary returns.

Usually the main work of the volunteers will be to organise activities with the residents such as English lessons to adults, helping children with their homework, take part in activities which are already taking place in the centres by the NGOs, organise activities for both male and female adults (such as cooking sessions, sports etc).

www.awas.gov.mt/
Integra

Students, will be involved as volunteers in Integra’s Konnect Kulturi Drop In Centre, assisting the team of interns in providing the following to refugees and asylum seekers:

- non formal educational support to refugees in the form of informal classes based mostly on conversation through the use of games, reading books etc, or using more traditional methods depending on the clients
- Assistance with job seeking, CV writing, basic computer support etc..
- Offering psychosocial support

Currently the Drop In is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 2-7pm.

https://www.facebook.com/integrafoundation/
ADITUS

We are a human right NGO that monitors, acts, and reports on access to human rights in Malta. We work in the areas of migration/asylum, LGBTIQ, and access to justice through research, public awareness, and outreach activities.

Volunteers are required to research online and take care of data collation, assist with newsletters, organise events and activities, and assist with the website. Good spoken and written English are required, a computer is a necessity, and the student must have a belief in human rights values and principles. Necessary training will be provided.

https://aditus.org.mt/
Jesuit Refugee Service

The Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS), have an open centre at Balzan, and they will be holding a set of English classes at the centre.

Childminders are needed to look after the children, so the parents can attend the classes. Volunteers are asked to organise some activities for children while the classes are going on (some games, crafts etc). This would be for the children as babies will be asked to remain with the parents.

http://www.jrsmalta.org/
Migrant Woman Association Malta

Migrant Woman Association Malta is an autonomous, independent, voluntary non-profit making organization, having as its main objective the social & community advancement concerning migrant women in the Maltese Islands. MWAM is committed towards empowering migrant women to enable them to fully integrate within the society of the host country, in this case the Maltese Islands, and to realize their full potential.

As our work is growing, we need volunteers to get involved with us.

- We provide English lessons for migrant women to improve their English and communication skills
- This Cooking Project offers the opportunity for migrant women to show their cooking skills, cook and serve food to the public, in the framework of fundraising activities under the patronage of the Migrant Women Association Malta. At the same time, it will allow them to interact with the Maltese community and promote MWAM’s vision.
- Saha Project. Our project envisions the employment of the migrant women through a food truck named “Saha!” which would serve international, healthy ethnic dishes to the Maltese public. We will need all the necessary strengths to make it become real! This project is the culmination of activities by MWAM bringing together the cooking skills of the migrant women and the business opportunity for empowerment!
- EMPOWERMENT CIRCLES PROJECT. The main focus of the project is to offer a holistic package of women circles (workshops) that will provide a safe space for migrant women. Through the workshops, building intercultural dialogue among migrant women from different communities, raising awareness about the issues and problems that they face, learning from each other’s experiences as well as developing their confidence, communication and social skills, and employability, will be the main objectives.

http://migrantwomenmalta.org/
Hal Far Outreach

HFO is an non-profit organisation that aims to empower those who seek refuge across Malta, specifically in the Open Centers in Hal Far. Our mission is to build up a community center, where people can hang out, play soccer and music together, create and attend workshops, and thus bring new energy to a place that is quite isolated today.

Tasks For Volunteers

- Organize sports events
- Participate in socio-enviromental activities
- Teach or assist teachers in English language classes
- Take part in the music project
- Initiate and develop own ideas

Volunteers learn with HFO how to behave ethically when working with the vulnerable people. We organize different workshops and tranings over the year to provide personal development for our volunteers, and improve the services we provide to our recipients.

http://halfaroutreach.com/
Voluntary Work with Children & Youths

Qawra Community Services - Qawra Access Centre

Qawra Community Service is an initiative run by Appoġġ; the local National social welfare agency. In Qawra, where a number of social problem cases exist, Qawra Community Service run a home-work club for primary school children who have no help at home with their home-work. Volunteers are required to be with the young children and assist them with their home-work.

The current projects are;
- Homework club on Tuesdays between 16:00-17:00
- Dawra Durella Teens on Wednesday between 16:00-17:00
- Dawra Durella Junior on Friday between 16:00-17:00

The centre has also started two groups for children living in the area. Kindly note that no photos of the children can be taken, even if needed as proof. Photos of the premises and activities are permissible.
Eucharistic Youth Movement – St Aloysius College, Birkirkara/Balzan

Volunteers wishing to help school children in their human and spiritual formation are welcomed to join this movement present at the school. Volunteers will help Jesuits or teachers in facilitating short sessions, and then will join the students in playing games afterwards. The placement is carried out once a week, on Fridays (from 14:30-16:30; ages 10-15) at the Secondary School or on Thursdays (from 14:15-15:30; ages 7-10) at the Primary School.
Savio College, Dingli

The task for those who will enrol in this volunteering programme will be that of assisting the club (Savio AC) in training young youths (10-13 years) during school-breaks (12.20 - 13.25) at Savio College, Dingli.

The sessions will be carried out by one of the committee members present during the breaks, while the volunteer will be assisting in coaching and record keeping.

Applicants will be asked by members of the school and club administration for a brief, informal, interview. Not more than 4 candidates will be chosen. 2 is the target number. We believe this is an excellent opportunity for students having an interest in sports and keen to work with youths. Successful candidates will then be accountable to the Headmaster - who will take care of the log-book.

We are certain that such an experience, will not only help the candidate in pursuing a career in coaching and sports in the future, but will also serve as a space where s/he develops better some significant life skills.

This is a unique opportunity for those University Students who are interested in developing their coaching skills and maybe pursue a career in coaching and sports empowerment in the future.
Paulo Freire Institute, Żejtun

Students are needed to help first and foremost with homework caching, literacy for children. We can have individual sessions for older pupils who go to secondary schools, or even adults who wish to have a one-to-one tuition in Maltese or English. Students who wish to come can send us what is their expertise and/or skills that they can offer to help the children.

We are open to many things; formal or non-formal education.

https://pfi.jesuit.org.mt/
Young People’s Unit, Mount Carmel Hospital, Attard (YPU)

This unit caters for adolescents (18 years and under) with psychiatric, psychological, social, emotional, and behavioural problems. They come from all over the island and all have different problems. The aim is to help these adolescents to re-integrate into society and live as good a life as anybody else. We, as a multi-disciplinary team, do our best through different therapies and skills to attend to their various needs while helping them to work on their strengths.

Volunteers would be asked to help these youngsters with their Home Work, play group games, play ball and be creative so that they can engage these youngsters in craftwork or help them with some reading. Members of staff will always accompany volunteers.
Malta Girl Guide

We welcome young women of all backgrounds. We are flexible and volunteering can be arranged to fit around your busy life as a student. You can volunteer to help out with:

- Preparing and delivering the program for girls of your preferred age
  - Dolphins 4 – 7
  - Brownies 7-10
  - Guides 10 – 13
  - Rangers 13 – 16
  - Senior Rangers 16 +
- Communications Team – writing articles for our website, working on the monthly newsletter and/or creating promotional material.
- Advocacy Team - Preparing consultation documents on various issues as requested by various MPs, Government Entities or NGOs.
- Events – Be part of the planning team of a specific event or simply volunteering on the day of the event
- Program – Be part of the innovative team developing new badge curricula for girls of different ages

http://www.maltagirlguides.com/
SPYS - Salesian Pastoral Youth Service

With the two-fold aim of person building and community building, SPYS accompanies young people towards the discovery of authentic life values. Through an optimistic view of life in the light of the Gospel, it seeks to develop and implement a programme of holistic Christian formation which enables the young to grow in friendship with the Lord and peace with the self and encourages them to reach out in a ministry to others.

- Volunteers are requested to attend around 4 formation sessions and live-in, in preparation for the camp.
- Attend for fund-raisers and sessions to prepare activities for the camp during the months of April, May and June.
- Attend a 2 week summer camp living together as a community in Senglea.

No specific requirement or training is required, expect willingness to participate in the project and new ideas and willingness to interact with other volunteers in the same group and children or youth whom we meet during the project.
Victim Support Malta (for law students)

Victim Support requires legal interns who are either in their 3rd year of studies or above. At victim support we provide legal information sessions to individuals who experienced crime in order to help our clients feel empowered and reassured about their rights as victims and usually with the help of the legal intern the way forward is discussed for the client in order to help the client regain their dignity and humanity back.

Interested candidates should be interested in working in the area of human rights, and have a can do attitude. The candidates should be competent in Maltese and English. The candidate should also be compassionate and empathic towards the needs of our clients since they can be in specific vulnerable situations. Training will be provided by the organization.

http://victimsupport.org.mt/
Għabex Emergency Shelter

The aim of the Għabex Emergency Shelter is to provide an immediate safe environment to female victims of domestic violence and their children, who require immediate protection. The shelter programme is based on the belief that women and children have a right to protection from violence and abuse and that any woman, regardless of socio-economic background, status and age may be subjected to abuse. The service offers a setting conducive to self-healing to women and their children who suffer emotional, physical, sexual, and any other form of domestic violence.

Volunteers will be working:
With children - story telling; singing nursery rhymes and play with puppets
With older children - crafts, arts and support in homework,
With young persons/adults - support in the development of activities of daily living such as cooking and cleaning and organisation of activities inside the shelter.

Children and Persons with Disabilities

Aġenzija Sapport

Aġenzija Sapport facilitates voluntary work experiences with young people and adults with disability. Interested volunteers can join the Agency’s new service – Sharing Lives – to offer some of their time to support persons with disability within the community.

Sharing Lives is a service that focuses on doing outreach for volunteers who can befriend persons with disability. The befriending aspect of the service will help in initiating dialogue and collaboration between people with disability and mainstream society. It will give the opportunity for persons with disability to take part in events and activities to overcome social exclusion while developing meaningful relationships. Persons with disability benefiting from the Sharing Lives service are young people and adults, over 18 years, and are known service users of other Sapport services.

Volunteers are provided with the necessary support to ensure that the service is of high standard. The voluntary experience can be done throughout the year. Moreover, volunteers who commit for 30 hours or more will be offered a certificate for their work done with the Agency.

If you are interested in volunteering here, ask for an application.

https://sapport.gov.mt/
INSPIRE

Inspire is a non-profit organization which assists and supports persons with disabilities. Volunteering with Inspire could involve working directly with clients in one of our specialised programmes, such as **STEP** (specialised programme for children on the autism spectrum), **ADULTS** (employability skills training for persons with intellectual disabilities) or **STAR** (programme for young adults with severe neurological conditions). Interested persons may also assist in our Therapeutic Horse Riding sessions.

Alternatively, volunteers could assist in various areas such as our Fundraising department or Finance department.

[www.inspire.org.mt](http://www.inspire.org.mt)
Equal Partners Foundation, Msida

Equal Partners seeks to support people with disabilities and learning difficulties toward a more independent and meaningful life within an inclusive society, with the help of the Stepping Out Programme. Support is given according to the particular needs of each individual.

The Current Services offered by the Equal Partners Foundation are the following:

- Initial Consultation and Psychological Assessment
- Early Intervention
- Home Education
- Stepping Out Programme
- Tempo Libero
- Hocus and Lotus

Volunteers will be joining a group of youngsters and an educator once a week for 3 hours to assist youngsters in becoming more dependent and autonomous.

http://www.equalpartners.org.mt/
Elderly People

Government Residential Homes for Older People (Mtarfa Home)

Many older people in residential homes enjoy the company of younger generations, especially since some of them may feel lonely. Volunteering with older people residing in community residential homes could offer you the opportunity to bring a smile to a variety of persons and improve their quality of life.

Your role could vary from having a chat with the residents and listen to their stories, running some errands, helping older people in simple activities or helping in activities organized for the elderly. You could also read stories, help them to acquire skills in digital literacy, or help with some crafts. All activities must be discussed with the head of home, who will guide and support you accordingly.

Most of all volunteering with older persons could offer a wonderful learning experience, since older adults have a wealth of experience which they are often very willing to share.
Voluntary Work in Mental Health

Richmond Foundation

Richmond Foundation is a leading local NGO in the provision of community services for persons with mental health difficulties, and in the promotion of mental health and the prevention of mental illness.

Volunteers can assist in coordinating entertainment and social activities at Villa Chelsea, Birkirkara; and at Home Support Service when such activities take place; as well as helping in fund raising activities when these are being organised, and answering telephone calls from 16:00 till 19:00.

Kindly note that in order to work with Richmond, the student must be willing to give a minimum of 75 hours.

http://www.richmond.org.mt/home
Community

Emergency Fire and Rescue Unit (EFRU)

The Emergency Fire & Rescue Unit is a voluntary organisation that operates in the field of Civil Protection by providing emergency rescue services as a back up to the local forces, in cases of national catastrophes and major fires. It is managed by volunteers for volunteers.

In view of this, the Unit is committed to train its personnel through regular and consistent training in Firefighting, Cliff Rescue, High angle rescue, First Aid and Emergency Response, and Urban Search and Rescue, including Canine (K9) rescue. Training is held on a weekly basis on Saturdays between 2pm and 6pm. Further to this, the Unit organises rescue simulations in Malta for its volunteers and foreign volunteer rescuers and also gives the opportunity to its members to participate in rescue simulations abroad as well as take certified rescue courses abroad. This ensures that volunteer rescuers enrich their rescue knowledge with experience.

As part of its Community Assistance Programme (EFRU-CAP), the EFRU also provides its services (such as fire back up and ambulance back up) free of charge to other charitable institutions such as Puttinu, Hospice, Richmond and Istrina.

Ultimately, it is the aim of the Unit to organise and maintain the rescue preparedness of a tightly-knit team of men and women, coming from all walks of life, but who find together a common understanding in objectives, to be able to deploy immediately in time of emergencies.

The contribution of personnel undertaking professional study at the University, who may wish to join the EFRU as part of DegreePlus Programme, would strengthen further the multi-skilled EFRU team.

http://www.efru.org/
YMCA, Valletta

YMCA Head Office: YMCA Youth Empowerment Program, based on 5 different areas;

- **Education Area:** where volunteers assist in community based services, programs, conferences, and support in social work/care at our shelter for homeless people,
- **Outreach Area:** volunteers assist in community work where we provide donations to people in need and youth services,
- **Psychotherapy Area:** volunteers and mostly students support the community and our clients through psychotherapeutic services,
- **Research Area:** volunteers support YMCA in creating their own research and programs towards the benefit of young people
- **Sustainability Area:** where volunteers can help in fundraising and other activities.

'Dar Niki Cassar':

**Shelter for homeless people:** individuals, families, and young people enter a 6 month program of reintegration towards becoming independent and move back into society. Volunteers/Students work according to their experience and what they are ready to do. Of course if they want to help out because they want an experience and/or practice hours in working with the homeless residents, they are supported by our staff members and this can be offered under the YMCA Education Program especially if they are studying social work, social care, psychology, and any other humanitarian area. On the other hand volunteers are also able to create activities for the residents especially the young people and children living at the shelter.

**General:**

Voluntary work depends on the time each volunteer can offer. Usually other type of voluntary work might be attending fund raising events/activities and promotion of services. From time to time YMCA offers training activities and participation in various workshops also opportunities abroad to participate in YMCA Europe activities.

[https://www.facebook.com/ymcavalletta/](https://www.facebook.com/ymcavalletta/)
**Hospice**

**Fundraising:**
- Office work
- Planning events
- Helping out during events

Students are required to help us out with fundraising activities (administration tasks, planning events [calling volunteers/sponsors/organisations to participate in our events] and helping out during events for example selling tickets during events).

**Supporting the Care Team:**

- Office work
  - Day therapy unit – Patients attend regularly and have different activities, crafts and group exercises. Snacks are also provided.

[https://hospicemalta.org/](https://hospicemalta.org/)
St. Jean Antide Foundation

Volunteers are needed for the following roles;

**Mentors;** being a big brother/ big sister to a youth in difficulty

**Learning Support Tutors;** one-to-one support with a child who is a struggling learner from families supported by the Foundation’s Social Workers. Volunteer Tutors are provided with training and guidance from an expert literacy teacher.

Sessions every Friday from 4pm to 5.30pm

**Crowdfunding Volunteers;** a group of young volunteers is needed to help us set up a team to develop crowdfunding campaigns to raise funds for the core SJAF services.

**Handymen;** basic repairs and maintenance tasks.

Volunteering opportunities which fit our needs and your skills can be created.

For further details about opening hours and locations kindly ask for more information.

https://www.antidemalta.org/
VolServ Voluntary Services for Mater Dei Hospital and SAMOC

Minimum of 50 hours

The voluntary services provided aim to satisfy the needs identified by the hospital staff. These needs focus on any service that if provided, will enhance the quality of the hospital experience of the patients and their families. SOS Malta liaises with the hospital authorities who coordinate the logistics of the process in the hospital with regards to the (non-nursing and non-medical) services carried out by the volunteers (See various services below). Training and support is provided by SOS Malta to all volunteers prior to and during their voluntary service.

- Greeting and guiding service
- Outpatient clinics
- Tea and coffee service
- Telephone assistance
- Renal Unit
- Wards

http://www.sosmalta.org/voluntary-services-mater-dei
**Kellimni.com**

Kellimni.com’s online youth support service offers young people the opportunity to voice their concerns anonymously, to get support from professionally trained operators. Kellimni.com invites youths to contact an operator through SmartMessaging, email, or chat through the website to receive immediate real-time support.

Volunteers would be needed in administration, online and offline marketing and promotion, content-creation, proof-reading, and translation. After a volunteer finishes the Kellimni.com training, they can also contact clients.

AGARA

The name agara originates from the Amharic language, which is one of the main languages spoken in Ethiopia. Its meaning, walking together, reflects the vision of the voluntary foundation.

agara envisions a global community in which every individual is an equal partner in its development. It seeks to invest in relationships within communities and, above all, empower their individuals by coming together to cultivate a sense of growth, self-reliance, collaboration and continuity through supporting and establishing projects across the world. agara is driven by the belief that human rights are inalienable and fundamental to each and every individual’s inherent dignity, and aims to promote them through awareness-raising projects.

Who works at agara?

agara does not have any full-time workers but an ever-growing number of volunteers are helping in several ways and means. One of agara’s primary aims is to provide individuals with the opportunity to work in the voluntary sector, especially those persons who had never previously had the means or possibility to do so. Thus, agara seeks to propose creative alternatives which challenge the belief that there is only a limited or particular way that one may be involved in voluntary activities. It taps into the potential and specific capabilities of individuals, be it of the volunteers or of the people on the “receiving end.”

Agara currently focuses on 3 projects:

**PoléPolé** was launched during the first few months of 2016. PoléPolé aims to gather numerous projects which are similar in nature, but which are intended for different locations. All projects target to provide laptops to schools, rehabilitation centres, or any other similar entities which are already up and running, and whose intention is to continue functioning. In each circumstance, the laptops are set up in the form of a computer lab, which is made available for the use of the individuals present in the respective setup. The provided laptops may be used both by individuals as well as in groups – within a classroom format.
**Omáda**, a new concept team, focused on integration through sports. Omáda works primarily with refugees from all over the globe and provides an opportunity of sports to everyone through different activities, be it football, volleyball, basketball and other sports.

**Resonate**, a team that brings people together through music. Resonate focuses on creating jamming sessions where the public is invited to grab a musical instrument and join the fun during the jamming session. Resonate targets different audiences from children to adults, be it a musical enthusiast or not.

So being a volunteer with agara gives you the opportunity to join in one of these ventures. But, other than the projects, like any other voluntary organisation, agara has other teams that run in the background; Social Team, Fundraising Team, Logistics Team and Accounts Team.

Social Team, the team responsible for all team-building aspect of agara’s volunteers, past and present. The Social Team is also responsible of agara’s marketing, that is, it aims to keep agara’s official Facebook page, Instagram and website updated.

Fundraising Team, the team responsible for agara’s fundraising. Any voluntary organisation needs money to run, so this team comes up with the best and most creative fundraising ideas to keep the ball rolling.

Logistics Team is responsible the keep our premises liveable. They make sure to keep the premises’ maintenance up to date. They also create new design ideas for our premises to ensure that we make use of all the space we have in the most efficient way.

Lastly, The Accounts Team ensures that all accounts are kept up-to-date in line to the IAS/IFRS.

Environmental

The Biological Conservation Research Foundation, BICREF

This placement allows students to join in ongoing research and awareness campaigns, related to Maltese species and habitats found on and around the Maltese Islands. Particular species considered vulnerable, such as hedgehogs and bats, are among the terrestrial species to be investigated and promoted, while sharks, turtles, dolphins, and coastal fish, would be among the marine species investigated and promoted in various educational programs. Students may assist in ongoing conservation research both in the field and in the lab. They are also encouraged to promote conservation work and requirements through educational work such as feature writing and presentations to other students.

http://bicref.org/
Nature Trust – FEE Malta

Nature Trust (Malta) was founded in 1962. Today it is one of the oldest and biggest Non-Governmental non-profit organizations in Malta. NTM is a privileged partner of WWF International and also active in other International networks. The organisation today focuses on four main areas Ecological site management and conservation - through the sites Wied Għollieqa Nature Reserve, Xrobb L-Għaġin Nature Park, Pembroke Natura 2000 site etc., Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation and Education for Sustainable Development.

Tasks needing to be done in the valley near University:

- Removing and control of plant alien species
- Watering of trees
- Sowing seeds of new trees
- Dry stone rubble wall repairs
- Assisting in the tree Nursery at Lija Plant Health Centre

Tasks in ESD:

- Help in organising Educational Events with EkoSkola
- Assist students in ESD at the Xrobb l-Għaġin Nature Park

https://www.naturetrustmalta.org/