

Solidarités Jeunes Infosheet

Local Antenna in Alsace

***With European Solidarity Corps ...
TWO MONTHS VOLUNTEERING IN FRANCE !***

Mission from **09/07** to **05/09**

Who are we ?

Solidarités Jeunes (SJ) non formal education organization that places solidarity, voluntary commitment and political will at the core of its projects.

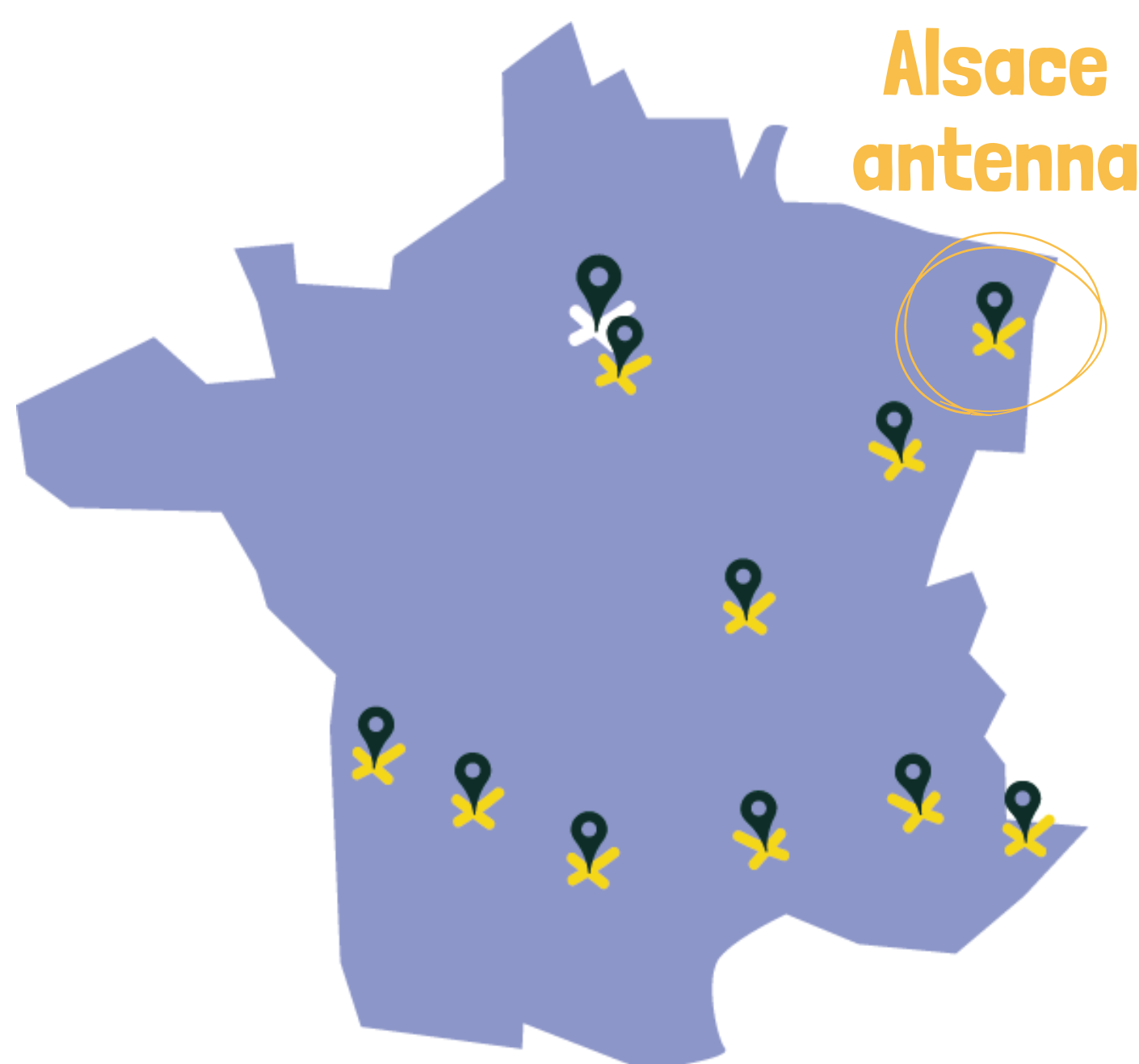
Our choices and actions affirm our vision for a society where respect for human beings and their environment is a founding and shared value, where the freedom to choose, to dream and to resist are innate (born with) or accompanied.

Our activities are aimed at everyone, regardless of age, nationality or social and cultural background.

Since its very beginning, SJ participates concretely to building peace, by promoting intercultural encounters, in France and internationally. As a non formal education association, SJ relies on participatory pedagogy that encourages initiative, values the commitments of each individual and combines the strengths and intelligence of its members.

Solidarités Jeunes, is a national secretariat based in Paris and 9 delegations in 7 different regions, which welcomes French and foreign volunteers, but also young people in difficulty as part of solidarity actions and fight against exclusion.

Rêver, Construire, Transformer



Local, Social, International
at the heart of our actions

Volunteering at Solidarités Jeunes



Volunteering is an exchange between a person who offers time, energy, and vision for the benefit of a collective project of general interest. It is also an **opportunity to learn, to teach, to experience interculturality and personal construction.**

Volunteering is first and foremost a personal commitment. It means being fully involved in the association's activities, which are multiple, intense and bring different audiences to meet, work and sometimes live together.



Why do we welcome international volunteers ? ...

- + to allow an intercultural dimension and exchange within all our projects.
- + to allow each person evolving within the association to be enriched by the contribution of international volunteers (open-mindedness, self-confidence, discovery of other cultures, learning new languages...)
- + to stimulate an alternative local development by relying on the specific motivation and contributions of international volunteers in our work with local associations and inhabitants of the territory

more about OUR PROJET

in the Eastern Local Antenna : Intercultural exchanges & Popular Education in Vosges Alsaciennes

Since October 2021, SJ has been based in the **Bruche Valley** - Vosges Alsaciennes. Ten years ago, we "found" a house in the area that had been bequeathed to us by another association, and the national movement decided to explore the surrounding area to explore possible local opportunities and partnerships. Located 50 km west of Strasbourg, the local branch has organized, with the support of the national and international movement, various actions in 2022 and 2023 : workshops to raise awareness of interculturality, international workcamps, youth exchanges, etc. We were each time very well **welcomed by the inhabitants** which invite us to share their everyday life, as well, they were touched by the active participation of young foreigners in their local general interest projects & interested to know more about all the volunteers coming from all over the world ;)



2024 will be our 3rd intercultural funky summer in Alsacian Vosges !

The last 2 years, this **international dynamic** and **interaction with the inhabitants** was in a short 2 weeks version. From both sides, it was often too short to deepen the links and to have the time to co-create local events together. That's why, now we know each other more with inhabitants, we decided that was **the right « turning point »** to experience a longer volunteering version, in order to create opportunities of intercultural learning & exchanges (more detailed after ;).

more about DAILY LIFE

Collective life

Collective life is the essence of the project. During your time volunteering here, there are around **4 volunteers**, **4 international groups** (see the details in the table below) and 2 paid-workers who all live together. Everybody is involved in the **collective life** : cooking, eating, cleaning, socializing, living in peace and harmony.

Working together

This work has an educational purpose and allows the participants **to learn to work together**, beyond their social, cultural and linguistic differences. This is also an opportunity to learn more about yourself and to go beyond your limits. You will work about **35 hours per week**, the work is varied and you will get the support of the staff.



Environmental involvement

In our associative project (sort of chart collectively written by the active membres), we claim that « The Solidarités Jeunesses movement works for a more **equitable society and values the rich diversity of environments and individuals**. It pursues a more sustainable vision of the relationships and interactions between individuals and the environment. »

Concerning environmental involvement, it means that the activities developed within our organization try to be the most **respectful of the environment** : food bought with local producers, biological products, less meat (maximum 2 times a week), compost, ... And all the ideas and practices we will have the opportunity to learn from each other this summer ;)

Socio-cultural Facilitation & intercultural animations

At the same time, taking advantage of our intercultural dynamics, we will organise and **co-animated awareness-raising activities** on international solidarity and the fight against discrimination, aimed at local people, from all ages. These local **intercultural events** will take place weekly during the Guinguette in Fouday and also the Café of Belmont, with the local Youth Center of Barembach...

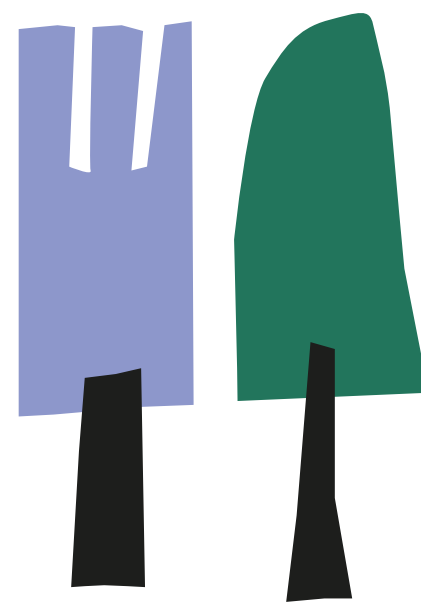
No particular qualification is expected, only the desire to do something together !

If you are willing to improve your facilitator's skills, this experience is a good opportunity ! During the on arrival training, we will exchange different games to create **collective animations** (step by step, moving debat, world café, ...).

So throughout the summer, your role will be to **support the different activities** organized, according the needs, your skills and the balance in our team.



more about MISSIONS



To be volunteer at SJ is to carry the values of the association through the activities. So to summarize, the missions of the volunteers are very varied :

+ concerning **collective life** : it will be about to actively participate to our daily group life and management of the house & to organize the welcoming, the support and the closure of the 4 different groups hosted this summer in the hosting center "Louise Scheppler" and being attentive on each other in order it works for everybody. For example, with the support of the team, you will guide and support the different volunteers to understand better our collective rules about household tasks, organizing together... From the other side, it means that you are invited to take part to the common activities created by the different groups (international meals, barbecue party, ...).

+ concerning **working together** : it will be about organizing the meals (making menus, shopping lists, shopping with local producers, collective cooking, logistics aspects, ...), the hosting, and about co-organizing local intercultural events.

+ concerning **environmental involvement** : it will be about supporting all environment practices (shopping, compost, energy, ...) and to pay attention on raising awareness when it is possible or needed.

+ concerning **local intercultural animations** : it will be about co-organizing local intercultural events, from logistic preparation to communication (flyers, social networks, ...) and to facilitation of workshops, games, creating international buffet, ... and all the ideas you want to share and co create with us ! You will be the ambassadors of our Eastern Local Antenna, so you will also have the opportunity to promote international volunteering to local youngsters ! In brief, foster the link between the project and the inhabitants of the village.

For the different activities, we will have the « before-during-after » principle : for each event we will co-organize together, we will take it as a learning opportunity for each of us to learn from each other and the situation : we will have a meetings process « before-during-after », according our needs and the needs of the project. That is the core of our political project in SJ : that each person finds its place in a group and we are all here to facilitate it and enrich each other.

And concretely, the different summer activities will be the following ones :

During the summer, in the hosting center « Louise Scheppler » & in surrounding villages, we will organise local intercultural events & animations (international meals, intercultural workshops, ...), a weekly Guinguette, 1 international workcamps and 3 European youth exchanges.

more about
PLANNING

Juillet

Août

Septembre

1

Arrival CES
volunteer

Belmont'cafe

Guinguette

Belmont'cafe

Guinguette

Belmont'cafe

Guinguette

Belmont'cafe

Guinguette

Belmont'cafe

Adult Workcamp on Salm castle

Adult youth exchange IN TERR ACT'

Adult youth exchange-

Guinguette

Departure CES
volunteer

-Choose your food

15

Guinguette

Guinguette

Belmont'cafe

31

Guinguette

Teenager Youth Exchange : Theater



Details:



One international workcamp in the castle of Salm : for 2 weeks, a group of 12 European volunteers of different nationalities meet to carry out a concrete project of general and local interest.

Three european youth exchanges : 24 young people from different countries, who come to meet and exchange, around a 2-week project, with an educational aim. They organise a series of activities around a theme of common interest in various fields: this year, the 1st one will be around fight against discrimination through theater, 2nd will work about the concept of involvement and the last one will focus on food, from field to the plate.



And also ...

The On arrival training : A 4-days training course will also be offered, designed and run by Martin & Nadège. The aim of this training course is to co-construct the keys to make the volunteering experience a **constructive experiment in collective intelligence**. It will enable you to know each other better in order to build a complementary team for our common summer, to **prepare various workshops for the guinguette** and other local animations, ... The training will be fed by the participants, who will share their experiences and skills.



To support you, a western duo in East of France ;)

Martin (25)

has been a long-term volunteer, organizer, coordinator and administrator with Solidarités Jeunesses. She has coordinated and animated intercultural projects and organized workshops and training courses on various subjects (interculturality, animation, associative life and project coordination, etc.). She will be a seasonal employee, responsible in particular for reception and certain local activities.

Nadège (46)

is involved in another popular education association for and by young people, the MRJC, which operates in rural areas through various projects: he has acquired over 8 years' experience in project leadership and coordination. Since early 2023, he has been coordinator of the local Solidarités Jeunesses branch in the Grand Est region.

Activists in popular education, Nadège & Martin are convinced of the concrete role of SJ's actions in social transformation.

more about ACCOMMODATION

Hosting Center Louise Scheppler

Le Trouchy 67130 Fouday

The Louise Scheppler House is a collective hosting center so we will sleep in dormitories of 4 – 6 persons. Rooms will be divided between girls and boys. Pillows, undersheets and blankets are provided. You need your sleeping bag. There is a washing machine. There is limited connexion for internet (few hours each day).

One of the objectives of the volunteering is to **live together**, to share this space with respect for each and everyone. The rules of life of the house are those of the association and of the French legal framework, not debatable (2); and those that you will choose among yourselves (3), according to the needs of each one and in **mutual respect**. To be involved in the daily life of the group is important, as in a large shared apartment where everyone is responsible for the smooth running of the collective life .

By committing yourself as a volunteer, you are embarking on a **unique life experience**, discovering yourself and others, learning other languages, discovering or enjoying the pleasure of living in the countryside and having a positive impact on the young and not-so-young people we accompany in their life journey.

2) Example : prohibition to drink alcohol when receiving minors.

3) Example : no noise after 10pm for the respect of everyone's sleep.



Other useful informations

The village of Fouday :

Rich in history, **Fouday** (67130) is a village of 350 inhabitants, situated in the Bruche Valley, at the foot of the Champ du Feu Massif (430m altitude). At the confluence of the river, Chirgoutte, it is an environment of old low mountains, forests and pastures. We are 50 km west of Strasbourg. And the nearest train station is in ... Fouday ! The village still has luckily a nice little train station : not so many trains per day but enough to discover the region ;)

Leisure activities

walking, horse riding, festivals, markets, museums, etc... It is up to us to organise together the discovery activities that suit us : the possibilities are numerous! We will also be actively involved in the festivities of the 14th of July, the French (inter)bank holidays ;)



European Solidarity Corps, meaning



If you want more
informations please
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What if it was you ?

You...

- ... have between 18 and 30
- ... want to learn differently
- ... want to discover yourself and meet others
- ... are ready to engage in a collective project
- ... are ready to get involved and support in collective life
- ... are motivated to make proposals and take initiatives
- ... love to be surrounded with different people & organize local events (practical &/or imagination)
- ... want to lead projects with different public

Then we are looking forward to meet you !

