

## **BE A VOLUNTEER AT "ULIVETO"**

## **LUSERNA SAN GIOVANNI, ITALY**



ULIVETO (literally "Olive grove") is a Flexible Aid Residence located on the hill of Luserna San Giovanni (TO). It is a large house from the late 1800s surrounded by greenery that, since the 1980s, has started to welcome people with disabilities.



The main objective of the structure is the well-being of the people who live there.

The aim is not to "do for" but "do with" guests. The moments and daily spaces of hygiene, meals and rest are meticulously cared for and are scrupulously personalized. Activities are offered to preserve and enrich the resources and potential of the guests.



The structure can host up to 21 people with serious and very serious physical and mental disabilities divided into two communities: Air Community (11 people) and Earth Community (10 people). The starting point of any activity in the structure is respect for the person.

For each guest, an Individualized Educational Project is drawn up annually and is periodically checked in team meetings.

The life of the house is based on daily care and attention to the needs of individuals, and on building emotional relationships. Various educational activities are offered to guests both inside and outside the structure.

Two educational-care teams made up of social workers, educators, rehabilitation therapists, health personnel, together with the other professional figures, accompany the guests.

Numerous educational and animation activities are proposed, all with the aim of improving the quality of life of the guests at the facility.





Uliveto is located in the village of Luserna San Giovanni, with 8,000 inhabitants. Luserna San Giovanni is situated in northern Italy about 50 km away from Turin (and 17 km from Pinerolo) in the region of Piedmont. It is located in the Pellice valley, which neighbors the french border. The entire valley consists of 9 25,000 communities including inhabitants. Pellice valley, together with other two valleys (Val Germanasca and Val Chisone) are known as the "waldensian" valleys and since the middle ages they have been the center of the waldensian movement which gave birth to the protestant religion in the Italian peninsula. This important fact has contributed to increase tourism in the area as well as developing a social/cultural condition facilitating for volunteer work in the Waldensian organization.

Volunteer service is for five days per week. During the normal working hours the volunteers provide supporting service for "animation", "physiotherapy", "daily center" or according to a program of activity to be decided with the responsible service staff. The volunteer will help in different kinds of workshops, such as gardening, painting, cooking, reading books, to improve the autonomy and well-being of the guests.

The volunteer will be actively involved in the weekly planning of the job, and according to his/her own personal interest and skills he/she will have the opportunities to propose her/his own activities.

The volunteers will attend a training cycle including the on-arrival training, a mid-term seminar and an evaluation seminar. During this seminar he/she will have the possibility to meet all the volunteers hosted by Diaconia Valdese. In fact Diaconia Valdese has several projects of international volunteering, lot of them in the villages Luserna San Giovanni and in the neighbor village Torre Pellice.

Furthermore, as foreseen from the ESC project, the volunteer will attend the semina organized from the Italian National Agency.

The Volunteering Office of the Diaconia Valdese is located in Luserna San Giovanni: the volunteer will have the chance to have direct contact with the central office, although it is always recommended to first have contact and relationship with the responsible in the placement, the tutor and mentor.



The project mobility has a duration of 11 month and the start is expected in autumn 2022. The travel budget is calculated according to different distance bands that can change from country to country. For participants who need a visa, there is a budget of 180 € for each volunteer. The participants have to keep all the invoices and tickets to give proof of the expenses. The volunteers will be reimbursed for these expenses at their arrival in Italy. The volunteers will be insured with Cigna insurance by their sending organisation.

The volunteers will receive 150,00/155,00 euro of pocket money, at the beginning of every month (5 euro per day). The volunteers will receive a monthly sum every month for the food expenses.

The volunteer will stay in a house alone. He/She will have a bedroom, living room (the same place is for the bedroom and livingroom) and a bathroom. The volunteer won't have a kitchen. The house is equipped with all necessary furniture (towels, sheets for beds, fridge and microondas too). The volunteers will receive a monthly sum every month for the food expenses. From the apartment it is possible to reach the placement by feet.

The volunteers will have access to the Online Linguistic Support that will help them in learning the Italian language. Furthermore they will attend weekly Italian lessons organised by the Diaconia Valdese.

WE ARE WAITING FOR YOU!