

Description of activities of the project in Domus Laetitia Cooperative

Presentation of Domus Laetitia Cooperative.

The Domus Laetitia, founded in 1984, is a Cooperative of Social Solidarity –type A- which occupies of people with disabilities. It's located in Sagliano Micca, a village 5 km from Biella, and operates in Biella through many services ranging from residences, day care centers, school integration, home care, project of education for the territory, employment, ambulatory rehabilitation/ habilitation, counselling and training. It currently employs about 125 employees, it has been invoiced 5million€, and offers services to about 400 families.

Presentation of activities in Daily center, called "Calla Calla"

The Daily Centre "Calla Calla" is a service that take care of people with disabilities, most of which are adults, who have a mental retardation mild, medium, severe or profound; they need educational, rehabilitative and/or custody activities during the day or a part of it. Activities include all the actions designed within the project that focuses on the person and these activities are carried out in well-equipped laboratories. During the year it are also planned activities for which it makes use of outside experts to the Centre as Rehabilitation Technician, Music Therapist, Pet therapist, Psychologist, Consultant Theatrical; they share the project of the person and they collaborate in planning and verifying actions.

As example we list the various activities that are developed: expressive, works on commission (occupational activities carried out by order of companies and commercial production in the area of Biella), autonomy (personal, social, domestic), crafts, education environmental, psychomotor game, relaxation, kitchen, tales sensory, music, sports (bowling, cycling and spinning, riding, swimming). Then there are other more specific activities, designed for people with severe disabilities: sensory stimulation, auditory stimulation, learning, body massage, use of psych-technologies (to foster communication). Finally outside activities take place in collaboration with local associations of the area.

Activities and role of the volunteer

The inclusion of a volunteer within the services will support both the work of the operators in creating opportunities for people with disabilities and relational development and experimentation of new social and educational activities. The innovation of the presence of a volunteer is still in itself a source of interest and inspiration for people with disabilities.

Specific activities: support in the animation and educational intervention for people with mental retardation; presence with operators in the performance of specific activities of the project and/ or planned by the Laboratory.

Requirements to candidates: good interpersonal skills and communication, patience, attention and willingness to compare him/herself; ability to relate to people with disabilities; ability to actively participation in educational activities.

The integration of the volunteer will provide for an initial period of knowledge of the group, the team, working methods and pedagogical organization with a working week from 8.45 to 13.00 and from 14.00 to 17.00, from Monday to Friday. We think that this experience will give volunteers many opportunities for personal growth and acquisitions. Some, but not all, may be:

- Implementing their educational, welfare and professional skills
- Deepening of social and pedagogical themes
- Teamwork
- Career guidance
- Active citizenship
- Approach to cultural diversity