

Promoting youth volunteering in Ringkøbing-Skjern

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Content:

Project partners

Project purpose and goal

Project content

Project evaluation and future embedding

How I went about the collaboration with the project partners

What to be aware of when working with schools and organizations on volunteering

Relevance in the YESpecialists project



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Project partners

- 8 institutions for the education of people aged 15-21.
- 20+ organizations that work with volunteers selected according to two criteria:
 - Recommendation by the Youth Council
 - Diversity in the group of organizations



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Project assumption, purpose and goals

Assumption: Volunteering increases entrepreneurship skills, social networks and self-esteem, decreases loneliness, anxiety and depression.

Purpose: To increase young peoples knowledge about:

- the role of volunteering in their local community
- their own opportunities to take part in local volunteering and in local democracy

Goal 1: Secure that at least 60% (benchmark 2020) of all young people continue to volunteer.

Goal 2: Engage young people who have not volunteered before in volunteering.



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Project content

Teaching some students about the role of various forms of volunteering in:

- the socialization of individuals
- the functioning of society

Lecture on volunteering to all students by university researcher

Bazaar for all students where they meet 20+ organizations that work with volunteers. The organizations will tell students about:

- How others benefit from their work
- What skills, opportunities and good experiences the organizations volunteers get by volunteering
- What opportunities the organizations offers for 2-3 months volunteering internship alone or in groups.



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Project evaluation and embedding

Evaluation:

How many students still volunteer 6 months after the start of their internship?

Do teachers and organizations find it worthwhile?

Embedding:

The organizations that benefit the most will be asked to (contribute to) plan and execute the following lecture-bazaar event.



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What I have done

Regarding schools:

- Project pitch
- Visit each headmaster to talk economy, interests, concerns and suggestions.
- Adjustment to increase relevance of project
- Communicating the project as a group effort

Regarding organizations

- Recommendations by Youth Council
- Project pitch and invitation
- Increased invitation effort
- Adjustment to increase relevance of project



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Advise

Regarding volunteer based organizations

- Be stubborn and patient
- Be serviceminded

Regarding schools

- Be prepared
- Be flexible



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Relevance in the YESpecialist project

This project strengthens youth entrepreneurship by:

- Securing og increasing youth involvement in local community organizations
- Enhancing local community organizations to ability to benefit from youth participation
- Enhancing a range of entrepreneurship skills among young people (planning, budgeting, group work, communication, independence).
- Enhancing ecosystems for youth entrepreneurship by creating links between youth, schools, volunteer organizations and the municipality.
- Enhancing the volunteer involvement of vulnerable youth by facilitating safe meetings and internships between organizations and youth

The project increases the chance of youth ultimately settling in the municipality by increasing the social and professional networks between youth and their local community



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Questions?



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