

## **GRU-09-GIVE-5-DJ-PT- THE VOICE OF EUROPEAN SENIORS -RO-PT-**

**Coordinator association,** "Orizont Cultural T"-Romania

**Partner association** : Association VIDA – Intergenerational Valorisation and Active Development Association-Portugal

### **Description:**

The idea of our project stems from the willingness of the seniors we work with to get involved in meaningful activities which could be a way of giving something back to the community. In order to use the different cultural background of the two partner countries the focus of their volunteering activities will be offering support and assistance to disadvantaged groups while involving them in new creative activities useful not only for their own life but also for a better living environment in the institution which hosts them. Our Volunteer Program provides an opportunity to volunteering in a community-based school or educational project for three weeks, while learning about different cultures.

The project focus on strengthening the solidarity between senior volunteers, raising the enthusiasm and motivation, improving the quality of life of the less fortunate, giving back their resources to the society. Our GIVE project raise seniors' awareness of social shortcomings, to motivate them to seek solutions, to convey the broad range of European possibilities – particularly in view of its enlargement – for remaining active and performing volunteering work up to advanced old age, strengthening the solidarity between young and old through best practices in our countries and elsewhere.

In order to achieve all this, the Senior Volunteers work together with target groups from economic-socially disadvantaged areas –medical centers, homeless children, imprisoned minors, cultural houses, libraries, educational centre from the rural area.

### **Background and objectives:**

- to promote mutual understanding, deeper engagement and continuing collaboration among the seniors volunteers through greater intellectual, cultural, and people-to-people exchanges between the two countries.
- Recruit people interested on volunteering and distribute them along volunteering organizations.
- Encourage people to volunteering activities.
- Make public volunteering opportunities more goals oriented through clear actions
- Explain the idea of volunteering creating a project culture and a first guide for a professional management of similar projects.

### **Impact and European added values :**

The experience will enables seniors to engage with participants through interests they are comfortable with such as faith, tradition, fashion and art, providing taster sessions that instill confidence to take 'first steps' to learning volunteering, sharing experience and good practice.

The participants will become aware that the intercultural dialogue is essential in a new European society; therefore, the project will make a valuable contribution towards the development of a better comprehension of European institutions and diversity in culture; a proper picture of Europe will be created, maintained and preserved seniors volunteers important activity.

Number of meetings between the participating organisations:

- 2 placement meetings, one for every institution involved,
- participants 4 from every institution,

For more info about our project, please visit our web blog"

<http://projectgive.wordpress.com/>

<http://projectgive.wordpress.com/about/>

<http://orizontculturalt.wordpress.com/2010/01/03/hello-world/#comments>

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