

„European spirit through European Volunteers in different Caritas Organisations in Upper Austria“

In different Caritas Organisations in Upper Austria we want to have the support and ideas from European Volunteers. Caritas has already long term experience, some of the Caritas Organisations are new ones.

Please find below the description of the different hosting projects and when applying please mention the title and number of the project!

Volunteers in our organization get support from the local contact person, are covered by insurance, take part at team meetings, are invited to events and get free further education. It is usual to offer a good appreciation and celebration culture.

We encourage the volunteers to bring their own culture, abilities, ideas and creativity into the group by cooking, singing songs, creating leisure-time activities and so on. Thus, everyone can experience a new culture, new traditions and widen their horizon through cultural exchanges. In return, the volunteers will get an insight into the Austrian culture and into working with people with disabilities.

We offer four different kinds of projects for volunteers in St. Isidor and in Linz:

Caritas Oberösterreich - St. Isidor

The organisation "Caritas Oberösterreich" in St. Isidor attends people with disabilities in living, working and educational interests. Our aim is to include people with disabilities into the society and support them to become as independent as possible. Our organisation offers a wide range of services to people with disabilities in Upper Austria e.g. assisted living, work, training, therapy, Kindergarden, After school center. "Caritas Oberösterreich" is one of the largest organisations in Upper Austria, which provides services for people with disabilities.



St. Isidor looks like a small village with one kindergarten, two afterschool care centres and five houses where children and teenagers live (assisted living). In addition, there are two schools, a small church, an outdoor pool and many playgrounds for the children. In walking distance, one can find grocery shops and the next tram stop. Sankt Isidor lies close to the provincial capital of Upper Austria, Linz (just 10 minutes by tram). Linz is located next to the Danube and offers many cultural events. From Linz, one can reach the UNESCO world heritage area of Salzkammergut in under an hour by train.

The accommodation for volunteers is located in the village of Sankt Isidor, so the distance between accommodation and project is within 100 meters. Volunteers have their own room in a shared apartment with a shared kitchen, a TV, free wifi, two bathrooms and washing machine. The route to the working place for Projekt 5 can be reached by public transport.

Depending on a volunteer's experience and preferences, we will be able to address the right kind of tasks.

Projekt 1: Afterschool care center

1 Volunteers, Start Oktober 2026, for 10 – 12 months

The main tasks here are to support the staff in their daily work and to support the children in their leisure-time activities such as playing, sports, swimming, excursions, cooking. Further tasks include cleaning together with the children as a part of pedagogical tasks, as well as keeping rules in the team and setting boundaries for the children. Each volunteer will work in a group of five to eight children with and without disabilities. In the group, the volunteers will receive a warm lunch. Volunteers are working on their project from Monday until Friday. In the afterschool care centre, there are fixed holidays in the week before easter and during christmas time. The rest of the holidays is free to be arranged between the volunteer and the afterschool care center.



Projekt 2: Assisted living with young adults

1 Volunteer

Start: Oktober 2026, for 10 – 12 months

The main tasks in assisted living are to support the staff in their daily work with doing homework, playing, leisure-time activities, cooking, but also supporting the young adults with their care work. This group is in the centre of Linz. Volunteers in assisted living are working in the afternoon until evening from Monday to Friday. Every volunteer has five weeks of holidays (if the volunteering is for 12 months) and is free on the public holidays as well. In the assisted living one can take their holidays individually.



Project 3 – Villa Kunterbunt – leisure center for children with disabilities

1 Volunteer

Start: September/Oktober 2026, for 10 – 12 months

The main tasks in this project are to support the staff and the children in their leisure time activities. The “Villa Kunterbunt” is a place in St.Isidor, where children, who live in the assisted living groups at St.Isidor, can spend parts of their free time. The children are aged between five and seventeen years. The Volunteer can also possibly organize the “fetch and bring service” of children who can’t manage their way on their own.

Volunteers are working on their project in the time from Monday to Friday 2pm and 8pm normally, and one weekend in a month the “Villa Kunterbunt” is open too. They support with childrens` holidays in the Semester break or the summer holiday camp. Weekends, Easter and Christmas are free, in summer there are fixed holidays for two weeks.

The Volunteer in this project should be sporty and active, musical and creative. The main tasks are e.g. playing football, going swimming doing handcrafts, singing and making music.

Caritas Oberösterreich, 2 Volunteers, Working Place: 4020 Linz

Projekt 4: Caritas Oberösterreich – St. Elisabeth

Projekt 5: Caritas Oberösterreich – Wärmestube / Frida

Projekt 4: Caritas Oberösterreich – St. Elisabeth

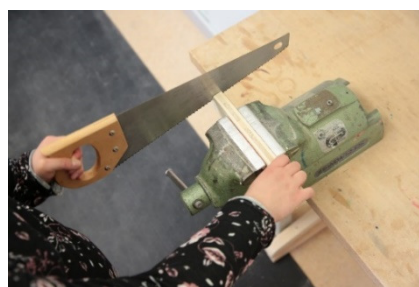
Place: A-4020 Linz

1 Volunteer

Start: Juli 2026, for 10 – 12 months

St. Elisabeth is located in Linz, the provincial capital of Upper Austria, on the hill “Froschberg” close to the city centre and the city parks as well. Linz is located next to the Danube and offers many cultural events. From Linz, one can reach the UNESCO world heritage area of Salzkammergut in under an hour by train.

The project for volunteers in St. Elisabeth is called “Werkstätten” (sheltered workshops), which are responsible for the educational qualification for young people with disabilities (15 to 30 years). One workshop is specialised on blind and visually impaired people, the second workshop offers several qualifications (such as learning to use a computer, sewing, working in a grocery shop, cooking, metalwork and many more). The practical education is accompanied by regular learning sessions, training job skills, individual coachings and internships in companies. We try to focus on the individual strengths, interests, needs and wishes of the young people. The aim of the project is to integrate young people with disabilities into free labour market.



The volunteer will assist staff members in the project by helping to train and educate a group of four to eight young people with disabilities. We encourage the volunteers to bring their own culture, abilities, ideas and creativity into the group by cooking, singing songs, creating leisure-time activities and so on. Thus, the young people in the workshops can experience a new culture, new traditions and widen their horizon through cultural exchanges. In return, the volunteers will get an insight into the Austrian culture and into working with people with disabilities. In addition, the volunteers receive full support from our staff and their mentor.

Projekt 5: Caritas Oberösterreich – Wärmestube / Frida

Place: A-4020 Linz

1 Volunteer

Start: September/Oktober 2026, for 10 – 12 months

Wärmestube and FRIDA - Day Centre for homeless people and special area for homeless women - offers 1 placement for European volunteers. As we want to learn from young people, the volunteers will be part of the team. The volunteers with their ideas, abilities and creativity will support the social workers in their daily activities by preparing and giving food to our clients, helping cleaning up at the end of the day, as well as helping our clients with laundry and care of health. Furthermore, our clients will benefit from talking, playing, organizing additional offers like free time activities and by helping them with their appointments.

The volunteer will get an insight into our social system, into our organization, into poverty and what it means and how policy in Austria handle it. Cultural exchange will bring benefits for everyone - the clients, the volunteers and the hosting department. As there are also a lot of Austrian volunteers and staff members, the volunteer can easily get in touch with Austrian youths, customs, mentality and language. Thus, intercultural learning and communication shall be the aim for both, the volunteer and the host organization!

Volunteers in our organization get support from the local contact person, are covered by insurance, take part at team meetings, are invited to events and get free further education. It is usual to offer a good appreciation and celebration culture.

The accomodation for volunteers is located in the city of linz, so the distance between accomodation and project takes 10 minutes by bus. Volunteers have their own room in a shared apartment for Volunteers with a shared kitchen, a TV, free wifi, bathroom and washing mashine.

