

CALL FOR PARTNERS

Training course For Key Action 1 – Learning Mobility of Individuals: by all partner organizations for mobility actions in the youth field

“Queer NFE”

Contact making seminar for youth workers on using NFE methodology in LGBT youth work field Slovakia, early autumn 2019

Background and theme of the training course

Youth workers and different community organizations play a crucial role in creating diverse and inclusive environments that support integration and development of young people coming from diverse backgrounds and with diverse identities. In order to do that, they need to cultivate new capacities and nurture intersectional approach when supporting young people coming from these backgrounds. One way to achieve this is through non-formal education principles and methods. Specifically, because this approach is always aimed at empowering young people to reach their unique potential and to be active members of their communities.

When we look at the LGBT+ youth work, it is easy to recognise how local, isolated and area specific in its nature it is. And yet, the issues LGBT+ community is facing are universal and common. Almost like issues don't recognise the borders, but our approaches do. And we want to challenge that with this project and tap into the strength and skills that LGBT community already has, and more specifically youth workers who support young people directly. We believe that for the LGBT+ community youth work to grow it needs to root its approach in non-formal education principles. These are universal, diversity sensitive, sustainable, creative and have long term impact on young people and those who support them.

LGBT+ community youth work is one of very few paths to sustainability. Being able to deliver quality youth work will have far-reaching impact on LGBT young people, the organisation and the society as a whole. However, many countries don't have a professional path for a youth worker, let alone one specialising in LGBT youth work. Despite that, many organisations across Europe do a tremendous job and have tons of experience to offer and share. Yet many more struggle to find resources and support.

This project - international skill-share and partnership building space - aims to address some of those needs. It will also help define and explore new local and cross-border challenges and provide space to think about solutions.

This meeting will also focus on defining needs and objectives for a long-term project on developing a profile of and methodology for training LGBT+ youth workers (including pilot testing).

Overall aim

The overall aim is to improve capacities and empower youth workers to use non-formal

education within LGBT+ youth work setting. Furthermore this seminar will focus on peer to peer learning and exchange of good practices and creative approaches.

Objectives

- I. To offer space for LGBT+ community youth workers to share and promote best youth work practices and learn from each other
- II. To support participants in developing soft skills and competences in combining both LGBT+ and non-formal education perspectives
- III. To inspire youth workers to use various non-formal education methodology in their everyday work
- IV. To support a strong international network of LGBT+ community youth workers and organisations
- V. To learn more about the Erasmus+ program and its actions, and provide space for creating new partnerships and new projects

The approach and methodology

This project is based on non-formal education, tool sharing and peer learning. The latter is achieved through so-called YES groups. Participants will be divided into three categories (youngsters, elders, seeds), according to their level of skill and experience (both personal and with regard to their organisation).

Youngsters - are new to the LGBT+ youth work (not more than two years of experience in the field) and are looking for new methodologies

Elders - use NFE in their daily work, have several years of experience and are willing to share a methodology or activity at the seminar

Seeds - are curious about the topic and want to start using NFE in their work with LGBT+ community, but have very little or no experience

Target group

Youth workers who work directly with LGBT+ young people and use non-formal education in different ways and with different purpose with this group and youth workers and youth leaders who want to get new ideas or wish to use non-formal education methodology in LGBT+ community youth work.

Partner organisation (ideal profile):

- works in the field of sexual/gender identity and non-formal education / with LGBT+ young people
- will disseminate the gained knowledge in their local communities / implement acquired knowledge in their work
- are interested in developing and applying non-formal education and quality youth work in their work with LGBT+ youth
- like to meet other similar organisations from all over Europe and establish / strengthen their networks

- are ready to share their experiences by delivering one of the sessions during the activity (applicable to primarily Elders and Youngsters)

Organizers

Sapling, o.z., team: Robert Furiel, Vanessa Vanhooren and Sandra Gojic

Venue:

The training course will take place in Slovakia or the Czech Republic.

Dates:

late summer / early autumn 2018, 6-7 days (not including travel)

Eligible countries

EU Programme Countries and Partner Countries

TC Language

English

Financial conditions:

The food and accommodation will be provided and paid by the organisers.

Travel costs will be counted by distance calculator provided by European Commission and reimbursed by bank transfer after the course. There will be a voluntary participation fee of **50 Euros** deducted from travel costs.

Are you interested in being our partner in this project?

If yes, please, fill out the online Partner Identification Form. It's slightly longer and more detailed than the usual PIF as we want to use it to put together amazing set of organisations and people.

Link: <https://goo.gl/forms/gYoE9HCrw1yR3zX42>

Please, submit them before **January 17th, 2019, 23.59 CET**.

For further information please contact Sandra Gojic at gojic.sandra@gmail.com

Please forward this call for partners to your networks, if you believe they would be interested in this topic and can contribute to the seminar.

Timeline:

After we gather enough quality participating organisations we'll contact them and clarify their needs and contributions in order to finalise the application. We will also send out the mandate forms on a rolling basis.

The application will be submitted for the first round of 2019 (5th of February), the Slovak NA issues decisions usually within 2 months, so by the beginning of March we should know the results. In case we are not successful we'll re-apply for the second round of 2019.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact us!

We are looking forward to meet you on our amazing learning journey!