

Youth Centres UP II

info-pack
covid-19 edition

About

Youth Centers UP II is the project that aims to **involve 270 young people**, local and international volunteers, in **solidarity activities**, in the form of volunteering, in **Timisoara's community**.

At the general objective level - the whole project is based on the principle of participation and solidarity, at the community level and not only. Youth Centers UP II is a project funded by the **European Solidarity Corps**.



What is it?

Youth Centers UP II represents a sequel of the **first edition** of the project, Youth Centers UP, held in the summer of 2019, which brought together **more than 100 international, national and local volunteers** who, alongside the community, transformed **5 thermal power stations into operational youth centers**, in 5 of Timisoara's neighborhoods. You can read more about the first edition of the project here:

<https://fitt.ro/povestea-youth-centres-up/>

Youth Centers UP II aims to bring together in Timisoara 270 young volunteers which, together with community members, will set up another 10 youth centers through the city's neighborhoods. Due to the **current situation, caused by COVID-19**, which requires **involvement and solidarity**, the Youth Centers UP II project broadens its initial purpose and now becomes the context in which the young people from Timisoara can take part, organized in teams, in **humanitarian actions**.

The project is implemented with the institutional cooperation with The Directorate of Social Assistance of Timisoara.



Activities

The project redirects its resources towards helping the community deal with the pandemic, gathering together volunteers that may/will take part in the activities described below.

Please note that other activities can also be added to the list below, depending on the evolution of the epidemics and of local context, particularly in helping authorities, if needed or requested.



Thus, initial activities consist of:

- Providing support within the call centre of Timișoara's Social Assistance Directorate, by securing the staff needed to answer the phone calls of persons over 65 years of age;
- Delivery of pharmaceuticals, food or cooked food provided by the authorities, to the elderly, to people with medical conditions who are at risk for COVID-19 infection, to people with disabilities, single parents with young children, persons in isolation at home or in institutionalized isolation;
- Diffusion of informative materials (e.g posters) and promoting the initiatives which come in support of the above mentioned persons;
- Increasing the capacity of the „Vă ajutam din Timisoara” initiative (www.ajutamdintimisoara.ro).
- Increasing the capacity of the initiative "Va ajutam din Timisoara" (www.ajutamdintimisoara.ro);
- * Conducting campaigns to raise funds for the people in need in Timisoara;
- * Any other situation that may occur during the state of emergency (activities carried out jointly with local / regional / national authorities).

Volunteer profile:

The volunteers we are looking for

- They are between 18 and 30 years old;
- They assume and complete the commitments made;
- They are empathetic and trustworthy;
- They are caring for themselves and others.
- * They are available at least 6-7 hours/day during the volunteering activity;
- * They don't have any disease that may cause risk in this times.

What's in it for you?

- **Satisfaction of contributing and helping when needed:** this crisis requires more than the intention to help, dedicating time for humanitarian areas is a must; this area making no difference-between individual or collective, but, on the contrary, finding us as a whole.
- **Solidarity attitude:** working for the common good of the community, overcoming challenges and identifying solutions, contribution with your own time and energy in support of others, you will develop the spirit of solidarity.
- **Communication and team working skills:** all the activities and work will be done in teams, giving you the opportunity to interact and work together with other volunteers towards reaching the goal.
- **Know the rules of protection against contamination:** all volunteers will have a training sessions regarding the activity, protection and safety norms and decontamination.



Volunteer support



The financing of the project also implies support offered to the volunteers, consisting of:

- 5 euros / day representing food money
- 3 euros / day representing pocket money

Volunteers who will be involved in the delivery of products will benefit from fuel discount, and volunteers who want to get involved in the delivery process but do not possess the means of transport will be given one.

The safety of the volunteers is vital, so that their activity will be carried out in accordance with the developed **Safety Protocol** that will be applied within the project, and the young people involved will benefit from **protective equipment (suits, masks, visors and gloves)**.

At the same time, the volunteers will take part in a **training** about the **activity, the protection and decontamination rules**.

About FITT



Timis County Youth Foundation (Fundatia Judeteana pentru Tineret Timis – FITT) was founded in 1990. It is a public utility umbrella organization for youth NGOs and student NGOs (from 14 different specialities).

With 30 member organizations (2000 active young members) and a continuous activity since 1990 in the West Region, FITT is the most important, old and unique concerning its activity, its legal provisions and its leaders profile, in this part of the country. Our foundation is a model of democratic behaviour, as well, being administrated by a General Assembly consisting of the youth NGOs in Timis County and a board consisting of 13 young people (aged between 18 and 35). We focus on **youth participation, local and national youth policies** and on **promoting the European values at local,**

regional and national level that are so important to youth nowadays. We have in possession **Timisoara Youth House** (a 11.000m²) – which, in 2018, was awarded for the second time with the **Council of Europe Quality Label for Youth Centres**. We are one of the thirteen such Youth Centres in Europe that have this Accreditation and the only one in Romania.

Another performance that is considered an asset is the administration of **INCUBOXX, the biggest business incubator in Romania** and the only one specialized in IT (6.300 m²). The Municipality owns the building and FITT's ltd. company is the administrator of the activity. The incubator is run by young people being under the Municipality of the city.



Also, FITT was involved in making the **Local Youth Strategy** for 2014-2020 and it coordinated the process of making the **Timis County Youth Strategy** for 2017 - 2021, these being some examples on youth participation and youth policy development on local and regional level.

In addition, at local level we implement each year the **Youth Project Gala** with the main aim to promote and reward youth NGOs and encourage the youth projects. The Gala itself is an example of youth participation. The event is youth lead. The jury is composed more than 50% by youth experts.

At national level, in 2016, FITT, on behalf of Timisoara was the host for the first **Youth Summit of Romania**. The project gathered over 150 young participants from all over the country, they were involved in different trainings and activities, having as a result the **Youth Resolution** which was adopted by the political parties and **included in the government plan for 2016-2020**.



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