

# Volunteer in Italy at Cooperativa Sociale Il Sestante Onlus

9 months  
starting June or September 2020



## *Description of the organization*

The social cooperative **Sestante Onlus** is inspired by the underlying principles of the world's cooperative movement (self-sufficiency, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity) and acts accordingly. It was founded in 1994 and has mainly worked in the first ten years in the field of addictions.

Since 2005, the cooperative is specialized on services and competences such as **welcoming and integration, social accompaniment aimed at the recovery of autonomy, conflict mediation, community development and urban regeneration.**

The main target groups to which services are

committed since 2004 are: foreigners, refugees and asylum seekers, homeless people, ex-prisoners, victims of gender violence, minors and adults of Roma origin, unemployed people, citizens resident in conflict zones, elderly and young people.

Currently the cooperative perform the following services: reception and integration of asylum seekers and refugees; orientation and accompaniment for unemployed people; management of public service dedicated to active aging; social mediation and educational activities in a Roma camp tense area; paths aimed at the autonomy of former prisoners; urban regeneration projects through youth art and culture.

## *Description of the tasks*

Volunteers will be involved in **integration paths to asylum seekers**. They will daily visit their homes and assist asylum seekers in their activities of the daily life. They will participate in the development of workshops such as: education to active citizenship through art and participative tools, Ict labs,

ecological cleanings, international cuisine and healthy eating, sports activities as a health education tool, craft workshops, periodicals reading, movie reviews, language exchanges etc. These actions are aimed to involve the local community, within which accommodations are located, in networks of knowledge and solidarity. They will also accompany the asylum seekers at the major centers of public service for issuing or renewing documents, medical examinations, guidance activities on the territory; training activities focused on orientation to work (artisanal workshops, visits to associations, cv drafting and work research), civic education, food and health education.

### ***Working time***

The working time is **5 days** a week, maximum **35 hours** a week. The volunteers will have **2 days off** a week, **not always during the weekend**, depending on the activities the volunteers will be involved in.

### ***Accommodation, food and transport arrangements***

The volunteer will live in a **shared flat in Padova** with other international volunteers or local/Italian people, will live in a single or double room upon availability and have the use of a kitchen, bathroom and of the common spaces of the house (wi-fi is not always guaranteed). He/She will monthly receive some **money** to buy **food** and the **pocket money**. He/She will have a **bus card** to move around in the city.

### ***Training during the project***

A part from the **OLS** provided by the program, we will offer internal Italian course and help the volunteer to find an integrative Italian language course in Padova, if needed. The volunteer will receive specific training about the topic of **integration of refugees** and related topics (educative relationship and educative projects, team working, mediation of conflicts, participative tools).

### ***Volunteer profile***

**Volunteers with different backgrounds** such as age, gender, previous experience, study path, and so on will be welcome. And there will be **no discrimination against gender, religion, political or sexual orientation**. However, the knowledge of Italian language will be appreciated.

The choice of volunteers will be made on the basis of their **motivation**, interest in the scope of intervention of the host organization and the willingness to play an active role in their project. In this way it is granted that there will be a positive result both for the volunteer, and for the beneficiaries of the project, as well as for the host organization.

## ***The city of Padova***

Situated in the heart of north-eastern Italy, and less than 40 km from Venice, Padova is one of the most beautiful cities in Italy, with over 3,000 years of history. This rich cultural heritage, appreciated every year by thousands of tourists, includes the Scrovegni Chapel - with its frescoes painted by Giotto, Prato della Valle - one of the biggest squares in Europe, the thirteenth century Palazzo della Ragione - the world's largest hall without supporting columns, the world's oldest university Botanical Garden - a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and a historical city centre, with picturesque squares, palaces and museums. Padova offers an extended



cycling path network and multiple bike sharing options. The University is one of the oldest in Italy and in the world and many Italian and foreign students join it every year making Padua a lively and dynamic city offering numerous events in the fields of art, music, theatre, cinema and sport throughout the year. Padova will also be the **European Capital of Volunteering 2020**.

***How to apply:*** Send your **CV** and **motivation letter** in English at [esc@xena.it](mailto:esc@xena.it) specifying in the object "Application for Sestante".

Host organization website: <https://www.coopilsestante.it/>

