



EVS volunteering opportunity

Football for Belonging-Building community through sport

Union Plaani r.y, Finland

Languages of the voluntary service
English, Finnish

Start date
Between 23 June and 3 Aug 2026

Topics
Health and wellbeing, Physical education and sport

Duration of the voluntary service
5-6 months

About the organisation

Union Plaani is a community-based football club from Heinola, Finland, founded in 2013. The club promotes inclusion, well-being, active lifestyles, and community spirit through football and youth work. Union Plaani provides opportunities for children, young people, and adults to participate in sports regardless of their background, skill level, or social situation.

The organization combines grassroots football with youth development and international cooperation. In addition to competitive football activities, Union Plaani organizes community events, low-threshold sports activities, volunteering opportunities, and educational projects that strengthen social inclusion and active citizenship.

<http://unionplaani.com>

Description of the activity

Union Plaani is a community-driven football club based in Heinola, Finland. In this European Solidarity Corps project, four volunteers will co-create inclusive, low-threshold sports and community activities that strengthen participation, equality, and a sense of belonging. Volunteers will support grassroots football training for children and youth, take part in school visits and outreach, and help organize local events such as community sports days and PlaaniLandia. They will also contribute to first team match days by supporting arrangements, communication, and fan experience. The project offers a mix of practical coaching, community work, and teamwork in an international environment. Volunteers are encouraged to bring their own ideas and actively shape activities together with the club.

Further information

Volunteers will be provided with shared accommodation in Heinola. A monthly food allowance and pocket money will be covered according to ESC guidelines. Travel costs will be reimbursed. Local transport will mainly be organized by providing bicycles for volunteers, supporting an active and sustainable way of moving around the town.

Desired volunteer profile

We are looking for open-minded, proactive, and community-oriented young people who are interested in sports, youth work, or social inclusion. Previous football experience is an advantage but not required, motivation and willingness to learn are more important. We especially value participants who are eager to bring new ideas, take initiative, and actively contribute to the development of the club's activities. A genuine interest in working for the benefit of the community and creating positive impact together with others is essential. Working language is english.

Contact Email

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