

SOCIAL INCLUSION - OUT OF THE BOX

NGO INFORMATION

Organisation name: Youth Included

Country: Czech Republic

Contact person: Ekaterina Batueva

Website: www.youthincluded.com

Other links you would like to share

www.facebook.com/YouthIncluded

www.facebook.com/hfc.community.space

Logo of organization



NGO Short description

Youth Included, youth non-profit organization based in Prague by a team of academics and experts in youth work, intercultural cooperation and support of diversity. Youth Included was founded in 2012 with the aim of creating an open space for creative, sincere and active young people who want to conduct nonviolent change in their neighbourhoods and society. We strive to promote and educate young people by giving them the opportunity to develop and organize projects of their dreams, giving them the opportunity to experience volunteer experience and get to know other cultures. We believe that it is possible to change the world around us through small steps of self-esteem, self-development and free expression of personal opinion.

Our organization works with young people (16 to 35 years), since we believe that youth is key to building future generations. We therefore make every effort to provide them with tools for education, raising awareness about the dangers of xenophobia and discrimination and to show them the diversity of the world to which they have a positive impact of intercultural interaction.

Field of work (which are the main domains your organizations works on):

Social inclusion/ peer-to-peer support/ intercultural education/ non-violent communication/ non-formal education/ applied anthropology

Some of our activities include:

- research projects dealing with issues of migration, ethnicity, cultural identity, nationalism, discrimination, community inclusion process, etc.
- organization of seminars, workshops, roundtables, lectures and conferences
- organization of cultural, sporting and leisure activities
- support of interdisciplinary and non-formal education
- participation on European and international projects
- work with volunteers
- peer-to-peer education, support youth in developing and organizing their own projects

How do you work with youth? (methodology used and examples of activities)

We focus on working with intercultural youth based on the following principles:

- We would like to work on issues youth face in this area gradually and together with youth (peer-to-peer support throughout the project, support of initiatives proposed by youth, development of their skills and competencies, monitoring personal stories and sharing positive stories with the rest of the community);
- We prefer activities that are not created for youth, but activities that are created as a joint effort (during the year with the assistance of volunteers to work with young people on development of their ideas and to connect them with local stakeholders who can have premises and skills to support the initiatives);
- We work with youth, not as a separate entity, but as a part of intercultural community (during our activities we show that intercultural community is an asset for any community);
- We want not to compete but cooperate on the local level with various stakeholders;
- We promote respect for diversity (cultural, ethnic, religious, gender, sexual)

Local initiative – Hungry for Change – with the aim to show to young people of Prague that intercultural coexistence is natural, enriching experience and essential for good functioning of society. Through interaction between individuals with different cultural and personal backgrounds, collaboration and networking with local institutional actors and motivation of project participants working on their own initiatives we managed to raise the awareness, establish new contacts with young people who would love to bring change to their smaller communities. More information on www.facebook.com/hfc.community.space

Structure of organization:

Youth Included team consists of 9 core members, who play vital role in implementation of our activities. We are volunteer-based organization, where volunteers are intercultural youth from Prague, who are engaged in community/youth work through different channels (education, NGO, arts, etc.).

Number of workers in organization:

Number of volunteers in organization:

15-20

Social Inclusion - OUT OF THE BOX

What is the project Social Inclusion - OUT OF THE BOX for your organization? (in one sentence)

Great source of inspiration, good practices and new ways to look at social inclusion

What you/your organisation expect to learn/gain in this project?

- Networking with international organizations in social inclusion area;
- New inspiration for social inclusion practices;
- Creative ways to engage community;
- Being part of international initiative on social inclusion.

Current situation regarding Inclusion in your country

a) which is the understanding/definition of Inclusion in your environment (social and political)?

The legal order of the Czech Republic (Act No. 108/2006 Sb., on social services, as amended) defines social inclusion as a process, which ensures that socially excluded persons or persons at risk of social exclusion can enjoy the possibilities and opportunities that help them fully participate in economic, social and cultural life and to live in a manner the society considers common.

Therefore, general objectives of social inclusion include: - ensuring participation in employment and equal access to all resources, rights, goods and services; - prevention of the risk of social exclusion; - help for the most vulnerable; - mobilization of all relevant actors.

b) who are in your country included and excluded youth?

c) which are the social groups that have a stronger need for Inclusion in your area? Why are them in this situation?

1,580,000 persons at risk of poverty or social exclusion. The most vulnerable group of the population of about 128,500 persons is made up of people who are simultaneously at risk of income poverty, material deprivation and at the same time live in households with low work intensity. These include, in particular, the long-term unemployed and those living in single-parent families with children.