

PEER FORUM

Peer education : a springboard to employment

October 2015
Luxembourg



CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS



The European Peer Training Organisation (EPTO), in partnership with 4motion, is pleased to invite peer trainers and peer educators to participate in the **2015 Peer Forum « Peer education : a springboard to employment »**, organised as part of the project **“Boosting youth participation and career opportunities through peer education”**.

THE CONTEXT

EPTO, the European Peer Training Organisation, was created by young people, is led by young people and exists for youth in Europe to embrace their differences and realize their unique potential. Therefore, EPTO promotes and develops peer training. EPTO provides integrated support to young people and youth organisations who work with or plan to use peer education methodology, so that young people may do quality peer training for their empowerment and as a contribution to create inclusive societies

In a context of high and increasing youth unemployment in Europe, and in line with the specific objectives pursued by the Erasmus+ Programme in the field of youth, EPTO believes that non formal education is more than ever a relevant solution to enable youth to realize their unique potential. A lot of peers trained by EPTO have indeed built up careers in the field of non formal education, found jobs and/or created professional opportunities for youngsters across Europe, and could be a source of inspiration for their peers.

In EPTO's eyes, peer education is a privileged way to cultivate values of respect, tolerance, democracy and participation. Not only it does it help young people develop skills which are valuable on the labour market, but it fosters their respect for and appreciation of differences; facilitates the development of their self-confidence and competence to learn, participate and develop their potential as whole individuals; empowers them to analyse social problems, identify potential solutions and act appropriately.

WHAT'S THE OBJECTIVE?

A 4-day seminar gathering 35 participants trained during the previous activities delivered by EPTO as well as representatives of youth-serving organisations who are either currently implementing peer education programmes or looking to create one. The focus will be on supporting young peer educators in their professional development both within and beyond the field of peer education.

WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR ?

We welcome applications from the following countries : Belgium, France, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Estonia, Albania, Romania, Hungary, Luxembourg, Turkey, Ireland, United Kingdom, Germany, Azerbaijan, Ukraine and Iceland.

Applicants should be from one of the following groups:

- youth workers who have been certified as EPTO peer trainers in the last 3 years

- youth workers who have been certified as EPTO peer trainers in the last 4 – 15 years

- young peer trainers working on projects in their local areas

Ideally we would like to receive applicants in groups of 2 to 4 participants from the same organisation or informal group. However, if you are not attached to an organisation and/or would attend by yourself, you are still welcome to apply.

✘ WHAT ARE THE MAIN GOALS OF THE PEER FORUM ?

To link several generations of peer trainers in order to increase awareness on working possibilities in the field of peer education

To provide concrete opportunities for youth professional development

To reflect on how to identify and value competences developed through peer education

To launch EPTO's new certification process officially

To provide tools for advocating for peer education at the local level.

✘ WHAT'S ON THE PROGRAMME?

We will run a full programme of interactive sessions, peer-lead activities and coaching. These will offer participants

a chance to hear testimonies from older peer trainers with more experience in the field

the opportunity to explore competencies that can be developed through peer education

an introduction to peer coaching for professional development

time to network with other young peer trainers and professionals

a dedicated session with our partner and member organisations for the presentation and discussion of specific local and international professional opportunities.

✘ PRACTICAL INFORMATION

When?



23 – 28 October 2015 (including departures and arrivals days)

Where?



Chalet d'Geisserei,
5, rue Munchen-Tesch
2173 Luxembourg

(<http://chalets.youth.lu/node/235>)



Language?



The working language will be English. However, considering the European spectrum amongst participants, other languages will be understood and translated if necessary



