



**EUROPEAN
SOLIDARITY
CORPS**

GENERATION RE: CULTIVATING THE PRESENT

a volunteering project funded by the European Solidarity Corps to be hosted in

SERRA GUARNERI

CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION



The project Generation Re: Sustainable Solidarity is aimed at boosting the rural life, by nurturing the imagination and acquiring skills to implement sustainable life-styles in rural communities. The project is aimed at the semi-professionalization of young people, through a solidarity activities to be implemented in a [Centre for Environmental Education in rural Sicily](#). The long-term aim of the project 'Generation RE' is to build a generation that work towards the regeneration, and not the degradation of the self and the planet. To do that, the young generation needs to invent and to acquire the social and practical skills to access the labour market with innovative answers that tackle global challenges of our times.

Activity	Period	Length	Participants
Generation RE: resilient education	May-June-July 2020	90 days	1 from France 1 from Portugal
Generation RE: resilient daily life	August-September-October 2020	90 days	1 from France 1 from Portugal

What's Serra Guarneri

Serra Guarneri is a small rural hamlet, merged in a Mediterranean wood. It is composed of small houses clustered around the main structure; Serra Guarneri was born as a pit stop in the transhumance-the seasonal migrations of shepherds- and it remain an open space. To-day, it hosts a Centre for Environmental Education, run by the cooperative Palma Nana and credited by the WWF, the Italian Ministry for Education and the Administration of the Madonie Mountain Park.

The Madonie Mountain Park -which is in the European Network of Geoparks- holds more than 60% of the Mediterranean Biodiversity. The Park extends from the northern coast to the inland of Sicily, where it reaches 1900 mt above the sea level. From the Cathedral of Cefalù -heritage of the UNESCO- to the holy trees of Piano Pomo, the territory holds natural and cultural treasures. During summer, the area is of great turistic attraction.

The nearest urban center is Sant'Ambrogio, a fraction of Cefalù, a small town on the coast with access to the beach; 5 km away is the city of Cefalù, which in summer is full of tourists and pleasant bars along the seafront. An hour by train is the city of Palermo, rich in historical and cultural attractions and with the largest historical center in Europe.

In Serra Guarneri we believe in self-management, mutual aid and self-responsibility. If you wish to merge in the rhythm of it and its community, Serra Guarneri will be your home.

Serra Guarneri is run by the Cooperative Palma Nana; founded in 1983, its fields are Environmental Education and Responsible Tourism. Aiming to promote ecological awareness, the cooperative organizes didactic activities in schools, updating and training courses, seminars, exhibitions, events, summer camps for youth, nature holidays for adults, family camps and excursions in natural and urban environments. We work are also based in the city of Palermo, where we work in schools, natural reservoirs, and in the cultural itineraries we organize on behalf of Libera, Il Giusto di Viaggiare (part of Libera-names and numbers against mafia).



What to imagine

Serra Guarneri is a professionally magical place, with its rhythm and its inhabitants. The first local community are the same inhabitants of the hamlet, the fixed staff and the groups that give life to the structure. The CEA is well integrated with the local communities of the area, supporting and promoting -in its daily life- a culture of sustainability and territorial awareness. In spring and autumn we work with schools and families; during summer we organize summer camps for the youngsters.

The volunteers will be involved, as a base, in all the management activities of the structure and will have the possibility to support experts in the sector and to deepen the aspects that are of most interest for volunteer. The main daily tasks, which will see the greatest involvement of the volunteers are:

The educational program planned for the volunteering activity will alternate different phases. These phases will embed an experience-based learning process, to conjugate the contribution that the youngsters will leave to the local community with the acquisition of social and practical skills. They will learn about resilience, education, regenerative agriculture and the botanic of the Mediterranean; they will learn the recipes of the Sicilian diet and how to make bread. They will be trained on sustainable tourism and environmental education-both in rural and urban areas.

No specific level of English will be required. No previous experience will be necessary to access the project, but a strong motivation to be open to transformation, not only at a personal level but also as a search toward social and environmental justice in the local and the wider community.

- The ordinary maintenance of the place and the care of common areas
- the management of a receptive structure, the kitchen
- farm care (including chickens) - two synergic gardens, fruit trees, hen-house, compost.
- green areas
- more and diverse

We ask for **6 hours per day, 5 days a week**. During the stay at the CEA, volunteers will be given the opportunity to enjoy lifts to and from Cefalù on free days or agreeing according to specific needs.

For any questions or comments, please write to: network@palmanana.com