**Hoolekandeteenused Türi Kodu**

**Introduction**

Hoolekandeteenused (welfare services) is a state-owned enterprise which provides social welfare services to adults with special needs. The enterprise was established in 2007. The organisation has many different little units.

The goal of the organisation is that the clients have an active and positive day no matter of their age, gender or disability. It provides opportunities for the clients to do activities like walking, games, dancing, singing, art and handicraft. The personnel monitors clients´ health and development, provides medical care, teaches them basic skills and encourages every person to be as independent as they can.

Hoolekandeteenused has been working with volunteers for years. Now there are volunteers at Tõrva, Vääna, Tapa and Karula units. The volunteers can share their experience and thoughts with each other. The organisation can arrange these kinds of communications and gatherings.

**Location**

Türi is a small town in Järva County. It has a good transportation connection with Tallinn, the capital of Estonia. It takes around 90 minutes to get from Türi to Tallinn by train. Türi is known as a garden–town: third of the territory is covered with green open spaces. Tidiness and beauty of the town is achieved thanks to the citizens. People in Türi honour the handicraft and amateur art activities. The town has a nice lake, beautiful home gardens, cultural and sports events. Türi is the spring capital of Estonia and the main event in Türi is Flower Fair in May.

**Work tasks**

Türi Kodu is a home for 70 adults aged from 21 to 80 years with mental and physical disabilities. Türi Kodu has 23 staff members and they have received special training and are well experienced.

The important part of the job is to support the disabled people finding work that they can do to get in touch with the local community. The clients are mostly friendly and positive. Some use different ways to communicate - the staff will help and guide the volunteer.

The volunteer’s main task is to help the staff in everyday activities and accompanying the clients at the community events.

The organisation offers supervision and guidance for the volunteer from experienced staff. It also appoints a tutor to monitor the volunteer´s daily duties and deal with task-related issues and questions throughout the project. The volunteer and the tutor discuss together possible activities and compose a working schedule. The organisation also provides an on-arrival training and mid-term evaluation.

The working time will be around 35 hours a week. The volunteer will have 2 days off per week either during business days (from Monday to Friday) or at the weekends and additionally 2 days per month.

Before coming to the service, it is recommended for the volunteer to learn basic Estonian.

**Benefits of volunteering**

* learn to work and communicate with people with learning disabilities.
* learn to cope with a new language and cultural environment
* learn about Estonian Culture and traditions
* learn about the life of people with special needs and different disabilities
* the experience can help to determine the future field of work

**Requirements for the volunteer**

* Committed to the project and willing to support the clients
* Independent and active, positive, open-minded, flexible and willing to learn
* Reliable, responsible and initiative