**Hoolekandeteenused Tartu Anne Unit**

**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**

Tartu Anne unit is in Tartu, the second largest city in Estonia. Tartu has one of the Northern Europe’s oldest universities and is a home for creative and scientific culture; there is always something from theatre performances to concerts and festivals. Slogan of Tartu is “The City of Good Thoughts”. More about Tartu: https://tartu.ee/en

**Work tasks**

Tartu Anne unit is offering community living service and daily life support service. The Units is situated in the second biggest city in Estonia. Tartu Anne unit is designed especially for clients with mental disability to feel themselves as at home. Service has 10 customers. Clients live in apartments 3-4 persons in each. In unit there is 2 workers who support residents in everyday life activities – cooking, housekeeping, visiting doctor’s office and public offices, planning their free time activities and planning their journey to work. Twice in week they grow shopping to buying food to cooking at home. They itself with helping workers compile a menu. Clients participate in public events organized by local community and private events organized by activity supervision workers specially for them. Goal is to help clients to be independent and manage their life as good as possible. Unit activity supervision workers are working in shifts from 8.00-18.00. From 18.00 – 8.00 there is phone duty set up for clients, so they can ask help if needed. We work every day to help our clients to find work and activities in local community. For clients we organize different events like Christmas party, barbique parties, choir, photography lessons.

**Benefits of volunteering**

* 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