Call for Partners

Training course For Key Action 1 – Learning Mobility of Individuals:

by all partner organisations for mobility actions in the youth field;

***Unlocking yOur Potential 2015***

**A training course for youth workers about empowerment of young people using self-exploration as a tool**

Belgium, June 2015

Hello everybody,

In spring 2014 the Training course “Unlocking yOur Potential” was held in Belgium. By request we like to continue with a new edition 2015. The trainers will be Noaise Byrne (Ireland), Frimann Sigurðsson (Iceland) and Dominique Verschuren from Connected Elephant (Belgium). The TC will take place in Belgium in June 2015 and will involve 3 participants from 10 different European Union member and partner countries (totally max. 30 participants). Connected Elephant Belgium will apply for the TC under Key Action 1 with the 4/02/2015 deadline.

**Background and theme**

We believe that gaining a deeper understanding of ‘who we are’ is an empowering process which can lead to positive life changes. Empowering young people through this process could, for instance, lead to increased participation in society, or in democratic life, or to increased employability.

We believe that each individual is unique and by embracing this diversity, we can enrich ourselves and indeed society. Furthermore, the international nature of our group of participants, and indeed the link between culture and identity, will result in intercultural dialogue which will enhance and enrich the experience for our participants.

**Aim**

The aim is to enable participants to support the young people they work with in their identity process and to plan their personal pathway in life. We will do this by bringing participants themselves on a journey of self-discovery. We invite participants who are open to experiencing this personal journey and who are in a position to apply their learning to their work with young people after the training course.

**Objectives**

* To support participants to become more aware of themselves and in so doing be enabled to make conscious choices and decisions that fit with their goals in life.
* To provide participants with some tools to support their young people through a similar process.
* To look at how we as individuals can rely on our own resources.
* To understand the forces that shape us as individuals.
* To understand how our behavior is influenced by our perception of ourselves, and by how others see us.
* To look how you can rely on powerless, inconvenient feelings and deal constructively with them.
* To discover the new Erasmus Plus - Youth in Action program and its actions as a tool to support the objectives of this training.
* To encourage participants to imagine that Everything is Possible!

**The approach and methodology**

This non-formal education training course will be characterized by highly participatory, interactive and experiential methods. The working methods will include case studies, working in pairs and small groups, team building activities, discussions, workshops developed by the participants and self-assessment. The participants will share experiences and knowledge with each other. This process with a self-directed learning approach will be facilitated by the trainers.

**Target Group**

This training is aimed at youth workers, youth leaders and volunteers working in a non-formal learning setting, with young people that are experiencing social exclusion. We will support our participants to explore their own Identity and by doing so, they will gain a greater appreciation of their full potential. We hope to inspire them to be more active in realizing this potential. Ultimately our aim is for the participants to be in a position to transfer their learning to their work with young people and to enable them to support their own young people through this process. The amount of participants will be maximum 30. They would be open to experience a learning journey. So for us it's important to have dynamic, open-minded and authentic participants. We will encourage the partner organizations to send one female and one male youth worker in order to have a gender balance in the group.

**Dissemination**

The participants will also have a multiplyer role, in other words: they will adapt what they learn in this training course to the context of working with young people. In their future projects and daily work they can incorporate tools, methods and theory which they have learned during this TC. As well as their personal learning and development they can use in their daily work with their own target groups.

**Partner organizations profile and role:**

The partner organizations want to invest in a better and more clear dissemination of information about personal topics to young people. The role of the partner organizations will be to select the participants for this TC, support the participants with booking travel and other practical issues, and to carry on the dissemination process of the training in their local communities.

**Eligible countries**

EU Programme Countries and Partner Countries

**TC Language**

English

**Organizers**

Connected Elephant (Belgium)

**Financial conditions**

The food and accommodation will be provided and paid by the organizers. Travels costs will be counted by distance calculator provided by European Commission and reimbursed by bank transfer after the course.

**Are you interested in being our partner in this project?**

In the attachment you find the Partner Identification Form and the Mandate. We kindly ask you to fill out the Identification Form from your organization and sign, scan and send the partner Mandate. Send them us back before the **16th of January**. You can send them to: **dominique@connected-elephant.org** or: verschurend@hotmail.com

If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact us!