

ESC in FUNKIBATOR IDEELL FÖRENING, VÄXJÖ



Organizing, logistics and service

Everyone should feel welcome at Funkibator! We work for an inclusive environment where everyone should feel at home and that you fit in. Society is already so structured and square, so that's why our organisation is round and a little more personal touch is needed. Join us and be yourself!

About Funkibator Ideell Förening:

Funkibator Ideell Förening is a local association started in 2011 and is the result of a development center project called Funkibator. In the county of Kronoberg there are only a few youth organizations within the field of disability, so we decided to start one ourselves. It's a regional organization and our main target group is children, youth and young adults, and people up to the age of 40. Funkibator Ideell Förening is for people regardless of diagnosis as we want to focus on the activities and not the diagnosis.

Our goal is to become a national organization and establish the organization all over Sweden. We offer different activities in the organization and our motto is that it should be concrete, fun and social. Some of our activities include leisure activities for young people with disabilities and monthly activities such as mini educations and inspirational meetings. Other activities have included arts and crafts, movie night, summer camp, social gatherings, study visits etc. We feel it is important that our target group meet new people and gain a bigger network, both digitally and in real life. We also cooperate with Växjö municipality and offer summer jobs for disabled youth.

The office of Funkibator association is close to the city center of Växjö and even closer to the bus and train station. The offices are wheelchair accessible.

What is Nätverket SIP?

We are part of Nätverket SIP (the Network SIP), which is an umbrella network of organizations with different aims and backgrounds and plenty of weekly activities we all can take part in. SIP stands for *Social change In Practice* and, as the name shows, SIP work is focused on building a more equal and democratic society through new ideas that have an impact on the community. SIP works with areas such as youth, mobility, integration, accessibility, employment issues, and norm critical thinking. We work in an open-space office where employees, volunteers and interns with different backgrounds, skills, motivations and life situations work together on different projects. We like to see SIP as an openminded and creative workspace that helps people contribute to a better society and find solutions for social challenges, while also offering easy access to opportunities for personal development.

Activities for volunteers:

The volunteer's main role in this project is to broadly work with service and logistics within Funkibator NGO. The tasks are many and varied, with focus on three main areas:

Deliveries and organization regarding non-profit book publishing

- Packing and delivery of children's books with a disability theme.
- Help with inventories and organization of books and other children's products linked to our nonprofit book publisher.

Organization and delivery of materials

- To carry out checks and inventories of materials such as technology, materials for crafts, play equipment, etc. that are used in activities by children, young people and people with disabilities.
- Simpler repairs, and checks on returned equipment
- Purchase and research of new products
- Issuance and lending of material that is booked

Other work

- Assembly of materials, furniture and equipment for activities
- Creating manuals, taking photos, making instructions on how to use equipment
- Hold simple trainings for others on how to use equipment
- Easier service, organization and in some cases cleaning linked to your work areas
- Simpler forms of administration, creating lists, making summaries
- Participation in joint projects and activities such as leading activities together with others and assisting with its organization such as the Pride parade and SIP's joint Christmas party
- Go on dog walks together with TLC and help out with their animal farm
- Maintain the organisations green house and indoor aquaponic farm; water, weed, re-plant etc

→ You will also join other teams of Network SIP during your volunteering, such as the maintenance/practical team. Throughout that you get the chance to develop more skills and meet other people working in our house. These can include more practical tasks like constructing, screwing, painting or driving with a trailer. This is mainly a preparation for summer when you will be leading a group of young people of summer workers and work manually with them. You can also help out in TLC (Tender Loving Caring, a pet organization in SIP) by joining dog walks, preparing a fika with dogs or feeding and cuddling the animals.

We are looking for a volunteer who:

- is open and flexible
- enjoys both office work (planning, meetings, brainstorming) and participating and organizing activities with people and other more practical tasks
- is interested in inclusion and social issues
- is respectful of others and willing to make an effort to adapt to different and new situations and activities
- sees themselves as responsible and independent
- wants to be creative, forward, active, take initiative and think outside the box
- likes to communicate and interact with the target group
- enjoys working in a team with people with different backgrounds and needs
- has a driver's licence (not required, but desirable)
- has good general knowledge in IT, digital media, and the use of social media (communication)



Work-schedule and team:

The volunteers will be working for a maximum **35 hours per week** usually during weekdays but sometimes on weekends and evenings. The volunteers are encouraged to take courses in Swedish, and the volunteer decides together with the supervisor the amount of time spent on learning it every week. Besides **2 days off per week**, volunteers are granted with another 24 days off for 12 months (**2 days off per month**).

During your day you're surrounded by many other people from the other organizations and often have to work with people with fewer opportunities.

Food, accommodation, and transportation:

Funkibator cooperates with Globala Kronoberg who is a coordinating organization within ESC. They will be responsible for the volunteers' living situation and ensure that the minimum standards are met.

The volunteer will cook on his/her own. Therefore he/she will receive food money and pocket money every month. The pocket money will be **180 euros/month** and the food money will be around **2500 SEK/month**. In the office, you can eat your homemade lunch together with colleagues or other volunteers in our lunchroom, and there are private spaces to change into working clothes if needed. Apart from that, everything in terms of tools and equipment is provided by us in Funkibator or the Network SIP for any task that is carried out by the volunteer.

The volunteer will live in a shared house/apartment with other volunteers, students or workers. He/She will have a single room and share the bathroom, a fully equipped kitchen and other common areas. There is Wi-Fi in the accommodation. The housing is either situated inside the city of Växjö or in the surrounding towns of Växjö. The volunteer will be provided with a yearlong bus card or a bicycle to travel from home to the office, depending on the distance in between them.

About Växjö and Kronoberg:

Växjö is a municipality of **80.000 inhabitants** in the region of Kronoberg, in the region of Småland in the south of Sweden. It is situated 3 hours by train from Copenhagen, Denmark and 4 hours from Stockholm, Sweden. Växjö municipality has been awarded several international awards for its **environmental** work, including the European Green Leaf Award 2018 from the European Commission. Find out more about Växjö, the greenest city in Europe, and Småland.



Check out blog post of former volunteer:

Sarah, 2021/22: [Working at Funkibator: a weekly tour of my life as a volunteer](#)

To know more about Funkibator:

Check the website: <https://www.funkibator.se/>

Funkibator in a nutshell-movie: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v3quodu_yj8

Sarah, 2021/22: [How to handle the long winter in Sweden](#)

Some more blog posts about volunteering in Sweden in general:

Isabelle, 2021/22: [Hej Sverige, what a shock?!](#)

Andrea, 2021/22: [How to prepare yourself for volunteering](#)

Irene, 2020/21: [Living four seasons in Sweden](#)