



Voluntary service in the youth residential groups of the Schwulenberatung Berlin

Website: <https://schwulenberatungberlin.de/>
Address: **Gotenstraße 51, 10829 Berlin**
Einsatzort: **Niebuhrstr. 59/60, 10629 (Neubau)**

The organisation

Schwulenberatung Berlin has been a psychosocial health promotion facility for homosexual people, trans* and inter* people as well as people with HIV and AIDS since 1981. It offers therapeutic shared flats, assisted individual living, a day care center, a contact center for mentally ill people, general counseling and outpatient addiction therapy and a visiting service for the elderly. Schwulenberatung Berlin also operates a specialist and contact point for people with a refugee background and, since 2023, two day care centers. With more than 200 full-time employees, it is one of the largest facilities of its kind in Europe and is the central psychosocial care facility for the target group in this region.

Schwulenberatung Berlin is integrated into Berlin's psychosocial and health care system for HIV/AIDS, addiction, old age, health, homosexuality, trans identity and flight and participates in the relevant committees and cooperates with other institutions in Berlin, Germany and abroad.

In addition, the organization has been a recognized independent provider of child and youth welfare services for over 20 years for educational assistance in accordance with Section 27 SGB VIII for services in accordance with Section 30 SGB VIII (educational support/care assistants), Section 31 SGB VIII (socio-educational family support) and Section 35 SGB VIII (intensive individual socio-educational support).

Schwulenberatung Berlin is financed by grants from the state of Berlin, fees from district authorities and the state of Berlin, pension insurance providers and health insurance companies, as well as foundation funds and donations. Schwulenberatung Berlin is recognized as a non-profit organization and worthy of support. Not only has the structure of the institution developed and professionalized since it was founded, but also the demands placed on Gay Counselling Berlin by social changes or the reactions of individuals to these changes. Quality assurance and development, the maintenance of a digital quality manual, supervision and regular further training are all part of the institution's quality standards.

Schwulenberatung Berlin is a member of the Deutscher Paritätischer Wohlfahrtsverband, the Gesellschaft für soziale Psychiatrie e.V., the Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe e.V., Gesundheit Berlin-Brandenburg e.V., the Fachverband Drogen- und Rauschmittel e.V. (FDR), the Lesben- und Schwulenverband Deutschlands (LSVD), Transgender Europe (TGEU), the Bundesverband für die professionelle Beratung schwuler Männer e.V. and the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA), among others.

Anti-homosexual discrimination at school, at work and in public life, problems with parents and family, which often begin in childhood (when an early "otherness" becomes noticeable), increase vulnerability (susceptibility to illness). According to research, the suicide rate among LGBTI* young people is far higher than that of non-LGBTI* young people. The health and psychosocial care system is still not sufficiently geared towards the needs of homosexual, trans and intersex people.

In this context, the services offered by Schwulenberatung Berlin are aimed at enabling homosexual, transgender and intersex people and members of other target groups to recognize the conditions that promote and inhibit health and to improve the subjective and social conditions for more self-determination in shaping their own lives in society.



The Project

Two residential groups for 8 and 5 young people aged 12 - 16 and 16 - 21 respectively are to be set up. The youth residential group is aimed at queer young people aged 12 and over who need special protection, support and a safe living space due to their sexual orientation or gender identity. This includes young people who:

- Are in the process of coming out
- have experienced discrimination or rejection due to their sexual orientation or gender identity,
- find themselves in unstable family situations,
- are experiencing psychological stress or social isolation,
- need support in developing their identity and self-confidence.

Tasks for volunteer

The assignment relates in particular to helping with group and individual offers for fixed groups such as community circles, creative and leisure activities.

We welcome motivated people, preferably with their own LGBTI* identity or an interest in the topic of "diversity".

We offer cooperation in a committed and humorous team.

Key facts for the volunteer position

- The volunteer will work with a team of about 15 social workers and educators.
- The spoken language in the team is German but many educators speak english.
- There are no other volunteers in the project but interns
- The volunteer is expected to work 35 hours per week.
- Working hours are from 6:00 to 14:00 or 12:00 to 20:00. but we can vary it a little bit, especially during the holidays. The most important working time of the day is 10h to 18h.
- The volunteer will work with a group of maximum 13 teenagers oder young adults.
- The children, teenagers oder young adults the volunteer will work with are between the ages of 12 and 21 years old.

For more general information about the project "European Solidarity. ESC with ijgd in social and cultural projects in Berlin" and the application process, please read the Call for Participants 2025-2026 or contact us at esc-applications.berlin@ijgd.de