

# Renaissance ASBL

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## About Renaissance ASBL

Renaissance ASBL is a residential center hosting 18 adults who were born with physical disabilities (cerebral palsy).

The center aims at giving those people an adapted living place. Renaissance is a residential center in which each occupant has to take part in the daily tasks according to their abilities. These tasks are supervised by various specialized people: educators, occupational therapists, speech therapists, nurses, a caseworker and physiotherapists, a multidisciplinary team in which each person accompanies the resident individually within the group.



Daily tasks at the center include:

- Life at the center: cooking, food stocks control, laundry storage, cleaning of the kitchen.
- Indoor activities: theatre, boccia (variation of bowls for disabled people), sports, painting, expression, media, comics, well-being.
- Outdoor activities: swimming, hippotherapy, food shopping, cultural excursions.
- Special events: Ren & Music (music festival), Ren & Bike (adapted bicycles), Ren'ART (painting exhibition), Christmas market.

The Renaissance residential center is located in a very quiet and green neighborhood of the village of Orphain, 3 km away from the city center of Braine-l'Alleud which can be reached by bus, by bike or on foot. Braine-l'Alleud counts more than 39,000 inhabitants and is not far away from Brussels (less than 15 minutes by train).

The Renaissance residential center has always been disposed to welcome volunteers. Groups of young people come regularly to the center to acknowledge its way of living. The staff members also promote the residential center. Two young Turkish interpretation students have come to the center lately and stayed 4 months as part of an internship. The center highlights the importance of cultural exchange, openness and encounters.

The multidisciplinary team includes: 14 specialized educators, 2 occupational therapists, 2 speech therapists, a caseworker, a director, a psychologist and a financial and administrative manager. Three independent physiotherapists and an independent team of nurses also work at the center.

## Mission of the Volunteer at the Residential Center

During the project, the volunteer will take part in the community life of the residential center under the supervision of the staff members. They will accompany the residents during mealtimes and other moments of their life:

- Life at the center: cooking, food stocks control, etc.
- Leisure and creative activities: theatre, well-being, painting, expression, comics
- Activities organized out of the center: shopping, cultural excursions, sports, etc

The volunteers will also improve their French, organize some group activities and projects.

The volunteers won't be in charge of medical care (washing the residents, putting them to bed, waking them up, etc.).



The timetables have to be arranged with the director. The volunteers will have to take part in the center's activities during the day, and could be asked to work at weekends.

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## Volunteers' Profile

Renaissance wishes to welcome people having reached their legal majority who are (or are willing to be) aware of the cause of disabled people. The volunteers must have the maturity needed to face the challenges of daily life with physically disabled people. Prior knowledge of French is essential because some residents only speak French and need clear indications, in order to avoid misunderstandings that could frighten or upset them. Besides, the Renaissance residential center needs volunteers who are dynamic, motivated, keen to learn and to take initiatives, able to question themselves, and to accept remarks from the staff. They also need to be aware that they will live several months with different people who have a way of life which is sometimes totally opposed to our daily life.

Volunteers have a place at the Renaissance residential center. The partner of the SVI will do everything to create a real exchange between them and the residents of the center.

## Practical Information

### Accommodation

The volunteers will be housed in separate rooms on the first floor of the center. These rooms include a television, access to WiFi, a private bathroom and toilet.



### Food

Three meals a day will be provided to the volunteers. They will eat with the residents on the ground floor of the center or on the first floor (where they will be housed).

### Pocket Money

The volunteer will receive an amount of 110€ on a monthly basis.

### Transport and Leisure

- The center is located at 3km of the city center of Braine-l'Alleud.
- Braine-l'Alleud counts many stores and a train station. Brussels is 15 minutes away from Braine-l'Alleud by train.

- A bus stop and a train station are located not far from the residential center. Bicycles are provided for the volunteers to go to the train station.
- As far as leisure is concerned, Braine-l'Alleud is home to a cinema complex, many sports halls, and a cultural center.
- Braine-l'Alleud is not far away from the historic site of Waterloo. Many hiking routes are available in the area.

## Duration of the Stay

Volunteers can stay at the center from 3 months to one year. A maximum duration was fixed to give the opportunity to other volunteers to take part in the project.

## Guidance of the Volunteers

One of the staff members will be in charge of tutoring the volunteer in order to guide them to resource persons regarding different aspects of the residential center: speech therapist, occupational therapists, psychologist, caseworker, etc. The director will remain available for any administrative or general difficulty concerning the volunteer.

A meeting will take place on a monthly basis to report on the volunteer's stay. The volunteers are allowed to meet their tutor or the director of the center whenever they want. They will never have to stay alone with the residents and will be given safety instructions by a prevention adviser.



**Do you want to volunteer in Belgium? Feel free to contact the SVI:**

**[info@servicevolontaire.org](mailto:info@servicevolontaire.org) or go check our website:**

**[www.servicevolontaire.org](http://www.servicevolontaire.org)!**