

REGISTER FOR EUROPEAN EXCHANGE VISITS FOR VOLUNTEERS OVER 50 YEARS OF AGE

2009 was a very successful year for the Mobility Project!



With the support of the European Union, fifty Vincentian volunteers were able to take part in fourteen cross-border visits organised throughout Europe between May and November 2009. These journeys allowed volunteers over 50 years of age to pursue their personal development while finding out about projects of other Conference and National Councils in Europe. They visited a very wide range of projects aimed at helping the very poorest people: a concert given by children living with disabilities (Hungary), home visits (Italy), support for prisoners (Scotland), advice on debt (Spain), inter-generational voluntary work (Italy) or a visit to a non-Vincentian social inclusion association (France). The Vincentians who took the trips were all very pleased with their experiences in Europe. They want to draw inspiration from the projects they visited, to renew their own work back home. They also experienced the importance of sharing good practice, so that they can give better service to the most disadvantaged people and of forming and strengthening contacts among volunteers in Europe.

One SVP member, a lady aged around sixty, reported on her visit to Romania: *«We really appreciated the opportunity we were given in the Mobility Project. During our very interesting visit, we learned a lot about the work of the SVP in Romania. We shared our own ideas and experience of setting up a centre for the profoundly deaf with many members, and we also found out about the differences in the culture of our two countries. It was a joy to receive such a warm welcome wherever we went. I really hope our experience on this trip will help us strengthen the links between the SVP in England & Wales, and in Romania, and will encourage greater collaboration.»* Mary A, England & Wales.



2010: The last year for taking part in the Mobility Project

2010 is the final year of the Mobility Project, set up in 2007 to run for three years. There is still time to organise exchange visits in Europe: take the chance of meeting other European volunteers! It will help you find out about new projects, to deepen your own work with the poor, and to share your experience and your knowledge. There are still many projects to visit in Spain, in England, in Germany, in Italy, in Hungary and elsewhere, and your costs (travel and accommodation) will be met by the European Union.

If you are over 50, and you would like to take part in the Mobility Project, or just find out more information, go to the Mobility Project page on our website: <http://www.ssvpglobal.org/index.php/fr/projet-mobilite.html> or contact Marie Grosjean marie.grosjean@ozanet.org