

SUMMARY

PoMOCna KAWA #27



VOLUNTEERING

10 ORGANISATIONS PARTICIPATED "Q" Foundation, Folkowisko Humanitarian Foundation, A21, Internationaler Bund Poland, "Never Again" Association, Feminoteka Foundation and others

City NGO – initiative of the Q Foundation

The first talk at our meeting was about the Q Foundation's unique initiative for NGOs - City NGO. **It is a space created especially for the third sector, operating at the CieszFanów Festival.** In previous editions of the event, it was visited by more than 100 organisations! City NGO is a series of workshops, trainings, lectures, exhibitions, etc. – a unique opportunity to engage the festival community in the world of our organisation, as well as to integrate with other representatives of the third sector - less formally and with rock music. Details on this initiative can be found [here](#).

Long-term volunteering – tips

During the meeting, the Q Foundation also touched on the topic of long-term volunteering – how to introduce it in your organization and what benefits it can bring. We came to the following conclusions:

- **long-term volunteering is built on a strong sense of loyalty** – these types of volunteers, due to their long tenure, 'knit' themselves to the organisation and we to them. We can learn from them – draw on their vision and ideas.
- in order to involve people in long-term activities, **ideas and goals need to be well-defined and then presented** – in short-term "action" volunteering this is less important, as the mere "attractiveness" of the specific event one is volunteering at (e.g. a festival) is sufficient motivation. In the long term, something 'extra' is needed to make the relationship between the volunteer and the organisation more sustainable – and these are the converging ideas and goals.

- **long-term volunteers need to function within a specific structure.** To this end, a function responsible for coordinating volunteering should be established, as well as an incentive system and opportunities for volunteers to develop through training, team-building trips, etc.
- **Long-term volunteers are the organisation's ambassadors** – they are able to give publicity to the organisation better than many sponsored content on Facebook, via the 'panto mail'.

Korpus Solidarności – voluntary service system

The Q Foundation also told us about the Korpus Solidarności – a platform for handling long-term volunteering. This is an initiative that aims to develop and implement solutions to facilitate and encourage systematic and long-term volunteering. It is designed for both volunteers and the organisations that seek them. The Corps encourages and promotes volunteering and, above all, offers support to these groups in the form of educational activities, a benefits system, tools for organising volunteering, among others. The programme covers the entire country. Participants can also get involved in nationwide events: forums, competitions, mini-grant programmes - original projects.

The appreciation of the Korpus Solidarności is a system of benefits - the Volunteer Card. It is a package of discounts at cultural institutions, sports, business partners. Membership in the Korpus Solidarności is also about exchanging experiences between participants and being in a community of people, institutions with similar values.

KONTAKT:

Jeśli potrzebujesz kontaktu do konkretnej organizacji, napisz do nas na adres: julia.bochenek@culturelab.pl. Zachęcamy również do dołączenia do naszej [zamkniętej grupy](#) dla członków organizacji, NGO i wolontariuszy na Facebooku, w której dzielimy się wiedzą oraz ponadwymiarowymi zasobami, szukamy inspiracji, dajemy znać o grantach.