

A volunteer and a refugee organisation are the perfect match



EVS and refugees

“ Working with EVS has been very straightforward in terms of administration, content and finances.

Els Keytsman, Vluchtelingen Vlaanderen

When Belgian organisation Vluchtelingenwerk Vlaanderen was looking for a young person to support them in their work with refugees, they found Mina who wanted to make a difference in the lives of others.

Across Europe, volunteers show empathy for the extreme hardships and choices made by refugees leaving their home countries.

Having fled Kurdistan and settled in Denmark as a refugee herself, Mina Jaf was determined to work for the community, which led to her researching the possibility of doing an EVS. When she applied for an EVS project, her background made her stand out to Vluchtelingenwerk Vlaanderen, an organisation giving refugee aid. “I’m learning a lot working for this EVS project. It gives me the chance to develop personal skills,” said Mina.

Els Keytsman from Vluchtelingenwerk Vlaanderen was pleased with how easy it is to start up an EVS project and find a volunteer. Mina undertook her EVS in Belgium, where she helped to manage a team of volunteers at a refugee centre. Her work has proved invaluable to the organisation. She has so impressed staff at Vluchtelingenwerk Vlaanderen that they have submitted a request for funding for more EVS activities.



Mina Jaf describes her EVS experience helping refugees in Belgium. Watch her EVS journey here: <https://europa.eu/youth/evs20>

Home country of the EVS volunteer: Denmark

EVS duration: 1 year

Country where the volunteering took place: Belgium

The European Voluntary Service (EVS) gives young people the opportunity to volunteer abroad. As an organisation you can get financial support to run a project involving one or more international volunteers in your activities.

Find out more: <https://europa.eu/youth/evs20>