

**In the framework of the Erasmus+  
KA1 Mobility project for VET learners and staff  
7<sup>th</sup> of March to the 30<sup>th</sup> of May**

**2016-1-ESO1-KA103-024386**



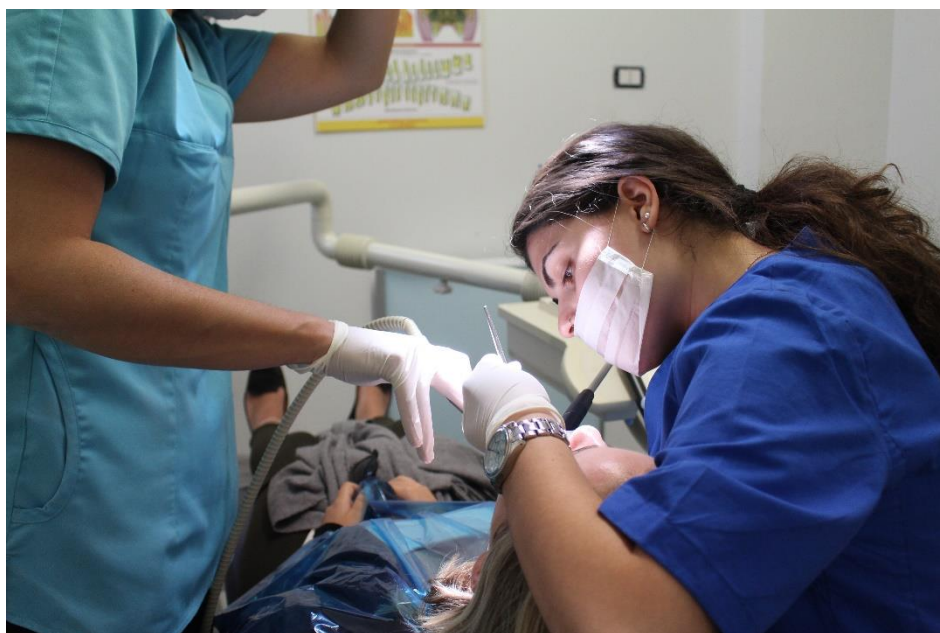
**Associazione Artistica Culturale "A Rocca" – C.F. 90013330833**

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The team of the **Associazione Art. Cult. "A Rocca"** and **EProjectConsult** International department took the role of intermediary partner for group of people from **Granada, Spain** in the frame of Erasmus+ programme. During the project we hosted **7** selected participants. The internships were in the field of **laboratory analysis, dentistry and social animation**. The participants gained experience in the field of their studies and became acquainted with the traditional Italian and Sicilian techniques. The duration of the project was 85 days, from 7<sup>th</sup> of March to the 30<sup>th</sup> of May.



## Preparation of the mobility project

In order to make the cooperation between both organizations effective, guarantee the best quality project and to satisfy the participant's expectations and needs, we have designed the program of the project together. We have exchanged e-mails in order to discuss the aims of the project, to develop the plan of activities and to clarify any doubts.



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## Arrival of the participants

The group of participants arrived on **07.03.2017** and **13.03.2017** at the airport of **Catania**. The “A Rocca” organization provided the transfer from the airport to the participant’s accommodations in Barcellona Pozzo di Gotto town.

On the next day of their arrival they had an informative welcome meeting, designed to give the participants useful information they require during their stay in Sicily. Firstly, they had the introduction to the program in general. The tutor informed the trainees about the organization and described the work activities, obligations and tasks they will be involved in during the project. Next, they were provided with the plan of the city and were acquainted with all the hospitalities of Barcellona P.G. and the nearby towns.

The next informative session was dedicated to the cultural aspects of their life in Sicily: the work style in Italy, rules to follow, behaviour and other cultural information was given to the participants. The “Help me” card with useful numbers and phrases in Italian as well as a leaflet with all the useful information they may need (address, rules, tips, etc.) during their stay was distributed.

## Placement Details

The subject of the placement for the participants was laboratory analysis, dentistry and social animation. The interns had the opportunity to learn skills needed for a future professional career in this field. The internships were located in city Barcellona Pozzo di Gotto in the following companies:

**Company:** In Cammino Societa' Cooperativa Sociale Onlus

**Address:** Via degli Studi, 32, 98051 Barcellona Pozzo di Gotto ME

**Company:** Laboratorio di analisi Genovese

**Address:** Via Roma, 79, 98051 Barcellona pozzo di Gotto ME

**Company:** Centro Medico Dentistico La Spada s.a.s & C.

**Address:** Via Caduti sul Lavoro, 25, 98051 Barcellona pozzo di Gotto ME



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### **Skills and professional competences acquired:**

- Observing, receiving, and otherwise obtaining information from all relevant sources in the field related.
- Establishing and maintaining interpersonal relationships: learning the development of constructive and cooperative working relationships with others.
- Developing specialized Italian language skills.
- Critical Thinking: Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to different problems.
- Understanding the implications of new information for both current and future problem-solving and decision-making.
- Developing social perspectives and being aware of reactions of other co-workers and supervisors.
- Giving full attention to what other people are saying and taking the time to understand the points being made.
- Interacting effectively in an international environment and make use of foreign language skills

### **Job duties, skills, and professional competences acquired:**

- Observing, receiving, and otherwise obtaining information from all relevant sources in the field related.
- Establishing and maintaining interpersonal relationships: learning the development of constructive and cooperative working relationships with others.
- Developing specialized Italian language skills.
- Critical Thinking: Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to different problems.
- Understanding the implications of new information for both current and future problem-solving and decision-making.
- Developing social perspectives and being aware of reactions of other co-workers and supervisors.
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## CULTURAL PROGRAM

### Etna and Taormina 16/04/2017



**Mount Etna** is an active stratovolcano on the east coast of Sicily, in the Province of Catania. It is the tallest active volcano on the European continent and is by far the largest of the three active volcanoes in Italy. Mount Etna is one of the most active volcanoes in the world and is in an almost constant state of activity. The fertile volcanic soils support extensive agriculture, with vineyards and orchards spread across the lower slopes of the mountain and the broad Plain of Catania to the south. Due to its history of recent activity and nearby population, Mount Etna has been designated a Decade Volcano by the United Nations. In June 2013, it was added to the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

**Taormina** was the next stop on the excursion. As soon as the group arrived in Taormina, they felt the magical,

mythical atmosphere that has enchanted visitors from all over the world for years. Settled on a hill of the Monte Tauro, Taormina dominates two grand, sweeping bays below and on the southern side, the top of Mount Etna, often capped with snow, offering to the visitors a breath taking, dramatic and memorable view. Taormina is a medieval village perched alongside the steep terrain jutting out of the ocean. While it has kept its medieval character, it is now a shopper's paradise. Near the top of Taormina Village is a wonderfully preserved Greek Theatre. This pretty much sums up Taormina's charm. There is something for everyone; great shopping, wonderful restaurants, Roman ruins, medieval pedestrian streets and even stairs to a great beach.



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## **Aeolian Islands (Panarea and Stromboli) 09/04/2017**

Situated just a few kilometers off the coast from Milazzo, the **Aeolian islands** are for sure a must-see place in Sicily. The Aeolian Islands are one of 51 UNESCO World Heritage sites in Italy. The islands form a volcanic archipelago in the Tyrrhenian Sea in the north of Milazzo. The group arrived to the Islands with a small cruise ship. The complex consists of eight islands with Vulcano and Stromboli being still active.

**Panarea** is the second smallest of the eight Aeolian Islands and an inactive volcano. There are currently about 280 residents living on the island year-round; however the population increases dramatically in summer with the influx of tourists. There are no cars on the island, only golf carts and Motorino electric bikes. The island really is picture perfect, amazing nature, beautiful white villages with narrow lanes and a wonderful atmosphere.

**Stromboli** was the last stop on the tour, it is an active volcano with small eruptions from time to time. These small eruptions are often visible from the surrounding sea, and this has led to the island receiving its nickname "Lighthouse of the Mediterranean". The group visited the island until sunset, then they departed by boat to admire Stromboli exploding by night. Especially the "Sciara del Fuoco" ("Stream of fire") is amazing in the evening, there you can see the active lava flow.



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## **Palermo and Cefalù: 21/05/2017**

**Palermo** is the capital of both the autonomous region of Sicily and the Province of Palermo. The city is noted for its history, culture, architecture and gastronomy, playing an important role throughout much of its existence; it is over 2,700 years old. Palermo is Sicily's cultural, economic and touristic capital. It is a city rich in history, culture, art, music and food. Numerous tourists are attracted to the city for its good Mediterranean weather, its renowned gastronomy and restaurants, its Romanesque, Gothic and Baroque churches, palaces and buildings, and its nightlife and music. Palermo is the main Sicilian industrial and commercial centre: the main industrial sectors include tourism, services, commerce and agriculture.

**Cefalù** is situated about halfway between Messina and Palermo and is one the best place is Northern Sicily! Turquoise-blue water, architecture, hospitality. Cefalù can be distinctively seen from the distance - the place is marked by the uniquely formed rock. It provides by far the best view to every direction which you can imagine. On the top you can find the ruins of an old castle and monastery as well. You can find every little detail you love about Italian architecture in the center which will spoil your eyes: the narrow streets with hanging drying clothes above your head, the nice little church, the diverse collection of flowers and plants placed everywhere, the lovely little beach in the old town. Of course you can find bars, restaurants and a bigger beach is available as well for the masses of tourists.



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## **Syracuse & Noto: 15/04/2017**

**Syracuse** is a historic city in Sicily, the capital of the province of Syracuse. The city is notable for its rich Greek history, culture, amphitheaters, architecture. Since 2005, the entire city of Syracuse, along with the Necropolis of Pantalica which falls within the province of Syracuse, was listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. After Syracuse the group continued their day to **Noto**, a city and commune in the Province of Syracuse. In 2002, Noto and its church were declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Noto is famous for its fine buildings of the early 18th century, considered among the main masterpieces in the Sicilian baroque style. It is a place of many religious buildings; there are several palaces. In this territory there are many wine producers, not big in terms of quantity but great in terms of quality.



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## Evaluation of the project

The evaluation of the project is excellent. Employees of the “A Rocca” Association and persons involved in this project hope it was a rich and useful experience for all the participants. The monitoring team did its best in order to satisfy the expectations of each participant and to ensure the communication with the sending organization at each stage of the project. In order to reach this, there were two days of evaluation - one in the middle of the project and the other at the final day.

Participants had a chance to see the way of working in Sicily. Certainly, they had an opportunity to get to know a lot of useful information about the functioning of Sicilian enterprises, which are related to laboratory analysis, dentistry and social animation. Those participants who had a previous experience in the field of laboratory analysis, dentistry and social animation also could compare all the similarities and differences of these related enterprises in Sicily and Spain. All participants gained worthy experience in working in a team, cooperating with colleagues and individually working in accordance with each candidates individual skills.

At the end of the project, participants received “**A Rocca placement certificate**” and **EUROPASS**.

Most importantly the participants gained professionally experience in their sector, and they will now be more competitive in the labour market in Spain.



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## Conclusion

Our monitoring team did its best in order to satisfy the expectations of each participant. We were always ready to offer help, advice and solve any doubts with our guaranteed 24-hour availability; in any case they needed some assistance. Consequently, the participants seemed to be satisfied with this project. According to their opinion, it was an interesting and useful experience. We hope they found inspiration and got new ideas about how to deal with their future career in their country. We are satisfied because due to their participation in the programme, the participants have enriched their professional experiences. Moreover, participants had the opportunity to explore new horizons by fully integrating in Sicilian culture and meeting many new friends from Italy and from the other parts of world. In addition, the whole group of participants became good friends, and can still meet each other after the project and exchange their experiences.

Our team is very satisfied with the participant's involvement in the project and personal interest of each person involved. We hope we can continue our cooperation.



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