YOUTH WORKERS

A youth worker guides and supports young people in their personal, social and educational development. Youth workers will generally work with young people (schools, Colleges, youth centers).

Youth workers will have to face challenges when they put to work the entrepreneurial initiatives in the communities, and they will need a deep understanding to clarify the meaning of youth entrepreneurship in different cultures and working with unemployed youth.

As youth workers, they will need to:

• open the minds of young people

• Inspire young people

• give young people an active role - make them responsible

• give young people the opportunity to explore the world

• help young people find their own way, get involved and become active

• give young people a positive image of themselves

• Offer young people interesting things to do in their spare time

• Offer non-formal education and leisure activities

• be a mentor, coach and support individuals, encouraging greater social inclusion

• design projects according to youth own desires and needs

• work in partnership with professionals from other organizations that support young people such as social care, health, police, education and local authorities

As youth workers, they will need to show:

- a strong commitment to young people and an understanding of the factors affecting their lives

- the ability to work well with others

- patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations

- excellent verbal communication skills (good relationships with young people) and flexibility

- digital skills

- formal communication skills for presentations, report writing and funding applications

- the ability to treat young people's concerns with respect, tact and sensitivity, while being aware of the limits that are required by confidentiality and the boundaries that govern the youth/youth worker relationship

- sensitivity and understanding

- counselling skills

- knowledge of psychology

Links:

https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/policies/digital-skills

https://www.digitaleurope.org/ policies/digital-skills/

https://ec.europa.eu/esf/BlobServlet?docId=445&langId=en