

It is said that time makes you put things in their place, that as the days pass, everything makes sense and you begin to understand. It must be that once you have lived the experience of EVS all watchmakers go on strike and the hands of the clock remain immobile, because today, nothing more and nothing less than 341 days after finishing the project, I am still not able to assimilate every single thing that this experience has given me. It is exactly here that one of the most important things that the project has taught me start coming out, to throw me, without knowing what I will say or what the result will be, to risk, to believe.

On October 1, 2017 I started my project at UILDM (Italian Union Against Muscular Dystrophy) in Rome, an organization that provides socialcare-healthcare services to people with neuromuscular diseases and promotes a cultural change to respond to the needs of people with disabilities. The activities that I did in UILDM was called "Integration" in which I had to 'work' with three 'clients' of the organization with whom I would have to "be as a company" every week during the 12 months of the project. There was no concrete dynamic to be carried out with them, but 'it would be seen each day'.

From what you can see I was not sure what was expected of me or how this would develop, the information I had, seemed quite ambiguous, later I understood why. The theory was that we were providing altruistically assistance, time and possibility of socialization to people who, each in a different way, was in a complex moment, not only because of muscular dystrophy but also because normally the context in which they were in, did not facilitate the development of their dreams: people who had left their countries to be assisted in Rome, people without a network of people that allowed them to leave their homes or simply interact.

However, what each of these people contributed to me cannot be expressed in any language, from A to Z, there is no word that minimally approaches the amount of things that were born in me thanks to each one of them. This 'company' to 'clients' became the creation of something magical, of the most human, natural and reciprocal relationships I have ever experienced. And also, something truly remote from the concept of routine.

I entered the environment of each person, in their home, in their privacy, they opened me the door, and from there we began to share; ... stories, feelings, opinions, mornings and afternoons, walks, meals, to share our LIVES. And as I said at the beginning, when you try to sit down, stop for a second or even five hours to think what happened, you can't explain it to yourself. Suddenly, you don't know when or how a fusion has been created, a loop has been created, something has been activated in you that the only thing you know is that it makes you feel alive.

And it was precisely when there was not so much time until finishing the project that something made me put a little order what this year had injected my person, something that not only helped me to understand, but it would also open many doors later, something that somehow became my new great little identity card, and that is how I started to elaborate my Youthpass, through which I could ensure that I had acquired awareness and knowledge about cultural diversities, about social problems and the different realities of each individual, I had learned to observe, to understand the abilities and needs of each one, not to judge, to listen, to explore, to participate, to create, to collaborate, I had learned to open myself, to adapt, to propose, to DO.

So yes, I have still a long way to understand everything that this year has produced in me, but what I have clear is that if there is something that absolutely every inhabitant of this planet, of which many times I do not understand many things, must hold on to, is HUMANITY and it is precisely this that I can firmly assure the EVS and the elaboration of Youthpass have given me, and that is the fact of describing in words each aptitude, teaching, learning, value that the experience has given you is both personal and collective growth, since thanks to the elaboration of each of the Youthpass created every year, in Europe we can talk about union, progress and active citizenship.