

IDENTIFICATION OF THE ORGANIZATION

Name	ROCK YOUR LIFE!
Location	Munich
Type of organization	gGmbH (charitable limited company)
Contact person	Lena-Carolina Esser
Contact details	info@rockyourlife.de
Year of establishment	2009
Scale (local, regional, national, international)	41 local chapters in Germany; 5 local chapters in Switzerland

IDENTIFICATION OF THE MENTORING PROGRAM

Title	ROCK YOUR LIFE! Mentoring
Mentees	1165
Mentors	1165
Objectives	Educational equity, equal opportunities, social mobility, individual potential development, vocational orientation
Mobilized resources (human, logistical, financial, etc.)	ROCK YOUR LIFE! gGmbH: 524,091.87 EUR (personnel costs: 230,912.90 EUR; nonpersonnel costs: 293,784.47 EUR) ROCK YOUR LIFE! Network: 254,912.62 EUR More than 3.000 volunteers invested more than 100,000 hours of time in the ROCK YOUR LIFE! program.
Year of establishment	2009
Scale (local, regional, national, international)	

CONTEXT

In Germany, the link between a young person's prospects and his/her socio-demographic background is remarkably strong. The German school system is very selective, allowing little educational mobility. Pupils from a German „Hauptschule“¹ therefore hardly ever make it to university. University students on the other hand hardly ever encounter pupils from “Hauptschule” and know little about their actualities of life and discouraging prospects. These two groups (even if only a few years apart in age) are isolated from each other although being part of the same society.

¹ General-education secondary school (level I, years 5-9), oriented to the world of work, compulsory for all pupils who do not transfer to other secondary schools



DESCRIPTION

Pupils from socially underprivileged conditions are accompanied by students from college or university for two years. Mentor and mentee meet on a regular basis (at least twice a month). The students support and encourage the pupils as one-on-one mentors. Thus, the pupils are being empowered to unfold their individual potential and to achieve job or education related goals in a self-responsible and self-conscious way.

PARTICIPATION

Our local chapters are co-operating with schools nearby, where our program is regularly presented and introduced to the pupils in a playful way. The pupils then decide whether they want to attend ROCK YOUR LIFE! or not. At the same time, our local chapters take several marketing measures at local colleges and universities to recruit students as mentors. The recruitment of students represents a multistage process. Interested students have the possibility to join an informative meeting about ROCK YOUR LIFE! at their college or university. If the students then plan to get involved with ROCK YOUR LIFE! as a mentor, several personnel interviews are conducted. Finally, admitted mentors sign a written commitment.

During their mentoring relationship, students and pupils complete a professional qualification program. Three seminars, given by qualified ROCK YOUR LIFE! coaches, take place at each local chapter in the course of the two year mentoring relationship. In these seminars, the pupils explore their own potentials, strengths, and future job perspectives. On either side, perspectives are broadened, and social skills trained. Currently, there are 1,165 mentoring relationships running. Overall, 2,400 pupils have been successfully attained by our program, as well as more than 3,100 college students.

EFFECTS OF THE MENTORING PROGRAM

By establishing individual one-on-one ROCK YOUR LIFE! mentoring relationships between students and pupils, several positive effects in terms of educational and social mobility occur. Pupils and students discover together what it means to literally ROCK one's life. Schools receive support since their lack of resources doesn't allow for individual mentoring. On a societal level, we contribute towards social integration, mobility, solidarity and equal opportunity.

For being able to measure the effects of our mentoring program, we set the course for an extensive evaluation of our activities. This includes an accompanying evaluation for our mentoring relationships, the evaluation of our seminars, reportings by our local chapters and regular dialogs between the "ROCK YOUR LIFE! gGmbH" and our local chapters with regard to the specific quality standards of ROCK YOUR LIFE.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND INFORMATION

You will find further information about the project on our website [in German]:

<https://rockyourlife.de/>