



3 Kitchens

Volunteer • Seek Employment • Become an Entrepreneur

From Volunteer to Temporary Employment

Name

Tiblets Habtezg

Country

Sweden



Your Story

Titi secured a voluntary assignment in a municipal school kitchen during the spring of 2024. Following initial discussions between the municipal kitchen unit manager, the 3 Kitchens project leader, and Titi herself, she conducted a study visit to a nearby village school, where she met with the kitchen manager. Once the assignment was confirmed, Titi began assisting in the school kitchen over several days.

Titi participated in the daily preparation of student lunches, learning about kitchen routines and what is expected during a typical workday. Her tasks included receiving deliveries, maintaining hygiene standards, cooking on a large scale, and performing cleaning duties.

This experience helped Titi adapt to working in a fast-paced environment and handling moments of pressure. She gained important insights into both the technical knowledge and communication skills required in a professional kitchen. Her colleagues were supportive and eager to share their knowledge, contributing to a valuable learning journey. The manager also showed openness to the idea of incorporating culturally diverse meals into the menu for the students.

Titi later reflected that she had received ongoing, supportive supervision throughout her volunteering experience. As a result of her active engagement, she was offered temporary employment, covering extra shifts when regular staff were absent due to illness or leave.



Volunteering Employment

Kitchens in the municipality Titi



Learning from the voluntary assignment

Through her participation, Titi gained practical insights into what it takes to work in a professional kitchen. She developed her language skills in a real-world setting and deepened her understanding of kitchen routines, teamwork, and workplace expectations.

By working alongside regular staff, she was able to observe the kitchen in action, contribute according to her abilities and interests, and learn what is required to take on temporary or substitute roles in a school kitchen environment

What is next?

In collaboration with the municipal kitchen coordinators, the school kitchens that hosted 3 Kitchens volunteering opportunities have expressed interest in continuing this model. They are open to offering future workplace trials, voluntary assignments, and language training opportunities for migrant women and other participants seeking entry into the food service sector.