

Nele Merisoo: "Youth work has made me quicker to adapt and more open to changes"

Introduce yourself and your organisation (incl. the structure in which you operate in the youth field).

I have been involved in youth work for 10 years. I have worked as a youth worker at a youth centre, as a hobby instructor at school, as a promoter of youth entrepreneurship, and in many other positions. I am currently a member of the management board of the Estonian Association of Youth Workers and studying for my Master's degree in organisation of youth work at Tallinn University. The Estonian Association of Youth Workers unites youth workers and hobby instructors involved in youth work either professionally or as volunteers.

What makes your job exciting?

Different people from different environments with very different experiences make my job exciting. Diversity enriches!

What are your dreams as youth worker?

What I dream as a youth worker are uniform quality of youth work and equal work conditions for youth workers across Estonia.

Why did you choose youth work?

Youth work rather chose me. I became a youth worker by accident and my then manager and the young people I worked with gave me the passion which I have not lost.

How has youth work / being a youth worker influenced you? (What have you learned from it?)

Youth work has made me quicker to adapt and more open to changes. This work helps me to find something good in any situation. I always have to think through my actions.