

L'Arche: A Beautiful Place to Be

By: Ida



Being an assistant at L'Arche is an incredible experience of loving, caring and forgiving AND for being loved, cared for, and forgiven. I love, care for and forgive my Family at L'ARCHE, and at the same time know they do the same for me. It is empowering to know that if I make a mistake, or am honest in my imperfections; my L'Arche family will still love me. Because of this, L'Arche is an experience of learning and growing. For me, L'Arche was the place I learned to cook, clean and talk on the phone to professionals.

Knowing that my L'Arche family LOVES, CARES for and Believes in me inspires me to go way beyond my comfort zone, to learn and to love more deeply than I ever thought possible.

L'Arche is a place to embrace your inner child and learn to be an adult. I have had so much FUN in my time here. Whether it is dancing, singing silly songs, drinking orange or grape pop, or just fooling around, it is a great place to live the life that the child burning within you longs to live. It is also, however, a place where you will grow up, learn to fix things, learn about managing a home, and so much more.

Meeting new, fantastic, amazing people is the biggest perk of L'Arche. I have met people from all over the world . . . even people from Pennsylvania—the state I grew up in. I met republicans, democrats, Christians of all different flavors, and learned first-hand that boxing people up by their political or religious beliefs is quite ridiculous. I learned for real (even though I thought I knew before I came) how we were exactly the same as people with disabilities, and that they are exactly the same as us, even though we all are so different.

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L'Arche is the most incredible experience, EVER. I know it sounds so cliché, but please just come and see for yourself how beautiful this community is. Notice I

didn't say perfect, because we aren't, but that is so okay, because the beauty of it far outways its perfections. The core members here melt my heart, and break my heart. I never knew I could love so deeply, or fall in love so quickly. I will NEVER be the same, because the beautiful core members here are so much a part of me. When I do leave, I know that part of my heart is in all of them, and part of them is in my heart. Please come here, and meet these people, and experience L'Arche!!!!!!