

GY415 Local Economic Development Ideas for Fontecchio



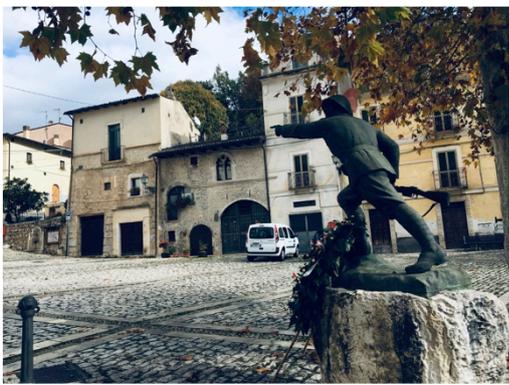
I think organising a music summer school can be a good project. I have myself participated in different music summer camp in classical piano and I think it is really appropriate to a place such as Fontecchio. The camp I did in Channac (France), shares a lot of characteristics with Fontecchio. Channac is a city in the South of France, located in the mountains, and is a city with an old population during the year. We used to play in different places such as hospitals, churches or schools during the camp, in order to bring more dynamism into the city. My best advice in the organisation and implementation of such a project is to focus on the quality of the music teachers, because this is why students will want to participate in the summer camp.

Clarisse Marchesin

Regarding Fontecchio, I was thinking about their online presence. I googled Fontecchio, and saw that it does have a presence on sites such as trip advisor, however, beyond the name of a given site and a photo, there is no further information on how to visit, nor is there a link to a website with more information. Information about Fontecchio seems to be contained to blog posts on sites about other things. With a town as small as Fontecchio, it might not make sense or be feasible for every destination to have its own website. Something my hometown has done that has proved very effective, is to create a website for the whole town, which they've called "Experience Fayetteville." I think that this could translate well to Fontecchio, and would be a central point for details about the museum, the fountain, the convent, and all the other wonderful things Fontecchio has to offer. It could include opening times, details about the places, and special events going on around the city.



Erin Farmer



My suggestions for Fontecchio include establishing communal outdoor activities – for example, morning yoga classes in the park, a running club, as well as Salsa dancing evenings in the square – and establishing a variety of Markets. I know that L'Aquila had a small local produce market in the square but potentially Christmas/handicraft markets featuring local suppliers could be a good way to bring the community together.

Fiona Burke

Regarding Fontecchio, I want to share the experience of some of the French villages that have welcomed refugees. The Mayor said that the refugee project faced the reluctance of the local community. I think that organizing events in order to speak about diversity is crucial to making everyone ready for this (the Mayor talked about the dinner for example). Maybe they could try to organize conferences to speak about the current situation in Libya or in other countries where the refugees are from. Another way to get people on board is maybe to have a clear idea of what the refugees will do. In most of the French villages, the Mayors manage to get support from the local community because they clearly presented the programs, the associations involved in the project and the roles of the community. Such projects could be extremely valuable for the community. Fontecchio's inhabitants could teach Italian to refugees for example. On the other side, refugees could be associated with educative programs, where they could teach a language (English), sport or music. Working with refugees' associations and involving habitants in the project might have a very positive return because it will increase inhabitants' skills and open Fontecchio, not only to the rest of Italy, but to the world.

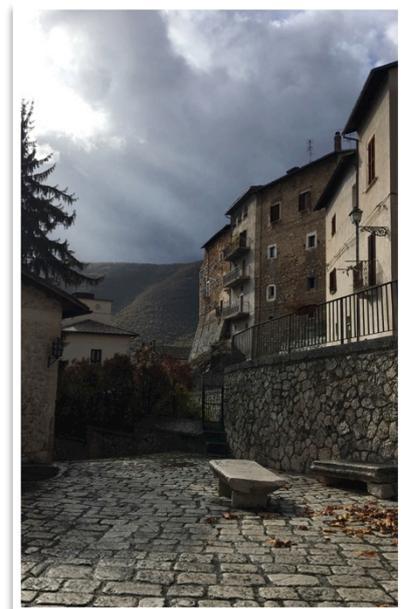


Another idea, given the beauty of the environment, is that schools and/or organisations might be extremely pleased to organize a trip to Fontecchio. It is super popular in France to bring young children to a greener environment where they play sport, learn about nature and, in this case, they could also learn Italian. Educative programs such as summer schools could be a good way for Fontecchio to open to the world. These are only basic ideas. But my main message is that the work already done and underway to help Fontecchio recover is amazing, and I hope they will encounter further success.

Oriane Nermond

I was completely touched by the scenes in L'Aquila and Fontecchio because, in my hometown, we have the same situation. In my reminiscing, after the serious earthquake in 1999, every education institution started to have evacuation training and we had stimulated disaster exercises every month. Furthermore, our government enacted strict regulations about the internal structures of built architecture and tried to progress the reinforced structure in the construction. Looking to the future, I hope everything will be fine in L'Aquila and Fontecchio. Thank you for offering us so much information and hospitality.

An-Ting Liao



In light of the fact that a number of people have left the town of Fontecchio, I think that foreign workers might be another interesting group to attract. The local government and businesses should encourage and provide an incentive for foreign workers to stay and work in the community. Moreover, it would be great if there were a policy or activity aimed at changing locals' attitudes towards migrants and/or foreign workers such as the national food activity that had a positive feedback in Fontecchio. Finally, as I visited and fell in love with the natural landscape and local culture and history, I think that tourism in this town should be more promoted but importantly with a good tourism management.

Possapon Charoenporn

