## **CASA FRONDA VIOLA**

Is an open self-organized women'shouse, in Italy, Tuscany.

It is **self-organized** since 10 years by a group of 15/20 women and and lesbians, whose members have changed over the years.

It is always open for all those who would like to spend their free time enjoying the company of women and being out of everything that society imposes.

# **ACTIVITIES**

Casa Fronda Viola is a place where women and lesbians can socialize and be on vacation. One of the objectives is to have and offer the possibility of spending holidays near the sea at a reasonable price, given that women and lesbians often have low salaries and have difficult financial situations.

Is a place of political discussions and involvement in the fight against male violence against women, lesbians and girls. There are regular meetings and training in Wendo and feminist self-defense. The house is also a place where women can find refuge and strength to be able to face difficult situations.

Is a place to share knowledge and skills. There are organized workshops to share knowledge: studies in medicinal herbs, serigraphy, theater, percussion, massage, tree climbing.

### **HOW WE ARE ORGANIZED**

The house is self-organized and lives thanks to the participation of women who visit it frequently and who are aware of developing caring relationships. Decisions are taken horizontally using the process of consensus during organizational meetings. We are trying to make sure that each of us feels at ease with the decisions taken, which is why it is a lengthy process. However, we are moving forward with confidence.



### THE PROJECT OF A NEW HOUSE

The lease of the place ends in May 2017 and therefore we are leaving this very special place. Many women-lesbian places have disappeared over the years due to dependance various external reasons: evictions, institutional financing, difficult landlords, etc.

Because of this unstable situation, we have decided to buy a house with the land so that the project of Casa Fronda Viola can grow permanent roots.

We would like to **enlarge** the project to include the possibility of women living there.

We have created an association "Amazzoni della terza luna" (Amazons of the third moon), in order to guarantee that the property will be collectively owned and won't belong to individuals.

The association will be the owner, therefore should the house be closed or sold, it will not be possible to divide the goods/income: everything would go to a women and lesbian's association with a similar purpose.

The association is an instrument for the purchase of the property: the practices of self-organization and participation, which have always been the basis of the project, will not be changed.



### MAKING THE PROJECT A REALITY

CVF is completely self-financed. We pay the rent; each of us gives a contribution according to her own possibilities and choices. The subscriptions of many women who come often enables the house to live.

We want to proceed in the same way concerning the purchase of a house.

We need € 250.000 in order to carry out the project of the Future Casa Fronda Viola, and we are counting on the joint economic forces of women and lesbians.

#### DONATIONS AND PLEDGES

- 1- Within the group we have already collected € 100.000 in donations.
- 2- We are asking women and lesbians who consider this as important, to dedicate a part of their money for acquiring a feminist space.
- 3- The donations can also be given through an ongoing monthly commitment or pledge (i.e.: a pledge of € 20 each month for 10 years).
- 4- We have contacted some women and lesbian foundations and associations in order to find financing. If you have any information, let us know. 5- We are collecting contacts in order to spread information about the activities and plan to launch a crowdfunding campaign on a wide scale.
- Please write and send us your contacts.

#### LOANS

We also have to ask for loans.

1- For 10 years our group has made a big commitment, paying regularly and collectively rent and expenses (about € 70.000 in all). We have that same commitment to guarantee women who would support us with a loan, that we willreturn it in agreed-upon regular installments. Thus, we are asking for a 10 year period to return money, or according to different agreements.
2- We have contacted a cooperative of ethical finance to help us.