

# IMPACT *mini*

February 2023

Dear Friend,

Skills shortages on the labor market, waves of layoffs and the question whether working is still „worth it“. These are issues our society currently faces every day. As if life were a „selfie“ in which our ego is dominantly in the foreground, and everything around remains an accessory.

NG Team is different. We follow the motivation to love God with all our heart, soul and mind and to learn to love our neighbor as ourselves. This brings our ego to the background.

We know that the result of sowing is reaping. Harvesting alone is not possible. This also applies to society and starts with us personally. As NG, we have formulated our mission in such a way that it is not a „selfie“. We want to help and empower people to sustainably shape and determine their lives in dignity and independence. Many whom we have been able to help in recent years tell us that they also take this up and live it in their own lives. Seed and harvest.

With this issue of Impact, we invite you to join us in finding people who get involved in our projects - with the same motivation, with the same mission. Whether as a volunteer in Albania, as an employee in our hotel in Germany, in the management of our German property development company Mohab ... We trust that there are still people who don't ask to just earn lots of money as fast as possible; people for whom work is a moral value with lots of "added value" for others.

Arnold Geiger  
Managing Director



## From Alabama to Albania James Leithart found just the job that suits him

I was on a road trip through New Zealand when I first realized that I wanted to live outside the United States. I had experienced enough cultures around the world to understand that staying in my comfort bubble in Alabama wasn't a path toward personal growth. I reflected on my first visit to Albania, and the thoughts I had of living in this country that I knew so little about and seemed to have so much opportunity for growth.

A few months after that – after a few emails exchanged and a couple Skype calls – I had packed my things and was boarding a plane. I wasn't sure how long I would be in Albania. I had agreed to a 2-year contract, but I had no idea if that was too long or too short. Well, I'm still here – almost 5 years later.

I didn't fully understand the complexity of NG when I first arrived, but as I learned more, my confidence in my choice to work here grew. I arrived expecting to be a photographer and social media manager and as one would expect, things changed, and my responsibility expanded. Using my degree in community development combined with my passion for visual storytelling led me to find the kind of working environment for which I longed.

When hearing that I left the US for Albania people often ask the same questions, typically about money. My responses are almost always the same: If I was looking to make lots of money, attending school for social work and then becoming an artist were poor choices.

The monetary side has never motivated me. What does, however, is working for a cause bigger than myself. Helping people less fortunate than I am in whatever way I can. And on top of that, working with people that care about one another, and care about me and my development – both personally and professionally.



James Leithart is a photographer and filmmaker living in Albania, and working with Nehemiah Gateway ([www.ng.team](http://www.ng.team)). He works in marketing at the NG Albania office, and also as the Communications Director for NG USA.



German language courses in Albania



In the Lindenhof beer garden



The reception in front of the Lindenhof - in modern Mohab mini-houses

## WORKING WITH THE NG FAMILY

James' story is not unique. Many people from around the world have found a job and working environment that suits them at NG. There is a whole range of opportunities to get involved in a meaningful way.

However, you do not need to be looking for full-time employment. There are ways to further the mission of NG volunteering, or even working in a part-time or freelancing capacity. Together with us, you can help people determine their own lives in dignity and independence and to shape them sustainably.

At NG Albania we are looking for teachers for German as a foreign language, but also guest lecturers for modules at the NG University of Applied Sciences (teaching language is English).

There is also lots of work being done in Germany to allow the rest of NG's work to operate smoothly:

At the NG office in Nuremberg, we have a small team that could benefit greatly from some volunteer support – specifically in the areas of marketing and office organization.

There are also vacancies at NG's partner hotel, Hotel Lindenhof. Located in Hubmersberg, which is situated in the countryside a bit outside of Nuremberg. We are specifically looking for:

- Waiter Support Staff
- Department manager housekeeping
- Reception
- Night service in the hotel and for NG Services

The hotel is in the process of being developed into a full NG Local Center, and therefore there is a need for architects or civil engineers.

There is so much that needs to be done in order to keep NG running effectively. If anything listed here interests you, or someone you know, please reach out to us and we can find a way for us to partner together to further the cause of Nehemiah Gateway!

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