

90 Jahre
TRADITION &
INNOVATION

Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft



der Freien
Wohlfahrtspflege

Non-statutory Welfare

people to people



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We are here for people – regardless of their origin, religion and beliefs

The Federal Association of Non-statutory Welfare (BAGFW) is the collective voice of the six non-statutory welfare umbrella organisations in Germany. The Arbeiterwohlfahrt, the Deutsche Caritasverband, the Deutsche Rote Kreuz, the Deutsche Paritätische Wohlfahrtsverband, the Diakonische Werk der Evan-

gelischen Kirche in Deutschland and the Zentralwohlfahrtsstelle der Juden in Deutschland are all based on different religions and beliefs. The six umbrella organisations cooperating in the Federal Association of Non-statutory Welfare give voice to the concerns that unite them: support for all people in need.



We would like to thank the people involved for opening their doors and facilities to us. With their help it has been possible to present an authentic and vivid picture of the fields in which the central associations work.

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Non-statutory welfare organisations – the reliable foundation for society and the welfare state

We are working for a humane and peaceful society

Social harmony is a precious commodity that benefits everyone. To preserve this, we have to empower the weak to make sure that they are also given the opportunity to lead a dignified life.

Non-statutory welfare organisations support everyone in need. They help children and their mothers, cares for the elderly and sick and support those who have

lost their jobs or home. And they provide the ideal framework for anyone wishing to show their commitment to their fellow human beings. This makes non-statutory welfare organisations essential: they help bring politics into line with the constitution, to shape Germany as a social federal state and to enable participation for all.



Overall, the six central associations offer the affected people help and support at

105.295

facilities and services. In total,

1.673.861

employees work full-time in voluntary welfare.





Commitment to Germany's future

We set ourselves social challenges

German society is facing a number of major challenges. On the one hand, it must exist in a globalised world. On the other, it needs to manage the consequences of demographic change. And it is ultimately also shaped by the erosion of traditional family structures. All of this is a tough test for the welfare state and our society and could not be overcome without the commitment of the non-statutory welfare umbrella

organisations. The care needs of children are growing just as rapidly as the need to support the elderly; families require active support. The government is countering these requirements with laws and reforms – whose implementation requires the support of the welfare associations with over one hundred thousand facilities and social services.



1,906,400

children are cared for daily at the

30.285

voluntary welfare day centres for children and adolescents.





Effective help where it's needed

We know the type of support that humans need

Help is only effective if it is directly linked to people's needs and opportunities. That's why the non-statutory welfare organisations have a decentralised structure: their facilities and services are present throughout Germany. They know exactly what kind of local support is most urgently needed. They are close to people and cooperate closely with local authorities. The activities

of the non-statutory welfare organisations align to the so-called principle of subsidiarity, which applies in the Federal Republic of Germany as well as in the European Union: all aid should be organised as close to the issue as possible, from the bottom up, as the overarching state is too far removed from the affected people.



509.395

people with disabilities and people with mental illness receive help and support at

16.446

welfare organisation facilities and services.

316.953

workers are employed there.





Committed to the common good

We want to help, not profit

The work performed by the non-statutory welfare organisations is determined by the welfare of individuals in need and society as a whole. Their activities are aligned to the principles of modern business management and effectiveness. But, in contrast to private companies, independent not-for-profit organisations

do not aim to generate maximum profits: if earnings are targeted, they are always reinvested for the benefit of people in need. This makes the commitment of the non-statutory welfare organisations twice as effective for the state, society and people.



In the area of **family support**, the six central associations provide offers and services at a total of

4.570

facilities, which employ

31.306

people.





For our society, supported by citizens

We are a supporting pillar of civil society

The state has created a social network for citizens that provides security in difficult situations. It guarantees some medical supplies, support for the youngest in kindergartens or adequate aged care. Many of these activities, for which public contracts exist, are assumed by non-statutory welfare organisations. This work is partially financed by the state and in cooperation with the social security system, such as nursing rates or public grants for the construction and operation of facilities. All providers have a legal right to access this support. Furthermore, non-statutory welfare organisa-

tions use other means to fulfil their tasks: private donations, legacies and contributions from circles of friends, as well as funds from lotteries, such as the GlücksSpirale and the sale of welfare stamps. The religious associations also receive church tax funds. And last but not least, people provide support with their voluntary commitment. All of this make the non-statutory welfare organisations role models that relieves the burden on the state's civil society, and promotes social interaction.



In the area of **health care**, the welfare organisations operate

1.286

in-patient and day-patient facilities nationwide, as well as

6.195

advice centres, out-patient services and other open offers.





Quality pays

We work with sustainable success

Economic and social change is leaving many in need of support. It poses challenges for the state and the social security system, whose financial options are limited. This means that, these days, social service providers need to be particularly effective and efficient. However: this is precisely also where the cheapest offer is frequently not the most cost-effective. Because working with people is based on reliability and conti-

nunity. Poor quality or even the removal of support can result in even higher follow-up costs – whether this is for aged care, preventing expensive hospital stays and maintaining independence for as long as possible, or in family support, where child neglect can have an impact that lasts for decades. The non-statutory welfare organisations assure effective and high-quality work. This pays off for society and the welfare state.



520.727

people nationwide are served by the welfare associations in the **field of working with the elderly** in a total of

18.051

facilities and projects. With

444.977

employees, working with the elderly is one of the larger fields of work.





Advocate for the weak

We give voice to the helpless

Democracy is based on balancing interests. To function, all parts of society must have an equal voice. It is easy for the strong to raise their voices. The weak need support to be heard. The non-statutory welfare organisations add their perspective to public discussions, together with them wherever possible. They identify social problems and suggest political and practical solutions – for the benefit of democracy and our country.

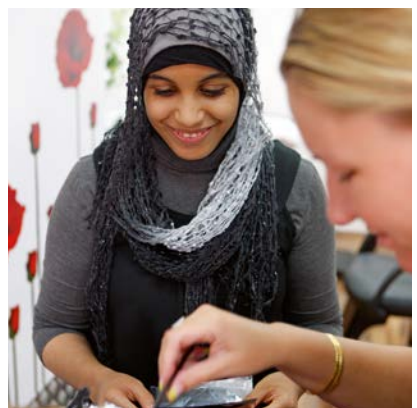
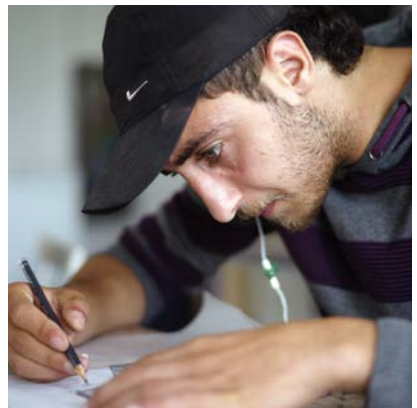


38.367

youth welfare facilities and services nationwide form part of the six central associations. With

2.076.693

beds and places, it is the largest field of work of the Non-Statutory Welfare Services.





Competent political advisor

We are involved, from the state to the communities

German politics is faced with the enormous task of future-proofing the welfare state. In this regard, it is dependent on the expertise and practical experience of specialists who are familiar with the problems we face. Non-statutory welfare organisations have proven to be reliable partners. They provide valuable contributions to social monitoring, for example, if new social

laws or other regulations have unintended consequences. They allow those with political responsibility to forecast the consequences of major social reforms or to assess and manage the future social development in the municipalities. Non-statutory welfare organisations also help politicians to determine criteria for the quality of social work.



The central associations of the Non-Statutory Welfare Services support people at

1.356

migration and advice centres, as well as

371

youth migration services. They provide

7.207

places in residential homes for **migrants** and offer numerous projects and activities within their facilities.





Europe's social conscience

Sought-after in Brussels

Europe continues to grow closer together. Decisions made in Brussels affect the life of every individual in the member states. Non-statutory welfare organisations are involved in European decision-making in order to strengthen the social dimension. The German Welfare Organisations are working together in the Federal Association of Non-statutory

Welfare (BAGFW) and are represented by BAGFW in the European Economic and Social Committee, which advises and supports the European Union and its institutions with expert knowledge. The BAGFW represents organised civil society and is committed to establishing a social framework in the EU. Europe and its citizens are the beneficiaries.



The central associations offer **help for people in special social situations** at

8.830

facilities. In addition to out-patient services and advice centres,

53.650

beds and places are available and cared for by a total of

38.998

full-time employees.





Contact partner for volunteers

We provide the framework for civic commitment

The most valuable capital in society is the contributory potential of its citizens. Non-statutory welfare organisations help unearth this treasure. Many citizens want to get involved in the community and help their fellow human beings that need support. And the diversity of their interests are matched only by the skills that they can contribute. The welfare associations provide a

wide range of application opportunities. Volunteers are invaluable partners at eye-level. Non-statutory welfare organisations promote self-help groups that affected parties have established to solve specific problems: they provide the organisational framework. Because help is always most effective when it enables people to help themselves.



Around

2.5 million

people work **voluntarily** within the Non-Statutory Welfare Services.

35.469

self-help groups are affiliated with the central associations.



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The central associations have worked together closely since 1924. Their common objective is the safeguarding and development of social work through community initiatives and socio-political activities. To implement these objectives, the BAGFW maintains an office in Berlin, a representative office in Brussels

and the Charity Stamps Department in Cologne. The central associations themselves have a federal structure, i.e. in most instances their sub-divisions at municipal and federal-state level respectively, as well as their member organisations, are legally independent.

BAGFW in Brussels

The European Office of the BAGFW has the mandate to represent the interests of the BAGFW with respect to the European Union (EU). This includes providing information and lobbying the EU institutions, as well as the early provision of welfare-related and social-policy-related information from the EU to the BAGFW and its associations; the aim in this is also to contribute to greater transparency in respect of EU decision-making

processes. Furthermore, the duties include the clarification of the role and tasks of welfare associations in the Member States and in the EU, and positioning the Non-Statutory Welfare Services at European level. To this extent the BAGFW participates intensively in European processes of discussion by providing formal opinions, contributions to consultation processes and also papers stating its position.

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