

GiB Gemeinsam in Bremen - Inter-agency coordination for voluntary work in the refugee sector

As part of the cross-agency initiative Gemeinsam in Bremen (Together in Bremen), there are five coordinators for voluntary refugee aid in the city regions of Central, West, East, South and North. They are the central points of contact for volunteers on the one hand and for the actors and providers of refugee aid on the other. In their role, they maintain contact with all refugee shelters, are familiar with the needs there and can therefore arrange donations in kind, time and projects in a targeted manner. The placement of volunteer opportunities is the focus of their work.

In addition, they are available with their expertise to answer questions from all volunteers and interested parties. Among other things, they organize various exchange meetings and support the round tables in the districts. Networking with regional stakeholders (district managers, local authorities, advisory boards, sports clubs, youth leisure centers, associations, institutions, etc.) is an important feature of their work.

Competent Department

- [Die Senatorin für Arbeit, Soziales, Jugend und Integration | Referat Integrationspolitik, Migrations- und Integrationsbeauftragte](#)

Basic information

Volunteering in the refugee sector can take many different forms.

The simplest option is monetary donations. Despite the justified prominence of voluntary help in the form of donations in kind and time, financial support is also extremely welcome. For donors, the process is straightforward and can be handled by the accommodation providers, with a donation receipt if required. The money donated can then be used to make many things possible: from BSAG tickets for the refugees to larger projects. Donors can specify how they would like the funds to be used - so it is usually possible to donate specifically to a shelter or project.

The provision of donations in kind is also an important part of social support. Many shelters lack a wide variety of things. However, not everything is always actually needed on site. In order to coordinate the willingness to donate according to the actual needs, the

coordinators are also the contact persons for donations in kind. With their contacts at the shelters, they can quickly provide information on where something is needed in the region and how it can be handed in. This saves a lot of effort, especially for the full-time staff in the shelters.

The most time-consuming, but also very rewarding way to help refugees in Bremen is to donate time. Many hundreds of people are involved in childcare, language support, accompanying people to the authorities and much more. There are many different ways to get involved, and there is also plenty of scope for projects. Would you like to volunteer in this area? Then please get in touch with the coordinators so that we can find the ideal opportunity for you.

Requirements

- Openness to contact with refugees and people from other cultures
- As a rule, presentation of a police clearance certificate
- Ideal: advanced (foreign) language skills (not a prerequisite)
- Awareness that offers of help are only offers - if these are not taken up due to lack of interest or other circumstances, this must be accepted

Procedure

Contact search by e-mail or telephone to the responsible coordinator. If you cannot be reached by phone, the contact request will be left on an answering machine and you will be called back directly. After initial contact has been made, a joint appointment can be made to see where an assignment might be suitable.

More information

Responsible offices:

Coordinator for Bremen-Mitte

Laura Jacobs; Mail: jacobs@gemeinsam-in-bremen.de ; Tel. 0157 809 23133

Covers the areas:

Hastedt; Mitte; Oberneuland; Östliche Vorstadt; Schwachhausen

Coordinator for Bremen-South

Thomas Strothoff; Mail: strothoff@gemeinsam-in-bremen.de ; Tel. 0157-809 23 134

Includes the areas: Huchting; Neustadt; Obervieland; Seehausen; Strom; Woltmershausen

Coordinator for Bremen-North

Susanne weidemann; Mail: weidemann@gemeinsam-in-bremen.de ; Tel. 0421-68804182

Covers the areas: Blumenthal; Burglesum; Vegesack

Coordinator for Bremen-East

Silvia Suchopar; Mail: suchopar@gemeinsam-in-bremen.de ; Tel. 0157-8092 3136

Covers the areas: Borgfeld; Hemelingen; Horn-Lehe; Osterholz; Uni; Vahr

Coordinator for Bremen-West

Leander Muskalla; Mail: muskalla@gemeinsam-in-bremen.de ; Tel. 0157-809 23 143

Includes the areas: Blockland; Findorff; Gröpelingen; Oslebshausen; Überseestadt; Walle

Comprehensive coordination

Lucyna Bogacki; Mail: bogacki@gemeinsam-in-bremen.de ; Tel. 0421-79 02 43

You can find more information at

www.gemeinsam-in-bremen.de ; www.gemeinsam-in-bremen.de/bibliothek

Frequently asked Questions

- **Is it necessary to submit a police clearance certificate?**

For activities with children and young people, an extended police clearance certificate must always be submitted. The sponsors issue a certificate so that the volunteers do not bear any costs. The application is made at the city office.

- **Who do I contact if I live in xy?**

See overview under Competent Bodies

- **Can I expect to receive an expense allowance?**

No, as a rule there is no reimbursement of costs

- **Am I insured during the time I am volunteering?**

Yes, all volunteers who are registered through a sponsor are covered by accident and liability insurance. However, volunteer activities with the private car are excluded.