

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

Within the framework of the inter-agency initiative Gemeinsam 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 contact persons for volunteers on the one hand and for the actors and institutions of refugee assistance on the other hand. In their function, they maintain contact with all refugee accommodation facilities, know the needs there and can accordingly arrange targeted donations in kind and time as well as projects. The placement of volunteer work is the focus of their activities.

In addition, they are available with their know-how for all volunteers and interested parties to answer questions. For this purpose, they organise various exchange meetings and accompany the round tables in the city districts. Networking with the regional actors (neighbourhood managers, local office, advisory boards, sports clubs, youth leisure homes, associations, institutions, etc.) is an important characteristic of the activity.

## 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 easiest way is to donate money. Despite the justified prominence of volunteer help in the form of donations in kind and time, financial support is also highly desirable. The handling runs for the donors uncomplicatedly over the carriers the accommodations, when desired also against donation receipt. From the donated money, many things can then be made possible: from BSAG tickets for the refugees to larger projects. The donors can make a wish for the use of the funds - so it is usually possible to donate specifically for accommodation or a project.

Also the mediation of donations in kind is an important part of the social support. Many accommodations lack the most diverse things. However, not everything is actually needed on site. In order to coordinate the willingness to donate according to the actual needs, the

coordinators are also contact persons for donations in kind. With their contacts to the accommodations they can quickly give information about where something is needed in the region and how it can be delivered. This saves a lot of effort, especially for the staff in the shelters.

The most time-consuming, but also very enriching way to help refugees in Bremen is to donate time. Many hundreds of people get involved in child care, language support, accompaniment to government offices and much more. There are many possibilities for use, and there is also plenty of room for projects. Would you like to do voluntary work in this area? If so, please contact the coordinators so that we can find the best possible placement for you.

## Requirements

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

## Procedure

Contact search by mail or telephone to the responsible coordinator. If you cannot be reached by phone, the contact request is guaranteed by an answering machine and a direct call back will take place. After the first contact has been established, it may be possible to arrange a meeting to discuss the possibility of an assignment.

## More information

Competent authorities:

Coordinator for Bremen-Mitte

Laura Jacobs; e-mail: [jacobs@gemeinsam-in-bremen.de](mailto:jacobs@gemeinsam-in-bremen.de) ; Tel. 0157 809 23133

Includes the areas:

Hastedt; Mitte; Oberneuland; Eastern suburb; Schwachhausen

Coordinator for Bremen-South

Thomas Strothoff; Mail: [strothoff@gemeinsam-in-bremen.de](mailto: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; e-mail: [weidemann@gemeinsam-in-bremen.de](mailto:weidemann@gemeinsam-in-bremen.de) ; Tel. 0421-68804182

Includes the areas: Blumenthal; Burglesum; Vegesack

Coordinator for Bremen-East

Silvia Suchopar; mail: [suchopar@gemeinsam-in-bremen.de](mailto:suchopar@gemeinsam-in-bremen.de) ; Tel. 0157-8092 3136

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

Coordinator for Bremen-West

Leander Muskalla; mail: [muskalla@gemeinsam-in-bremen.de](mailto:muskalla@gemeinsam-in-bremen.de) ; Tel. 0157-809 23 143

Includes the areas: Block country; Findorff; Gröpelingen; Oslebshausen; Overseas town; Walle

Overarching coordination

Lucyna Bogacki; e-mail: [bogacki@gemeinsam-in-bremen.de](mailto:bogacki@gemeinsam-in-bremen.de) ; Tel. 0421-79 02 43

You can find more information under:

[www.gemeinsam-in-bremen.de](http://www.gemeinsam-in-bremen.de) ; [www.gemeinsam-in-bremen.de/bibliothek](http://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.