



Ministerium für Kinder, Familie,
Flüchtlinge und Integration
des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen



terre des hommes
Hilfe für Kinder in Not



Department 3
Family, Education, Social

Project series „Creating encounters“

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Starting Point

- New challenges: since 2015 around 5,000 refugees in Oberhausen
- Not only need for material care, but also warm welcome to the city society (social + professional competence + personal commitment civil society)
- Structures had to form and consolidate first
- In addition to full-time supervision volunteering was of particular importance
- Social integration as a challenge: linguistic + cultural issues, heterogeneous educational levels, many young + single men, lack of contact with civil society



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Institutional Setting

- 54 Local Integration Centers (KI) in NRW to support local integration (nationwide unique integration structure)
- 2013: Establishment Municipal Integration Center Oberhausen
- Since 1983: terre des hommes Oberhausen e.V.
- Cooperation Municipal Integration Center Oberhausen + terre des hommes
- 2016: Support program KOMM-AN NRW for on-site support
- 17 actors (initiatives, associations, parishes, charities) in Oberhausen: Support by KOMM-AN NRW



Approach

- Diverse supply structure with involvement of target group + local civil society + cooperations with other actors with aim of "creating an encounter"
- Demand-oriented volunteer German courses + language café
- Joint excursions
- Painting group + exhibitions
- Quiz nights
- International dinner evenings





Outputs and Lessons

- Need-oriented perspective + active involvement of refugees and civil society: Offers successful + developments visible
- Offers + encounter with other refugees + civil society: “mental-emotional integration, cognitive-cultural integration, social-structural integration” (Dr. Misun Han-Broich)
- But: consider changes in demands
- Sustainability: flexibility + creativity
- Constant challenge: "Creating encounters" in an informal context
- Integration is relationship work





Transfer

- Networking (knowing and learning from each other) + using existing structures
- Public relations (newsletter, press article “good practice”, festivals)
- Volunteer campaign, recognition + appreciation
- Involving local civil society, reaching out to young people
- Creating and using access to the target group refugees
- Demand-oriented offers with active involvement of the target group + avoidance of parallel structures
- Consideration of local and regional differences