

Your Guide to Social Benefits

Assistance available in Bielefeld

for low income people

and for those entitled to unemployment dole ALG-I and ALG-II,

Sozialgeld,

Grundsicherung,

Benefits for Asylum applicants

and housing assistance (Wohngeld)

Where refugees and immigrants can obtain counseling and help

Information and Advice

DIE LINKE.
RATSFRAKTION BIELEFELD

Contents

Preface

The Bielefeld Pass

Benefits

Cultural Events

Sports / Recreation

„Sozialticket“ – a misnomer

Sozialticket and subscriber's ticket

Wholesale ticket for corporation clients

Sales points

For a welfare state without poverty!

Services

Clothing, furniture, household items and more

Parcel for education and participation (*Bildungs- und Teilhabepaket*)

Food handouts

Centers

Local Advice and Counseling

Information and Guides

Let's organize Resistance!

Information and help for all who have come to Bielefeld

The data in in this brochure are of January 2017 and have been most carefully assembled. We must, however, waive responsibility for their total correctness. Please give us feedback whenever you find outdated information. This brochure was concluded February 8th, 2017. We cannot assume full liability for all its facts. For easier orientation, all institutions, authorities and locations are in English, explained by their German names in (*brackets and italics*)



Dear fellow inhabitants

Not having enough money to live can be a terrible hardship. And the deplorable fact is that the number people in Bielefeld who lack social security is on the rise. Many of them have to apply for food handouts (Tafel and Tisch) or need other assistance. Budget cuts worsen their predicament to desperation. We publish this brochure to give some practical hints to those who must turn every cent: Which benefits are available to people who lack necessary funds, and how can they be obtained? Where can one get advice, counseling, and help?

We hope that our guide to social benefits will help you out. If you have questions, please phone us or drop by in the DIE LINKE office in Bielefeld's city hall.

That there are so many poor people today is the result of bad politics. Within a few years, the Christian democrat (CDZ/CSU), Social democrat (SPD), liberal (FDP and the Green (GRÜNE) political parties have passed the Hartz laws with the purpose of turning Germany into a country with low wages for masses. Unemployment continues to be high. Many children in Bielefeld live with poor families. Poverty deprives them of prospects for their future.

Certainly, there are some helps for poor people in Bielefeld. DIE LINKE, however, is intent on not only lessening the devastations of poverty, but on fighting its causes. Leased jobs and mini jobs, low wages and discrimination (Leiharbeit, Minijobs, Niedriglöhne und Ausgrenzung) must be ended. This poverty in one of the richest nations on earth is an evil thing. What we need is resistance and active struggle to make sure that all everybody can live in a society respecting human rights.

Sincerely yours

Barbara Schmidt

(Chairwoman of DIE LINKE group in the City Council)

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Schmidt".

The Bielefeld Pass

provides access to many benefits you can profit from!

The Bielefeld-Pass will grant you reduced fees for courses of evening school (VHS) as well as those of the Academy of Arts and Music (Musik- und Kunstschule), for the public library (Stadtbibliothek) the Bielefeld theatres (Stadttheater). public swimming baths (Schwimmbäder) skating rinks (Eisbahn), sporting associations (Sportvereine) as well as free entry for Bielefeld museums (Museen).

Of significance are your exemption of monthly compulsory radio and tv fees, (Rundfunkbeitrag) your entitlement to a reduced public transports ticket for buses and trams (Sozialticket Bus und Straßenbahn), to low cost second hand clothing, furniture, electrical appliances and household items (Kleidung, Möbel, Elektrogeräte und Hausrat) and food (Lebensmittel) as well as reduced dog license (ermäßigte Hundesteuer).



Please Note:: This symbol of the card you must always have with you is printed in the margins to draw your attention to every institution or authority on our list where you can obtain benefits.



The Bielefeld-Pass, what is it precisely?

The Bielefeld-Pass is a free identification card. It will serve you to obtain the benefits from the city of Bielefeld and from other institutions offering cultural events, leisure activities, sports, or social services listed in this social benefits guide

Who is entitled to a Bielefeld-Pass?

You will obtain the Bielefeld-Pass to supplement:

- **Unemployment dole and social support (Arbeitslosengeld und Sozialgeld according to (SGBII-„Hartz IV“)**
- **Basic senior assistance and compensation in case of reduced working capacity (*Grundsicherung im Alter und bei Erwerbsminderung* (SGB XII), also for those entitled to social assistance as inmates of Bielefeld wards (*Sozialhilfeberechtigte BewohnerInnen in Bielefelder Heimen*)**
- **Support according to the law regulating support for applicants for asylum (*Leistungen nach dem Asylbewerberleistungsgesetz*)**
- **Low earners (*Geringverdienende*) having low incomes from wage/salary, pension, housing assistance, unemployment dole, family allowance etc up to the statistically assumed amount of unemployment dole according to ALG II minus 10 percent of statistically established needs (*aus***

Arbeitsentgelt, Rente, ALGI, Wohngeld, Kinderzuschlag usw. bis zur Höhe des fiktiven ALG II zuzüglich 10 % des Regelbedarfs)

How do I get my Bielefeld-Pass?

a) You may apply for the Bielefeld pass in person, by phone or mail to your assigned social worker (zuständiger Sozialarbeiter) at the Jobcenter „Arbeit- plus Bielefeld GmbH“ resp. at the Youth House (Jugendhaus).

- **At the authority for social assistance (Amt für soziale Leistungen –Sozialamt)**

Niederwall 23, Neues Rathaus, 2. store, Floor D, 33602 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 51-0

- **at Jobcenter Arbeitplus Bielefeld**

*Locality depending on your place of residence within Bielefeld
<http://www.arbeitplus-bi.de/standorte-142.html>*

- **at Jugendhaus**

Willy-Brandt-Platz 2, for low wage earners under 25

b) You may obtain your Bielefeld pass simply and without red tape at the foundation „Stiftung Solidarität“ upon presenting your most recent benefits document (Leistungsbescheid ALG-II, Grundsicherung, or similar) and your valid identity card.

You will find the „Stiftung Solidarität“ at the following locations:

- **„Haus der Solidarität“**

*Prinzenstr. 1, access from Werner-Bock-Str., 33602 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 3057552 open: Mon, Tues, Wed: 9.30 a.m to 4.00 p.m.
Thurs: 9.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m., Fri 9.30 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.*

- **Haus der Sozial-AG (GAB)**

Kavalleriestr. 26, at the corner of Paulusstr., 33602 Bielefeld open:: Mon to Wed. and Fri: 10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.; Thurs. 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

- **„Solidarshop“**

*Lahnweg 8 (access from Rheinallee, beside Café Wölke), 33689 Bielefeld, Tel.: (05205) 7511170
open: Mon, Tues, Fri: 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.
Wed: 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m., Thurs: 1.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.*

- c) **Ward inmates can obtain the Bielefeld- Pass from their caretaker.**



Reductions for cultural events

Stadt- und Stadtteilbibliotheken: price-reduced annual membership card for 14 Euro is valid at the following city and borough (*Stadtteil*-) libraries:

- **Stadtbibliothek am Neumarkt**

Neumarkt 1, 33602 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 51-5000

- **Stadtarchiv und Landesgeschichtliche Bibliothek**

Access from: Neumarkt 1, Tel.: (0521) 51-2471

- **Stadtteilbibliothek Baumheide**

Rabenhof 76, within the leisure center (Freizeitzentrum), Tel.: (0521) 51-3982

- **Stadtteilbibliothek Brackwede**

Germanenstraße 17 (opposite to borough office (Bezirksamt), Tel.: (0521) 51-5238

- **Stadtteilbibliothek Dornberg**

Wertherstraße 436 (Citizens' center (Bürgerzentrum „Amt Dornberg“), Tel.: (0521) 51-3071

- **Stadtteilbibliothek Heepen**

Heeper Straße 442 (within the „Alte Vogtei“, Tel.: (0521) 51-2456

- **Stadtteilbibliothek Jöllenbeck**

Amtsstraße 13 (within the borough office (Bezirksamt), Tel.: (0521) 51-6615

- **Stadtteilbibliothek Schildesche**

Apfelstraße 210 (within the Martin-Niemöller-Gesamtschule), Tel.: (0521) 51-2454

- **Stadtteilbibliothek Sennestadt**

Elbeallee 70, Tel.: (0521) 51-5584

- **Stadtteilbibliothek Stieghorst**

Am Wortkamp 3 (Gesamtschule Stieghorst), Tel.: (0521) 51-2934

- **Bielefelder Medienboten „Bücher machen Beine“**

Service for the housebound. Just phone Frau Zimmermann, Tel.: (0521) 51-3172

- **Evening School (Volkshochschule VHS)**

50 percent reduction (except for materials)

Ravensberger Park 1, 33607 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 514444

- **Movie theatres**

Reduced tickets 8,00 Euros (with *Kino-Pass* 6,00 Euros, some more for longer than standard length:

Lichtwerk

Ravensberger Park 7 (im Innenhof der Ravensberger Spinnerei), Tel.: (0521) 64370

Kamera

Feilenstr. 2-4, Tel.: (0521) 64370

- **Bielefeld theatres**

Advance booking: 75 percent reduction from ticket class 3 (Stadttheater) resp. ticket class 2 (Theater am Alten Markt), as well as at the box office: leftover tickets for 4 Euros half an hour before beginning.

Municipal theatre

Niederwall 23, 33602 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 51-5454

Theater am Alten Markt

Alter Markt 1, 33602 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 51-5454

- **Bunker Ulmenwall**

Reduced admission: 3 Euro

Free admission to the Bunker's own Jazz sessions for those under 20

Kreuzstraße 0 (corner to Niederwall), 33602 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 1368170

- **Cultural Openers (Kulturöffner.de)**

Regional event managing offers free or reduced tickets online for cultural events like concerts, movies and theatre etc. see www.kulturoeffner.de.

Help to cope with online ordering is offered by the Stiftung Solidarität. This is where You can have your tickets printed and pay for them.

*Haus der Solidarität (Eingang: Werner-Bock-Straße / corner of Prinzenstraße), Tel.: (0521) 3057532
open: Mno, Wed, Thurs from 2.00 to 4.00 p.m.*

You must always carry your Bielefeld pass with you and present it.

Bielefeld Museums

Admission to

- **Bielefeld House of Modern Arts (*Kunsthalle*)**

*Artur-Ladebeck-Straße 5, 33602 Bielefeld,
Tel.: (0521) 32999500*

- **Historical Museum**

*Ravensberger Park 2, 33607 Bielefeld,
Tel.: (0521) 513630*

- **Museum of the Natural Sciences**

Kreuzstraße 20, 33602 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 51-6734

- **Farming Museum (*Bauernhaus-Museum*)**

*Dornberger Straße 82, 33619 Bielefeld,
Tel.: (0521) 5218550*

- **Firefighters Museum (*Feuerwehrmuseum*)**

Second floor of Hauptfeuerwache, Tel.: (0521) 51-2301

- **Museum Hülsmann**

*Ravensberger Park 3, 33607 Bielefeld,
Tel.: (0521) 51-3767*

- **Waldhof Art Museum Bielefeld (*Kunstverein im Waldhof*)**

Welle 61, 33602 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 178806

- **Linen and Finery Factory Museum (*Wäschefabrik*)**

Viktoriastraße 48a, 33602 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 60464

Sports / leisure

- **ISHARA**

Reduced admission to fun pool and sports bath

Mon thru Fri: 3,00 Euros for 2 hours (more for every further hour); all day ticket 6,50 Euros.

Sat, Sun, holidays and during school holidays 3,00 Euro for 2 hours, all day ticket 7,50 Euros.

Europa-Platz 1, 33613 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 511420



Bielefeld indoor swimming baths

Reduced admission: 3,00 Euros

- **Sports Bath Aqua-Wede**

Duisburger Str. 4, 33647 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 51-1460

- **Family Bath Heepen**

Schlauden 11, 33719 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 51-1465

- **Sennestadt-Bath**

Travestraße 28, 33689 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 51-1476

Open air pools in Bielefeld

Reduced admission: 2,50 Euro

- **open air pool with lawn, toboggan, sports and fun *Wiesenbad***

*Werner-Back-Straße 34, 33602 Bielefeld,
Tel.: (0521) 51-1470*

- **Natural Bath (*Naturbad*) Brackwede**

Osnabrücker Str. 63a (district of Quelle), Tel.: (0521) 51-1490

- **Open air pool (*Freibad*) Dornberg**

Farellenweg 8, 33619 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 51-1484

- **Open air pool (*Freibad*) Hillegossen**

Oelkerstraße 24, 33699 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 51-1488

- **Open air pool (*Freibad*) Jöllenbeck**

Naturstadion 12b, 33739 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 51-1480

- **Open air pool (*Freibad*) Schröttinghausen**

Campingstraße 3, 33739 Bielefeld, Tel.: (05203) 3582

- **Senne Forest pool (*Senner Waldbad*)**

Am Waldbad 74, 33659 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 51-1475

- **Gadderbaum Open air pool (*Freibad Gadderbaum*)**

Im Halschebruch 7, 33617 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 51-1492

Note: You will be able to swim and sunbath in this Gadderbaum Freibad only because it has been saved from destruction intended by the austerity-minded Bielefeld municipal government and administration. Eight of the nine political parties elected to the city council were set on leveling it to save on renovation and upkeep . The inhabitants of the Gadderbaum borough, however, resisted this outrage in an energetic civil action committee (*Bürgerinitiative*), forcing a positive all-Bielefeld popular citizens' vote (*Bürgerentscheid*).

- **Skating rink (*Oetker Eisbahn*)** reduced tickets : 3.20 Euros, Disco night 4.70 Euros.

Duisburger Str.8 33647 Bielefeld, Tel. (0521) 511485

- **Sports associations (*Sportvereine*) within the *Stadtsportbund***

For entitled adults, reduced membership fees are possible. Children and youngsters up to 18 are entitled to a subvention of membership fees up to 120 Euros a year as a "*Bildungs- und Teilhabeleistung*". How to apply for this assistance is described above, in the chapter on the parcel for education and participation (*Bildungs- und Teilhabepaket*)

- **Stadtsportbund Bielefeld e.V.**

For particular sports equipment, children up to 16 presenting a valid Bielefeld pass may apply by way of their sports association for a voucher to the value of 50 Euros ("*Sportskids*", sponsored until end of 2017) at the

Familienbüro der Stadt Bielefeld

Tel. (0521) 51-5252

handled by: Stadtsportbund Bielefeld e.V.

August-Bebel-Str. 57, Tel. (0521) 52515-50

- **Bildungswerk im Stadtsportbund Bielefeld**

20 percent reduction on all courses, in given cases travel assistance (see above chapter on parcel for education and participation (*Bildungs- und Teilhabepaket*))

August-Bebel-Straße 57, Tel.: (0521) 52515-10

- **Sportjugend e.V.** in given cases travel assistance, see above chapter „Bildungs- und Teilhabepaket“

August-Bebel-Straße 57, Tel.: (0521) 52515-80

„Sozialticket“ – a misnamer

The so-called Sozialticket has been made so excessively dear by several price raises that it has little claim to its original purpose and name.

When we compiled our first benefits guide in 2013, the ticket cost merely 18,90 Euros. Today, Bielefeld Pass owners must pay 30,45 Euros. The price of the general Sozialticket has meanwhile been raised from 28,90 Euros to 41,60 Euros.

The reasons for this exorbitant raise are difficult to grasp: absurdly, the more tickets sold, the dearer they become. The Federal State of North Rhine Westphalia shells out only a fixed sum for the Sozialticket for the entire city of Bielefeld. The more tickets, the lower the subvention share for each single ticket. Welcome to Absurdistan.

In spite of the excessive price, about 10.000 tickets are sold each month, increasing revenue for the city's public transport company MoBiel. The city-owned company contends, however, that there is no additional revenue at all permitting to reduce the Sozialticket price. The respective civil action committee („Bündnis für ein Sozialticket“) has been struggling for several years to make Mobiel acknowledge existing additional revenue and use it to reduce price.

Mobility is essential for participating in public life and work. The present Sozialticket, however, does not provide for mobility to the required extent. It is too expensive and discriminates against those who need it. It is besides not sold at Mobil's standard sales points – and thus does not acknowledge its users as regular customers. Having to show the Sozialticket upon entering buses or trams brands its users as low income.

All these drawbacks must be eliminated before a Sozialticket will fully deserve its name. Let us continue to fight together for a genuine one.

Sozialticket and Abo-Ticket

● The Sozialticket

costs 41,60 Euros and is valid 24 hours for one month in public transport by bus, tram, night bus, and regional trains 2nd class at Bielefeld price level 1 (Preisstufe 1).

● The more economical 9-Uhr-Sozialticket

costs 30,45 Euros, is valid Mon thru Fri from 9.00 p.m. bis 3.00 a.m. without time limit on weekends and holidays.

Concerning the Sozialticket's transferability, that is your right to take along co-passengers, please turn to Mobiel's staff.

Please note:

The Sozialticket ist coupled to the Bielefeld Pass. In case of ticket control, all co-passengers must be able to present their own Bielefeld pass.



Subscription Tickets for collective use (Großkunden-Abo-Ticket)

Do you wish to use your ticket to take along persons having no Bielefeld Pass? Upon evenings and weekends? And do you receive Arbeitslosengeld I, Arbeitslosengeld II, or do you have a Bielefeld Pass yourself? In that case, you can get a 10 percent rebate on the standard fare.

- **The monthly sixfold subscription (Sechser-Abo)**

At present costs 50,85 Euros and is valid on a 24 hours basis for an entire month in public transport with buses, trams, night buses and regional trains in the 2nd Class of Bielefeld price level 1 (Preisstufe 1).

- **The more economical 9 a.m. subscription ticket**

at present it costs 40,23 Euros, is valid Mon thru Fri from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 at night and for all hours on weekends and holidays. Ticket controllers will require the Bielefeld Pass.

Sales points for subscription tickets are Ankleide, Solidarshop: (not in GAB-shop for second-hand items and Haus der Solidarität, Haus der Sozial-AG).

Die Ankleide, Werner-Bock-Straße 17, 33602 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 3057575

Solidarshop, Lahnweg 8 (enter from Rheinallee, near Café Wölke), 33602 Bielefeld, Tel.: (05205) 7511170

The Abo-Tickets are transferable to persons in company. Up to five (two of them 15 or older) can use them simultaneously at restricted days or times of day (not during rush hours).

Instead of people, you can also take along bicycles, (Mo thru Fri from 7p.m to 3.00 a.m. The night bus is exempt from taking along persons or bikes.

Our Tip:

With a subscription ticket or a Sozialticket you can get an additional discount on trips to nearby cities and towns by 40 percent. It applies to you the connecting ticket (example Detmold: instead of 9,80 Euros - 5, 00 Euros)

Sales points

You can obtain Sozialtickets at the end of previous month and sometimes at beginning at the localities listed below (please find out their respective opening days/hours yourself from the list below):

- **Die Ankleide**

*Werner-Bock-Straße 17, 33602 Bielefeld,
Tel.: (0521) 3057575*

Sozialticket sale as a rule from the 24th day of the previous to the 10th day of the valid month

Mon thru Fri: 9.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. first and last monthly Sat. 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

● **Solidarshop**

Lahnweg 8 (access from Rheinallee, near Café Wölke), 33602 Bielefeld, Tel.: (05205) 7511170

Ticket sale: Mo, Tues, Thus: 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wedn, Fri 9.00 a.m. – to 1.00 p.m.

● **Haus der Sozial-AG**

Kavalleriestr. 26 (Ecke Paulusstr.), 33602 Bielefeld,

Tel.: (0521) 5201764

Sozialticket sale: Mon thru Wedn and Fri: 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m., Thurs 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

● **GAB second hand items exchange (Gebrauchtartikelbörse)**

Meisenstraße 65, 33607 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 2996- 180/182

Sozialticket sale: Mo thru Thurs 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Fri 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

● **Stadtteilbibliothek Heepen**

Heeper Str. 442, 33719 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 51-2456

Sozialticket sale: Wed, Fri: 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.,

Sat 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

● **Stadtteilbibliothek Jöllenbeck**

Amtstraße 13 (im Bezirksamtsamt), 33739 Bielefeld Sozialticket sale: Tues, Wed, Fri: 10.00 a.m to 1.00

p.m.; Tues thru Fri: 3.00 p.m to 6.00 p.m, Sat 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

● **Freizeitzentrum Baumheide**

Rabenhof 76, 33609 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 557 6270 Sozialticket sale as a rule on the last two

workdays of every month from 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

● **Haus der Diakonie in Brackwede**

Kirchweg 10, 33647 Bielefeld, Sozialticket sale: as a rule on the last and first workdays of every

month, except Saturdays, from 9.00 a.m. to 12.00

● **Laden an der Lutherkirche/Windflöte**

Tulpenweg 9, 33659 Bielefeld

Socialticket sale as a rule on the last and first workdays workday of every month, except for Tuesday

and Saturday during normal shop opening hours.



Onwards to a non-pauperized society based on the principle of solidarity!

At the Bielefeld Left Party's (DIE LINKE) Sozialkonferenz on September 8th, 2016, Ulrich Schneider (above), chairman of the all-German Federal Association of Welfare Organizations (Paritätischer Gesamtverband) reported on poverty and the fight against it. He showed who is particularly subject to poverty: the unemployed, the single mothers and their children, people having no certified vocation, and pensioners. Almost 2,5 Million children in Germany suffer from poverty. They live in households with less than 60 percent of the average income. Life-sustaining wages must reach a hourly minimum of 10,50 Euros. Raising the Hartz IV allowance by 5 to 404 Euro (in 2016) for adults proves that the German Federal Government does not intend to provide conditions of existence in accordance with human rights. For 2017, the Paritätische Wohlfahrtsverband has established that at least 520 Euros are required.

We can have a better world. By just redistribution of wealth !

You will find the complete list of initiatives against pauperization here:

www.die-linke.de/die-linke/wahlen/archiv/archiv-bundestagswahl-2013/positionen/stichworte-von-a-bis-z/e-h/grundsicherung/

Services

● Dog license (*Hundesteuer*)

For one dog only:

On application, those entitled to a Bielefeld pass and those of comparable income level will get a 75 percent reduction. Please ask for it at

*Bürgerberatung, Neues Rathaus, Niederwall 23,
33602 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 51-0*

● Radio and TV dues (*Rundfunkbeitrag*)

You can apply to be exempted on in case of public welfare such as: *ALG II and Sozialgeld*, old age security (*Grundsicherung*), or in case of reduced work capability, and as an asylum applicant even if you should marginally exceed the income limit by up to 17,50 Euros.

You can be partly exempted if you receive educational loans (*Ausbildungsförderung*) such as Bafög, BAB etc, if you require nursing, are resident in a ward (*Heimbewohner*), or are severely handicapped (*Schwerbehindert*). Since 2017, you can be exempted for up to three past years.

For further info and applications:

Phone „ARD-ZDF-Deutschlandradio“, Tel.: 01806 999 555 30 or see online www.rundfunkbeitrag.de,
or ask at counseling points like Widerspruch e. V., Perspektive für Arbeitslose, IBZ

Please note: Never submit original documents with your applications, only copies!

- **Medical assistance**

Bielefelder Tisch e.V.

Every Tuesday from 6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m., a women doctor comes to Bielefelder Tisch e.V., to care for and counsel clients. Children between 3 and 13 years of age can come with their parents to a program in the facility called Lion's den (*Löwengrube*)

Bielefelder Tisch e.V., Heeper Str. 12a, 33607 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 5221966

On demand, there will also cheap medical help for pets, as for castrating pets.

Saturday 1.00 to 4.00 p.m.

Bethel's social service Streetmed

„Streetmed's“ services are intended for people in dire straits in connection with social problems and who urgently need medical assistance not provided elsewhere.

Sozialdienst, Viktoriastraße 10, 33602 Bielefeld,

Telefon: (0521) 557754-11

Mon thru Fri: 8.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.(sans appointment)

- **Repair Café**

Screwdriver and soldering iron combined with coffee and biscuits: Profiting from expert advice, you may repair your defective appliances every third Sunday of the month from 2.00 pm. to 5.00 p.m.

Repair-Cafés alternate between two locations:

Odd months: Begegnung in Brackwede, Hauptstraße 50–52, 33647 Bielefeld,

Even months: Begegnungszentrum Neue Schanze, Auf der Schanze 3, 33647 Bielefeld

Times and localities may differ: please inquire from Annette Hellweg, Tel.: (0521) 32940380

Clothing, furniture, household items, etc.

- **GAB second hand exchange (Gebrauchtartikel-Börse)**

You can get textile goods, refurbished furniture, household items, tested electrical appliances etc.

Meisenstraße 65, 33607 Bielefeld,

Tel.: (0521) 2996-183, Open: Mon thru Fri 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m., Sat. 10.00 a.m. to 14.00 p.m.

- **Recycling exchange (Recycling Börse)**

You can get household items, furniture, textile goods, clothing, books, tested electrical appliances as well as refurbished bicycles from the bike repair shop

*Blomestraße 29 (Access also from Eckendorfer Str. Beside Mr. Wash), 33609 Bielefeld,
Tel.: (0521) 19719, Open: Wedn thru Fri: 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m., Sat 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.*

- **City-shop of Recycling Exchange**

Second hand articles of all kinds

Große-Kurfürsten-Straße 81 (within the parking garage (Parkhaus) Jöllenbecker Straße, former KFZ-Anmeldung), 33615 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 19719 Open: Tues thru Fri. 10.00 a.m. to 6.p.m.

- **Die Ankleide**

Low-cost, as good as new and well-preserved clothing

*Werner-Bock-Straße 17, 33602 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 3057575
Open: Mon thru Fri: 9.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m., and last Sat of the month 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.*

- **Solidarshop**

Clothing, household items, Books, toys, small furniture etc.

*Lahnweg 8 (Access from Rheinallee, beside Café Wölke), 33689 Bielefeld,
Tel.: (05205) 7511170, Open Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.*

- **Red Cross (Deutsches Rotes Kreuz Bielefeld e.V.)**

Well-preserved clothing and textile items

*Rotkreuz-Shop Heepen
Rüggiesiek 21, 33719 Bielefeld, Tel: (05 21) 33 36 69
Open: Mon: 09:00 a.m. to - 12:00,
Wed. 9:00 a.m. to- 12:00 + 2.00 p.m to 5.30 p.m.*

Rotkreuz Shop Mitte

*Werner-Bock-Str. 25A, 33602 Bielefeld
Open: Mon + Wed 11:30 a.m to 3.00 p.m., Thurs 3.00 p.m to 6.00 p.m.*

Rotkreuz Shop Brackwede

*Treppenstr. 13, 33647 Bielefeld
Open: Tues 09:30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.
Thur: 09:30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m., Sat: 09:00 a.m to 1.00 p.m.*

- **Brockensammlung Bethel**

Second hand clothing, shoes, china, cutlery, pots + pans, toys, household items, books, carpets furniture, working electrical appliances, second hand items, jewelry

An der Tonkuhle 1, 33617 Bielefeld,
Tel.: (0521) 144-4365, Open: Mon thur Thurs 9.00 a.m. to 5 p.m., Fri 9.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Bielefeld pass not required.

● **Free public book shelves**

To make sure that reading is affordable, you may take used books, bring back or offer your own at the following freely accessible shelves:

Schildesche: Beckhausstraße 134, 33611 Bielefeld
Bültmannshof: Pedestrian Zone near Ärztehaus, 33615 Bielefeld
Sieker: Biomarkt Dengel, Detmolder Straße 228, 33604 Bielefeld
Lohmannshof: Kreuzbergerstraße 13-15
Quelle: Carl-Severing-Straße, Public Telephone at the Johanneskirche

● **School materials (Schulkramkiste)**

Once every month, needy elementary school pupils are handed out free school equipment at the following locations:

AWO Mehrgenerationenhaus

Heisenbergweg 2, every months' first Monday, 3:00 to 5.00 p.m.

Caritas/SKF Eva-Gahbler-Haus

Gerstenkamp 1a, every month's first Friday from 3.30 to 5.30 p.m.

DRK-OV Sennestadt

Lindemannplatz 3, every month's second Monday from 3.00 to 5.00 p.m.

FZZ Baumheide

Rabenhof 76, every moth's first Wednesday from 3.00 to 5.00 p.m.

Diakonie for Bielefeld Johannesstift

Schildescher Str. 101, every month's first Tuesday from 10:00 a.m to 12:00

Der Paritätische/GfS Stadtteilprojekt Oberlohmannshof

Orionstraße 5, every month's first Thursday from 3.00 to 4.30 p.m.

Diakonieverband Brackwede

Jugendzentrum Stricker, Gaswerkstr. 39, every month's second Thursday from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.

AGW c/o , Diakonie für Bielefeld GmbH Schildescher Str. 101-103 , 33611 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 988 92-700

Parcel for Education and Participation (Bildungs- und Teilhabepaket)

As low income families and those entitled to welfare (*Familien mit geringem Einkommen und Berechtigte von Sozialleistungen*), be sure to apply for your Bildungs- und Teilhabepaket lest you forego a lot of money to which you are entitled.

In spite of the fact that the *Bildungs- und Teilhabepaket* is a tangle of red tape and cannot prevent poverty for children – nobody should waive its benefits. Many children and young adults up to age 25 from low income families are entitled to benefit from the *Bildungs- und Teilhabepaket*. Besides those getting ALG-II and Sozialgeld, Sozialhilfe or corresponding asylum allowance, families with housing assistance or supplementary family allowance may apply. For low-wage workers, this is where applications for housing assistance or family allowance have a double effect. Benefits, however, must be applied for before expenses are incurred (except for individual school equipment required):

- **Individual school equipment (textbooks)**
- **Free lunch (both in Kitas and schools)**
- **Excursions and class learning holidays (both in Kitas and schools)**
- **Learning help (private lessons) for attaining next class**
- **Pupil transport ticket (*Schülerfahrkarte*)**
- **Teilhabe benefits, up to 10. Euros per month (only until age 18) for**
 - a) Membership dues in sports, games, culture, and social life
 - b) school in the arts (e.g. music school) and in comparable artistic activities
 - c) participation in school hostel instruction, in organized school holidays (max. 120 Euros/year), benefits will vary according to family situation

Application forms and info can be had at

Office for social benefits (Amt für soziale Leistungen)

Section Bildung und Teilhabe, Marktstr. 1 at corner to Niederwall, 2. floor, 33602 Bielefeld, Tel. (0521) 51-0 Open: Mon thru Fri 8.00-12.00 a.m., Thurs 2.30-6.00 p.m.

How to obtain food at the food dispensary Tafel (*Lebensmittelausgabe*)

When the Federal Association (Bundesverband) Deutsche Tafel e.V. had its 20th anniversary in 2015, the parliamentary group DIE LINKE inquired from the German Federal Government: how do the Tafels perform? Which are the reasons for their massive expansion? How does the Federal Government evaluate the Tafels?

The Government's response to the Bundestag documented that they have not the faintest idea of what the Tafels actually are. The German government claims that their function merely is to marginally amend a well-functioning system of social assistance. There are no official data on the extent and performance of the Tafels, the government considers it useless to statistically document what the Tafels do, these being a mere private complement to social security. Besides, the government stated that they welcome the "utilization of otherwise scrapped good quality produce" in particular "of excess foodstuff" Basically, however, they claim it is not necessary because they have calculated the minimum of existence both correctly and in strict accordance with the constitution.

How much evidence does the German Federal Government need to acknowledge that their social policy does not prevent pauperism? Their refusal to consider the growing queues at the Tafels as proof of increasing poverty dismisses reality. The Tafels expand into the vacuum left by the failure of welfare.

A basic security (*Grundsicherung*) which is sanction-free, secures existences and permits to participate in social life would render this „privatized social industry“(Stefan Selke) superfluous.

Read: Stefan Selke, Schamland

Die Armut mitten unter uns, Econ, ISBN 978-3430201520, 18 Euro



The information below is about the points where food is handed out. Despite the fact that a person's requirements of food and other basics cannot be defined as to place and time, the organizations responsible limit their handouts according to boroughs. The reason for that is the high demand they face. If enough food for all those in need is not available, you may be turned away because you reside in another borough.

You will find more information on a basic security which meets demand and is free of sanctions at:

<https://www.die-linke.de/die-linke/wahlen/archiv/archiv-bundestagswahl-2013/positionen/stichworte-von-a-bis-z/e-h/grundsicherung/>

Initiative of DIE LINKE in the Federal Parliament for fair work and sanction-free basic security at:

<http://dip21.bundestag.de/dip21/btd/18/035/1803549.pdf>

This is where you get food (Ausgabestellen)

- **Bielefelder Tafel e.V.**

Food for people in dire streets. Your cost share : 1,50 Euro per person (further shares for special groups of products are possible). Supplies by the Bielefelder Tafel e.V. can be requested by everybody who lives on a low pension, ALG II or on other forms of assistance. Please present your documents such as Hartz- IV-Bescheid; ALG II; Rentenbescheid as well as a valid identity card.

- **Geschäftsstelle Bielefelder Tafel**

Rabenhof 22, 33609 Bielefeld

*Boroughs (Stadtteile) are: Baumheide, Altenhagen, Milse Handouts Tues to Fri 12.30 to – 2.00 p.m.,
(Tues and Wedn. For families with children*

- **Gesellschaft für Sozialarbeit e.V. (GfS) Jöllenbeck**

Orionstraße 5, 33739 Bielefeld-Jöllenbeck

*Stadtteile: Jöllenbeck, Vilsendorf, Theesen handouts every 2nd and 4th Saturday a month starting
11.00 a.m.*

- **Ev. Kirchengemeinde Brake**

Glückstädter Str. 4, 33729 Bielefeld Stadtteil: Brake Handouts Thurs starting 1.00 p.m.

- **Johanneskirchengemeinde Quelle**

*Gemeinschaftshaus, Carl-Severing-Straße 115, 33649 Bielefeld-Quelle,
Stadtteil: Quelle handouts Friday starting 12.30 p.m.*

- **„Brackweder Lebensmittelpunkt“**

*Gustav-Münter-Haus, Stadtring 52a/Ecke Vogelruth
boroughs: Brackwede/ Senne
Handouts: Fr 2.00 to 3.30 p.m.*

- **„Dornberger bread basket (Brotkorb)“**

Babenshauser Straße 149, borough of Dornberg handouts: Fro from 1.00 p.m.

- **„Von Hand zu Hand“**

*Lindemann-Platz 3 33689 Bielefeld
Borough of Sennestadt, handouts Thurs from 12.30 – to 2.00 p.m.*

Association providing for the destitute (Förderverein zur Hilfe Bedürftiger)

Schillerstraße 82

- **Bielefelder Tisch e.V.:**

All guests will be served with a hot meal, salads, dessert, coffee (no proof of need required).

Heeper Straße 121a, 33607 Bielefeld Tel.: (0521) 5221966

Open: Tues. thru Thurs 5.00 to 9.00 p.m., Sat 1.00 to 5.00 p.m.

Food handouts for the particularly needy :

Tues and Thurs 6.00 to 9.00 p.m. Sat 2.00 to 5.00 p.m.

Boroughs: Bielefeld-Mitte, Gadderbaum, Oldentrup, Schildesche

To the extent clothing, jackets, shoes, bedding, sleeping bags etc. are available, they will be given out as well.

A small contribution is required for each product group, i.e. for bread 1 Euro, for vegetables/fruit 1 Euro, for dairy products/ cold cuts 1 Euro (meat rarely as well) Additionally, the Bielefeld Tisch e.V. offers pet food. Please bring a license tag for your pet and apply locally. Sat. from 1.00 to 4.00 p.m.

● **The Salvation Army (Heilsarmee) Bielefeld**

If enough foodstuffs are available, sandwiches and stuffed rolls will be given out from 10.00 a.m. Hot lunches will be served from 12.30 p.m. Everything is free.

Cafe „Open Heart“, Siegfriedstraße 32, 33615 Bielefeld

Tel.: (0521) 130612, open: Mo thru Thurs 10 to 15 p.m.

● **Borough soup kitchen for all (Stadteilkantine für alle)**

This effort of the Sozialforum offers a good lunch every Saturday. It is financed by voluntary contributions of guests - everybody giving to ability.

Jakob-Kaiser-Straße 2, Begegnungszentrum Bültmannshof every Saturday from 12.30 p.m.

Local Counseling

● **Widerspruch e.V. – social counseling**

The Sozialberatung provided by the association Widerspruch e.V. is an independent counseling facility for people depending on Grundsicherung for those seeking work (unemployment dole ALG II), Grundsicherung for old age, reduced work capacity as well as on social welfare (Sozialhilfe), housing assistance (Wohngeld) or on other welfare benefits.

Open (no appointments):

Mon 9.00-12.00 a.m.

Bürgerwache Siegfriedplatz, Rolandstraße 16, 33615 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 133705

Tues: 9.00-12.00 a.m. Thurs; 2.30 50 3.30 p.m. Old City hall (Altes Rathaus) (ground floor, room 18),

Tel.: (0521) 51-8432

Or per appointment:

*Mon thru Wedn 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m., Thurs. 12.00a.m. to 6.p.m. Bürgerwache Siegfriedplatz,
Rolandstraße 16, 33615 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 133705*

- Perspective for the unemployed

Assistance for the unemployed, vocational training, solving individual problems, answering questions concerning ALG-I, ALG-II and having been sacked by an employer.

Please make an appointment.

*Tel.: 0521 / 305 75 38 oder 0521 / 305 75 31
Prinzenstraße 1 (access from Werner-Bock-Straße), 33602 Bielefeld,
Open Mon thru Thurs: 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m., Fri 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.*

- Center for the unemployed (*Arbeitslosenzentrum Bielefeld, GAB Project*)

This Arbeitslosenzentrum is a freely accessible facility for unemployed men and women which is "independent and impartial, but not neutral and devoted to the interests of the unemployed"

*Prinzenstraße 1 (access from Werner-Bock-Straße),
33602 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 305 7537
Open: Mon thru Thurs from 9.00 a.m. to 3.30
Fr: from 9.00 a.m. to 12..30 p.m.*

Services offered:

Help with your job applications and Internetcafé for job research on PC (assistance given):

*Mon thru Thurs 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m., Fri 9.00 a.m. to - 12.30 p.m.
(for appointments dial (0521) 305 75 37)*

Womens' breakfast

Tues 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. (2,50 Euros)

Topical breakfast

Wedn. 10..00 a.m. to 12.00 (2,00 Euros)

- **Counseling for trade union members**

Many trade unions offer to their unemployed or to those threatened by being fired free counseling in all the issues resulting from unemployment, like

- What shall I do after having been fired?
- How do I get my unemployment money (*Arbeitslosengeld*)?
- For how long shall I get it?
- How does unemployment assistance work?
- What income am I allowed to have besides unemployment money?
- What assets may I keep when receiving unemployment assistance according to ALG II?
- When am I banned from it, and how can I counter that ban?

Please enquire at your own union's office.

● **Consumer Counseling Center (*Verbraucherzentrale NRW e.V.*)**

The *Verbraucherzentrale* is a facility independent of commerce to help with everyday problems of buyers and consumers. It provides legal advice in case of budgetary problems and insolvency, concerning energy dues, questions of law and extra-judicial support, in countering unlawful demands and gives advice how to deal with telecommunications, media, financial services and radio and tv dues

*August-Bebel-Str. 88, 33602 Bielefeld,
Tel.: (0521) 987 876 01*

Mon thru Fri 9.00 a.m. to – 1.00 p.m. Mon + Tjhurs 2.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m., Tues 2.00 to 5.00 p.m.

Information and guides

● **General Guide *Leitfaden ALG-II / Sozialhilfe von A-Z***

This guide is based on many years of critical counseling and work in social movements. It presents not only the rules valid for *Arbeitslosengeld*, but also those governing *Sozialhilfe* and *Grundsicherung im Alter* and assistance in case of reduced working capacity. It is the only comprehensive guide to the federal social laws SGB II to SGB XI, providing a solid basis for counseling.

Guideline *Leitfaden ALG II / Sozialhilfe A-Z*

*Frank Jäger, Harald Thomé, 29th edition, October 2016, 696 p., 15,00 Euros incl. postage
ISBN: 978-3-932246-70-8*

The 29.edition published in October 2016 of this guide and addendums caused by the 9th amendment to the social law II, the so-called legal simplification law, also containing most recent court decisions.

● **Guideline ALG-I: *Leitfaden für Arbeitslose, vol. 3***

This „Leitfaden“ is an important tool for all entitled to *Arbeitslosengeld I*. It helps you avoid traps, explaining to you what is rightfully yours. It answers every imaginable problem with *Arbeitslosengeld*, *Kurzarbeitergeld*, *Übergangsgeld* and *Insolvenzgeld*. To the date of May 2016. the „*Arbeitslosenversicherungs- und Weiterbildungsstärkungsgesetz – AWStG*“ in force since August 1st, 2016, has been taken into account as well.

**Guide *Leitfaden für Arbeitslose,*
legal advice concerning the SGB III**

*Arbeitslosenprojekt TuWas, Fachhochschulverlag
(Frankfurt a.M.), vol. 3, 32. edition, June 2016,
688 p., 20 €, ISBN 978-3-943787-60-3*

● **How to secure your living expenses, find through red tape and the jungle of authorities**

This guide published by the association Widerspruch e.V. informs in language easy to understand about *ALG-II, Sozialhilfe, Grundsicherung*, taking into account particular regulations for Bielefelders.. It is updated regularly. Amendments and further essential information (rules, court decisions) are available from the association or in the internet under: www.widerspruch-sozialberatung.de

Wie sichere ich meinen Lebensunterhalt - Wegweiser durch den Amtsdschungel

*5th edition, February 2014, ISBN: 978-3-86039-012-2,
306 p.: 11,00 Euros (available in bookstores, from the association or from info@widerspruch-sozialberatung.de)*

● **Guide, how to make do for the pennyless**

„Ohne Moos ... und doch was los!“

162 p, DIN A 5, available from: http://evkb.de/fileadmin/content/ergotherapie/ohne_moos_und_doch_was_los.pdf

Target groups: People with a handicap or with psychical afflictions, seniors, neighbours.

● **www.erwerbslos.de**

1986 was the year the *Förderverein gewerkschaftliche Arbeitslosenarbeit e.V.* was founded by unemployed union members in Lage-Hörste:

„Our self-understanding is to function as a link for the common interests of the employed and the unemployed. We encourage the cooperation of the unemployed among themselves and with the trade unions, stressing immediate participation and self-organization. We wish to further vital exchange and motivate cooperation. As a linchpin between unions and civil action committees of the unemployed, we offer our assistance to all active within and without the unions.“

Quoted from the founding document of the Förderverein gewerkschaftlicher Arbeitslosenarbeit e.V.

● **Arbeitsmarktpolitischer Informationsservice des VdS (Verband für Solidarität)**

This information service researches the most important monthly developments in the fields of job market and educational policy, compiling this information in a periodical e-mail newsletter. See

Informationen: <http://www.verband-solidaritaet.de/>

● **Outspoken sozialhilfe www.tacheles-sozialhilfe.de**

„Our name is program. Our association Tacheles is outspoken where the rights of socially disadvantaged or physically challenged unemployed are infringed. For more than 21 years, the association has called attention to discrimination of the poor, voicing the demands of the people affected addressed to the authorities responsible. The association was founded in 1994 as a self-help

organization of the disadvantaged for the disadvantaged. By their successful work and clear partisan position in favoring those entitled to benefits, Tacheles has acquired wide recognition.”

Quoted from the self-presentation of Tacheles e.V.

Let's organize resistance!

Inhabitants' petition „affordable housing for all“

335.000 people in Germany are homeless – among them 29.000 children. In view of increasing abolition of community housing and continuously rising rents will produce half a million homeless within the next years. In Bielefeld too, the situation is dramatic Less than 11.000 of the 40.000 affordable housings of the eighties. Remain. Not a third of those entitled will find one.

The responsible Ministry of North Rhine Westphalia statea that more than 18.000 housings will lack in 2020.

Immediately building good and affordable rent units will not only counter the house shortage, but also brake the ludicrous rise of rents, Our inhabitants' petition “Affordable housing for all” was intended to remind the municipality of their duty to provide housing themselves instead of shirking it by merely relying on private investors. Creating good an affordable housing must again become public responsibility. The photo next page of the giant shark bearing the logo “Let's make rent sharks into fish fingers!” shows chairwoman Barbara Schmidt of DIE LINKE group in the city council with the three LINKE members who organized the petition.

For more information:

see www.bezahlbares-wohnen-fuer-alle.de



● Housing assistance supplementing Hartz IV and Sozialhilfe

When the ALG II was introduced in 2005, the city of Bielefeld fixed the amount of „bare“ rent they considered „appropriate“ with 4,64 Euros per square meter (for lodgings without low energy certificate („Energiepass“)). Since that time, the average rent has been raised continuously.

Affordable lodgings have become extremely scarce. Many low income earners are compelled to squeeze excessive rent from the meagre sums intended for their monthly food and clothing. The poor are deprived of money for everyday life.

In spite of numerous LINKE annual demands, the city council has refused to raise the rent treshold of „appropriateness“ in the twelve years since it was first fixed and now (for summer 2017) proposes a ludicrously insufficient adaption.

Establishing the municipal housing assistance treshold will always require a „consistent concept“, the Federal Supreme Social Court has ruled. Bielefeld does not possess any. This is why you can challenge the authority in case of insufficient housing assistance and demand a realistic raise, also by civil action before the social court (Sozialgericht). As the authorities and the courts are well informed about their illegal position, your chances of success are good. (in case you were forced to sign a pledge about your bolstering insufficient housing assistance yourself, you may rescind this illegal document).

Material and up to date info: www.linksfraktion-bielefeld.de

- **Afternoon meeting for the unemployed for members of the metalworkers union (IG Metall)**

Exchange on political and legal developments.

*Every last Thursday of the month form 4.30 to 6.30 p.m.
Marktstraße 8, Tel.: (0521) 964380*

- **The campaign „This is our due“ (“Das muss drin sein!”)**

is a federal campaign of DIE LINKE. We deal with the topics of how to stop *Befristung* and *Leiharbeit*, with santon-free minimum welfare, good old age pensions, and more jobs in education, care, and health professisons

Together, we can work to change things for the better. We cordially invite you to join.

Find us under: <http://www.dielinke-bielefeld.de/>

- **Sozial-Forum**

The Sozialforum Bielefeld is a joint movement of civil action committees and individuals who intend to work locally for more solidarity in everyday life. Everybody is most cordially invited to join!

Every 1st Tuesday each month at 7.30 p.m.

in the ‚Grille‘ (adjoining the IBZ), Webereistraße 25,

*every 3rd Tuesday a month at 7.00 p.m. with the BISS in the Bürgerwache Siegfriedplatz,
Rolandstraße 16.*

Internet: www.sozialforumbielefeld.blogspot.de

Information and help for all having come to Bielefeld

**Dear Newcomers,
dear refugees,
dear migrants,
dear EU citizens**

you are faced with many tasks and obligations which you must cope with. This is why we list here some essential help organizations and authorities which can assist you. For many years, Bielefeld has been a municipality offering a wide spread of support for refugees and for people having migrated to us. Counsel and assistance offered are so manifold that we cannot present but a small section of it here.

As in all fields of social policy, the German Government is unwilling to expend the necessary finances and manpower. Extreme work load causes inhuman treatment in many fields. The laws made for foreign fellow citizens serve to discriminate against these. We, the Left party (DIE LINKE) are in favor of open boundaries for people in need. Social and political rights must not be granted according to capitalist profit expectations. All the people living in Germany are entitled to participate equally in social and political life.

Where refugees and migrants can get counseling and information

- **Alveni**

Support to facilitate integration of immigrants from EU and their children into their new living environment.

*AWO Kreisverband Bielefeld e.V., Arndtstraße 6-8,
33602, Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 1365753*

- **AK Asyl e.V.**

Various counseling and support for people with fragile permit of residence

Regionalberatung: support for refugees in their problems with authorities and institutions

Psychosocial Center for traumatized refugees: Assessment and diagnosis of trauma conditions and offer of therapies resp. referral to such

Counseling in asylum processes (*Asylverfahrensberatung*): Information about rights and duties of asylum applicants and preparation for hearings at the federal agency for migrants and refugees (*Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge*)

Counseling for unaccompanied refugee minors:

Information about rights and duties pertaining to residence permit and asylum procedures or to trustees and guardianships

Uniberatung: Academic support in problems with aliens' authorities (permit of residence, budgeting etc.) as well as information pertaining to how to take up studies

Medical aid für refugees (*Medizinische Flüchtlingshilfe – MediNet*):

Referral to doctors, help with seeing medical or nursing equipment

*Tel.: (0521) 787152-45,
Friedensstraße 4-7, 33602 Bielefeld,
Tel.: (0521) 546515-0*

• **Arbeiterwohlfahrt Kreisverband Bielefeld e.V.**

Youth migration service (*JugendMigrationsDienst*) for young migrants aged from 16 to 27

*Arndtstraße 6-8, 33602 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 1365722
Mon to Tues: 9.00 a.m to 12.00*

• **Caritasverband für das Dekanat Bielefeld e.V.**

Counseling for young and adult migrants

*Turnerstraße 4, 33602 Bielefeld,
Tel.: (0521) 9619-160
Mon to Tues: 9.00.am. to 12.30 p.m.*

• **Deutsches Rotes Kreuz Kreisverband Bielefeld e.V.**

Counseling for young and adult migrants

*August-Bebel-Straße 8, 33602 Bielefeld,
Tel.: (0521) 52998-31
Tues 10.00 a.m to 12.00 and 1.00 to 4.00 p.m., Thurs: 3.00 to 5.30 p.m. 15.00 – 17.30 Uhr*

• **Diakonie für Bielefeld**

Counseling for young and adult migrants

*Schildescher Straße 101, 33611 Bielefeld,
Tel.: (0521) 98892-731, Wedn 9.30 to 11.30 a.m*

• **Integration Point**

Work and vocational training counseling for asylum seekers in Bielefeld

*Agentur für Arbeit Bielefeld, 1st floor, room 175,
Werner-Bock-Straße 8, 33602 Bielefeld*

• **pro familia Bielefeld**

Counseling and information pertaining to sex life, contraception and life with partners

Stapenhorststraße 5, 33615 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 124073

• **REGE-Port**

Open access for refugees in Bielefeld.

Among the services offered are actively learning German, referral to language courses, placing in schools as well as workshops for vocational orientation and job application training

*Niederwall 26-28, 33602 Bielefeld, Tel.: (0521) 9622109
Open: Mon, Tues, Thurs 11.00 a.m to 4.00 p.m. Wed 1.00 to– 6.00 p.m. Fri 11.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.*

Language training and meeting people

- **Dialog in Deutsch**

Open talks for migrants. The participants should have absolved an integration or language course

*Stadtbibliothek Bielefeld, Neumarkt 1,
33602 Bielefeld, Tel: (0521) 51-5000*

Mon 2.00 to 6.00 p.m., Tues thru Fri : 11.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m., Sat: 11.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

- **Gemeinschaftscafé**

Meeting point for refugees with Bielefelders to get acquainted and exchange

Initiative für menschenwürdige Aufnahme Geflüchteter(IMAG e.V.)

August-Bebel-Straße 62, 33602 Bielefeld,

Tel.: (0521) 986480, every Thursday from 4.00 to 6.00 p.m.

- **IBZ Friedenshaus e.V.**

Initial orientation and partaking

Introduction of refugees to German society– Learning German, coping with norms and customs in everyday life. In-house groups of different nationalities facilitate contact.

Please inquire day and hours

IBZ Friedenshaus e.V.,

Teutoburger Straße 106, 33607 Bielefeld

Please ask for Dirk Kleemann,

Tel.: (0521) 5219033, Mon thru Fri 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

- **IMAG e. V.**

Extensive orientation brochure „Welcome (*Willkommen*) in Bielefeld“. Please ask there.

IMAG - Initiative für eine menschenfreundliche

Aufnahme Geflüchteter e. V.

Henriettenstr. 15a, 33613 Bielefeld

- **Internationaler Bund**

Alphabetization and German language courses

Herforder Straße 14/ Alte Post

(access in back),

33602 Bielefeld, Tel.: 0521/260725-0

Mon thru Fri 9.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m., Thurs.: 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

- **Sprach- und Begegnungscafé**

Meeting point for people from all over the world to talk, drink coffee und getting active

Canteen at IBZ Friedenshaus e.V.,

Teutoburger Straße 106, 33607 Bielefeld

Di 14 – 16 Uhr; Do 14- 16 Uhr

- **Evening school (Volkshochschule VHS)**

German language courses certified by the BAMF. Naturalization tests

Ravensberger Park 1, 33607 Bielefeld,

Tel.: (0521) 51-2222

Inscribe for courses with Frau Idzan

(2nd floor, room Raum 217): Tel.: (0521) 513001

IBZ, VHS and IB offer German language courses certified by the BAMF which can be free in the context of your integration efforts. Please inquire there whether you will get them for free.

“Rich man and poor man
Stood there, gazing at each other
And the poor man bleakly said:
“If I were not poor
You wouldn’t be rich.”
Bertolt Brecht

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Monday thru Thursday 11.00a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Friday: 11.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

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