



Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg

Hamburg's Pledge to the European Pillar of Social Rights

A social Europe is only as strong as its weakest citizens. That is why we need a Europe that ensures social equality and social protection and combats poverty, exclusion and discrimination. Hamburg, at the heart of Europe, also aims to become a city of opportunities for all.

Commitment to principle 11 "Childcare and support to children"

Hamburg is a fast-growing and youthful city. To enable all children access to education and to improve their opportunities for development from an early age, irrespective of their parents' social and cultural backgrounds, they have a legal right to five hours of free day care. In order to fulfil this promise, more than 100 additional day care centres will be built in 2019 and 2020. The anticipated costs of around one billion euros for 2019 and 2020 will be borne by the city. This will increase not just the number of available places, but also quality: parents must be able to trust that their children are well looked after in the day care centres. The carer-child ratio for children under three years of age will be improved to 1:4 by 2021, and for children of preschool age to 1:10. This improvement in quality means that pedagogical staff numbers will grow by around 2,750 by 2024.

Furthermore, Hamburg will expand the number of parent-child centres from 40 to 50 in the years 2019 and 2020 in order to offer parents more advice centres and meeting places. With the early assistance system, in which parents receive advice and support before and after the birth, Hamburg is continuing to implement a preventive and supportive measure that provides 1,600 intensive and 4,000 short-term counselling sessions.

Commitment to principle 19 "Housing and assistance for the homeless"

The care of people with no home of their own and little income is an urgent issue for Hamburg. The city is working in four areas to provide homeless people with accommodation and encourage their social inclusion in society. As part of the overall concept for helping the homeless, these areas are *measures for preventing housing loss and for integration, low-level assistance for shelterless, homeless and socially disadvantaged people* as well as the *provision of public shelters* and the *placement in and creation of housing*. Within this complex and diverse system, different measures are directed at the respective target groups. One exemplary programme is aimed specifically at young homeless and shelterless people to support them early on in finding their own housing. The offering from the Hamburg Young Adults Programme (JEP) is geared towards young homeless and shelterless people aged 18-25 and aims to reach out to them at an early stage, help them to develop perspectives and (re)activate them to participate in society. The key priority here is to achieve lasting integration of the young homeless in their own housing. This programme is flanked by commencing school education or an apprenticeship or entering into an employment relationship.

In Hamburg, young people who find themselves in a precarious housing or living situation receive a temporary place to stay in special accommodation. This place provides them with a protected space where they can retreat in order to calm down and reorient themselves. During their stay at "JEP" they receive advice and support through intensive socio-pedagogical counselling. Hamburg is providing funding to the tune of around 1.3 million euros for the Young Adults Programme in 2019 alone.

Dr Melanie Leonhard
Senator, Ministry for Labour, Social and Family Affairs and Integration

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