

Support for refugee families with children

Activation of volunteers from the field of child and youth welfare

The Ministry of Education and Youth (MBS) is in close contact with the organisations, sponsors and associations of children's and youth welfare to facilitate contacts and activities to support the reception of refugees. The State Commissioner for Children and Youth, Katrin Krumrey, is in contact with the Regional Youth Council (Landesjugendring), among others. All youth hostels, children's recreation centres and youth education centres were asked to prepare for the reception of families with children and, if necessary, to organise special care and support services, including for holidays.

The other federal states were asked to support the states of Brandenburg and Berlin with their organisations at the border with the entry of refugees. The evacuation of entire children's and youth facilities from Ukraine has begun (children's and youth residential homes). An attempt is being made to coordinate the partly private initiatives with the participation of the MBS nationwide and Europe-wide.

Healthy Children Network

The Healthy Children Network (Netzwerk Gesunde Kinder – NGK), which is funded by the MBS, maintains an open welcome culture and its services are generally available to refugee families within the framework of regional opportunities. The conventional support of the NGK via family sponsors is based on long-term relationship building. The MBS has asked the network to take care of the refugee families. The offers can provide information on medical topics as well as on the use of health and prevention services. Depending on the regional possibilities, they can be implemented in cooperation with the Healthy Children Network or its cooperation partners. The Healthy Children Network is a free service for all families regardless of nationality, from pregnancy to the child's third birthday. With 21 regional networks and more than 40 locations, the Healthy Children Network is represented throughout Brandenburg.

Integration through Sport

The State Sports Federation of Brandenburg (LSB) and its Brandenburg Sports Youth see integration as an equal participation of migrants in sports and social life. Last week, the MBS established contact with the LSB and the German Red Cross (DRK) as the institution responsible for the reception facilities, so that offers can be made at an early stage. The LSB will use existing activities in the Integration through Sport programme and, if necessary, expand them.

Language Courses for Adult Refugees

Many adult education centres (Volkshochschulen, VHS) in the state of Brandenburg and independent continuing education institutions offer "German as a foreign language" courses as well as courses for advanced students at various levels. These courses also include the integration courses of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF). The MBS subsidises the courses for learning the German language. The MBS will contact the State Advisory Council for Continuing Education in a timely manner to provide the most suitable offers.