

(Austria) Gemeinsam Essen-Dinner Together

Main Goals

- Giving disadvantaged groups help without the tag of donation
- Socializing
- Sustainability and Waste avoiding

Objectives

- Getting used to healthy food
- Being responsible for a project as volunteer
- Get into contact with unknown groups
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Resources needed

- Two rooms, a kitchen and a toilet
- Setting for eating and cleaning/washing dishes
- At least one person to overview
- Time(12-15 h/week)

Challenges

- Empowering enough volunteers
- Financial resources
- Time resources
- Avoiding boredom in doing the same job every week
- Having the setting prepared

In Graz there is a vegetarian restaurant where throughout the day large amounts of food are freshly cooked. After closing in the evening, much of the freshly cooked food had to be thrown away, because the restaurant is not allowed to serve food from the day before. In 2015 the Neighborhood Center Büro der Nachbarschaften, a project of the StadtLABOR, started to register people, who wanted to take away the food after the restaurants closing hour. This setting didn't work well; there were too many people, often at the same time as regular guests, who paid their dish. Therefore the whole setting was changed. The remaining food was brought to the Neighborhood Center in normed restaurant boxes and was served directly in the center as a buffet. At the beginning 6 times a week. This led to an overstrain of both staff and volunteers. The actual state is, that BdN cooperates with other neighbourhood centers, which take the food on two days, and at three evenings dinner together is served in the Büro der Nachbarschaften. Still most work has to be made by volunteers because there is no sufficient funding for personnel resources. The setting has been more or less the same for the last two years, only with different volunteers. The groups visiting these dinners are very mixed: mostly disadvantaged groups like refugees, Roma, poor people etc. mix with students and at least once a week with a chorus group. This mixture makes the neighbourhood center a crowded place with much potential.

1. The need of the community is healthy food,
 2. groups, who need food, lonely people, low income
 3. Methods of implementation
 4. Online channels, mouth to mouth, on the windows of the neighbourhood center
 5. Organizing the volunteers, preparing the room and the boxes, prepare the setting for dish washing
 6. Ways of communication
 7. sheets with weekly plan, where duties are listed and the involves volunteers are written down
2. Dissemination if any



Picture discription

Facts and points:

- ✓ Umweltpreis, Award for Environment and Sustainability of the City of Graz in May 2018
- ✓ 8 Volunteers are on the Photo
- ✓ The Place where the Award was given is the "Rathaussaal"
- ✓ This picture went around the world, because the volunteers have friends and relatives all around the world and sent them this picture proudly

Testament