



About our work

Community – Self-Determination - Life quality

About our organisation

The association Wassertor e.V. was founded in 2008 by neighbours in response to the great need and lack of structures in the neighbourhood. We are committed to empowering people - especially socially disadvantaged or marginalised people - from our neighbourhood to improve their quality of life in a self-determined way and lift themselves out of isolation and loneliness, often associated with financial burdens.

We make this possible by enabling free support with bureaucratic hurdles, various educational offerings and plenty of vibrant opportunities for people aged 6-99 to gather in community in eight languages at two locations in Kreuzberg-Nord: our multigenerational space [MGH Wassertor](#) in Wassertorstraße and, since 2018, the [Bona Peiser](#) 700m away in Oranienstraße.

We are also out and about with various mobile campaigns to reach more people from the neighbourhood and use our strong network in the neighbourhood to pool resources and develop joint projects with other local players.

- 2 locations
- 5000 visitors monthly

- 28 user groups
- 21 team members and lots of volunteers



Sources
1. [berlin.de](#) (see pages 28-29)
2. [de.statista.com](#): SGB II Quote Minderjährige in Bedarfsgemeinschaften Grundsicherung im Rentenalter Bevölkerung mit Migrationshintergrund

About our neighbourhood

Our area of activity is Kreuzberg-Nord, a neighbourhood that is severely affected by child poverty and poverty among the elderly. Social housing in tower blocks is widespread here, as a result of which many of the people live in cramped and precarious housing conditions and therefore the provision of spaces like ours is of great relevance. In addition, many people who live here who do not speak German as their mother tongue and thereby often experience discrimination and marginalisation. Many of our visitors receive social security payments to sustain their livelihood and need support to overcome the many bureaucratic hurdles.

As of 2024: PLR 02100106			
Indicator	here	Berlin	DE
Percentage of unemployed people	10 %	4,6 %	8,3 %
Percentage of children under age 15 living in households receiving state income support	58 %	25 %	12.2 %
Percentage of people of retirement age receiving state income support	26 %	7,8 %	3,9 %
Percentage of people with a " migration background "	65 %	40 %	30,4 %
	1	1	2

Our areas of activity

Children, Youth and Family

Youth violence prevention

Social consultations

Neighbourhood Work

Senior Citizens

Empowerment for Women

Self-help

Promoting Democracy

Promoting Civic Engagement

In order to improve the quality of life of the various target groups in our neighbourhood sustainably and holistically, our teams collaborate interdisciplinarily in various areas of social work and cooperate with a wide range of local stakeholders so that synergies can be used effectively.

About our financial situation

For the core part of our work, we receive funding from local and national funding programmes (see also our page: [Transparency](#)). However, some of this funding does not provide long-term security and often depends on the current political situation. In view of the cuts already announced in the Berlin budget, resources are expected to be scarce as early as 2026.

How could donations impact our work?

Fortunately the rent for our two locations is covered by the local district authority. However, our funding doesn't enable us to cover expenses that go beyond the basics, e.g. for

- day-trips and admission tickets for children & young people and for senior citizens;
- rental fees for the sports hall, sports equipment and sportswear for our youth violence prevention project [Kreuzberg Kickt](#);
- materials for creative activities, e.g. acrylic paints, brushes;
- fees for external professionals, e.g. workshop instructors;
- repairs and renovations

[Donations](#) enable social participation for financially disadvantaged or marginalised people and help to ensure that everyone - regardless of their social background, level of education, age or language - can live a self-determined, fulfilling life and experience being part of a welcoming and diverse community.

Every donation helps!

Account holder: Wassertor e.V.

IBAN: DE1843 0609 6711 0516 9800

BIC: GENODEM1GLS

We would like to express a huge thank you for your kind support.