# Federal program multi-generational centre

"Multi-generational centres are indispensable meeting places for people of all ages. This is where community happens – between young and old, long-established residents and newcomers, across all language and cultural boundaries.

Multi-generational centres strengthen the cohesion of the municipality and sound out new paths for cooperation.

Whoever is looking to meet people, find ideas for the society of the future or simply wants to talk over a cup of coffee, just stop by!"

Manuela Schwesig, Minister of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth

### We set the example for the future.

Multi-generational centres are central meeting places for all generations, where new forms of cooperation can be shaped in the municipality.

Multi-generational centres are open to all and they invite everyone to take part in social life.

Multi-generational centres support the municipalities in their efforts to tackle the challenges of demographic changes and to make use of its opportunities.

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18132 Rostock

Tel.: 030 182722721

Fax: 030 18102722721

 $Sign\ language\ telephone: gebaerdentelefon@sip.bundesregierung.de$ 

E-mail: publikationen@bundesregierung.de

www.bmfsfj.de

For all further questions, use our service hotline: 030 20179130

Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

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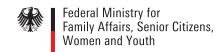
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www.115.de

#### In your area







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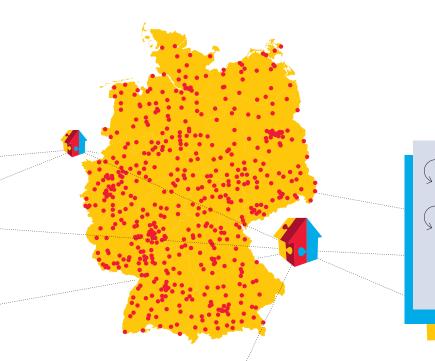
## What are multi-generational centres?

Multi-generational centres are meeting places for local residents.



Nearly every German municipality has a multigenerational centre. In total there are around 550 in the country. They facilitate contact and strengthen cooperation between neighbors. The name says it all: People of every age and from different cultural and religious backgrounds come together, engage in dialogue and become active. People

who would otherwise never meet in daily life experience and shape community here – in language exchanges, cooking courses or through afternoon care support.



### Who can get involved?

Multi-generational centres are an open invitation to all.

Thanks to uncomplicated opportunities to participate, which are open to all, even those who are new to the municipality, those who fear contact, or who feel like they don't belong still feel welcome here. New friendships are quickly forged over a coffee at an open get-together or in conversations after a language class.

Multi-generational centres offer opportunities to get settled, gain a foothold or to reorient yourself – whether in the neighborhood, in the transition from school to a career, from one's career to retirement or in an unexpected life situation.

Here people can profit from the activities on offer or realize their own projects. They can discover their own talents, get involved and grow. From the school kids' band to literature courses and creative afternoons all the way to a bicycle repair shop, countless activities take place in the houses. They are as different as the people who contribute to them.

#### How to find a multi-generational centre in your area:

- **1** Go to the website www.mehrgenerationenhaeuser.de.
- **2** Enter your ZIP code in the search field.
- **3** Choose a multi-generational centre in your area and read about the activities and opening times.

## How do the houses benefit the municipalities?

Demographic changes pose great challenges for the municipalities.

Our society is getting older, smaller and more diverse. All multi-generational centres tailor their work to best respond to the individual impact of demographic change locally. Specific, creative and together with people.

Multi-generational centres understand what motivates citizens: What do they need? What is lacking locally? What improvements or changes do they desire? Multi-generational centres consider people's needs and provide new impulses for a proactive social policy in the municipalities.

### Multi-generational centres: A success story.

In 2006, the Ministry for Family Affairs began to promote multi-generational centres with the idea of transferring the concept of extended family to modern society.

Much has changed since then, but the idea itself is still relevant. Today it is practiced in around 550 municipalities and districts.

