

Diakonie de La Tour – Child protection policy!

Our child protection policy follows the UN-Convention on the rights of Children. The work of the Carinthian youth and child care sector is based on the regulations of the Kärntner Kinder- und Jugendhilfegesetz (K-KJHG, Carinthian Child and Youth Welfare Act, <http://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=LrK&Gesetzesnummer=20000255>) which is based on the regulations of the Austrian Kinder- und Jugendhilfegesetz.

The responsibility for youth welfare and child protection is located at the Office of the Carinthian Government, Department 4 – Social Affairs and Society. All our facilities are authorized and controlled by this office.

The Work of our youth welfare sector follows roughly three main principles:

- Involvement of the child/family and their environment at any stage of the support
- Any kind of educational support is based on a written agreement between the public youth care and the family (exception: support measures that are based on a decision of a court)
- The main objectives of the K-KJHG as noted in §2, especially the protection of children from any kind of violence or child endangerment.

Practically all our Facilities are following 3 Main-Principals:

- Participation of children, adolescents and parents as much as possible.
- Inclusion of all clients and also our facilities has a primary priority.
- Every kind of violence gonna be haunted immediately.

Persons:

The K-KJHG regulates the qualification and supervision of the care-persons employed in the youth welfare system. Documents like criminal records or a proof of qualification are required before employment. Each employee has to proof the participation at advanced vocational training (minimum 3 days/year). Providing supervision for all employees is obligatory. The more our organization provides a special advanced education for ALL youth-care-employers which focus on the 3 main-theories of “binding- , trauma- , and system theory”. This provides our employers in being high – reflected concerning the own bonding behavior and gives the possibility for professional acting in critical situations.

Further ALL our employers get trained in PART (Professional Assort Response Training).

Procedures and Accountability:

The so called KIJA (Kinder- und Jugendanwaltschaft <http://kija.ktn.gv.at>) works independent, their main aim is the protection of the childs rights. It is responsible for the legal child protection act K-KJHG and its implementation. This means, the public and private youth welfare is lead and financed by the Subdepartment for Youth Welfare. In all of our facilities children gonna find de phone-number of der KIJA and there are also routinley settings implemented in which they can join in confidential conversations.

To ensure the quality of care, public youth care experts are auditing each of our facilities minimum once a year. During this control-visit the auditors have the possibility to talk to the minors as well. Within this confidential conversation the minors are interviewed about their personal situation.

Kinderschutzzentren (child protection centres) provide counselling for Families and children with abuse/violence-issues.

Victims of abuse or violence have the possibility to get help from the so called “Opferhilfefonds” (victims support fund). With this fund, concrete support-measures (eg. Psychotherapy) for the victims can be paid.

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