



ZUSAMMEN LEBEN

Programm 2012

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Zusammen Leben

Zusammen = together

leben = to live

→ Living together

What is it about?

Bringing together immigrants (mainly refugees) and people from the majority population in order to exchange their culture, share their living environments, ease the process of social integration and personal support through personal contact, sharing time together, language support, etc.



+ How was „Zusammen Leben“ born?

- Grenzenlos – develops local projects by using the resources and knowledge from the international mobility programs
- Idea: support integration process/ exchange on different levels, not only international, but also intra-national
- Local authorities and governmental organizations, funding organizations, several applications
- Pilot project was launched on the 19th of February 2010 with 30 volunteers and 9 member-team



+ IDEA: 15 Mentors
15 Mentees





Zusammen Leben Program

- Cooperation between Interface and Grenzenlos



Support the cross-social integration of children, young people and adults with a migration background through their education, information and counselling measures.

- Funded by the City of Vienna, MA 17 (Integration and Diversity)



+ Structure/ Cycle of „Zusammen Leben“

- Stakeholders: Mentees, Mentors, Social Workers, Zusammen Leben Coordinator and Team, Supervision
- Grenzenlos (ZL Coordinator) – Interface (Social Worker)

COMMUNICATION



+ Structure Zusammen Leben

Preparation Seminar Mentors (1 ½ Days, End of March)

- Expectations and their roles as Mentors
- Experiences of others
- Intercultural Communication
- Migration Law, Racism, Gender
- Conflict Management
- Motivational Support
- Simulation Games
- Distance oneself
- Free time tips!



+ Structure Zusammen Leben

Kennenlernen Abend (One evening)

- Evening „Getting to know each other“, speed dating + short preparation for the Mentees



+ Structure Zusammen Leben

Kick-Off Day (One day, April)

- Comparing expectations and wishes, working together to make a symbolic contract, clearing out the roles of all stakeholders (on communication & relationship), simulation games or theatre (Language), MATCHING!



+ ZUSAMMEN LEBEN



+ Structure Zusammen Leben

After the Matching (April – November)

- Meetings (once a week)
- Getting to know each other and Vienna.
- Speaking German
- Social Networks: Introducing the Mentees/ Mentors to friends and family
- Support in case of problems (personal, educational, bureaucracy, etc.)
- Getting to know more about the “Austrian” and other cultures



+ Structure Zusammen Leben

- Mentors Meeting (May) preliminary evaluation,
- Jour Fix (monthly): prepared by the mentors
- Evaluation Day (November): evaluation with the Mentors and Mentees separately



+ Challenges

- Mentors and Mentees do this voluntarily: Time Management!
- Different expectations on how the relationship should work (friends or more distant relationship of support)
- Less preparation for the Mentees
- Matching (Men and Women)
- Dropouts during the program (Emergency Mentors)
- Summer Break (Jour Fix)
- Size of the programme
- Funded Program → dependency!





Experiences by participants Impacts of Zusammen Leben



- Facing realities of Austrian Immigration Law
- Reflexion of one's culture/ identity (new lenses)
- New questions occur (Awareness raising): What is my role within the Austrian society? Which impact do I have onto my community? How do I/ does my surrounding interact with people who were not born in Austria?
- Personal Relationship – Categories get questioned
- Question stereotypes/ prejudices (environment, own)
- Encounter of two coequal persons – „Integration“ in one's own society
- Anti-discrimination-statement (less degradation/judging, more questioning/ fortifying curiosity)



Thank you for your attention!

