

Johanniterhjælpen in Denmark

Main activities in 2020/21

Johanniterhjælpen in Denmark is still a small operation well supported by its members. Our focus is on supporting a few activities where the aid from Johanniterhjælpen can make a real difference in the short term, as well as in the longer term. We are not prioritizing one-off supports, as we would rather see long-term collaborations, where Johanniterhjælpen can make a real difference.

At present Johanniterhjælpen support two ongoing projects, and we are looking for other possibilities where our involvement will be a real help in the long term.

Nonetheless, Johanniterhjælpen has made some important one-off contributions.

Our long term commitments are at present:

- Morgenceafeen: A café for the homeless, which can support the most basic needs of homeless people with alcohol or drug abuse problems or psychological challenges. The café supplies two meals a day, and volunteer doctors, nurses, lawyers, and other professionals give advice and help without cost for the homeless.

For a number of years, Johanniterhjælpen has arranged a charity concert in one of the main churches in Copenhagen (Holmens Kirke). All income from the concert, income from ticket sales, and donations go directly to the Morgenceafeen.

- Hugs & Food: This is also an initiative to help the homeless. The initiative is part of the efforts of Our Lady's Church (the cathedral in Copenhagen) to help people in need. It supplies a free meal and the possibility to get their clothes washed as well as professional help from social workers.

At their request, Johanniterhjælpen is providing the high-quality coffee served during opening hours, and in 2020 Johanniterhjælpen helped to get a new washing and drying machine donated from a local supplier. Johanniterhjælpen paid for the installation costs.

These activities have been operational also during the COVID 19. We were able to arrange a concert in November 2020, which was a significant help for the Morgenceafeen.

During the last few years, we have also worked on a first aid program for schools. First aid training is mandatory, but the children do not always get the training. The idea is to activate military veterans who have been sent out on a mission for Denmark and have been given special first aid training. Thanks to their training, they can provide high-quality instruction to school children in the 3rd to 6th class. The administrative challenges are many, and we have realized that it will take some time before the concept will take shape in a way that will work following the many rules and regulations to be found in a highly complex society like the Danish.

In 2020 and 2021 Johanniterhjælpen has together with The Danish subcommandery of the Johanniterorder given donations to Omaruru in Namibia, Baby-Therapi-Zentrum in South Africa (Johannistag-Gabe 2021) and the Spendenaktion Unwetterkatastrophe.

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