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## **Johanniter Orde in the Netherlands 2021/2022**

### **Members**

Presently we have 550 members, of which a percentage of 75% is above 55 years of age. We are happy that we welcomed in 2021 sixteen new young members and in 2022 we will welcome thirteen new young members. We have an ongoing discussion within the Chapter about the criteria for membership. Some would like to pull this broader, some will not.

### **Meetings**

In 2021 we mostly got together digitally with our members, in September 2021 and in 2022 we could meet in person. That was greatly appreciated.

### **Johanniter Nederland**

These years we were again able to raise the funding for the staff of Johanniter Nederland, in allegiance with the Ridderlijke Duitse Orde. A member of the RDO participates in the board of Johanniter Nederland, together with the whole Chapter of Johanniter Orde in Nederland.

### **Ukraine**

1) An unprecedented humanitarian tragedy is unfolding in Ukraine. Initially, tens of thousands left their homes in Ukraine to seek refuge elsewhere to flee the violence in their country. Meanwhile, hundreds of thousands have already set out and there are gloomy predictions that possibly millions will want or have to leave their homeland. Neighbouring countries of Ukraine such as Poland, Romania and Hungary are doing their utmost to accommodate refugees as well as possible. We called on our members for a donation to help the refugees.

The Chapter was well aware of the urgency of supporting our Hungarian fraternal order. Therefore, the Chapter doubled the proceeds of this call and transferred the total amount to the Hungarian Order.

2) Next Monday 23rd of May we will discuss in our Chapter meeting if we are to participate in the project of the "Trailer-based Mobile Clinics" who can be deployed to Ukraine. This is a wonderful project by joint activity of the German Association of the Sovereign Order of Malta, and the Balley Brandenburg of the Knightly Order of Saint John of the Hospital of Jerusalem (Johanniter). The project is to be implemented by Malteser International, the international humanitarian aid and development organisation of the Order of Malta and the Johanniter-Unfall-Hilfe e.V., the aid service of the Johanniter Order.

### **Johanniter bible circle resumes**

Due to the restrictive measures as a result of the Coronavirus, the already planned discussion evenings for members led by Johanniter pastor Rev. Rob Fechner could not take place at the RDO House in Utrecht. A new series of discussion evenings have taken place in the autumn of 2022. Various themes and topics have been discussed during these evenings, such as the eight Beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount of Jesus (Matthew 5:3-11), the meaning of volunteering and humanity, but also current themes.

The purpose of these evenings is to give the members of the Order the opportunity to meet each other, to enter into a pleasant and inspiring conversation with each other about the aforementioned themes and as such to pay attention to meaning.

### **Jansdag resumed**

Every year young members of our Order organise a day out for children. In 2022 this will be resumed, after a Covid related pause.

### **Johanniter diner resumed**

To encourage bonding within our member we dine together every year. In 2022 this will be resumed, after a Covid related pause.