

Landesarbeitsgemeinschaft  
der Freien Wohlfahrtspflege  
in Niedersachsen



Niedersächsisches Ministerium  
für Soziales, Frauen, Familie,  
Gesundheit und Integration

*Ethno-  
Medizinisches  
Zentrum* e.V.



Hannover, 25.05.2011

Dear parents, students and youths,

These weeks there is one main issue in many families: the choice of a career and the related search for a suitable apprenticeship. Most people want a sustainable and reasonable job. But which job is right for me? This question is especially important for families with an immigrant background since too many young people with immigrant roots unfortunately still cannot find an appropriate apprenticeship.

This is what we would like to change together with you. Adolescents need a career opportunity to make their living and to be able to feed a family in the future. Moreover, we need them, as they are an important part of the future of our country.

This letter is supposed to inform you about the numerous possibilities in the field of social work. We would also like to draw your attention to the campaign **“Typen gesucht. Deine Wahl – sozial!”** (“Characters wanted - Your social choice”), launched by the Landesarbeitsgemeinschaft der Freien Wohlfahrtspflege in Niedersachsen (Association for Voluntary Welfare Work in Lower Saxony).

Many families are no longer able to care for their children, their elderly or sick relatives around the clock without supporting facilities. They do not have the time nor the power to manage these tasks alone. In our society the number of children and older people with an immigrant background is increasing. In order to provide for them appropriate and high-quality opportunities and services we need young people with immigrant backgrounds. We experience them – in the field of social work - as engaged and capable employees, as they speak several languages and bring along cultural skills.

Nearly 1.3 million (16 percent) of the approximately 6.7 million people in Lower Saxony have an immigrant background. They are an important population group, and we need their contribution! When their parents or grandparents came to Germany, they used to work in industry. With their hard work they have contributed to the economic strength of this country as well as to the support of their families. Since then, however, society and the labour market have changed. Occupations that were once open to their parents are no longer an option for the young people of today. The number of people employed in the industrial sector decreases from year to year while the number of jobs in services, particularly in the social field, increases.

The selection of professions in the social field is enormous: in addition to education and care providers there are also many multi-disciplinary professional profiles. This includes jobs in the technical and medical sector, tasks in the field of IT, business administration and management. This also offers the opportunity to bring in all kinds of skills for working with people of all ages and from different social structures as well as administration skills. The social work field offers full-time and part-time jobs, training and advancement opportunities.

On the website [www.typengesucht.de](http://www.typengesucht.de) we inform you about many of these professions. Learn what options there are, if you would like to work with children or old people for example or if you want to encourage other people with an immigrant background. In addition to the job descriptions you can also find a list of social institutions. Furthermore, the website offers films and texts containing progress reports.

During the week of 27 June to 1 July, 2011 a range of institutions offer the opportunity to experience social professions. Of course, there will also be an opportunity to pose questions to the experts on-site who work actively in the field. You can gain up-to-date information on which institutions offer what actions on our website or directly from the institutions. We would be glad to see you there!

Yours sincerely,



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