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EhrenamtMesse 2016 at Kiel University

- **Topic of focus: voluntary refugee work**
- **Event by the EhrenamtNetzwerk Schleswig-Holstein and the nettekieler Ehrenamtsbüro**

Kiel, 7 May 2015: The 2016 EhrenamtMesse (trade fair on voluntary work) will take place in the Olshausenstraße 75 building at Kiel University (CAU). The project partners, Kiel University, the EhrenamtNetzwerk Schleswig-Holstein and the nettekieler Ehrenamtsbüro, have now agreed upon this location. The trade fair, which will be focussing on the topic of “voluntary refugee work” this coming year, will take place on the weekend of 20/21 February 2016 in Kiel.

As part of the event, which is held every two years in different parts of Schleswig-Holstein, associations, organisations and initiatives receive the opportunity to present themselves and their work and to gain new volunteers in personal discussions. The trade fair offers citizens the chance to get an overview of the variety of possibilities for commitment in a pleasant atmosphere, to get to know the individual organisations better and exchange views with other interested parties. The EhrenamtMesse Schleswig-Holstein is organised by the EhrenamtNetzwerk Schleswig-Holstein.

“We are very pleased that we were able to get Kiel University as a project partner and location for the event”, emphasized Alexandra Hebestreit, Head of the nettekieler Ehrenamtsbüro. “With the selection of the location, but also the planned integration of student and university offers within the framework programme, we hope to be able to address young people who are interested in civic commitment even more directly.”

For Professor Lutz Kipp, President of Kiel University, the EhrenamtMesse on the Kiel Campus offers everyone in Schleswig-Holstein, but especially students, the opportunity to directly support specific people as well as social projects. “I really hope that lots of interested people use this chance”. It is no coincidence that voluntary refugee work is the focus this year: “The construction of a reception centre for refugees on the Kiel campus means we need places and opportunities to develop a joint understanding for this topic. If, as a result, concrete assistance for those affected also emerges, then this is even better. This is the best way to take away doubts and fears in advance”, said the CAU President.

Trägerschaft Kreisarbeitsgemeinschaft
der Wohlfahrtsverbände



mit Unterstützung der

Landes-
hauptstadt Kiel



und dem



Since 2006, the EhrenamtMesse and EhrenamtForum (forum on voluntary work) have taken place in Schleswig-Holstein every year on rotation. The preparation and conduct is performed on the one side, centrally by the EhrenamtNetzwerk, and on the other, decentrally by regional project teams. The local project teams include charitable organisations, associations, volunteer agencies, foundations, social welfare charities, municipalities or regional initiatives. The aim of the trade fairs is to provide a platform for voluntary work and to advance commitment for the community.

nettekieler Ehrenamtsbüro

The **nettekieler** Ehrenamtsbüro is a facility of the Kreisarbeitsgemeinschaft der freien Wohlfahrtsverbände Kiel (district community work for voluntary welfare associations in Kiel) with the support of Kiel City and the Kiel Jobcenter. Its main task is to advise and arrange volunteers in all social sectors, across generation borders and free of charge. In doing so, the **nettekieler** Ehrenamtsbüro cooperates with associations, initiatives, church communities and other facilities that are dedicated to the common good and are looking for volunteers. In addition, it supports projects to promote civic commitment, organizes events on the topic of volunteer work and promotes local and regional networking to strengthen voluntary commitment. The goal is to strengthen voluntary commitment in all its diversity and to make its significance publically visible both to society as well as each individual person.

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