







# Stand out - Outreach consulting for homeless women and women at risk of homelessness in the cities of Aachen, Eschweiler and Stolberg









# Introduction

- WABe e.V. is a welfare organisation
- Years-long experience in various counselling options
- The programme specialises in women who need help to find an accomodation
- Housing shortage
- Often women's homelessness is hidden and they have different problems (e.g. prostitution in exchange for housing)
- Aims:
  - Contact as many women as possible who have not received help from institutions and organisations
  - Reduce hidden housing shortage
  - Offer a variety of options for counselling solutions thanks to a large network



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**Hidden housing** 

shortage

**Inapropriate** 

housing space

ient behaviour d appearance

Experience of violence (physical and psychological)

Specific women's needs

Young women who have stayed in foster home or another place that serves as a temorary home for abused and neglected children

Have stayed in psychiatry, women's refuge... for some time

Mental health issues

With action for

eviction

Lack of digitalisation

**Financial dependency** 

Language barriers

Single parent/ mother

**Pregnant and homeless** 

No career training or opportunities

Person receiving a benefit

**Addiction issue** 







### What we offer to women

- Extensive counselling
  - Specialised in subsidy and support options within the German social code
  - Support in case of (imminent) loss of housing
  - Support in case of change of residence
    - Active flat-hunting
    - Support communication with administrative offices and landlords
- Clearing
  - Psychosocial counselling
  - Support in structuring everyday life
  - Communication with and transfer to other frontline services
- Public relations activities
- Networking

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#### The network

- Offices for Social Affairs
  - Urban housing security
  - Emergency shelters
- Employment agency, job-centres
- Youth welfare service, public health service, socio-psychological service, streetworkers
- Psychiatrist, clinics, specialists
- Travellers' Aid and other low-threshold offers for homeless and people in need
- Addiction aid, debt counselling
- Women-specific offers: Pregnancy (conflict) counselling, women's shelter
- Landlords, property management
- Schools, kindergardens, sports clubs, support associations
- Assisted living, sheltered housing, institutions of further education, employment opportunities
- ...



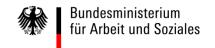




## **Influence of COVID-19**

- Housing is even more difficult to find
- Decreased amount of flats and flat visits
- Clients are afraid of asking for help due to high numbers of Covid-19 infections
- It is difficult to meet staff in person
- Longer waiting times in every institution and organisation
- Counselling and advice via telephone or videocalls

How can the digitalisation of homeless women work?



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# Thank you for your attention