

## LWV AT A GLANCE

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Some brief information on the public  
Welfare Association of Hesse





## ABOUT US

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### REGIONAL ASSOCIATION

The public Welfare Association of Hesse (LWV) is funded by the districts and by the independent municipalities. It is committed to the support of physically and mentally handicapped, or socially disadvantaged citizens, in their everyday-lives and on the job. This is coordinated by LWV employees in Kassel, Darmstadt and Wiesbaden.

### SOCIAL ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY

A growing number of citizens with handicaps - currently approximately 57.000 in Hesse - are eligible for assistance in managing their everyday lives. This type of support is called integration assistance. According to the German Social Code (SGB) XII, the LWV is responsible for this service. The objective is to allow disabled citizens to live their lives as independently and self-determinedly as possible. In so far as feasible, they should be able to participate in social life, in their community and their quarter. In recent years, the LWV has increased efforts to help disabled people to continue living in their own homes (assisted living). Beyond that, the LWV is also a contact partner for people living in residential homes, for those who are cared for in day-care centres and/or are working in sheltered workshops. These offerings are funded by the LWV.



**FOCUS ON PEOPLE:** Together with many other institutions in all of Hesse, the LWV serves the needs of disabled people.

### **INTEGRATION OFFICE**

The Integration Office of Hesse's LWV is partner to more than 90.000 working handicapped people, and to their employers. Its employees consult with, and provide financial support to, companies intending to set up handicapped-accessible workplaces. Integration efforts focus primarily on the regular job market. Special Integration Service (IFD) accompany and support disabled employees to and at their place of work. These services are financed by the so-called equalisation levy. In accordance with SGB IX, companies with 20 or more employees are required to employ a minimum of five percent severely disabled workers. Should they opt not to do so, they are obliged to pay the equalisation levy.

### **BENEFITS FOR VICTIMS OF WAR**

A separate section of the LWV serves all victims of war and those injured during military or alternative service, and their families or dependants. The LWV Main Welfare Office advises these clients, and provides financial assistance. It also serves as the contact partner for people with injuries from immunisations and for legally recognised crime victims.

## EDUCATION PROVIDER

The LWV operates five interdisciplinary early support centres and 14 schools in Hesse. The support provided focuses on children and youths with visual and hearing impairments, emotional, social and mental development, and on providing school lessons to children with illnesses. Four of these schools focusing on visual and hearing impairments also offer residential facilities. Six of the special schools also function as supra-regional consulting and support centres. The objective is to encourage and educate children and adolescents in such a way as to minimise handicap-related disadvantages, in so far as this is possible. The LWV also subsidizes the purchase of special equipment and runs a media library in order to support blind and visually impaired children attending regular schools close to their homes.

## SOLE SHAREHOLDER OF THE VITOS GMBH

The LWV is the sole shareholder of Vitos GmbH, a corporate holding operating psychiatric hospitals for adults, children and adolescents, and specialised clinics for orthopaedics, neurology and psychosomatics. Vitos also runs hospitals for forensic (judicial) psychiatry for the treatment of mentally ill or addicted lawbreakers. Vitos is Hesse's largest hospital operator and secures a significant proportion of the state's psychiatric health care. Vitos also includes special education institutions for the mentally handicapped, a wide range of residential and care services (psychiatric out-patient care) for psychologically and emotionally disturbed patients, and youth assistance institutions.

### IMPRINT

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**For more information on the LWV,  
please refer to [www.lww-hessen.de](http://www.lww-hessen.de)**

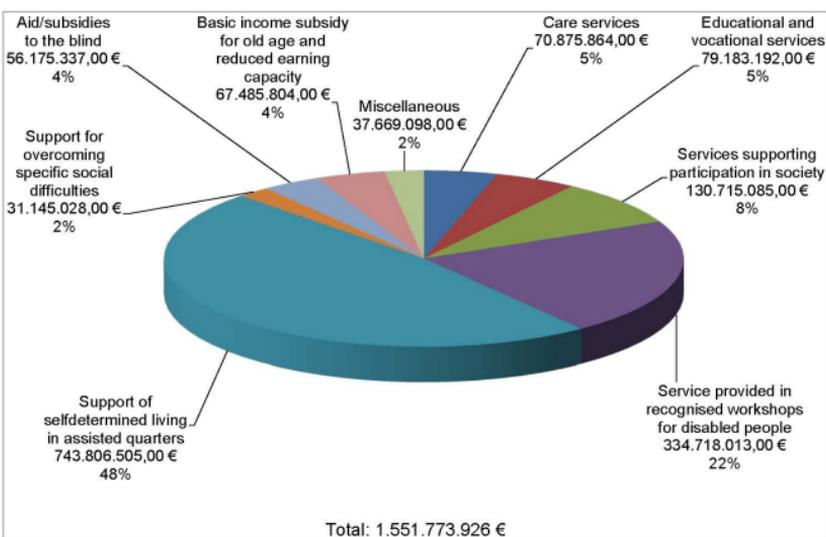
# LWV - FACTS AND FIGURES

## FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK

The work done by the LWV is primarily funded by the Hessian districts and by the independent municipalities. The so-called *Verbandsumlage* is a levy earmarked for the support of disabled people; from this levy, the LWV receives 1,261 billion Euros this year. Additionally, the LWV receives funds from the municipal revenue sharing, the equalisation levy paid by Hessian companies and a proportion of the budget earmarked for victims of war. A small segment of the LWV's expenses for supra-regional social services are refunded by other agencies, such as pension funds or accident insurers, health insurance companies and workers' compensation boards.

The 2016 budget is 1,865 billion Euros. The largest part (1,55 billion Euros) is being spent on integration and rehabilitation measures. In the face of continuously rising case numbers, the LWV uses individualised services and sound financial management to curb expenditures.

## SUPRAREGIONAL SOCIAL SERVICES - EXPENDITURE IN 2016





LWV-employee Eckhard Stumm  
at his handicapped-accessible place of work.

## **EMPLOYEES**

As of 31 December 2015, the LWV employs a total staff of 1.109 employees, at three administrative centres, in Kassel, Darmstadt and Wiesbaden. An additional 476 employees worked at special education centres and schools and at other institutions. The VITOS GmbH employs approximately 9.600 people.

## **ASSOCIATION ASSEMBLY**

The Association Assembly is the highest decision-making body of the Hesse LWV; it is also called the 'Hessian Social Parliament'. The 75 delegates to the Association Assembly are elected by the district councils, respectively the city councils of the independent municipalities. One term of office is five years; the current, 15<sup>th</sup> term runs from 2011.

Just like any other parliament, the Association Assembly uses expert committees for the preparation of decisions. Current Assembly president is Mr. Robert Becker.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE**

The Administrative Committee conducts the LWV's business. It may be compared to the magistrates of German cities, or the district committees of Hesse's districts. It includes two full-time members and ten volunteer associates. The committee is chaired by State Director Uwe Brückmann, Deputy Chair is First Associate Dr. Andreas Jürgens. Full-time, as well as volunteer, members of the Administrative Committee are elected by the Association Assembly.