

## GERMANY

# Local development

### Location

Ehringshausen

### Programming period

2014 – 2020

### Priority

P6 – Social inclusion and  
local development

### Measure

M19 – CLLD/LEADER

### Funding (EUR)

Total budget 692 056  
RDP support 96 899

### Project duration

2015 – 2017

### Project promoter

Ev. Kirchengemeinde  
Ehringshausen-Dillheim

### Contact

[pisa.kirche.dillheim@t-online.de](mailto:pisa.kirche.dillheim@t-online.de)

### Website

<https://diakoniestation-ehringhausen.de>

Offering health and support services to elderly people and those in need by converting a former vicarage into a community care facility.

## Summary

Before the project, there were no community care facilities within the Ehringshausen municipality. Although there was some provision in the immediate surroundings, places were extremely limited: leaving some local people and their families with no clear idea of when and how they would receive the help they needed.



The former vicarage was converted into a community care facility and an appropriate local offer of daily care services was created. The programme offers activities such as memory training, cooking and baking, gardening, handicraft work, etc. and aims to help participants to regain and maintain everyday skills.

## Results

A local community care service is now available, without the need to travel long distances.

Those living with Dementia have a place where they feel comfortable and can take advantage of an adapted offer of social activities.

Physically handicapped elderly people can take a break from their usual routine and connect with others locally.

2.5 new jobs were created

## Lessons & Recommendations

- ❑ Such services require a varied and interesting activities programme - tailored to the needs and abilities of the guests - as well as freshly-prepared daily meals (which are particularly appreciated by participants).
- ❑ The "togetherness", the social gathering, the common remembrance of old times, the exchange about everyday life, games of movement and memory, etc. These all give participants the feeling that they are once again experiencing "something of their own": something they can tell their relatives about.

### Context

Due to the demographic change in rural areas there is an increasing number of elderly people. There are also more people who are no longer in a position to structure their everyday life independently and participate in social activities due to physical and/or mental limitations. In addition, more and more people live alone and relatives can only provide limited care and assistance due to their own professional or family situation or the distance between their homes. Carers and relatives of the people attended by Diakoniestation (social welfare work) have also repeatedly expressed the desire for some relief from their own domestic situation. All of these aspects specifically point to the need for some kind of local, daily, social and healthcare facility in order to enable those in need to live at home as long as possible and to maintain contact with the world around them.

### Objectives

The objective of this project was to offer health and social services to the elderly and to people in need by converting a former vicarage into a community care facility.

The success of the project rested on the creation of an appropriate programme of activities, adapted to the needs of the participants. For people living with Dementia in particular, for example, this means focussing on retaining existing skills for as long as possible and developing new skills where possible. For caregiving relatives, the centre provides a valuable opportunity for relief: during the daily operational hours of the programme, they are able to visit the doctor, do their shopping etc. or simply have time to take a break from the strenuous daily care routine.

### Activities

The former vicarage (a single family house) was completely renovated and adapted to the requirements of health and social care; most notably with regard to accessibility. This included the removal of the existing stairs from the basement to the upper floor. Furthermore, the entire upper floor was spatially divided and an additional rest room was created.

Following the construction/renovation phase of the project, a daily care programme was developed which offers various activities such as memory training, cooking and baking, gardening, handicraft work and serves to regain and maintain everyday skills.



### Main Results

- A local community care service is now available, without the need to travel long distances.
- Those living with Dementia have a place where they feel comfortable and can take advantage of an adapted offer of social activities.
- Physically handicapped elderly people can take a break from their usual routine and connect with others locally.
- 2.5 new jobs were created.

### Key lessons

Such services require a varied and interesting activities programme - tailored to the needs and abilities of the guests - as well as freshly-prepared daily meals (which are particularly appreciated by participants).

The "togetherness", the social gathering, the common remembrance of old times, the exchange about everyday life, games of movement and memory, etc. These all give participants the feeling that they are once again experiencing "something of their own": something they can tell their relatives about.

### Additional sources of information

n/a