

Hamburg in solidarity against Corona – Newsletter Nr. 1

Dear folks,

Yeah, over 2000! We are delighted that this group has been so well received, that such an overwhelmingly solidarity-based exchange is taking place, and that we admins rarely have to intervene. With this group size that's not a given. Thank you for that! 😊😊 Please stay this disciplined; the corona crisis will continue for a long time, and only time will tell how valuable these solidarity initiatives are. Our groups and especially the Hamburg-wide group are a good start, but it can still be more!

However, we would like to bring your attention to our discussion group. Please do not discuss here in this large group. Use this group instead: https://t.me/diskurs_solidarisch (German)

As the flood of information and contributions increases with the size of the group, we, the group of admins of the “Hamburg in Solidarity against Corona” (“Hamburg solidarisch gegen Corona”) groups, have decided effective immediately to bundle together a regular newsletter with information on the status of solidarity work in the various districts and on the overall political developments. In this first newsletter we will inform you about the **hotlines** that have been set up so far, the situation of the group **Lampedusa in Hamburg**, the **political demands** during the corona crisis, and **strategies to contain the virus**. A group in English (and eventually other languages) for internationals is on its way.

1. Corona hotlines

We are pleased that there are now a proud 33 “Solidarity against Corona” district groups. Some of them have set up corona hotlines in their neighbourhoods that people who need help can contact. There is also a Hamburg-wide hotline. The following hotlines exist:

Hamburg-wide Corona hotline: 017629208918, daily 10:00 - 15:00

Harburg: 017668663113

Münzviertel: 015210816889

St. Pauli: 015227210682, daily 10:00 - 16:00

Veddel: 015202563582, Mon-Fri. 10:00 - 16:00

Wilhelmsburg: 015733859764, daily 10:00 - 16:00

2. Lampedusa in Hamburg

The requirement to stay home and the ban on gatherings in public spaces affect people in different social and life circumstances in different ways. The communities of refugees, the undocumented, and the houseless are largely excluded from current aid measures, and they are hit much harder by a “shut-down” of public life than those who can retire to well heated and spacious apartments. This exclusion can be fatal to thousands of people. While hotels for houseless people and refugees are now being opened in other countries and cities, such improvements have so far been lacking in

Hamburg. On the contrary: Illegalized houseless people in the group Lampedusa in Hamburg (and others) are urgently looking for places to sleep. Anyone who can offer sleeping places in Hamburg can contact Mart at 015236292638.

We find:

In order for the corona measures in Hamburg to be successful at all, the members of Lampedusa in Hamburg as well as all other refugees and non-nationals in Hamburg must be equally protected and given an immediate right of residence with secure accommodation.

3. No solution to the crisis at our expense

The current corona crisis is a new and completely unknown situation with uncertain consequences for us all. But it is already becoming apparent that this crisis will bring existential economic problems for many wage earners, the solo self-employed, and precarious workers. We should discuss together how we can prevent the corona crisis from being resolved at our expense. With this in mind, we would like to draw your attention to a text from the Hamburg-based labour disputes network, which has formulated the following demands:

1. A halt to production with continued full payment of wages
2. Socialization of the health system
3. A corona basic income and rent moratorium

<https://tinyurl.com/s6qcbfs> (German)

4. Strategies to contain the virus

It is not easy to keep track of which containment measures are taken based on which considerations. We recommend this easy-to-understand and informative text, which, based on the current scientific findings, explains why the corona pandemic will not be over in the next few weeks. For us, that also means: The importance of solidarity work in the districts will significantly increase in the next few weeks and likely months. Let's keep going strong!

<https://tinyurl.com/vv9k74o> (German; for strategies in other languages, go here: <https://www.welcome-united.org/de/corona-informationen/>)

If you have important information on other topics that we should take up in the next newsletter, please write us!

Admin group of Hamburg in Solidarity against Corona, 22.03.2020