

Lions and people with disabilities

10 October, 14:30 – 16:00

Mercedes-Benz Room

PDG Rolf Peter Saal, MD 111

Speakers:

- Verena Bentele, is a sports star and the German Federal Government Commissioner for Matters relating to Disabled Persons. She won 12 gold medals in cross-country skiing and biathlon at the Paralympics.
- L Christian Muench, MD 111
- 1. VG Eva Küpers, MD 111

Summary:

In many areas, people with disabilities are still having difficulty accessing buildings, and the Lions want to help improve our cities and towns to remove these barriers.

What are the measures that could be adopted by Lions in other countries?

What is the current progress of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities?

Agenda

RP Saal:

- Introductory speech: "Lions and people with disabilities" by Verena Bentele, sports star and the German Federal Government Commissioner for Matters relating to Disabled Persons: "Good and bad experiences"

Discussion:

- Eva Küpers: 3-5 examples of activities
- Christian Münch: "Inclusion in the workplace"

Key message

The Lions Club members are urged to come up with solutions how we can make life easier for an ageing population where more and more people experience physical impairments. Lions should

raise this issue wherever a road is to be built, a park is to be laid or a building is to be constructed. Lions must talk to the people in charge of such projects to make sure that the issue of accessibility is taken into account in the design and construction. This concerns of course not only access by wheelchair users, but also by visually impaired people, mothers with small children and elderly people with shopping trolleys. We want to make sure that we do not only discuss and debate these issues but actually experience what obstacles are in the way of disabled people. In the lobby, you have the opportunity to complete an obstacle course in a wheelchair or to try on a GERT age simulation suit.

Participants: 11 + 4 + 1 – 2

Content: see PowerPoint presentations.

Notes:

Start: 14:35

Verena Bentele was unfortunately unable to attend, due to an important political meeting.

Look at the situation of disabled people to day and in the near future, comparisons with regard to population trends

Presentation of the 2006 UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities

Rights of people with disabilities in Germany

Aktion Mensch

Animated presentation: What is inclusion?

Barrier-free access wherever possible

Aids for people with disabilities

Reference to special risks to women with disabilities

What can the Lions do?

Reference to "Knights of the Blind"

At club level:

Are our club venues barrier-free and suitable for blind people?

Popular appeal to make sure that new buildings and renovation projects are designed so that there are no barriers for people with disabilities

Club activity to make sure that we assist blind people and other persons suffering from other disabilities wherever we can

First establish contact with blind person

15:00 CLAPPING OF HANDS

Activities in district 111-NH – 1.VG Eva Küpers

Ways to deal with dementia – "Do not forget me"

Raising awareness of dementia

Building bridges between people with and without disabilities

Preventing social isolation, etc.

Three-part activity

Charity concert by "Hanover Youth Symphony Orchestra"

Film "Do not forget me"

Seminar

Shopping with people with a disability of various age groups

Optimisation

Let people know how to do it

Evaluation of outcomes together with affected people

"Disabled friendly" certificate

Suggestions for improvement (barrier-free footpath, single-portion packaging, large-print price labels)

Car driving for blind people (major wish of young blind people)

Team of a blind driver and an instructor

Cooperation of school for the blind with airbase, driving lessons provided by various driving schools (24 TN)

(great public interest and response in newspapers and on TV)

Similar activities are planned for 2016

Comment by a young participant: "Even better than sex"

Inclusion in the workplace – Christian Muench, Chamber of Industry and Commerce, Hagen

Disability is a term to describe many different conditions

The image in our head of a person with a disability determines how we approach the subject

Don't focus on the disability, but the abilities

CURRENT APPROACH: Matching prospective worker to job

BETTER: Adapting job to suit prospective worker

Always keep the focus on the overall picture. For barrier-free access, do not solely think of wheelchair but also of child buggies and rollators

Create a wheel map

Janis McDavid – Video

"I'm able to perform much better, if you don't disable me"

Question to the audience: what are the experiences of other clubs?

From Luxembourg:

No financial support; meeting blind people for a bowling night. The blind won against the sighted

Formal welcome for tandem team of two blind people from Hungary at the Paralympics in London

Deaf mute young women attends every meeting, husband translates so she can follow the discussion

From France (Alsace):

30,000 Euro is need to properly train a guide dog

From Switzerland:

Guide dogs are paid for by the health insurance

More information can be found in district magazine

"wir in nh" - September 2015