



780 9590 - 17

**VIA e. V.** Gotenstr. 23  
Verein für internationalen 10829 Berlin  
und interkulturellen Austausch Tel. +49 / 30 /

Fax. +49 / 30 / 780 9590 - 10  
E-mail: [astrid.paesler@via-ev.org](mailto:astrid.paesler@via-ev.org)

## “Elisabethheim Havetoft” – Project description for volunteers



### (1) **Contact information:**

Elisabethheim Havetoft  
Pastor-Witt-Straße 6  
24873 Havetoft  
Homepage: <http://www.elisabethheim.de/>

### (2) **Description of the organization:**



(Foto von Homepage Elisabethheim Havetoft)

The “Elisabethheim Havetoft“ is dedicated to the support, assistance and transition to independence of children and adolescents who need support in their upbringing. We offer daycare for children of school age, housing groups, a school for seemingly “uncontrollable” children as well as a farming project and different therapy groups.

Furthermore, the home takes in unaccompanied underage refugees from Afghanistan, Somalia and Iraq. They all find a home in “Elisabethheim”.

“Elisabethheim Havetoft” has been an independent organization since 1900. The association “Verein Elisabethheim Havetoft e.V.” sponsors the project. It is a member of the state association of the “Inneren Mission Diakonische Werke Schleswig-Holstein”.

We operate based on Christian values.

Our main task is the protection of the child’s welfare. Our project addresses children and youngsters in difficult situations. In cooperation with the parents, relatives and schools we aim to protect children who are socially, mentally or physically impaired.

We provide diverse and sophisticated offers that are adjusted to individual needs. The parents are being included in the upbringing.

We accompany and support the children and adolescents in order for them to develop independence. We want them to have the opportunity of a successful path through life.

We want the boys and girls to feel comfortable in our project. Therefore, we offer shelter as well as comfort and safety. That includes the offer to learn about Christianity.

In order for the children to become more independent, we try to convey all the knowledge, skills and techniques they need.

We find it very important to work on the individual opportunities and limits of the children. That strengthens their independence. The possibility of a return to the family home is taken very seriously. The children work autonomously in different areas. Furthermore, they take on responsibility for the whole project. Transparency, team work and clear rules are unalterable for our work.

Our staff gets professional support and advice by using our own resources and external consultants.

### **(3) The community:**

“Havetoft” is a small town in the federal state “Schleswig-Holstein” with around 1000 inhabitants. The Danish border is 30 km away and the Baltic sea is not far.

The next larger city is “Schleswig”, around 20 km from Havetoft. Volunteers can take a language course there. Other cities in the area are “Flensburg” (20 km away) and “Kiel” (80 km away). The city “Hamburg” is around 150 km from Havetoft. The Baltic and North Sea are easily reachable from Havetoft. The town itself as a lake.

If the volunteers have a driver’s license and sufficient driving experiences, they can borrow a car from “Elisabethheim”.

### **(4) Tasks of the volunteers:**



(Foto von Homepage Elisabethheim Havetoft)

Our volunteers work in support and care. They are also responsible for navigating and supervising the children in day care and housing groups. They participate in team meetings and are very involved in the development of the groups.

#### **Specific tasks can be:**

- Organization of activities like sports, game nights, singing classes, arts, cooking and baking etc.
- Supervision and support with homework
- Nature and environmental projects
- Maintenance: e.g. supporting the children with serving the food, cleaning, tidying
- Care: Support with getting up and going to bed, dressing and undressing, personal hygiene
- Individual assistance with writing letters, shopping...
- Organizing parties and cultural activities (theatre, cinema...)

### **(5) Housing and meals:**

During their workhours, the volunteers have their meals with the children. Outside the project, they receive an allowance.

The volunteers will stay in single rooms.

**(7) Special remarks:**

- A driver's license is necessary
- It is important that the volunteers have good language skills
- The facilities and items provided by the organization are to be treated with care. If anything gets damaged, the mentor has to be informed immediately. In case of intentional damage, the volunteers have to pay for the repairs.

**(8) First days at the projects:**

Please book your flight only after your visa has been confirmed. Make sure to check the dates with VIA e.V., before purchasing your ticket.

You will get picked up from the train station in "Schleswig" or from "Hamburg" airport. After arriving at your new apartment, you'll have sufficient time to relax and to get to know your housemates.

A member of staff will help you with the formalities:

- You'll get registered with the citizens registration office
- You'll open a bank account with your new address
- If necessary, someone will accompany you to the foreigner's registration office to confirm your visa
- The project will take care of your insurance

You'll start work after around 3 days, where you'll get to know your new colleagues and tasks.

August 2017

