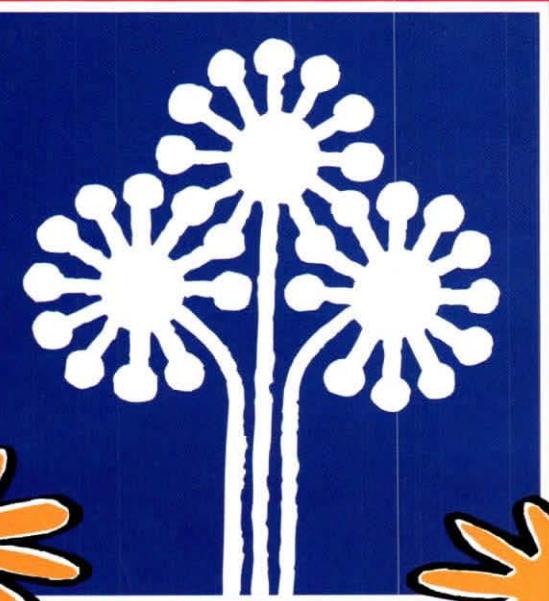


THE DANISH COMMITTEE ON VOLUNTEER EFFORT



Kontaktudvalget til det frivillige sociale arbejde
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THE DANISH COMMITTEE ON VOLUNTEER EFFORT

has existed since 1983. The committee was appointed by the Minister of Social Affairs with the purpose to promote the development of voluntary social work as a part of the sociopolitical effort.

The aim of the Danish Committee on Volunteer Effort is to:

- * collect information, offer advise and guidance, make proposals to be used by national and local authorities as well as voluntary organisations.
- * offer guidance to the Minister of Social Affairs.
- * effect information work

THE COMMITTEE

consists of 26 members the majority representing the voluntary organisations.



EVALUATION AND RESEARCH

The Centre closely follows the development and collects experiences in the field. As a consequence evaluation and research is performed. The following examples of this work can be mentioned:

- * cooperation and partnership models in relationship to the public sector.
- * volunteers on transfer income
- * volunteering and elderly people
- * the setting up of local Volunteer Bureaux
- * supporting Self Help
- * the special contribution and motivation of volunteers
- * international issues and comparative studies

THE CENTRE WANTS TO PROMOTE

- * every individual's right to participate in volunteering under the best circumstances and of one's own free will
- * the optimal conditions for the work of the voluntary organisations
- * a qualified sociopolitical debate concerning the future welfare state
- * further knowledge and research on the voluntary sector and volunteering

* the dissemination and communication of this knowledge

THE CENTRE IS AN INDEPENDANT INSTITUTION

under the auspices of the Ministry of Social Affairs. The Centre has employed a minimum staff of eight and several short time project-workers. The economy is secured by government grants - so far till the end of 1997.

The Centre has a close relationship with the Danish Committee on Volunteer Effort and the Committee's secretariat is placed within the Centre. The chairman of the Committee is also chairman of the Centre and the Committee appoints four of the seven members of the Centres board of directors. In addition the National Association of Local Authorities in Denmark, the Association of County Councils in Denmark and the Ministry of Social Affairs are represented on the Centre board.

The Centre is a member of CEV (European Volunteer Centre), IAVE (International Association for Volunteer Effort) and FRIA (Nordic Forum for Research in Volunteer Work).

Futhermore the committee consists of members from the local authorities and the Ministry of Social Affairs.

12 of the committee members are elected directly at the annual meeting. National voluntary organisations in the fields of social work and health wishing to be registered voters, are invited to contact the secretariat to get approval.



THE COMMITTEE

is the forum of a continuous debate concerning the role of voluntary work in the sociopolitical picture. As part of this debate the committee frequently organizes seminars and conferences concerning current issues.



FROM THE COMMITTEE AGENDA (examples)

- * better conditions to participate in volunteering for recipients of unemployment allowances, social security benefits and early retirement pensions.
- * setting up a programme for research in voluntary social work.
- * criterions for financial support from the government pool for development of volunteer social work.
- * co-operation between the local authorities and the voluntary organisations.
- * values, attitudes and motivation in the voluntary work.



COUNSELLING AND ADVICE

concerning the daily work in the voluntary organisations, partnerships with the public authorities, regulations and committee work, fund raising, co-operation between professionals and volunteers, self help work, local volunteer bureaux, legislative initiatives and legal aspects in the voluntary work.

Everybody is welcome to contact the consultants at the centre.

INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION

The Centre has a unique collection of documentation materials - and has in fact the only specialist library in Denmark on volunteering and voluntary sector issues. The Centre offers help in information retrieval in this field.

The Centre publishes information and documentation materials:

- * folders and reports
- * a directory of the National Voluntary Organisations in Denmark
- * the newsletter "Nyt om det tredie netværk" is published six times a year.

Please contact the Centre library for further information and ask for a publication list.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

The Centre regularly organizes training courses, workshops, seminars and conferences - and the centre staff lectures on request.

The training courses of the Centre are mainly aimed towards the voluntary sector, but there is a still closer cooperation with the public sector and the institutions of higher education.

Please call the Centre for our training programme or get in touch with the consultants.



THE VOLUNTEER CENTRE IN DENMARK

was established in 1992 on a national basis to promote and support the development of voluntary work in Denmark.

This is done by offering consultation and information services, by collecting documentation and by developing working methods and research in the field.

The work of the Centre has its mainspring in the sociopolitics of the Danish welfare state. But our interest sphere is much wider and includes culture, health, assistance to developing countries, sports and



environment in order to get a more complete picture of the voluntary sector in Denmark.

The services of the Centre are mainly offered to the voluntary sector, but also include the public authorities and the general public.



ANNUAL MEETING

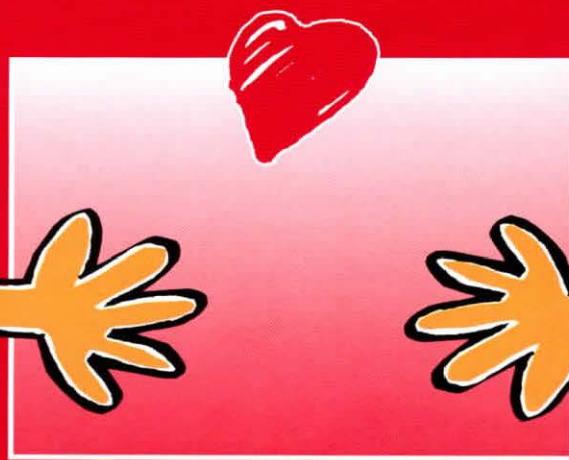
To promote the co-operation between the Danish Committee on Volunteer Effort and its base of support, the committee arranges an annual meeting in the month of April for voluntary organisations, public authorities and others specially interested in the field. The annual meeting is an opportunity to meet colleagues as well as a forum for dialogue amongst those who have an interest in the voluntary sector in Denmark. The annual meeting is open to everybody.

CONTACT THE COMMITTEE

The Committee finds it extremely important to have an ongoing dialogue with voluntary organisations as well as with anybody who have an interest in the voluntary social work.

You are most welcome to contact the Committee secretariat.

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