



Annual report 2024

Overview of our project work



www.wortundtat.de



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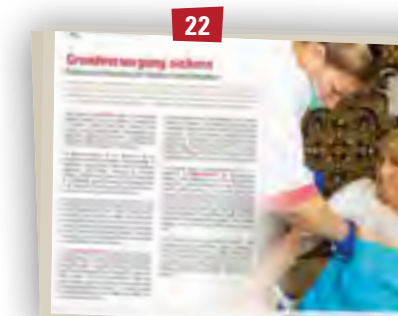
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IMPRESSUM

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Creating opportunities – Education instead of barriers!

Education is the key to a better future

Imagine not being able to read. No books, no news, no way to get an education. Millions of children around the world live this way – with zero education, with zero opportunities and with zero prospects.

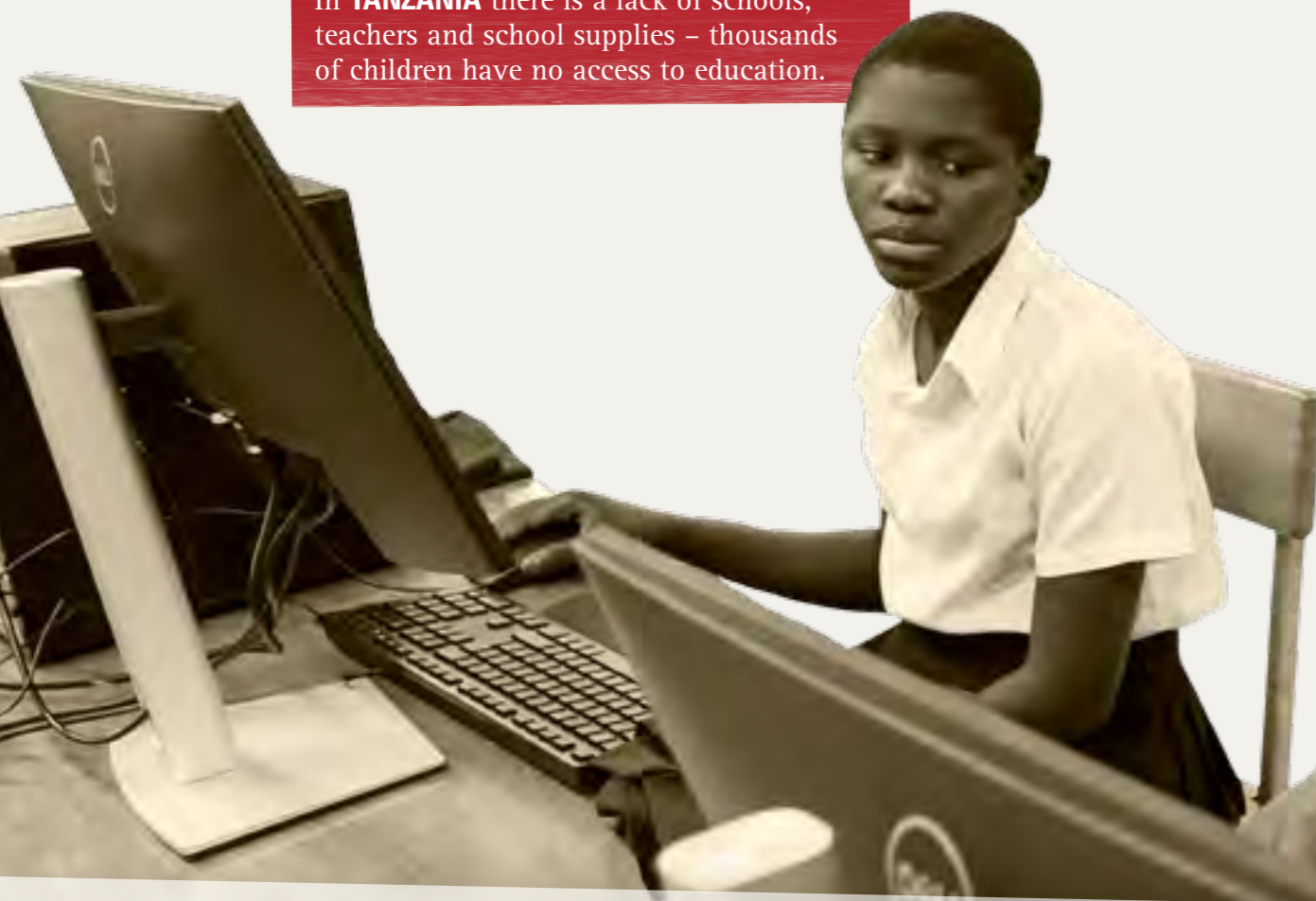


Refugee children in **GERMANY** struggle with language barriers – with support, their chances remain suffocated.



In **GREECE**, Roma children are often marginalised from an early age. With no schooling, poverty is their only option..


In **TANZANIA** there is a lack of schools, teachers and school supplies – thousands of children have no access to education.




Your donation to schooling secures a future

With your support, wortundtat can specifically help:

 **EUR 30** enable a child in Dortmund to take a language course.

 **EUR 50** finance text books for a Roma child in Athens.

 **EUR 100** help build new classrooms in Tanzania.

www.wortundtat.de/donate



Our heartfelt
thanks!



Making aid sustainable

Heinrich Deichmann on wortundtat aid in 2024

Do you regularly watch or listen to the news? On some days, the information is hard to bear. The bad news from the numerous trouble spots is omnipresent. You feel like turning the TV off. However, this does not solve any of the problems. The big challenge is probably that we stay courageous and optimistic even in the face of the current world situation.

Sustainable help is a marathon, not a sprint. This is why at wortundtat we rely on long-term solutions instead of short-term crisis management. We want to enable people to independently improve their living conditions – through education and stable organisations. Partnership instead of paternalism, on the same level instead of top-down.

Change takes time and trust

Each piece of invested knowledge, every opportunity for economic independence and every strengthened community pays off in the long term, especially in a world where new trouble spots are constantly breaking out. Real change requires patience, commitment and mutual respect. In this way, we are creating a future where aid will hopefully become superfluous at some point because people will be able to determine their own destiny. And we want to be a counterpoint to those who, using increasingly brutal tones, discuss the question of who deserves our help and who we should protect and support.

We sent a thank you card to our donors for 2024. It features a short Bible verse from John: "By your love for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples" (13:35). Of course, we question the usefulness and sustainability of the projects we support or initiate ourselves. But this should not be the only factor motivating our decisions and our actions. As Christians, we know that we do not

operate in a neutral space. Embracing the poor and needy stems from our faith. God sent His Son Jesus Christ to save us. For us, the question arises about what we are willing to use to bring God's love to those in need and to reach out to them in their distress. The Bible makes this the touchstone for our discipleship.

Aid that works, thanks to strong support

We are very happy that we are not alone in our efforts. Thanks to the commitment of our donors and with the support of the DEICHMANN Foundation, which finances a large part of the wortundtat expenditure, we are able to offer aid rapidly, cutting through red tape wherever possible and whenever it seems meaningful. However, we continue to focus on long-term aid that will permanently change people's lives. Against this backdrop, we at wortundtat and the DEICHMANN Foundation have placed a focus on combating child poverty over the past year.

Help, which starts here, can have a lasting impact on the development of a human life for the better. In doing so, we rely on cooperation with tested local partners. With wortundtat, we have continued to support the "Stern im Norden" family community centre in the north of Dortmund. In Moldova, we have financed daycare centers for the youngest, whose parents often work abroad to provide for the families. In Greece, we are involved in a mother-

Greece – Hope for mothers and children
At the Petalouda Centre, Roma families receive protection, education and medical assistance. And children get to experience so many happy moments.



and-child centre that primarily offers assistance to Roma families. By setting up a farming school in Tanzania, we are combating family poverty and, in the last instance, child poverty. At the school, 60 young people are currently learning how to set up a farm and how to adapt farming methods to changing climate conditions in order to feed their families in the future.

Building strong children together

In Germany, too, we have targeted the fight against child poverty. We are strongly directly involved in this project through the DEICHMANN Foundation. I am convinced this is an investment in the future of our society. Because children affected by poverty can often only participate to a very limited extent in social life. My vision is that we help give all children equal opportunities. We want every child to have access to education, healthcare and social participation. The Foundation is active at all stage along the entire life path, from pregnancy to job choices. In this way, our aim is to mitigate the



Germany – Opportunities for every child
The Stern im Norden community project supports disadvantaged children through education and community services.

consequences of child poverty, with the long-term goal of overcoming it.

wortundtat has been helping people in need since 1977, when my father founded the aid organisation.



Moldova – giving children a sense of security
Daycare centres offer children security, learning and loving care.



Tanzania – learning for building the future
KIUMA students earn their school graduation certificate on their way to self-determining their lives.

I took over the chair in 2014. Over the years, the work has continued to evolve and adapt to the changing world situation. In total, about 100,000 people benefit today from the charity’s aid projects. The common feature shared by wortundtat, the DEICHMANN Foundation and all partners is helping people to help themselves.

Aid with no strings attached

The following principles have been adopted by us and apply to all our planning and action: Christian faith is our driving force behind the work and the unifying theme. We are convinced that every human being is a creature loved by God, regardless of origin, social position or one’s own religious convictions, and this tenet drives the staff working on all projects. We also want to convey this to the people who are seeking help. We are convinced that the Christian faith can give courage and hope to people in difficult circumstances, the hope that the last word on suffering in this world has not yet

been uttered. However, our help is offered regardless whether someone acknowledges this message or not.

As mentioned at the beginning of this message, sustainable help is a marathon. We do not want to let up in our effort to help those we can help. Your continuing support helping our efforts will make me extremely happy.



Yours truly,
Heinrich Deichmann,
Chair of wortundtat e.V.



A strong partner

DEICHMANN Foundation supporting wortundtat

The work of wortundtat is made possible by the commitment of the DEICHMANN Foundation (see box on the right) as well as numerous private donations. Since the founding of the eponymous family-run footwear retail business, commitment to people in need has been an integral part of the corporate mission, in addition to responsibility towards customers, employees and suppliers. Since 1973, this commitment has found its organisational framework in the Foundation. In 2013, Heinrich Deichmann, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Deichmann SE, took over management of the foundation. The aid organisation wortundtat is a permanent partner. Additional partners receive project-related, short-term or long-term funding. A selection of partnerships is shown on this page.



The DEICHMANN Foundation supports the HEIMSPIEL Reading Festival aimed at giving children access to the world of books. Renowned authors brought their stories directly into the classrooms in Bochum, Essen and Dortmund in 2024. Goal: Awaken enthusiasm for reading and promote equal opportunities, especially for schools with few cultural opportunities.



The DEICHMANN Foundation supports the construction of wells in Madagascar. The project partner on site, SaniTap, has set itself the goal of repairing over 4,300 defective hand pumps and maintaining them long term. Clean drinking water offers protection from diseases, makes families stronger and promotes learning. In addition, 27,000 tons of CO₂ are saved annually because less wood is needed for boiling water.

For more than 50 years, the DEICHMANN Foundation has been committed to families and children in need. In 2024, it supported the RTL donation marathon with EUR 100,000 for the building of the "Little Heroes" children's home at the Rust Europa Theme Park. Together with project sponsor DJ BoBo, this pet project is being pushed forward so that families with children affected by cancer will soon be able to enjoy carefree days at the park.



A commitment for over 50 years

Worldwide commitment to the common good has been part of the DEICHMANN Foundation's identity for more than 50 years. The range of humanitarian projects embraced is wide-ranging. In emergencies, the aid response is rapid and targeted. The long-term activities provide support for self-help. 194 projects were supported in 2023 alone.

- After disasters, we saved lives.
- Through our aid, we launched sustainable development projects.
- Specifically, we enabled children to receive schooling and become active members of society.

The focus of the Foundation's funding is fighting child poverty at home and abroad. Every child should be entitled to enjoy a carefree childhood. In addition, we support selected health-promoting, cultural and scientific projects in Germany. We work closely with highly qualified partners, including the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Together, we are committed to achieving the UN 2030 Agenda Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The motivation underpinning our charitable engagement is our Christian faith. Regardless of age, origin, gender and religious affiliation, we provide support where people need help.



www.deichmann-stiftung.org



Engaged on two continents

GERMANY Aid, with focus in Dortmund's Nordstadt district (Project launch: 2009)

 Learning opportunities
for approximately 150 children and teens yearly

 Pastoral ministries' aid
for approximately 250 recipients weekly

GREECE Aid for Refugees and for Greeks living in poverty (project launch: 1980)

 Medical services
approximately 35 treatments provided weekly


 Learning opportunities
for approximately 115 students weekly

 Pastoral ministries' aid
for approximately 1.300 recipients weekly

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA Aid for the poorest segments of the population (Project launch: 2006)


 Medical services
approximately 400 treatments provided weekly


 Learning opportunities
for approximately 200 children and teens weekly

 Pastoral ministries' aid
for approximately 1,500 recipients weekly

TANZANIA Aid for communities living in the remote south (Project launch: 1996)

 Medical services
approximately 500 treatments provided weekly

 Learning opportunities
for approximately 1,800 male and female apprentices yearly

 Pastoral ministries' aid
for approximately 1,500 recipients weekly



Reliable partnerships

Christian faith as the unifying message

In 1977, Dr. Heinz-Horst Deichmann founded the wortundtat charity after a visit to Indian slums. Long-term development cooperation was established with a partner in India. A project in Greece followed in the early 1980s, a partnership in Tanzania in 1996 and a humanitarian project in the Republic of Moldova in 2006. wortundtat has been working with a partner in Germany since 2009.



wortundtat promotes and supports children and families and thus opens up new prospects for them to seek a life that they can determine themselves.



Educational offerings and pastoral ministries' aid from wortundtat enable people to support themselves and their families in a sustainable way.

The Christian charity supports projects in the areas of education, healthcare and social services, promoting self-reliance and providing dignified care. Our work is based on the Christian faith and conveys the message that every human being is one of God's beloved creatures.



The focus is on people – wortundtat provides support in the spirit of Christian charity for discovering new paths and hope.





Hope and prospects

KIUMA — offering training, partnering and uplifting spirits harnessing God's love

wortundtat has been helping a region in the south of the country, offering development projects in education, healthcare and social welfare since 1996. The on site partner is the Church of the Love of Christ – in Swahili "Kanisa la Upendo wa Kristi Masihi", aka KIUMA. It is an extremely multi-faceted project. There is a hospital, secondary school and training facilities on the site. In this way, the communities in the Tunduru district receive medical care and, at the same time, the chance

to get an education that will enable them to self-determine their lives. In the Tunduru district, many people lack access to clean water or electricity and jobs are scarce. The wortundtat charity has been successfully helping people in the region to help themselves for many years. Tanzania is one of the world's poorest countries. In 2024, it ranked 167th out of 193 on the United Nations' so-called Human Development Index (Germany: 7th).



At the KIUMA Farming School, young people learn how to secure their future and that of their families through sustainable farming – Support for self-help in action.



Making inroads

Hellenic Ministries — — experiencing mercy, offering training and sharing the Gospel

Our partner Hellenic Ministries supports people in need in Greece, including refugees, the homeless, Roma people and Greeks living in poverty, through healthcare and education services, social centres and practical help in everyday life. Where it is possible to provide support for self-help, Hellenic Ministries develops programs that open up future prospects for people. At a training centre, women learn how to use sewing machines and work with

fabrics. They create a livelihood and are able to integrate into society.

At the Hellenic Ministries Skills Training Centre in Athens, refugee women from Iran, Afghanistan and Ukraine not only learn new skills, they also find hope and community for a fresh start.





The poorest region in Europe needs us

Gloria — addressing distress, sickness and loneliness with kindness

Contact in the Republic of Moldova – located between Ukraine and Romania – was made by current wortundtat chairman, Heinrich Deichmann. Since then, our local partner, Gloria, has been doing a great job for people in need in one of the poorest regions in Europe. Aid consists in medical

care, nursing services, social welfare services, such as soup kitchens and clothing centres, as well as education and care services for children. For almost 20 years, wortundtat has been promoting this commitment for the poorest of the poor in Europe.



A brief moment of joy – Thanks to the Gloria clothing centre in the Republic of Moldova, many people find garments that fit them.

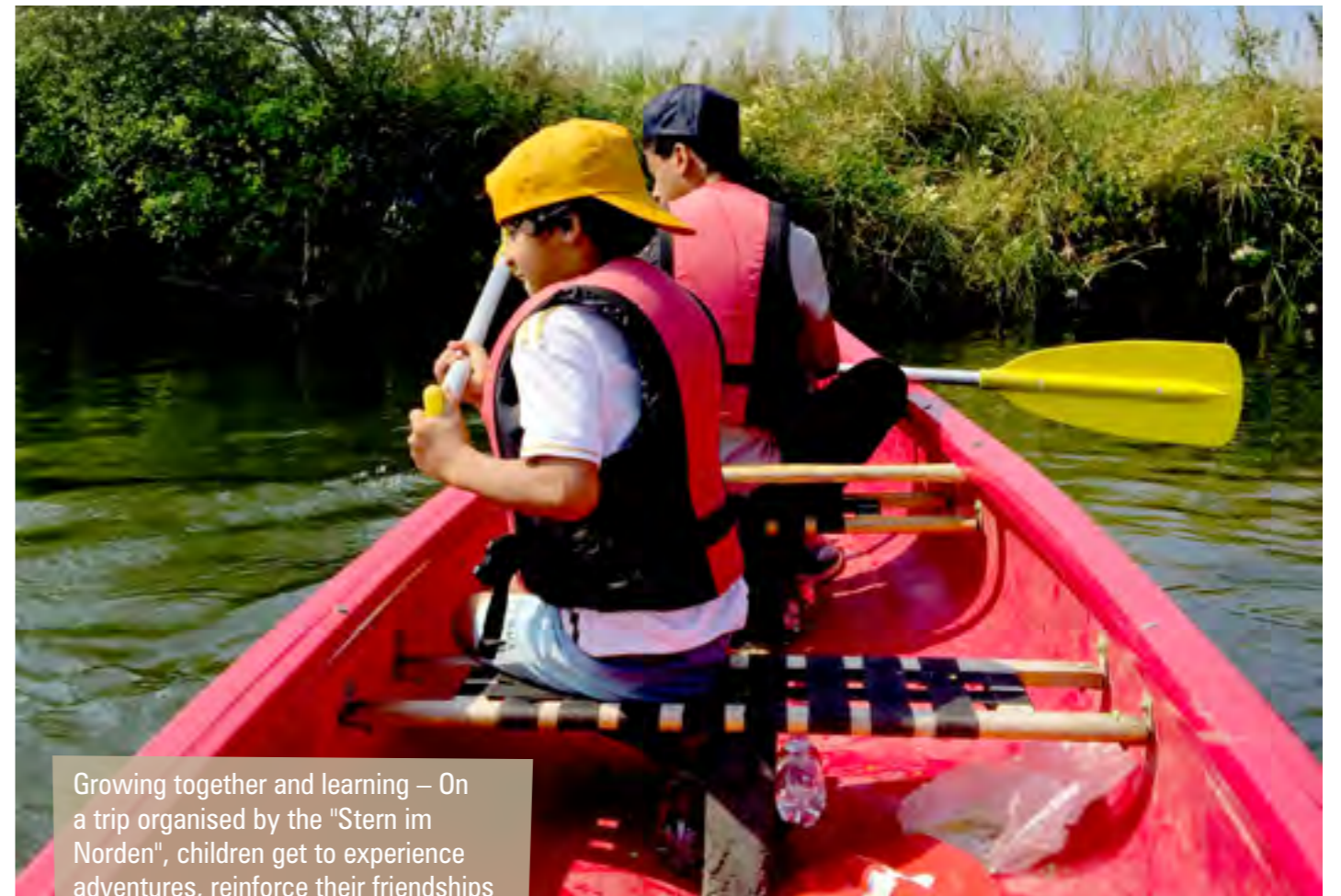


Support for families, children and refugees in Dortmund

Stern im Norden (in English, **North Star**), strangers can become friends

In the northern city of Dortmund, about one child in three is threatened by poverty. Many families are forced to save, often on food. Children are struggling with learning challenges. The "Stern im Norden" family meeting centre supports children, adolescents and parents in the Borsigplatz district, a multicultural and socially challenged area. The district has become a first stop for people fleeing war, political persecution or economic hardship.

In Germany, they hope to find a more peaceful and secure future. Stern im Norden offers these people and the other residents of the district a wide range of opportunities for meeting each other, while supporting them on arrival and in learning challenges. At Stern im Norden, wortundtat provides children with a healthy meal 230 days a year.



Growing together and learning – On a trip organised by the "Stern im Norden", children get to experience adventures, reinforce their friendships and discover new outlooks.



Strengthening self-help

Creating the right conditions with targeted offerings

Aid for self-help is a central topic of the offerings that wortundtat partners make available to people looking for support from them. Social and pastoral ministries' services, medical care and education are the three frontline areas promoted by wortundtat.



HEALTHCARE



LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



PASTORAL MINISTRIES

The focus that a partner decides to give greater weight to in its projects depends on the needs of the local communities involved in the projects. wortundtat does not prescribe any project activities but seeks meaningful and goal-oriented solutions while working in close co-operation.

wortundtat views commitment as successful whenever these areas of intervention are meaningfully linked: "Those who have enough to eat, are properly dressed, healthy and mentally fortified can then focus on learning. This is true for children and adults alike. Then major development steps are possible. Because with schooling, completed education or acquired skills, many people are able to help themselves in the future", Jakob Adolf, wortundtat project coordinator, says.

On-demand supply

Depending on gaps in education, medical assistance or social welfare and pastoral ministry offerings in the communities where our partners work, various aid and development offerings remain priority.

Two examples: At the KIUMA boarding school in the Tunduru district in Tanzania, about 800 students study and live. At the beginning of 2010, the first high school graduating class celebrated its High School Graduation Certificate. Many classes have followed since then. Meanwhile, the school is known far beyond the district because the graduates achieve good exam results at national comparison

level. And a few years after the first exams, former students have returned to the school as teachers.

In the Republic of Moldova, life is extremely challenging for the elderly and with monthly pensions between EUR 80 and EUR 120, the cost of living is barely manageable. Especially sick seniors need support but the municipal social services are unable to hire nurses. wortundtat therefore finances an outpatient care clinic in Ceadâr-Lunga through its partner Gloria, which provides care to 15 to 20 people in need every day. The nurses provide medical care and accompany the dying, who would otherwise be alone at the end of their life.

Targeted to needs

"Because we customise our offerings very specifically to the needs of people, we can provide sustainable help. Our partners understand these needs better than we do. They then plan the help that is required. We assist them, providing suggestions and feedback from the places where we feel critical support is useful", Jakob Adolf adds. He is in regular contact with the people in charge of the projects. Whenever possible, he personally goes to check on the work being done.



Roma girls at the Petalouda Centre, in Greece. At the centre, Roma families are accompanied on their way to social integration. Children are given the chance to learn, a key factor to contributing to self-determining their future. Hope grows through learning.





Securing basic services

Medical treatment for people with no income

Whenever diseases are left untreated, they often spread or give rise to serious secondary conditions. Whenever the sick cannot afford to see a doctor or have no access to medical care, it can become life-threatening. wortundtat partners provide a remedy in places where the State health system fails to reach people who need support or treatment.

Our partner in **TANZANIA** works in a remote region where the nearest hospital is 70 kilometers away. Hardly anyone owns a car and medical care is inadequate. Malaria, respiratory and urinary tract infections, stomach ulcers and high blood pressure are among the most common conditions.

The KIUMA hospital with 100 beds is often the only place to go for the sick. It employs 52 medical professionals, including four doctors and 25 nurses. They treat between 120 and 230 patients weekly, of which 51.7% are female and 48.3% male. In surgery, cesarean sections are the most common operations, as well as hernia and bone fracture procedures.

The remaining treatments focus on malaria and respiratory diseases. Many women also receive help on the obstetrics ward. Despite a small medical outpatient clinic being opened in a neighboring village some time ago, only the KIUMA Hospital can currently relieve the need for medical services that meet the standards of larger Tanzanian towns.

In the **REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**, health services are often available only against cash payment. For retirees, medical treatment is often unaffordable, which is why they avoid urgently needed examinations and therapies. In addition, many qualified doctors leave the country because they have significantly better earning opportunities abroad. In rural areas, in particular, many people die alone and without medical help.

The wortundtat partner employs various specialist doctors at an outpatient clinic. The in-house laboratory undertakes a wide range of tests, and at the pharmacy, patients can get various drugs at

a subsidised price. An outpatient nursing service also offers care for patients at home and at the first inpatient hospice in the country, and nurses assist people during the final days of their lives.

Access to the health system is restricted for refugees in **GREECE** and depends on their recognised status. Many also shy away from going to hospitals or doctor's surgeries, whether out of fear or because of bureaucratic hurdles. If a child has a cough or a fever, whenever complications arise during pregnancy or in the case of a toothache, waiting it out is often the only option or hope to get free treatment. However, this is not always possible at state health facilities or is associated with very long waiting times.

The specialists at the Good Samaritan Center – a pediatrician, a gynecologist and a dentist – are an important point of contact in such cases. They offer skilled, red-tape free and fast assistance. Concern about an individual's or a child's health can then often be quickly dispersed. Homeless Greeks also get to see the dentist.

A nurse examines an old lady at her home in the Republic of Moldova. Many seniors cannot afford medical care or are left to fend for themselves. The outpatient care service that wortundtat promotes is often the only help for them, offering care, medication and a friendly ear,





Learning is key

Providing knowledge where it is needed

Education is the prerequisite for securing a self-determined and dignified life. It enables people to break out of difficult living conditions and actively shape their future. Against this background, learning opportunities are of great importance within wortundtat projects. However, the type of leaning needed will vary depending on the country and context.

On their way to Central Europe, many refugees are looking for a place to stay and prospects in **GREECE**. Through a Skills Training Centre, our Greek partner, Hellenic Ministries, has been supporting refugee women since 2019, mainly from Iran, Afghanistan and Ukraine. At the centre, they learn skills which they can harness to build a more independent life.

For a long time, residents of a Roma settlement on the outskirts of Athens had little desire to be integrated into or accepted by society. The outcome: a lack of education and scarce opportunities on the labour market. In order for the younger Roma children to have a chance to enter the Greek school system, they need to learn basic social rules. At a Community Centre, they attend pre-school courses and receive tutoring. Since the beginning of work with the Roma, more than 250 boys and girls have already been admitted to regular Greek schools.

DORTMUND'S NORDSTADT is home to people from many different countries who often have little contact with German society. The wortundtat partner supports them in their integration efforts. From Monday to Friday, the family community centre also offers school children the chance to do homework and get help if needed. In addition, there is a wide range of creative and sports courses, as well as cooking and baking workshops that nurture talents and stimulate interests.

Many residents in Tunduro district in the south of **TANZANIA** only know about secondary schools and job prospects from hearsay that are available in the towns. Few people have the chance to go

on to secondary education after primary school. Apprenticeships are also scarce in the region.

Our partner KIUMA has created an extensive educational and learning offering. A secondary school, a nursing school, a teaching centre for assistant physicians and a business organisation for various craft training courses ensure that young people do not need to leave their home if they want to learn a job skill.

A new addition is a farming school where 40 young people have started their training. Upon graduation, they will be able to set up and manage their own farm. These farms not only provide their families with food all year round but also produce surpluses that can be sold, an important step towards independence.

In KIUMA, aspiring farmers are preparing to feed themselves and their families independently with their produce. They also receive the business know-how they need to set up their own business.





Serving people

Social and pastoral ministries' offerings tailored to suit all life situations

In addition to state welfare services, non-governmental organisations around the world are essential when services are needed for people requiring special aid. With the wortundtat partners, such pastoral ministries' services have often been the starting point for ever-expanding projects. And all projects are linked to the chance of learning about the Christian faith.

Income in the **REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA** is enough only for few people to live on. Often they have to choose between heating or food, a doctor's visit or clothing, medication or to do an essential repair on their home. So many people go hungry, live in accommodation in a state of disrepair or wear worn-out clothing.

The pastoral ministries' offering of the wortundtat partner is correspondingly versatile: clothes, social workers who make home visits, a soup kitchen or a crew of builders that repairs dilapidated houses are just some of the services that help fight hardship. Three daycare centres also address children's needs, especially those whose parents are working abroad and who live with their grandparents. With a lot of love and imagination, the caregivers create spaces and activities where children are occupied age-appropriately, offering opportunities for stimulating their creativity.

At the **DORTMUND NORDSTADT DISTRICT**, people from different cultural backgrounds meet up. Many of them initially do not know how integration in Germany "works". They are all the more lost when it comes to overcoming bureaucratic hurdles. They receive practical support helping them complete applications needed by German federal offices. In the protected environment of the Stern im Norden, they also learn the social skills needed for cordial coexistence. The Women's Meet 'n Chat group (Frauencafé) – Developing healthy everyday

routines for children. Especially for children, teens and young people who come to the "Stern", the offerings are rewarding. And the relationships they establish there offer them security in an often challenging environment.

For refugees from the Middle East or East Africa, **GREECE** is often only a transit point. And those who want to stay are in most cases left to their own devices after being recognised as refugees. Just receiving the minimum social benefits, they somehow have to make ends meet. Other reasons why refugees have a slim chance on Greece's labour market are a high unemployment rate, language barriers and bureaucratic hurdles. So many of them rely on pastoral ministries' offerings. In several places in Athens, wortundtat with its partner provides free meals, a clothes bank, washing machines, showers and community centres. It also provides learning and medical assistance and offers basic religious courses for people who want to learn about the Christian faith.

Community, safety and feeling appreciated – In Stern im Norden, children experience moments of joy and a sense of belonging in their often challenging everyday lives.





Gifting knowledge to shape the future

Young farmers in Tanzania

In southern Tanzania, many people are struggling with hunger, poverty and unemployment. In order to create hope and prospects, we have been training young people to become farmers at the KIUMA Farming School in southern Tanzania since 2023. At the school they learn how to fend for themselves, their families and their community using sustainable methods. By connecting to the project's Christian community, they also have the opportunity to learn about the Christian faith and its values.

Challenges and hope

In Tanzania, changing climate conditions are hampering the success of traditional farming methods, which are most people's livelihood. But in the midst of these challenges, hope finds a place to flourish. During practical training, the KIUMA Farming School teaches how good crop yields can be achieved despite climate change.

- ▶ Farming practice Fruit and vegetable growing, poultry farming and agroforestry business management: Budgeting, cultivation planning and product development.
- ▶ Marketing: Market analysis and sales techniques.
- ▶ Beliefs and values: Students learn to take responsibility for themselves and their loved ones, supported by biblical principles such as industry, honesty, and hope.

Growing together

Young people live and learn on the KIUMA campus. Everyday life is marked by fellowship, mutual support, and experiencing God's love. This experience deeply shapes them and enables them to help not only themselves but also others.

"Those who help others are themselves stronger", is a guiding principle that is a practical tenet of KIUMA life.

Achievements that continue their effect

- ▶ Around 60 young people are currently undergoing training.
- ▶ The first year of graduates have the chance to set up their own business or find employment.
- ▶ Harvests ensure food for their families and create surpluses that can then be sold.

- ▶ The knowledge imparted ensures sustainability – in both farming and life.
- ▶ A Testimony to change

"Through KIUMA, I have learned not only to fend for myself but also to help others. God has given me hope and a future through this training." – James, 2024 graduate.

Hope blossoms: a teacher from the KIUMA Farming School. The practice-oriented training teaches sustainable methods to meet the challenges of rural life in Tanzania.



Sustainability in action: From chick to chickens, to the marketing of the eggs, students at the KIUMA Farming School learn to feed themselves and their families and to set up their own farms.



Trainees at the KIUMA Farming School working in the fields – working as a team towards building a sustainable future.

Learning skills with a future

The two-year program prepares young people not only professionally but also as individuals for their tasks. Training is holistic:





A better tomorrow for Moldova's children

Lifelong learning, welfare security and courage

The Republic of Moldova is one of the poorest countries in Europe. Many families struggle with huge poverty issues, which is why many parents have to work abroad to provide for their relatives. This poses an enormous challenge for both the parents and the children left behind. While financial support from abroad is often essential for survival, children suffer from this forced, albeit necessary, separation. Since 2006, wortundtat has been providing children in Ceadir Lunga with a safe environment, education and new prospects with projects such as the Narnia Daycare Centre. Thanks to your support, we give these children hope and motivation for a better future.

Julia, a volunteer from Germany, is passionate about the local children. Julia has come to Moldova with the To All Nations aid organisation, helping to support children to find their place in society at Narnia. Three principles underpin her work:

- ▶ Accept the children as they are.
- ▶ Show the children they have future prospects in society.
- ▶ Convey the love of Jesus to the children so that they can embrace it and pass it on.

Children come to Narnia after school and the first thing they get is lunch, often their first meal of the day. They do their homework, are allowed to play and just be children. For the first time in their lives, many kids try inliner skating, play board games or get to do crafts at the centre.



Julia
 "I help wherever I can, with crafts, in the kitchen, organising events. I am particularly happy about the church services for young people. I invite the children. Together we sing, pray and talk about their dreams and desires. I see how much they enjoy being listened to and taken seriously. I encourage them to believe in themselves and discover their talents. My goal is not only to support them here and now, but also to give them courage and hope for their futures."



Why aid is so important in Moldova

The Republic of Moldova is one of the poorest countries in Europe, with particularly difficult conditions in rural regions such as Gagauzia. Around 24% of children live in poverty, many emotionally neglected due to the absence of their parents. There is a lack of educational and support opportunities, which severely limits children's future chances. In places like Ceadir Lunga, where unemployment and poor infrastructure prevail, wortundtat offers children a slice of normality, learning and hope with projects like the KiTa Narnia. Such projects are essential for improving living conditions and prospects for children sustainably.



From discrimination to self-determination

Learning changes lives at the Petalouda Centre

Since 2016, the Petalouda Centre run by our partner Hellenic Ministries in Athens has been committed to educating and integrating Roma families. We have supported this project right from the start. Laura Lelaj and Anna Carbone work at the centre and accompany teenage girls from the neighbouring Roma community. With great dedication and effort, they have created a safe space for learning and personal development, especially for a group of teenage girls.

Roma Community challenges in Greece

Many Roma in Greece encounter multiple obstacles in their daily lives, such as access to school, work or the public administration. They often live without identification papers and basic schooling, which makes their integration challenging. Few projects, such as the Petalouda Centre, help them keep sustainable prospects in Greek society through learning, individual support and high employee engagement.

Teenage girls

Anna Carbone and Laura Lelaj run the "Teenager Classroom" at the Petalouda Centre, a weekly dialogue service for Roma girls. Anna, social educationist, supports academic learning progress, while Laura, theologian, leads Bible lessons and discussions. At the centre, girls find their voice and prospects, despite challenges, such as betrothal or motherhood at an early age.



Grateful for carefree moments and the chance to surpass expectations.



Anna and Laura at the Petalouda Centre. They are a great support in the turbulent everyday life of Roma girls.

wortundtat in an interview with Anna and Laura talk about their work with the girls:

What is life like for girls in the Roma settlement?

Anna: Their everyday life is marked by family responsibilities, household chores and caring for younger siblings. There have hardly any time for school or leisure.

What are the consequences for the girls?

Laura: Many do not attend school, their learning gaps are huge. Early marriages are common in their community, further limiting prospects.

What are the girls learning at Petalouda?

Anna: They improve learning and social skills, learn to express their opinions and recognise alternative ways of life for the first time.

Is the offering accepted by the families?

Laura: Some parents are open, others are skeptical because they fear for the arranged marriages. But the increasing number of school-leaving certificates is proof that we are working in the right direction.

What motivates you?

Anna: I want to show the girls that they can achieve more than their community expects.

Laura: I encourage them to pursue their dreams and set their own boundaries. Like Maria ...

... Maria, 12 years old, has been betrothed since she was eight years old and was initially unable to read or write. Through Petalouda, she has reinforced her learning skills and self-confidence. After attending a holiday camp, she discovered new possibilities beyond an arranged marriage and has started to dream of a different future.





Strong girls for a robust future

Miss Germany, Kira Geiss, boosts young girls' self-confidence

Miss Germany 2023 and Christian influencer, Kira Geiss, engaged with our Dortmund project, Stern im Norden e. V. In February 2023, the inspiring young woman was awarded the Female Leader Award for Miss Germany. As a result of a change in stance at Miss Germany Studios, focus is no longer on the appearance but on the personality and social commitment of the participants. And this empathetic, strong woman has more than enough of these accomplishments. With the girls from Stern im Norden, Kira led workshops promoting self-esteem and media literacy.

For three afternoons, Kira Geiss led workshops for eight- to eleven-year-old girls at Stern im Norden. The focus was on topics like: What are the things that make me unique? Why am I valuable? How does social media influence my self-image? Through ludic exercises, the girls explored their talents, found mutual strengths and reflected on the effect of likes and follower numbers.

Her workshops were imbued with positive energy and important messages for the participants, who often grow up under difficult circumstances. Kira Geiss is a devout Christian who draws her mental strength from prayer and infuses this strength into her work to encourage young people.



A brief portrait of this engaged 22-year-old

- ▶ Recognition Miss Germany 2023, Female Leader Award
- ▶ Focus Mental health, self-esteem, media literacy
- ▶ Engagement Member of the "Young Generation Alliance", co-founder of a youth meeting
- ▶ Message Encourage young people to find their own voice
- ▶ Personal Openly shares experiences about self-doubt and pressure to perform

"Pure girl power! – My heart opens up at such projects! I am so grateful for this opportunity to empower young girls and I look forward to seeing a lot of girlpower and really good content!", said Kira Geiss enthusiastically.

Special highlight

"Box of valuables" Each girl made a box in which she keeps a memento of her newfound strengths. The girls wrote down their strengths on paper hearts.





A Star of hope

An interview with Jana Kadatz, educationist director

A special star shines in the northern city of Dortmund: the "Stern im Norden" family community centre. Since its inception, wortundtat has supported this project, which opens up new prospects for children and families with limited financial resources. The focus of this work is Jana Kadatz, the educationist director. With enthusiasm and dedication, she ensures that the children in this lively neighborhood learn that they are valuable.

A safe place

The environment surrounding "Stern im Norden" presents many families with challenges. Cramped living conditions, limited social inclusion and structural disadvantages characterise the everyday lives of many children. The "Stern im Norden" offers them a protected space to play, learn and develop. At the centre they can feel safe and receive support. The Christian faith gives some of them support and hope.

Dortmund High-risk-of-poverty comparison

With a 24.1% at-risk-of-poverty rate, Dortmund was ranked 2nd among the 15 largest German cities in 2023, behind Duisburg (26.3%), followed by Essen (22.5%).

In conversation with Jana Kadatz

wortundtat: Ms Kadatz, what children come to you at Stern im Norden?

Jana Kadatz: Especially children from families living with financial insecurities. Many parents are looking for stable jobs, and the children grow up in an environment that offers scarce access to education and social inclusion. The difficult conditions in which they live often prevent them from benefiting from early support and good healthcare.

Jana Kadatz, educationist director at the "Stern im Norden", accompanies children and families in Dortmund's Nordstadt with her enthusiasm and dedication.



wortundtat: How does "Stern im Norden" actually help these children?

Jana Kadatz: We provide a safe space for children to play and learn. We promote their talents through creative and sports offerings. At the same time, we convey Christian values such as respect and charity, which give them orientation and a sense of community.

wortundtat: How do you get the children to trust you?

Jana Kadatz: We go slow, listen and take children's concerns seriously. This creates relationships that give them stability. They often experience for the first time that someone is really listening.

wortundtat: How does your project help open up new opportunities for children?

Jana Kadatz: We show them what they have inside them. For example, through our super talent show, where they can discover their strengths. This is how their self-confidence and their prospects grow.

wortundtat: What does the "Sten im Norden" bring to the neighbourhood?

Jana Kadatz: Our work not only improves the living conditions for the children, but also strengthens families and social coexistence in the neighbourhood.



Motivated and curious Children experience community, encouragement and appreciation at the Stern im Norden.



Hand-in-hand At Stern im Norden, children grow together into a strong community, regardless of age or origin.



Your donation counts

How we ensure your donations are put to good use

In the interests of our donors, we want to achieve the greatest possible impact with the money you give us. We act responsibly, transparently and economically. This is certified annually by the DZI (German Central Institute for Social Affairs) Seal of Approval.

Transparency and trust

With every donation made, donors put their trust in wortundtat. When you support a wortundtat project, you can rest assured your donation will be making a difference and that the best possible help reaches the places where it is needed.

The DZI (German Central Institute for Social Affairs) has again awarded wortundtat its Seal of Approval, 31 years in a row. Since 1992, we have been meeting the voluntary standards and quality requirements of the independent audit body for non-profit organisations. wortundtat submits annual financial statements, disclosures and financial documents to the DZI. After review, the institute will issue the Seal of Approval valid for one year. The DZI explains which organisations receive the DZI Seal of Approval on its website: "They are



efficient, work in a transparent manner, operate prudently, provide factual and truthful disclosures and have effective control and supervisory structures. In this way, they ensure that the donations they receive serve the charitable purpose".

Review based on facts and truth

In the various application areas, we check whether funds have been used correctly, through our experts, inspecting local accounting and by personally seeing work in the field, whenever travel is possible, at least once a year. In Tanzania and the Republic of Moldova, the accounting department additionally uses an independent auditing firm.

We have set the goals for our mission and the methods adopted for running the association in a charter. You can read it at www.wortundtat.de/transparenz. On the website, we also publish information about the annual expenses of the relief

agency and concise annual financial statements. These are each audited by a reputable auditing firm. Following audits, independent auditors are required to issue their audit opinion free from reserves. The annual financial statements for 2024 are not yet available. They are expected to be published on wortundtat.de after the general meeting to be held in the summer of 2025.

In addition to the general meeting, other bodies of the association are involved, and an independent advisory board, which supports the work of the association with ideas and suggestions.

Board of Directors

Chair: Heinrich Deichmann, Essen
Vice-Chair: Susanna Deichmann, Essen
Ulrich Effing, Marl

Board members:

Bernd van de Sand, Essen
Dr. Thomas Schmidt, Dietzhöhlthal

Member of the Advisory Board

We are committed to wortundtat, and are engaged in the missionary work and we recognise the board of directors. The management board oversees work, in the name of Christian responsibility, on a committed and non-remunerated basis.

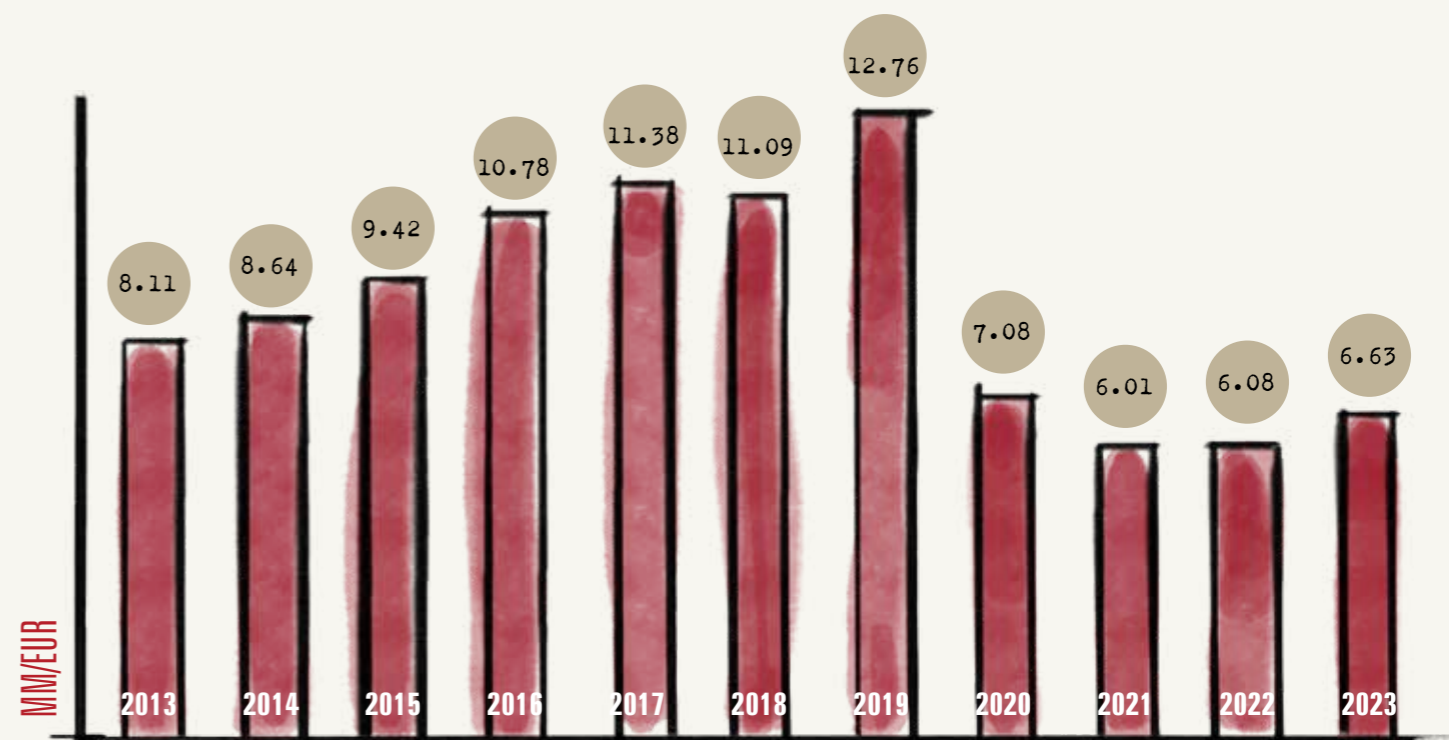
Steffen Kern, Walddorfhäslach
Dieter Kohl, Dülmen
Prof. Dr. Roland Werner, Marburg

Overview of wortundtat total expenditure 2023*

Especially in the **Republic of Moldova**, the cost of living has risen sharply in recent years, which poses great challenges for the elderly and those in need. Our partner organisation provides such groups with medical care, hot meals, and social welfare support. In **Greece**, our partners help refugees, among other things, with accommodation, education and vital assistance. In Germany, we supported the building conversion of the "Stern im Norden". In Tanzania, **expenditure** generally remained stable. Among other things, the organisational and personnel structure of the farming school was the focus.

In 2023, wortundtat invested approximately €6.63 million. Of this amount, just over €250,000 was allocated to administration and public relations. The sharp drop from €12.76 million in 2019 to €7.08 million in 2020 was due to the phase-out of support for India and the COVID-19 pandemic. Administration and PR activities accounted for around €250,000. All private donations to wortundtat go directly to the projects. Expenditure on administrative and public relations is covered by a special donation from the DEICHMANN Foundation.

* 2024 budgets had not been finalised at the time of going to press. They will be published on the website www.wortundtat.de during 2025.



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Vielen Dank!

Biblical prompts

Leveraging Talent

by **Jakob Adolf**

wortundtat project coordinator



Three workers were given a great responsibility Their master entrusted them with five, two and just one silver talent, each according to their abilities, and then he leaves his house to travel. What they do with them will determine their future. Perhaps you are familiar with the Parable of the Talents?

Gospel of Matthew. Mathew 25:14-30.

Two double the amount they were entrusted. The master is very satisfied after his return. The third had buried his one talent: “I knew you were a hard man ... and I was scared.” (24f)

Fear is an obstacle

His problem was fear. It was not a lack of skills that held him back, but the idea he had of his master’s way of behaving. The parable does not tell us what this was actually like.

What does that have to do with us? Maybe more than we think. It is not our abilities that limit us. Often it is our own idea about them. But those who dare are able to blossom. We may not like to hear it, but it runs like Ariadne’s thread through the New Testament: God wants us to make the best of what has been given to us. Even if – as in the parable – we are trusted less than others and we may be afraid we won’t do well.

What we can take out from other biblical passages Our limitations do not limit God. He supports our actions.

Workers in the wortundtat projects are often faced with seemingly unsolvable tasks. They know that their own abilities will never be enough to alleviate the distress of the people who come to them. Nevertheless, they endeavour to move incredible obstacles.

Come to the feast

The verse for which they will live and die appears in the parable twice “Well done, you’re a good and reliable steward. You have been faithful in little things, so I will entrust you with great things. Come to my feast and rejoice with me!”

You, dear reader, can also be part of the feast. Have you buried something, too? Get a shovel! Dig it up! It could be the beginning of something big.

