

„Basic Knowledge Together“: That’s how refugees get a grip in financial basic knowledge

SKM Köln – Sozialdienst katholischer Männer e.V. (SKM Cologne – Catholic Mens’ Social Service Association) now and for free offers a training program called “Finanz ABC – Spielend durch den Alltag” (Financial ABC - Easily Cope with Everyday Financial Issues) in facilities and initiatives of refugee help, with an approximate duration of 1.5 to 2 hours. This way, SKM Cologne longs to support and strengthen persons with refugee and migrations biographies in a playful way, so they can enhance their capabilities to master everyday challenges in dealing with money.

Competently and responsibly dealing with money is a crucial issue for refugees: On the one hand, they have limited financial resources available after their arrival in Germany. On the other hand, they are confronted with the habits of a mostly foreign culture.

By means of the „Finanz ABC“ program, the volunteers from the „Basic Knowledge Together“ project are providing refugees with basic knowledge around the first financial challenges they are facing in Germany’s everyday life. Based on 32 financial terms occurring in everyday life, dealing with money is discussed. The meaning of those terms from the categories of *housing*, *mobile phone*, *earning money* and *banking* is worked out in a playful way, thus opening conversations on cultural practices and rules in money and financial matters. Participants learn to safely treat cell phone contracts and rent deposits and, thus, to early recognize possible pitfalls and avoid debt situations. On top of this, the training material promotes language acquisition and communication among each other.

All advantages at a glance:

- Enhancing vocabulary of financial terms
- Getting to know to common payment methods and modalities
- Reflecting on personal behaviour in dealing with money
- Reading training and reduction of reading inhibitions
- Applying rules of game in consideration of fair play
- Learning by means of classic principles such as quartet and dice game

Schedule agreements:

Are you interested? Please refer to Gert Krützer, mobile 0176 15067627 or e-mail gert.kruetzer@skm-koeln.de or Silvia Hahn (s. below).

General coordination:

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