

## Project 2

**“Ratschbankerl” (conversation bench)  
as meetingpoints against loneliness**

- ✓ **ELDERLY PEOPLE**
- X German required
- ✓ **Regular meetings**
- ✓ **Research topic**
- ✓ **Activity**
- ✓ **Handicraft skills**
- X only once

# What is the project about?



Concerning the **retirement home** Mariahilf in the district Innstadt in Passau, the Caritasverband für die Diözese Passau e.V. launched a neighbourhood development project with a survey on what **people in the district Innstadt need for the future**. Result: especially elderly people are partly quite lonely!

## **How can we counteract?**

A first idea would be, that we invite people explicitly to meet at a bench in the district Innstadt and get into a conversation near their living place.

Rolemodel is the classic „**Piazza**“ in Italy, where old and young meet to talk.

Caritas is the largest welfare association in Germany and organizes the social work of the Catholic Church.

# What do I have to do?



Student teams are being considered for the following tasks in close agreement with the neighborhood manager:

- **Brainstorm and Research**, how to make the „Ratschbänke“ (conversation benches) attractive
- **Conception and implementation of an event** as a kick-off meeting to announce the project

# How much time do I have to invest?



For the listed projects you should plan **1-2 hours/week** of regular time commitment.

However, the teams are free in their decision when they conduct the tasks and participants can invest different amounts of time. The most **IMPORTANT** is that you meet on a **regular basis as a team**.

# Other requirements



**Skills and knowledge you bring that will help you, depending on the partial project:**

- Willingness to contribute with own ideas or to look for role models in other cities
- Fun in organizing an event
- Willingness to coordinate tightly with the Caritas and city administratives.

# Cooperation partner



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