

GOOD PRACTICE

School Holidays Program in Sport



City

Wiesbaden

Country

Germany

Mission

Increase children participation in physical activity

Target Group

Children aged 7 – 13

Highlight

A day-long summer program providing active leisure time and care to Wiesbaden children and families.

Timeframe

Yearly - 6 weeks during the summer holidays

Budget

€ 40 000 per year

Objectives

The Schools Holidays Program in Sport aims to:

- Promote sport,
- Get kids of the couch,
- Restrict media consumption,
- Strengthen social and athletic skills,
- Make the city life appealing to children and parents,
- Improve coexistence and promote integration,
- Open opportunities for sport clubs and recruit new members,
- Create tangible health awareness,
- Provide care services for working parents
- Create fun and joy during the holidays.

The Program

One-week sessions are organized six times during the summer holidays, providing the children of Wiesbaden with day-long athletic aligned movement and care. The various sport courses and activities covering indoor and outdoor sports (basketball, volleyball, tennis, hockey, course and free running, football, MTB, dancing, judo, ju-jitsu, swing, sailing, golf, athletics, etc.) are set in different sport halls and fields, recreation areas, running tracks, but also in the nature, forest and port of Wiesbaden.

150 well trained and qualified volunteer coaches and staff from the sport clubs and 10 professional employees from the municipality make the program possible.

The city offers this program at a very low-cost to all families from a low economic and social background, thus ensuring their ability to participate.

Cooperation and Partnerships

The program is organized in partnership with the Bureau for Social Work and Wiesbaden sport clubs. The Wiesbaden sports department and the Bureau for Social work equally contribute 50% of the total budget.

Impact

Since its creation, the school holidays program has proven to be very successful and meeting the demand and expectations of the Wiesbaden citizens. The number of courses, sports and activities has been from year to year progressively expanded.

The demand for the offered courses and activities is very high and all available places are booked very rapidly. This unfortunately causes reorientation of 30% of the children to other courses than the ones they initially select. The search for qualified leaders also becomes more and more difficult.

The response and feedback from the children, parents and involved companies is very positive. The summer holidays program has a broad resonance and consent in Wiesbaden; it has put sport and exercise as a high priority for the parents and it sends positive signals to other areas of the society. The program has an effect on the social behavior in the community.

Further expansion of the program now relies on the finding of new sponsors, even though limited by the available sport infrastructure.

More information:

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