



No to poverty in old age in Ulm

*Users and supporters –
together we can make a difference*

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

altersarmut Ulm nein e.V.

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Vision

altersarmut Ulm nein (No to poverty in old age in Ulm) is the first association of citizens for citizens in Ulm which is entirely dedicated to financially weak senior citizens and connects people in the process.

Dear users and supporters,

after the foundation of **altersarmut Ulm nein** in July 2021, 2022 was our first regular year of operation. Its beginning was still much marked by the Corona pandemic, and we had to move location. Fortunately, we found good and centrally located premises.

Poverty in old age is an important and urgent topic. This is among others reflected by the fact that the city of Ulm updated its poverty report in autumn 2022 with a focus on poverty among the elderly. In Ulm, 4,000 to 5,000 senior citizens are poor or at risk of poverty, with an increasing trend in recent years and a further rising forecast. Among the over-65s living in Ulm, 5.5% receive basic income support or housing benefit. Including the estimated rate of hidden poverty, i. e. including people who do not apply for state assistance despite being entitled to it, the rate may even reach a staggering 14.5% to 26%. Unfortunately, the respective state and national averages are similar at 19.2% and 17.5%.

How does one become affected by poverty in old age? There are many possible reasons why people have made little or no contributions to the state pension insurance scheme and, in addition, as pensioners, they cannot fall back on other sources of income or on assets. The range of those affected by poverty in old age is wide: former mini-jobbers, part-time workers, housewives, single parents, accident victims, self-employed. Financially weak seniors do often not just lack the necessary funds to pay for rent and other basics, they need opportunities for social participation and places of well-being. This is where **altersarmut Ulm nein** comes into play, with its meeting place, time to listen and practical help and support. We explore appropriate solution options together with the affected individuals. We are pleased that the word of our offer is increasingly spreading in Ulm, Neu-Ulm and the surrounding areas.

We feel encouraged by the initial success of our concept, it spurs us on to continue this path. We want to thank all users and supporters for the journey we have been on together and we thank our partners for the good cooperation. We look forward to 2023 together with all of you.

Christiane Blessing-Win, Founder, Chair of the Executive Board

Susanne Lubahn, Deputy Chair of the Executive Board

Markus Marquard, Treasurer

Gudrun Schmid, Executive Board Member

Anke Mayer, Executive Board Member

Sarah Waschler, Executive Board Member

Brigitte Deschler, Internal Auditor

Review

The main tasks we had set ourselves for 2022 included the mobilisation of donations and initial funding as well as cooperation with the municipal social spaces in the 5 areas of the city of Ulm. Similarly, we planned to establish rules of procedure for the Executive Board and a basic set of financial regulations. Our website <https://altersarmut-ulm-nein.de> should be further developed.

Key data 2022:

05.03.2022	Equal Pay Day, Ulm city centre First appearance in public
31.03.2022	Moving out Schlossergasse 2, 89073 Ulm
14.07.2022	Soft opening Ensingerstrasse 19, 89077 Ulm
03.09.2022	Official reopening Ensingerstrasse 19, 89077 Ulm
25.09.2022	Market of Diversity Riedlen
22. + 23.11.2022	Christmas Market Ulm Münsterplatz
30.12.2022	End of year event Ensingerstrasse 19

At the start of 2022, **altersarmut Ulm nein** functioned as well as was possible under the then prevailing Corona regulations. The activities of the whole year were characterised by the provision of individual help for poor seniors as well as sustained efforts to make the association known. We were also searching for volunteers to help with the association's operations and to be able to expand our offer. The premises offer opportunities for organizing multi-generational activities together with the main tenant who specialises in youth and adult aid. The joint opening on 3 September 2022 was a success. **altersarmut Ulm nein** is open every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 14:00 to 18:00. Meetings by appointment are also possible.

At the premises, there are always a few small items that users may find handy and can simply take home. Offers for larger items needing storage and/or transportation are posted in a dedicated area along with offers of free events or those for which we cover the cost.

After the city of Ulm had announced our association by circular to its teams in the 5 social spaces, we networked with those as well as relevant authorities in Neu-Ulm. We also established first contacts with networks outside of Ulm e. g. in Munich and Schwäbisch Gmünd, with associations that are equally dedicated to the issue of poverty in old age. Our participation in interviews during the preparation of the city's poverty report, with our executive board and voluntary users, were opportunities to contribute experiences and suggestions from practice.

11
500+

11 members
Dozens of users and supporters

More than 500 visitors

831 clothing and household items given away,
second-hand value €2,189

3 public appearances: Equal Pay Day,
Market of Diversity, Christmas Market

Networking with several dozens of related
institutions

3
12++

3
3

3 interviews: Radio Free FM, SWR4

3 press articles: agzente, Stadtteilblättle Mitte-
Ost, Wohin in Ulm

Numerous consultations, information
provided.
Applications made for/with 7 users.
No successful mini-job placement.

Training on topics relevant for the purpose
the association and its management:
1x jointly by Executive Board, 6x individual

7
7

8
11,955

3 regular donors, 5 multiple donations
Total donations: €11,955.20 of which
Crowdfunding €748.08
Events €1,392.12
Fines directed by the court to us €450

Website, Flyer, Annual Report 2021
Newsletters: April, July, October 2022

Directory of offers of potential interest in
and around Ulm for financially weak senior
citizens

Publi
catio
ns

All members of the Executive Board and the volunteers of **altersarmut Ulm nein** work without remuneration, only the weekly cleaning service is salary-based. In this way, we can direct income straight towards the fulfilment of the association's main purpose.

Monthly executive board meetings were held as well as an annual meeting of all members. The following rules were developed to support and guide the work: Operations codex, Executive Board Rules, Financial Rules. All seven founding members have had active functions in the association.

altersarmut Ulm nein works closely with other social initiatives and entities for mutual exchange and support. The association is a member of the Seniorenrat Ulm, the KORN Selbsthilfebüro, the Bündnis gegen Altersarmut in Baden-Württemberg and the Kulturloge Ulm/Neu-Ulm/Alb-Donau Kreis. We are active on several social networks: engagiert in ulm, Aktion Mensch, nebenan.de, betterplace.org, WirWunder Sparkasse Ulm.

Finance

The income of **altersarmut Ulm nein** in 2022 amounted to €13,367.76, its expenses to €6,570.45. This included rent and operating costs for the meeting place. The funds remaining from 2022 are used to cover basic administrative needs in 2023 and for emergency aid.

The results of the first fundraising campaigns were encouraging. The association was able to record first regular donations and multiple donations from single donors as well as first crowdfunding successes. Over 40% of the donations were received at the end of the year.

The financial rules that we developed contain the most important information about the financial management of the association as well as the handling of emergency aid for users. The rules will be published on our website after final endorsement by the Executive Board.

Outlook 2023

We hope that **altersarmut Ulm nein** will be able to benefit from regular operations in our new premises throughout the year. We believe that the impact on society of COVID-19, of the Ukraine war, the energy and economic crises as well as strong geopolitical tensions make our services all the more important. In 2023, the search for more actively engaged volunteers is one of the highest priorities so we can further expand our offer for users and support the diverse back-office work of the association. Expanding the funding base and cooperation with other institutions also remain high on the agenda. Our website <https://altersarmut-ulm-nein.de> will be further developed and expanded.

Our work



WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

Offer selfless moral and practical support to needy senior citizens.
Connecting the young and old, the needy and those who are not.
Combine state aid with citizen assistance.



OUR FOCUS

Help, mutual help, self-help.
Accompanying measures for a dignified life.
Honouring the lifetime achievements of all senior citizens.



WHO ARE WE?

altersarmut Ulm nein is the first association of citizens for citizens in Ulm and the surrounding area that is entirely dedicated to the financially weak elderly and connects people in the process.



WHAT WE DO

We listen.
We want to help in pragmatic and appropriate ways.
We want to create a smile on people's face.



WHY IT'S IMPORTANT

Poverty in old age is an alarming situation for those affected.
In old age, the possibilities to overcome poverty disappear.
The trend towards poverty among the elderly is steadily increasing.