



No to poverty in old age in Ulm

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

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

altersarmut Ulm nein e.V.

Ensingerstrasse 19

89073 Ulm

Phone 0731 37 49 35 67

Mobile:151 66 74 30 67

Email: aulmn@web.de

Website: <https://altersarmut-ulm-nein.de>

Social media:     

Bank details: Sparkasse Ulm

IBAN DE15 6305 0000 0021 3255 37

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.

We are very pleased that in 2023, we were finally able to offer our support concept for the financially weak elderly all year round. The meeting place at Karlsplatz in Ulm was open every Thursday, Friday and Saturday afternoon. Our offer of moral and practical support became more widely known, and it was accepted by a growing number of men and women in Ulm, Neu-Ulm and the surroundings. The users of **altersarmut Ulm nein** are retirees with regular pensions or reduced earning capacity pensions and who receive or are entitled to receive basic income support or housing benefit for the elderly. In addition, we welcome those pensioners whose regular monthly income is slightly above the thresholds that would entitle them to support by the authorities. Together with those affected, we look for individual solutions and, if desired, accompany them in their implementation. Our association is independent and neutral. We like to listen, want to help in pragmatic ways and seek to produce a smile on people's faces.

Since the publication in autumn 2022 of the report of the city of Ulm on poverty in old age, the city has launched a campaign entitled "When the pension is not enough". We are now working on a cooperation on this topic. An awareness campaign is in preparation, as well as an expansion of the city's campaign.

In July 2023, **altersarmut Ulm nein** turned two years old. We have built up a lot and achieved good results in a short time. Among our favourite moments are those when users and supporters are in a conversation with each other or when users offer a helping hand in the work of the association. An unexpected donation is, of course, also a real highlight. By publishing our annual report, we hope that somehow our sincere gratitude reaches even those who have made anonymous donations. We would like to thank everyone, users and supporters for the common path and our partners for the good cooperation. An especially warm Thank You also goes to those who contributed their art or their knowledge free of charge and to the volunteers of our meeting place. Together, we are making a positive difference when it comes to poverty in old age. Let's continue building on this in 2024.

Christiane Blessing-Win, Chair of the Executive Board
Susanne Lubahn, Deputy Chair of the Executive Board
Markus Marquard, Treasurer
Anke Mayer, Executive Board Member
Brigitte Deschler, Internal Auditor

Review

One of the primary tasks we had set ourselves for 2023 was to search for more actively engaged volunteers to be able to further expand our offer and help with the diverse back-office work of the association. We also sought to expand our funding base as well as our cooperation with other relevant entities. Our website <https://altersarmut-ulm-nein.de> was to be further developed and expanded.

Key data for 2023:

03/04/2023	Volksbank Foundation donates €5,000
30/07/2023	Our second anniversary
20/10/2023	Bürgerstiftung (Community Foundation) co-finances our project "Support for Digitization of Financially Weak Seniors"
20/11/2023	Sparkasse Foundation donates €800, and supports us continuously through their project "WirWunder"
09 + 10/12/2023	Christmas Market Ulm

We have further expanded our entertainment offer and, in the second half of the year, were increasingly able to have two persons from the association be present during the opening hours. Events are now also advertised on the neighbourhood platform nebenan.de with extended reach, on Facebook and in the event calendar of the city of Ulm.

In addition to individual assistance for financially weak seniors, activities were marked by first projects with corresponding applications for funds and cooperation with others. Individual assistance may be in the form of emergency support when a sudden exceptional need exceeds the financial capacity of the affected elderly as well as assistance with applications, or information, advice, mediation, and other types of support as per the needs. We have distributed vouchers for birthdays, at the end of the year or even without a special occasion e. g. City Vouchers for use in a variety of shops or vouchers for a coffee shop or ice cream parlour.

The association is actively networking with several dozens of relevant entities. Importantly, knowledge and experience can thus be exchanged, and activities mutually supported. It also increases visibility of the respective goals and work. We have maintained existing contacts and sought out and established new ones. On several occasions, we were able to introduce ourselves to larger circles, e. g. at third-party events, through the press, interviews, and lectures.

In our meeting place, there are always some useful items that needy seniors can take home. Offers for items requiring storage or transport are posted at the pillar between the windows as are those for events that are free-of-charge or for which the association bears the cost. One-on-one meetings are possible by appointment outside of opening hours.

18
964

18 members
Dozens of users and supporters

964 visitors, on average 80 per month

148 pieces of garments, household items
given away, second-hand value €554

23 events e. g. baking, cooking, day trips,
cabaret, music, lectures

10 public appearances: Equal Pay Day,
Volunteer Fair, Charity Market, Podcast
Kolping University of Applied Sciences
Cologne, ViLE Webinar, VdK District
Association Day, Ulm Senior Citizens'
Council, Christmas Market, THW,
Freethinkers

23
10

5
6

Press/Interviews: Augsburgener Allgemeine,
Radio Donau 3 FM, SWR4, Radio Free FM,
Generationentreff

Social Media Presence: engagiert in ulm,
Aktion Mensch, nebenan.de, betterplace.org,
WirWunder, Facebook

Countless pieces of information offered,
numerous consultations carried out,
8 applications to authorities prepared

Training sessions on topics relevant for
the association and its governance

8
11

14
€

3 permanent donors, 4 major donors
5 multiple donors, 2 grants

Total donations: €13,844.76 of which
Crowdfunding €889,61
Events + coffee kitty €1.565,15
Fines directed to us by the court €250

Website, Flyer, Annual Report 2022
3 Newsletters: April, July, October 2023

The directory of offers of potential interest in and around Ulm for financially weak elderly is continuously updated

Publications

Board members meet monthly throughout the year; in addition, one regular and one additional general meeting of all members of the association took place. The association adopted a regulation for the board of directors and a financial regulation; both are published on our website. In the area of data protection, a working group has analysed, based on training and research, where the association meets its legal obligations and where we should improve.

The association is a member of the Seniorenrat Ulm (Senior Citizens' Council), KORN Selbsthilfebüro (self-help office), the Alliance against Poverty in Old Age in Baden-Württemberg and the Kulturloge Ulm/Neu-Ulm/Alb-Donau Kreis.

Finances

The income of **altersarmut Ulm nein** in 2023 amounted to €15,987.76 and the expenses to €8,632.88 including rent and operating costs for the meeting place. The remaining funds from 2023 are used for the 2024 financial year including for emergency aid.

All board members and volunteers, except our cleaner, work without any remuneration. In this way, we can use almost all the funds directly to fulfil the association's purpose.

Outlook 2024

At least 14.5% and up to 26% of pensioners in Ulm are affected or at risk of being affected by poverty.¹ Those affected do not have enough income to cover their basic monthly expenses. When additional challenges arise, a quick downhill spiral may be the consequence. In combination with the ever-increasing cost of living and ongoing crises that particularly affect those who do not have a sufficient livelihood for starters, the offer of our association remains very relevant. Our basic offer continues with the meeting place that is open to all from Thursday to Saturday, as well as moral and practical support tailored to individuals affected by poverty in old age. In this context, the following are our priorities for 2024: Continue making our offer more widely known; seek more actively engaged volunteers, implement the initiated projects on digitization, information campaign and data protection.

¹ Poverty Report of the City of Ulm 2022

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.