Bocholt Community Engagement Network



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In Bocholt, many people get involved in a wide variety of ways. The *'Engagierte Stadt Bocholt'* network brings together individuals, clubs, organisations, businesses, politicians and local authorities to strengthen this commitment and jointly develop new initiatives.

The focus is on exchange, mutual support, networking, skills development and attracting new volunteers. This gives rise to joint collaborations that further develop voluntary work in Bocholt and benefit all those involved.

The network's coordinating office is the City of Bocholt's Volunteer Agency.

The Network's Origins

The 'Engagierte Stadt Bocholt' network has grown over many years. It all began with Bocholt's participation in the "Engagierte Stadt" funding programme at the end of 2015. The collaboration between various organisations and committed citizens has given rise to numerous joint projects and initiatives - including the Volunteer Academy, the Social Skills Certificate, the Reading Mentors project and the City of Bocholt's Civic Engagement Strategy.

In 2019, the collaboration was formalised through a joint agreement as the 'Engagierte Stadt Bocholt' network. Since then, the network has been continuously developing structures to promote civic engagement, addressing new needs and initiating joint initiatives and projects.

Current offers



Digitalisation Roundtable ▶

How it works

Once a year, the members come together for the general meeting to discuss current issues and identify common themes. The 15-member steering group meets four times a year, develops specific measures based on these discussions and oversees their implementation. A four-member team of spokespersons is responsible for communication within the network. The secretariat is provided by the City of Bocholt's Volunteer Agency.

Network members

1. FC Bocholt 1900 e.V. / ADFC Bocholt Local Branch / Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat Bocholt / 'Die Spätzünder' Senior Citizens' Theatre Group - Town Twinning Project Choir / Committee for Equal Opportunities and Integration / BBV Media Group / Bocholt-Borken Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, part of BSV Westfalen e.V. / Bocholt Citizens' Co-operative / Bocholt Friendship Association e.V. / Bocholt Harbour / Bocholt Pride e.V. / Bocholt Yacht Club e.V. / Caritas Association for the Bocholt Deanery / CDU Bocholt City Branch / Corona Aid Bocholt / German-Syrian Association e.V. / Donum Vitae Borken District e.V. / Mussum Village Community e.V. / German Red Cross Bocholt City Branch / Elisabeth Kroesen - Committed Citizen / Bocholt Family Education Centre/Multi-Generational Centre / Friends of the Bocholt Crafts Museum e.V. / Bocholt Volunteer Fire Brigade / Bocholt City Volunteer Agency / Parish Caritas of Ss. Ewaldi in the Parish of St Joseph / Gudrun Koppers - Committed Citizen / Helping Hands of the Parish of St Joseph / Inge Kunz - Committed Citizen / Integration Office of the City of Bocholt / Jeanette Wolff Senior Citizens' Centre / Jusina e.V. / Kardinal Diepenbrock GmbH / Bocholt Kneipp Association e.V. / Lebenshilfe Bocholt Wohnen gGmbH / Lebenshilfe Bocholt-Rhede-Isselburg e.V. / Leben im Alter e.V. / Marén Korhammer - Committed Citizen / NABU Borken District Association e.V. / OMEGA Bocholt e.V. / Bocholt-Rhede Prostate Cancer Self-Help Group / RKB Solidarität Bocholt e.V. / RUCH - German-Ukrainian Community Bocholt e.V. / Bocholt Chess Club 1926 e.V. / Feldmark-West Shooting Club e.V. / Serdar Ablak, committed citizen / SPD Bocholt City Branch / Senior Citizens' Office of the City of Bocholt / Stadtsparkasse Bocholt / Bocholt City Sports Association e.V. / Bocholt Municipal Theatre e.V. / Bocholt Food Bank e.V. / THW Volunteers' Association Bocholt e.V. / Bocholt and Surrounding Areas Animal Welfare Association e.V. / TiP 3 / Vamos Juntos e.V. / VfL 1945 Bocholt e.V. / Volksbank Bocholt eG / Bocholt, Rhede and Isselburg Adult Education Centre / Wünsch Haus-Technik GmbH

Become a member

The 'Engagierte Stadt Bocholt' network thrives on the diversity and commitment of its members. Anyone who would like to play an active role in further developing voluntary work in Bocholt is very welcome to join the network.

Workshop: The 'Engagierte Stadt Bocholt' network develops shared visions for the future



© Stadt Bocholt

21 committed individuals from clubs, organisations and the local authority are working to further develop voluntary work

Under the title "'Engagierte Stadt' Network - Quo vadis?", a total of 21 representatives from Bocholt's clubs, organisations and the city administration gathered at the LernWerk on 23 June 2026. The full-day workshop took place as part of a process facilitation initiative by the Federal Network for a Community of Volunteers and was facilitated by an external consultant.

The participants - representing sectors including nature conservation, theatre, social services, integration and civil protection - used the workshop to review the network's development to date and to generate new ideas for the future. The focus was on the question of how voluntary work in Bocholt can continue to be effectively supported in the future and how the network can be further strengthened. The 'Engagierte Stadt Bocholt' network currently brings together 55 stakeholders from clubs, associations, businesses, politics, the public sector and committed citizens. Together, they aim to promote the diverse range of civic engagement in Bocholt, further develop existing structures and create new initiatives.

During the workshop, ideas for the network's future direction were developed. The aim is to further expand the existing network structures and intensify cooperation between members. Proven initiatives run by the network, such as the Volunteer Academy and the Reading Mentors Network, are to be continued and further developed, as are established forums for exchange, such as the Digitalisation Round Table or the Clubs and Associations Fair. The aim is to

create additional spaces for open exchange between the clubs and organisations, so that they can learn from one another, share experiences and develop joint projects. Another key topic was recruiting new volunteers. In particular, the aim is to inspire young people to get involved in a more targeted way in future. At the same time, the network also wishes to focus more closely on the potential of active older people. To ensure that future initiatives are even better tailored to actual needs, a survey of Bocholt's associations and organisations is also planned. It is intended to provide insight into the current challenges and support needs within the voluntary sector.

"The workshop demonstrated just how much experience, creativity and willingness to collaborate there is within our network. At the same time, it became clear that we need to make the diverse range of voluntary work in Bocholt even more visible. "If we pool our strengths and continue to encourage dialogue, we can inspire even more people to volunteer," says volunteering co-ordinator Francis Heitkötter. The workshop marked an important milestone in the ongoing development process of the 'Engagierte Stadt Bocholt' network. The outcomes of the workshop are now to be gradually refined and implemented in collaboration with the network members. The aim remains to further develop the favourable conditions for voluntary work in Bocholt and to actively shape the 'Engagierte Stadt Bocholt' together. For further information about the network, volunteering co-ordinator Francis Heitkötter is available via email at ehrenamt(at)bocholt(dot)de or by telephone on 02871 9532346.

Contact



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Opening hours

Tuesday 9.30 am - 12.00 pm
Wednesday 9.30 am - 12.00 pm
Thursday 9.30 am - 12.00 pm and 2.00 pm - 6.30 pm
Friday 9.30 am - 12.00 pm

and by appointment

News

Europe/International 16. October 2026

Bocholt is collecting Christmas parcels for children in Verkhnodniprovsk ▶

Honorary office 09. October 2026

The town of Bocholt awards volunteer cards to deserving residents ▶

Climate and environment 29. September 2026

13 projects in the running for the Bocholt Sustainability Award ▶

Integration Council 09. September 2026

Intercultural Week 2026 will once again be held under the slogan "FOR THIS!" ▶

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