

# Annual review of my engagement for the Children's Aid Eritrea e. V.

Hello! My name is Leo Volf and I have been accompanying and supporting the children's charity for 2 years. It all started with a voluntary project, which was about supporting a charity for a year through donations. After I selected the children's charity Eritrea as my charity, I quickly discovered that I enjoy collecting donations. That is why I decided to continue to support the children's charity even after the end of the project. I was quickly welcomed by the very nice members of the club.

Now I was asked to make a review of the year with actions of the association and of course I could not refuse. In this sense, have fun!

## City Festival Welper

Last year started quietly, because the first action took place only at the beginning of May. And she had it neatly in her. I am talking about the city festival in Welper, where the children's charity had a stand. After we had set up our tent and the beer tent set, decorated everything and put our home-made products for sale, a large donation wheel was built by the Mortimer English Club. We should all be surprised later on how many donations were made by the bike. As consolation prizes we had sweets, popcorn, nuts. The main prizes consisted of pictures, chains, jam and key chains. We also had prizes consisting of spices or promotional items from the Mortimer Club, such as bottle openers or cloth bags.

After a slow start, more and more people came and especially the wheel of fortune was very popular. I found the very interesting conversations with the members of the Children's Aid, which were held in between when no customers were able to serve.

But the highlight of the day came around noon and had a kettle and a real, Eritrean flatbread with it. You read correctly! But now everything from the beginning. Around noon came a real Eritrean woman who was ready to hold a real Eritrean coffee ceremony for those interested. Her name was Tigisti and she told me that she has often performed such a ceremony at the request of the children's charity. After I was on stage and announced the ceremony with the microphone, many interested people came who wanted to watch the spectacle. And it was worth it! Tigisti has been very impressive yet easy to show how a traditional coffee takes place in her home country.

I think it was very worthwhile this day in Welper, because I learned a lot about Eritrea and its culture. Furthermore, I was very pleased to get to know so many members of the Children's Aid.



## Separate actions

In addition to actions by the Children's Aid, I have also followed various other actions this year. The goal was, of course, to collect donations through homemade products.

Because of this, I asked my mother if I could have a small piece of her stand at the flea market in Haßlinghausen to sell our products together with my friends Lea and Luke. On this day we sold a lot and were able to transfer a large sum to the account of the Children's Aid.

However, this was not the only date on which I collected donations without consultation with the Children's Aid. The Waldorf School in Hattingen has a big party once a year, where outsiders can also rent a stand. I really wanted to have a donation stand on this day, because there are a lot of people at this festival who appreciate the work that is in our products and therefore consider buying. It was a very fun and exciting day, which was very successful in terms of donations despite the stand fees.



## Christmas market Hattingen

But the highlight of the year has been a long time coming. We are talking about the Hattinger Christmas Market, which takes place in the rustic old town. Despite the cold temperatures, the children's charity had rented one of the wooden huts for a Sunday - and it was no mistake! On the contrary. In my opinion, this was the best donation sale I've ever had. But one by one.

When we arrived in the morning to build up, we still had the fear of rain but this should be eliminated quickly later. I had signed up for two shifts: construction and the last shift before dismantling. The set-up was quick and also a lot of fun. We had a few space problems but when we noticed that we were also allowed to use the wall of the hut with pins, all the space problems had disappeared. I was very excited about the result of that day and was looking forward to coming back.

And then it was finally time, my second shift was to begin. When we came back I was overwhelmed by how much had already been sold. My shift was unfortunately very quiet, but that was probably because it had already been late and most people had already gone home. The dismantling went faster than ever before - there was not much left.

It was just a great sale, which wasn't just worth the donations.



## Conclusion

It was a really exciting year, which I really enjoyed. I hope that I can continue to support this great organisation and its members.

In just one year, almost all of our products that I have produced throughout the year have sold. Among them were various jams, key chains, self-picked lavender products, wallets, bags and lucky lights.