

**GPS**   
PARITÄT

gemeinsam  
unterstützen

 **Welcome to  
GPS Wilhelmshaven**

 [gemeinsam-unterstuetzen.de](https://gemeinsam-unterstuetzen.de)



## The GPS –Supporting Togetherness

Living where others go on holiday: Thanks to its location on the German North Sea coast, the GPS not only offers good jobs, it also makes it possible to enjoy afterwork on the beach - with your feet in tingly saltwater and fresh wind in your hair. People have been finding exciting work with us for over 50 years.

Kaiser-Wilhelm-Brücke in Wilhelmshaven



At 60 different locations not only in the city of Wilhelmshaven but all around the districts of Friesland, Wittmund and Ammerland, a total of around 1250 employees support people in all situations of their everyday lives, from infants to old age.



GPS is an abbreviation for "Gemeinnützige Gesellschaft für Paritätische Sozialarbeit mbH Wilhelmshaven" – a rather awkward name behind which stands a large and committed team. The oldest and largest of our facilities are the six manufactories for disabled people. Here, 1,300 adults find vocational education, a wide range of work as well as training, promotion and employment.

**Residential group "Gulfhof"**



All over and surrounding the manufactories, there are offers for support in everyday life and housing. There are day-care centres for people with mental illnesses and elderly people. There are residential homes, assisted-living communities, ambulant support in people's own homes and an outpatient care service. It is always about how to support and encourage people to live their life as independently as possible.



For children and young people the GPS offers care, support and help from their first year of life to adulthood (and beyond). From day-care centres to schools, an autism-therapy centre and ambulant assistance, the employees support families with needs in every situation. Support is given to children and young people with developmental delays or disabilities as well as their families in case of family difficulties. Many comprehensive services and treatment possibilities round off the range: an educational centre, specialist services for counselling, diagnostics and therapy, occupational therapy and physiotherapy practices as well as speech therapy and counting.



**For our employees we have created a Value Proposition that everyone can rely on at all times. It contains four principles that define us:**





## Wide knowledge

From internship to management position - this is not an isolated case within GPS. We focus on professional training and offer our employees, among other things, the opportunity to recognise and develop their strengths in our own training institute.

## Colourful diversity

Everyone is welcome at GPS, there is great diversity among the people who work here and whom we support. It is exactly through our colourful community, that we benefit from the different perspectives, skills and experiences.

## Strong community

What constitutes community could be seen throughout the pandemic: without hesitation we helped out, worked together and achieved whatever was necessary to be there for those who needed us. For us, community also means being welcomed with warmth and hospitality and always receiving help whenever necessary.

## Secure prospects

GPS is very well positioned as an employer and a healthy company in the social economy. This means that it offers a secure job no matter what – in any situation of life or at any stage of personal development goal.



## Locations

For this program we have chosen two exciting locations:  
The "Schule an der Deichbrücke" and the housing group for social psychiatry.



### Schule an der Deichbrücke



The "Schule an der Deichbrücke" - is a state-recognised education institution in Wilhelmshaven. The focus of the daily work here is to prepare pupils for their future life in the best possible way. Within their work, the staff is close to its pupils, they focus on their strengths instead of any shortcomings and sometimes even take unusual paths in order to achieve their goals. While at school, volunteers broaden their skills, learn from their experiences and get the chance to directly contribute to their personal, social and professional environment. The pupils complete their compulsory schooling of twelve years in small groups. This enables focus on the individual promotion of personal strengths and competences as well as a practical school education. In addition to German and math, the curriculum also includes sports and physical education, cooking, shopping and environmental and traffic education. In the final grades, the young people are prepared for professional life as well as independent living and housing.



## The Social Psychiatry Housing Association/ The Social Psychiatry Housing Group



From support in one's own flat to assisted living groups, the "Wohnverbund Soziale Psychiatrie" (Social Psychiatry Housing) offers the right solution for every person with mental impairments. The place of employment for volunteers in this program is in inpatient assisted living - clients are intensively accompanied through their daily lives in flats rented by GPS.

These assisted living groups consist of three to four flatmates sharing a flat together. They live in single rooms and are supported by professionals as needed. Whether it's managing household, organising leisure time, establishing social contacts or arranging specialist help, the tasks in this area are diverse - and sometimes characterised by many small steps. The staff members always offer a listening ear on these individual paths, advise and support, but also respect the limits of each individual within the group.

The guiding principle is to offer people with mental impairment through residential care the space to arrive and feel comfortable, time to stabilise and grow a perspective to move on. In doing so, the staff members always respect each individual medical history, take a stand for the wishes of their clients, promote self-formulated goals and remain open to the many different concepts of life.



## Wohnverbund Stadtpark Wilhelmshaven: Wilhelmshaven city park residential complex

### Residential home „Gulfhof“



The supported living groups and the external residential groups "Gulfhof" provide living spaces for adults with physical and intellectual disabilities. The goal of the facilities is to enable the residents to lead as independent lives as possible. Competent professionals are present during the day and sometimes at night to support residents in care, daily and leisure activities, administrative tasks, and medical appointments. Additionally, they promote individuals according to jointly set conservation targets and development goals.



During the day, the residents work at our manufactories in Wilhelmshaven. For people of retirement age, there is the possibility to visit the day care center "Treffpunkt Sonnenseite" or the home's internal day care structure in the neighboring residence.



## Two Locations:

### Außenwohngruppe Gulfhof



At an old, monument protected completely renovated building, the external residential groups of the Stadtpark are located. Services are provided seven days a week, mainly afternoons and evenings, as well as on weekends. On the ground floor, there is the main group with ten single rooms and a residential group with three single rooms. On the upper floor there is another residential group for three people, two apartments for two people each and three individual apartments. All residential groups have spacious eat-in kitchens, modern bathrooms as well as utility and storage rooms.

### Supported living group Friedrich-Paffrath-Straße

In this form of housing, a little less support is necessary. At night there is an on-call service available. The tasks of the volunteers can be subdivided in three areas: support, care, and household. They accompany professionals in daily activities and individual support measures, supporting residents in acquiring or maintaining competences. Volunteers motivate residents to participate in activities, therapeutic offerings, and events. Additionally, they contribute to the preparation and implementation of projects, such as summer activities or Christmas celebrations, participate in excursions and recreational trips, and accompany residents on shopping trips. Nursing tasks are minimally supportive due to the independence of the residents.



### Tagesgruppe Wellenreiter



In the facility „Wellenreiter“ children and their parents find support developing a positive everyday family life. In the Day Group ten boys and girls aged six to twelve are attending the group from Monday to Wednesday. They arrive after school and stay until 6 p.m. They experience a reliable daily structure, receive time and support for homework, and are specifically encouraged on an individual and a group level. An art therapy program supports the children in individual or group situations. On Thursdays and Fridays, the pedagogical staff is available for the respective parents and families for scheduled training and discussions. The goals include promotion of the child's personality development, the parenting skills, the social competences of the family members and the child, strengthening the family to cope with everyday life and future crises and expanding their social network. The conditions for successful work are the families' desire for change and the willingness to actively participate in the helping process.



## Sozialpädagogische Wohngruppe



The Residential House „Die Insel“ consists of three spacious floors for children and young people aged six to eighteen years. On the middle floor the kitchen, a dining room, a large living room and the staff office are located. The third floor houses the boys in single and double rooms, the first floor is occupied by the girls in single and double rooms. Functional rooms are located in the basement. In the garden you find a large lawn, a swing, a sandbox and a terrace for gatherings in good weather. The focus of our pedagogical work is the emotional stabilisation of the children and adolescents. The daily group life offers a protected environment where they can recognize their resources and develop within an age-appropriate framework. The reference pedagogues are individually working on the topics of each child using methods from systemic counselling. This involves a special support plan coordinated with the family and in cooperation with schools and other institutions. Internal specialized psychologists and external therapists, services and the use of animals complete the resources of the system.



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