

# Hamburg in solidarity against corona

## Newsletter No. 3

Dear folks,

Do you also sometimes lose oversight of all the corona information that is disseminated in numerous telegram groups, on dozens of information sheets, and on hundreds of websites every day? It doesn't have to be that way! For at <https://corona-soli-hamburg.org/> you can now find a (constantly growing) information wiki that provides the essential information in a bundle. Specifically for Hamburg and in an impressive 13 languages! Many thanks to the creators!

In this, our third newsletter, the first topic is the **Bezirksamt Hamburg Nord** (district office), which is actually **threatening legal actions against the Hamburg-wide corona hotline**. Following that is a **guest contribution by a Hamburg student** who is resisting the obligation to have to write her Abitur during the corona-crisis. Finally, we have some practical information for those who currently have to apply for **Hartz IV (unemployment) or housing benefits** due to loss of income.

### **1. Bezirksamt Hamburg Nord threatens legal actions against corona hotline**

These days there is a lot of talk even on the part of the state of "solidarity" and "togetherness". A very special understanding of these concepts seems to be prevail at the Bezirksamt Hamburg Nord. The Hamburg-wide corona hotline (017629208918), which organises offers for help such as shopping for older people and risk groups, received an unexpected call from an official yesterday. No joke: The district office threatens to initiate a "wild postering" procedure if all posters that advertise the hotline have not been removed. We are somewhat taken aback and shocked that there is currently nothing better to do at the Bezirksamt than harass people who offer solidarity-based help because someone somewhere pasted a poster on a bridge.

Here are five suggestions of what extremely bored employees of the Bezirksamt could do instead:

- Call the hotline and go shopping for the elderly.
- Organize safe sleeping places for the homeless and refugees.
- Register voluntarily with the Robert Koch Institute and help count the number of cases.
- Stay at home and drink a glass of red wine.
- Drink a glass of red wine in the office.

### **2. Guest contribution: No Abitur in the corona crisis!**

I am a student and should soon write my Abitur. Unfortunately, like many others, I am not in the best circumstances for optimal preparation.

The social injustice that previously existed has not been exacerbated. Some have their own room, a laptop, and in the best cases a printer, while others don't even have their own room, not to mention laptop and printer.

We cannot allow these external circumstances to have an impact on our grades. Otherwise our futures will be decided by the circumstances in which we were born.

Unfortunately, the school senator Ties Rabe does not appear to be interested; he didn't respond to our request and only wrote a press release.

We rely on public solidarity! Do not allow social injustice to become the determining factor in our future.

Thanks and greetings in solidarity,

*Omeinma Garci*

For all students and solidaristic supporters there is a group in which further activities can be planned → <https://t.me/keincoronaabi>

### **3. Tip: Apply for „Hartz IV“ or „Wohngeld“ (housing allowance) by the end of the month**

Whoever submits an informal application (online, by fax, or by registered mail) to their designated Jobcenter (Hartz 4) or Bezirksamt (Wohngeld) by March 30<sup>th</sup> will retroactively receive services starting from 01.03 onwards! The application can be withdrawn at any time. You can submit forms and proof later. It is best to send an application by fax (save the receipt!) or by registered mail with another person who can confirm that you have put the application in the envelope and at best who brings the letter to the post office and sends it as registered mail for you. Due to the risk of infection it should be a person who lives in your household anyway. In this way, in the event of a dispute, it can be proven better that you sent the application.

An application can look e.g. like this: "Hiermit beantrage ich, Name, Adresse rückwirkend zum 01.03. ALG 2/Wohngeld. Unterschrift" ("I, name, address, hereby retroactively apply for the ALG 2 / housing benefit for 01.03.").

Attention: The situation is somewhat more difficult for self-employed people who still received money for work in March: To a certain extent this will be deducted as income. Depending on the amount of your income in March, it may then be worthwhile to only apply for benefits in April. Legal advice for individual cases cannot be provided here.

You can find tips on how to apply to Hartz IV here: <http://solidarisch.org/tipps-fuer-den-alltag/>

You can find your local district office for housing allowance here:

<https://www.hamburg.de/behoerdenfinder/hamburg/11268762/>

Hamburg, 27.3.2020

**If the Jobcenter creates problems with your application approval, please write in the telegram groups so that we can network and support each other!**

If you have important information on other topics for the newsletter , please write to us!

*Admin group of Hamburg in solidarity against Corona, 27.3.2020  
(special thanks tot he translation collective!)*