

Best Practices

Childcare/activities for children during participatory and/or volunteer events

Having children can make it difficult to participate in civic life and volunteer, especially in the evenings and on weekends. To address this issue, several municipalities offer childcare services or activities/entertainment for children during citizen workshops or other public events. This best practice can remove a barrier to civic participation and thereby promote inclusion, particularly for those who are less represented at municipal events, such as single-parent families.

Objectives

To facilitate the participation of people with custody of young children in events organised by the municipality and in volunteering at these events.

Methods

- Identify childcare options (availability and capacity of a room, budget, health and safety conditions, languages, etc.)
- Identify the partner organisation (e.g. the Youth Centre)
- Identify the exact activities
- Communicate the childcare arrangements to the target audience for the event.

Budget

Approximately 30-40 Euros/hour per facilitator and a budget for materials, which will depend on the planned activities.

Materials

Craft supplies, board games, face painting supplies, or other materials for activities.

Tent, benches, or suitable room, toilets nearby.



Periodicity

Depending on the frequency of events promoting civic participation and/or volunteering.

Evaluation indicators

Number of families with young children who participated in the event.

Number of parents who participated in an event because childcare was available.

Practical advice - DO's

- Communicate the availability of childcare to the event's target audience.
- Ask people who register to indicate the number of children they will be bringing, in order to determine the number of people needed to provide childcare.
- Ensure that there are enough people to look after the children based on the number of children.
- Ask people who register to specify the age of the children in order to determine the most appropriate activities.
- Ensure that the childcare area is located close to the adult activity area.
- Take linguistic diversity into account.
- If you've organized childcare/entertainment once, repeat it for the next similar event, as people will rely on it.

Contact person/Possible partners

Contact person

Municipality of Differdange – Equal Opportunities Department:

egalitedeschances@differdange.lu

Municipality of Sanem – Equal Opportunities and Diversity Department: secd@suessem.lu

Preferred partners

Childcare centres, groups of activity leaders, graduates of the babysitting training course offered by the municipality, children's leisure associations

