



Deutsches Rotes Kreuz
Schwesterschaft „Bonn“ e.V.

Portrait of the DRK-Schwesterschaft „Bonn“ e.V.

The DRK-Schwesterschaft „Bonn“ e.V. (DRK Sisters) stems from the „Katholischer Krankenfürsorge-Verein“ (Catholic Health Care Association) founded 1906 in Cologne. This association was established in response to growing need for qualified caregivers across Germany.

The association is based upon the biblical parable of the Good Samaritan who upon receiving an act of kindness was mandated to “Go and do the same”.

In 1911 the association joined the German Red Cross while respecting its own autonomy and confessional character. It was henceforth called „Katholischer Krankenfürsorge-Verein vom Roten Kreuz“ (Catholic Health Care Association of the Red Cross) nevertheless the principles of the German Red Cross also apply to them. In addition, the association was initially also a member of the Caritas-Verband. This dual membership is unique in the history of the DRK-Schwesterschaften (DRK Sisters).

After the end of the Second World War in 1948 the association was reformed and it moved to Bonn, Venusbergweg, in 1949. Thereafter in 1968 the association was renamed to “DRK-Schwesterschaft „Bonn“ e.V., the name it carries to this day.

For their self-conception the DRK-Schwesterschaft „Bonn“ e.V. has a double foundation: The Red Cross principles and a Christian attitude positively reinforcing each other in their effectiveness and timeliness.

The DRK-Schwesterschaft „Bonn“ e.V. today

The DRK Schwesterschaft „Bonn“ e.V. is an association of women in the care taking professions, whose professional identity is based on principles of the German Red Cross. Current members of the association comprise of people from fifty nations. These include nurses, paediatric-nurses, geriatric-nurses, midwives, health professionals, directors of home and care, teachers for nursing, educationists of care, nursing researchers, nursing care assistants, retired members and apprentices in nursing.

Members of the DRK-Schwesterschaft „Bonn“ e.V. are working in various fields: University clinics, hospitals, homes for the elderly in clerical sponsorship in the area Bonn – Cologne – Düsseldorf as well as in homes for the elderly and assisted living in own sponsorship.

In addition, the DRK Schwesterschaft „Bonn“ e.V. trains at various schools, health care both male and female nurses, nurse assistants and geriatric nurses. It offers young people the opportunity of a voluntary social year in Germany or Great Britain.

The DRK-Schwesternschaft „Bonn“ e.V. is a non-profit association. Pursuant to statutory the assembly is the main decision-making body. The members select two institutions namely: The Advisory Board and the Board of Director to represent their interests. Each member has equal say, shared responsibility can offer advice.

The statutory duties of the DRK-Schwesternschaft “Bonn” e.V. involve the promotion of public health and assistance for young people in need. It is actively involved in this social contract, in order to meet the needs arising from the permanent changes in nursing. This provides continuity and solid training in the care taking professions as well care related studies. Furthermore the members voluntarily participate in humanitarian efforts as part of the Red Cross philosophy.

Through the experiences described above, each member in the community of the DRK-Schwesternschaft receives individual support and develops their professional and personal skills.

The DRK-Schwesternschaft „Bonn“ e.V. is one of the 33 members of the Union of Sisters of the German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany. The Union consists of approximately 21,000 members nationwide and is as a part of the German Red Cross a member of the International Red Cross and the Red Crescent. In addition the DRK Sisters are committed to nation wide health and occupation policy.