

TRALALOBE 18+ FLAT SHARE

Target Group

Young adult asylum seekers, who until the age of 18 were taken care of in care centers for underage asylum seekers in the district of Mödling, Lower Austria.

Tralalobe (registered society)

Tralalobe, founded by Austrian companies Almdudler und Radatz, has set the goal to support socially disadvantaged children and adolescents, and achieves sustained success. Tralalobe is a nonprofit organization and does not pursue economic success.

Traditional Austrian companies taking responsibility

They have a lot in common, Almdudler and Radatz: both have been very successful Austrian family businesses for decades. Both live their mission statements “humanity, fairness and responsibility”, central values. Both pursue the registered society Tralalobe, its goal is to support socially disadvantaged kids and young adults.

For many years they have been close friends: Michaela Klein, Thomas Klein, Michaela’s husband Helmuth (they successfully run winery Unger&Klein and coffee house Rondell) and Dr. Franz – Jacky – Radatz and Radatz store’s manager Thomas Zedrosser. They are all committed to social issues and they all have been supporting several social projects until they decided to combine their activities into the registered society Tralalobe.

Tralalobe was founded by them in 2012, and soon after Andreas Diendorfer, social worker and social manager, joined them with professional expertise. Andreas was running and building care centers for underage asylum seekers at the time. He took over management of Tralalobe in early 2016.

Various projects – consistent goal

All projects operated or supported by Tralalobe have one goal: young people should be enabled to live independent and self-determined lives. Tralalobe lays the foundations that young people’s potentials can unfold, even when their situations are challenging.

18+ flat shares for young adults

Tralalobe runs flat-share-projects in Mödling, Breitenfurt, Wiener Neudorf and Vienna, designed to enable younger asylum seekers over 18 to finish school education or professional training. The apartments are funded by donations and money from the federal state of Lower Austria.

Everything started with one apartment in Mödling, Brühlerstraße, in 2015. This pilot project was initial to prevent three 18+ asylum seekers from dropping out of school.

Tralalobe opened the next flat in March 2016 in Breitenfurt (Mödling), again for three people. In summer of 2016 we understood that there is a growing demand in apartments like these because in the district of Mödling there are many facilities for underage asylum seekers. So Tralalobe decided to rent four more apartments in Mödling. In the fall of 2016 the students could move in.

As the demand in places for living has increased significantly, especially for 18+ asylum seekers in education, Tralalobe will open another flat in Vienna on february 15 in Blumengasse in Vienna. Four job trainees will move in.

Another apartment for students is planned in early 2017, in Brunn/Geb. (Mödling). Six students are going to move in.

At the moment Tralalobe is providing housing and counseling for 19 students or job trainees who couldn't do it without this initiative. Their path to being able to support themselves would be way more difficult without this 18+ flat share project.

Tralalobe WG Goldene Stiege, Mödling - three residents, all three students at HTL Mödling (higher technical school)

Tralalobe WG Enzersdorfer Strasse, Mödling - four residents, one student HTL Mödling , three students BACH Bildungszentrum Pflichtschulabschluss (highschool diploma)

Tralalobe WG Brühlerstraße - three residents, one student HTL Mödling, two students BACH Bildungszentrum Pflichtschulabschluss (highschool diploma)

Tralalobe WG Wiener Neudorf - six residents, one student HAK (higher school for economocs) Baden, fünf students HTL Mödling

Tralalobe WG Breitenfurt - three residents, ein student HTL Mödling, zwei evening students with Jobs in Mödling und Wien

In Lower Austria such small flat shares for 18+ asylum seekers in schools or job training do not exist. When 18 years old, most of them are transferred from underage facilities to "pensions" in the country, usually in areas with bad public transport. In theses facilities for grown up asylum seekers often four or more people have to share one bedroom. There is no possibility to get tickets for public transport or professional counseling. Still going to school or finishing studies is impossible under such conditions.

Tralalobe rents apartments in good neighborhoods and furnishes them well. Suddenly students or job trainees, who came to Austria as refugees, are visible in a positive way. They move up to the middle of society. Neighbors support them actively and approve of this initiative. In the flats there is quiet room for studying. Additional costs for public transport or special training programs are taken care of by Tralalobe.

Pedagogues who work in facilities for underage asylum seekers together with „Connect Mödling“ (network for supporting refugees) and Tralalobe select who can move into a Tralalobe flat. It is mandatory that clients are in school- or professional training. Tralalobe then asks the federal state of Lower Austria for assignment. A social worker, employed by Tralalobe, visits the flats on a weekly basis, offers counseling, develops and evaluates education and integration measures together with clients, pays out pocket money (€40/month) and money for food (€45/week), looks at the apartment and checks it for security, cleanliness and functionality. Tralalobe pays rent, electricity, internet, TV, furniture, additional food and food vouchers, tickets for public transport and additional language courses. Also spare time activities are offered. If needed also psychotherapeutic treatment is provided.

Tralalobe also succeeds in supporting young people finding jobs and job apprenticeships.

Michaela Klein, president of Tralalobe: *“I want to use my personal network to open doors for young people who have lost their homes, families, all social contacts and securities and to open new prospects for them. I am a mother of two sons, I really can understand how difficult their situation is. It is very important for me to actively work with these young people. So I am very involved in these projects.”*

This "new" model of integration allows young adults to look into the future with good prospects. This 18+ flat share project creates basic parameters that are needed to enable young adult asylum seekers to become independent and self-sustaining members of Austrian society-