



# German Guardianship Law

Information for  
English-speaking Migrants

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Freundallee 25, 30173 Hannover, Tel. (0511) 590 920 - 0  
Fax (0511) 590 920 - 10, Web: [www.itb-ev.de](http://www.itb-ev.de)  
E-Mail: [info@itb-ev.de](mailto:info@itb-ev.de)

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# Word of welcome

As the result of an accident or illness, or because of old age, some people are no longer in a position to take care of important matters themselves. They need someone who can represent their interests and rights in dealings with doctors, for example, or public offices and officials.

The basic principles of legal guardianship are explained in this advice brochure, and the duties and rights of the care-taking guardians described in some detail. You see, German guardianship law is complicated. And not all advice centres and facilities are adjusted to persons with a migration background.

Migrants often don't know which options they actually have, the main reason being that they are not familiar with German guardianship law. Then again, it's difficult for them to understand the often rather complex legal regulations because their German language skills aren't so good.

This brochure is intended to be both a source of advice and a guide. It takes cultural differences into consideration, and tries to help you to understand the complicated system of German guardianship law. After all, as far as matters of your personal wealth and welfare are concerned, nobody can fulfil expectations better than you yourself. Which is why everyone should have the chance to check whether precautionary measures should be taken in good times – for bad times – if, indeed, guardianship is necessary at some point.

As well as an illustration of the legal basics, the brochure also contains a detailed description of types of precautionary options, in the shape of advance directives on guardianship, living wills and powers of attorney. Moreover, it contains a list of the regional drop-in centres, like guardianship authorities and associations, which offer advice and support.

The brochure is published in several languages so that migrants have access to all the information.

Our thanks go to the Institute for Transcultural Support for developing and publishing this brochure, which bears in mind the growing need for legal support of persons with a migration background.



**Aygül Özkan**

Lower Saxon Minister for Social Affairs,  
Women, Family, Health and Integration



**Bernd Busemann**

Lower Saxon Minister for Justice



**Ali Türk**  
Managing Director



**Ulrich Wöhler**  
Chairman



**Ramazan Salman**  
Deputy Chairman

# Foreword

Dear readers,

any of us can find ourselves in this situation: because of illness or disability, we are no longer able to manage our own affairs. This is when we need the right people to represent us and look after our interests. In Germany the instruments involved are: powers of attorney, living wills, and legal guardianship.

Legal guardianship is part of legal care in our social state system. It is intended to guarantee the participation of people in care in legal relations and to ensure the right to self-determination of those involved – and its implementation.

Many people are unaware of these options of legal representation. With this brochure we would like to inform you about the ways in which you can make self-determined provisions, if such a situation should arise. Moreover, this brochure explains the complex German laws on legal guardianship. Thus, it can serve as advice and a guide for migrants, and also for the players who are confronted with questions to do with guardianship.

By publishing this brochure, the Institute for Transcultural Support (Support Association) regd association (ItB) would like to make a contribution to the integration of migrants and people with a migrant background.

Do you have further questions about advance provision options and legal guardianship? The guardianship associations and agencies, and the local district courts in your region are happy to advise you. You will find their addresses in the Annexe.

We would be very glad if this publication has been of some assistance to you.

Ali Türk, Ulrich Wöhler, Ramazan Salman

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- the guardianship agencies in Hamburg
- the guardianship associations involved
- the advice centres for migrants, Hamburg,
- Insel e.V., Hamburg
- all the people involved, and our staff, who provided both advice and active support in realising this project.

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# German guardianship law

## Information for migrants

### **Legal guardianship and precautionary measures**

After an accident, an (age-related) illness, an emotional crisis or a handicap – anyone can find himself in a position where he is no longer able, temporarily or permanently, to see to important matters in his life. In such a case, someone is needed to represent his interests and rights, for instance in dealing with local authorities and government agencies, banks or doctors. In the German legal system this can be someone who has previously been granted power of attorney for this purpose by the person concerned (known also as the ward), or someone who has been appointed as a legal guardian by court order. Power of attorney (Vorsorgevollmacht) generally avoids the necessity of a court-appointed guardian. Where power of attorney has not been granted, a person can lay down his wishes in an advance directive on guardianship (Betreuungsverfügung), for the eventuality that a guardian may be needed in the future. Another precautionary measure is the living will (Patientenverfügung), in which the ward's wishes can be established directly, with regard to medical treatment at the end of his life.

In the following, these four terms are described in detail:

- I) Legal guardianship (Rechtliche Betreuung)**
- II) Advance directive on guardianship (Betreuungsverfügung)**
- III) Power of attorney (Vorsorgevollmacht)**
- IV) Living will (Patientenverfügung)**

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## I. Legal guardianship (Rechtliche Betreuung)

The statutory basis for legal guardianship is laid down in Article 1896 of the German Civil Code:

A legal guardianship should only be set up when a mental illness, or an emotional, mental or physical disability exists, with the result that a person is no longer able to manage his affairs himself. With a legal guardianship, certain areas of responsibility are laid down by the court. A guardianship should only be in place for as long as is necessary. It is set up for a maximum of seven years. Upon expiry of this period, at the very latest, the necessity of the guardianship is re-examined and a decision made as to whether it should be rescinded or extended. In the choice of a guardian, the wishes of the person concerned are taken into consideration.

Persons who have a close relationship to the ward have priority as appointees. If the ward does not recommend anyone, the judge at the Guardianship Court looks for other suitable persons. The guardianship judge will normally ask the care authorities for a suggestion.

While rendering services in his role as a carer, the guardian is subject to the control of the court. The legal guardian represents his ward at court and out of Court. However, he must talk through his activities with the person concerned beforehand. The wishes of the person con-

cerned must only be disregarded if he harms himself through his action (for example, if his action represents a danger to his property and health). The rights and duties of guardians are described in Guardianship Law (Article 1901, German Civil Code), their main contextual features being:

**Art. 1896 Civil Code:**

*(1) „Should an adult, due to mental disease or to a physical or mental disability, be unable, temporarily or permanently, to manage his affairs, the Court of Protection (Betreuungsgericht) will appoint a guardian for him, either on the application of the person concerned or officially. Application can also be made by a person who is not mentally or physically competent. In the case where an adult is unable to manage his affairs due to a physical disability, a guardian may only be appointed on the application of the adult in question, unless he is unable to make known his wishes.“*

*(1a) „A guardian may not be appointed against the will of the adult.“*



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*The will and well-being of the persons concerned are of paramount importance. As „temporary managers“, guardians take care of social and legal issues and help the persons they represent to achieve a self-determined life. Guardianship does not mean that a person loses his right to decide about his own life or the way he leads this life. It is only about assistance!*

*Due to their restrictions, the persons concerned can often no longer cope with their lives. They grow lonely, no longer pay their bills, get into debt or forget appointments with their doctor or local authorities. For such people, a legal guardianship is set up so that they do not become marginalized within society.*

### **When is a guardian appointed?**

A guardian can only be appointed when the person concerned is in need of help due to mental or physical illness or disability, and is thus unable to manage his own affairs. The decision on this is taken by the Guardianship Court. For this purpose, the court obtains the advice of a medical specialist, usually a psychiatrist.

### **Mental illnesses**

*These are understood to be emotional illnesses, as well as emotional disorders, that cannot be explained physically, yet have physical causes (for example, meningitis or brain damage). Addictive illnesses, depending on the degree of severity, can also be considered as mental illnesses. In addition, neuroses and personality disorders belong to this group of illnesses.*

### **Mental handicaps**

*These include the congenital or acquired impairment of mental capacity.*

### **Emotional disabilities**

*Emotional disability is understood to mean permanent impairment, whose original development was a result of a mental illness. It also includes the mental limitations that come with the onset of old-age decrepitude.*

### **Physical disabilities**

The possibility of obtaining a legal guardian also arises when the ability to take care of one's own affairs is partially lost or substantially restricted (for instance, in the case of lasting immobility). The physically disabled can only obtain a legal guardian by making a personal application.

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## **Three steps to legal guardianship**

### **1) Notification**

In order to put in train the process of obtaining a guardianship, the Guardianship Court has to be notified by, for example, relatives, neighbours, friends, acquaintances, doctors, social institutions, nursing homes or hospitals, who submit the information or suggestion.

The suggestion can also be made, however, by another person who would like to help the person concerned. The court has to be informed that a person is no longer able to manage his own affairs. The person concerned can also make an application to the court to become a ward in a guardianship scheme.

### **2) Procedure**

The Guardianship Court generally instructs the guardianship authority to investigate the matter and, if necessary, recommend a suitable person as a guardian. The guardianship authority speaks to the person concerned, and possibly to others involved, determines what needs to be done and informs the Guardianship Court accordingly. The guardianship authority also informs the court about the person who appears to be a suitable guardian. If necessary, relatives of the person concerned and trusted third parties can be informed about the procedure.

If the person concerned can no longer express his own will, and very important decisions have to be taken, a so-called guardian ad litem is appointed.

Medical reports are of importance for the appointment of a guardian; these are prepared, as a rule, by a psychiatric specialist. The medical expert's opinion and the guardianship authorities' social reports take important points into consideration, such as the necessity and scope of guardianship, the chances of rehabilitation and the period for which help will be needed - that is, whether guardianship will perhaps be required only temporarily, for example, in the case of life-threatening operations that are known to require a long period of intensive medical aftercare.

Before the final decision, the person concerned is heard by the Guardianship Court judge in his or her everyday surroundings. Should the person concerned not have a sufficient command of the German language, an interpreter is to be called in.

### **3) Decision**

The judge at the Guardianship Court informs in writing the person affected, the guardian and, when appropriate, the guardian ad litem and the guardianship authority about his ruling on the setting up of a guardianship.

The parties to the procedure have the right of appeal, including a per-

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son who is mentally and/or physically incapacitated.

The court ruling stipulates the person to be appointed as a guardian, and the duties he or she is authorized to perform. A guardian is only appointed to deal with those matters that the person concerned is himself no longer able to deal with.

### ***The guardian's areas of responsibility***

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#### **Health and personal welfare**

The guardian can take part in the decision-making process as to which health measures are required for the person concerned, thus acting in the latter's interest. This includes the choice of medical and nursing care, the provision of medical and nursing aids, as well as the introduction of, and agreement to, therapeutic measures; the organisation of medical checkups for early diagnosis, giving consent to operations and ensuring the taking of drugs and medicines. Generally, the guardian is to be regarded only as a companion and advisor in this task area. Only when the person he is responsible for is no longer able to make a decision – that is, he no longer appears to be able to perceive the type, significance and implications of proposed measures and to determine or formulate his wishes – is when the guardian takes decisions for him. If a living will is available, the guardian takes

this into consideration.

#### **Property and financial affairs**

Tasks in this area include sorting the ward's monetary assets such as the ascertainment, enforcement and application for income (social security benefit, pension, unemployment money or assistance, sickness benefit, the right to maintenance and alimony); further, exemption from surcharges, application for reductions and allowances, supervision or control of receipts and expenditure, as well as management of bank accounts and assets; finally, the allocation of funds, administration of properties, the settlement of debts and running costs.

The appointment of a legal guardian does not automatically curtail the ward's independent ability to run his own legal transactions. In general, wards can continue to do business and close contracts, freely and independently.

However, his legal capacity is limited if a **caveat on consent** (Article 1903, German Civil Code) has been put in place with regard to taking care of his assets, which averts considerable danger to the assets or to the ward's health. Contracts which persons in the care of guardians then close are ineffective, because they remain pending. Then the guardians make a decision on the legal validity. If they agree, the legal transaction becomes valid. If they do not agree, then these

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transactions become null and void. An invalidity of legal transactions means for the wards that they have no costs to bear and do not have to fear any legal consequences.

### **Legal and official matters**

The guardian is responsible for filing applications and conducting correspondence as well as telephone contact with public authorities and offices. He is obliged to represent the ward's interests in dealings with all kinds of authorities, including the filing of an appeal when an application is turned down, and acting in accordance with the Social Security Code. This area of responsibility also includes legal matters affecting foreign nationals, military service, passport and contracts (employment, tenancy, and life insurance contracts etc.). In complicated matters, a lawyer should be appointed for the guardian, or should be engaged by the guardian.

### **Postal matters**

This covers the ward's telecommunications, as well as the receipt, opening and stopping/blocking of his post.

### **Right to determine place of abode**

If the guardian is entrusted with this area of responsibility, it is his duty to protect the centre of the vital interests and familiar surroundings of the person concerned or, where applicable, to look for appropriate surroundings. For the well-being

and protection of the person concerned, and only within the scope of a corresponding court decision, the guardian can decide on his place of abode (sheltered accommodation, nursing home, own flat etc.), also against the person's will. Cancelling the rent contract for the flat is only possible with permission of the court.

### **Decision on the placing and detaining of a person in a secure institution and related compulsory measures**

Under certain circumstances (for instance, when the danger of substantial self-inflicted injury or suicide exists), a person can be placed and detained in a secure institution (for example, in a mental hospital) or in the secure section of a hospital or nursing home for the elderly. The decision on the necessity of placing a person in a secure institution can only be taken by the guardian with the prior approval of the Guardianship Court. Detention in a secure institution has to be ended when the presupposition that gave rise to it no longer applies - for example, when an earlier risk of suicide no longer exists.

Related compulsory measures are understood to be all actions that, through the use of mechanical devices, drugs or by other means, deprive the person concerned of his or her liberty regularly or over a long period of time. Such measures include bed bars, abdominal belts in bed or on a chair, the ty-

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ing of arms and legs, locking of the room or ward and drugs that further immobilization. Additionally, court approval is necessary in these cases, too, should the person concerned lack the capacity to give consent.

### **Housing matters**

A guardian who has been given responsibility for this area takes care of tenancy matters and the financing of the flat (rent and additional charges, telephone charges, licensing fees and cable television charges). The guardian maintains contact to the landlord, arranges for necessary repairs, applies for grants for redecoration from the social welfare office as well as for housing subsidy.

The guardian may only give notice to end a tenancy agreement with the prior approval of the Guardianship Court (Article 1907 (par.1) German Civil Code).

### **Who can become a guardian?**

#### **1) Voluntary guardians**

A voluntary guardian is one that conducts his duties on a non-occupational basis, which means that he is reimbursed for his expenses, but receives no other payment. There are important prerequisites for the conduct of guardianship, including a basic command of the German language, as well as possessing knowledge of the German legal and social system. The fol-

lowing persons can act as voluntary guardians:

*a) Relatives (for example, parents, children or siblings)*

Persons who are close to the person concerned are given particular attention as potential guardians.

However, only those who are willing, suitable and are able to legally attend to the affairs of the person concerned in the area laid down by the Guardianship Court, and to look after the person concerned to the required extent can actually be appointed as guardians. As already mentioned in the above, this includes a basic command of the German language and familiarity with the German legal and social system. Suitability for the position of guardian is determined by the guardianship authority or the Guardianship Court.

*b) Other voluntary guardians (friends, acquaintances, neighbours and strangers)*

By investing just a little time, a voluntary guardian and his activities can offer a person in need not only straightforward representation in legal matters, but can also give the guardian himself the feeling of being respected and esteemed. Voluntary guardianship should be regarded as a life-enriching challenge and important social duty. Even if the situations of the persons concerned differ widely, experience of

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life, sensitivity and the readiness to gain new knowledge are sufficient to qualify someone as a voluntary guardian. With relatively little time, a ward can be given personal company and support. Here, too, a basic knowledge of the German language is important, and, in addition, knowledge of the German legal and social system. Suitability for the position of guardian is determined by the guardianship authority or the Guardianship Court. The guardianship authority and guardianship associations can provide voluntary guardians with the necessary support.

### **2) Self-employed professional guardians**

A professional guardian must have an appropriate qualification and be in a position to legally attend to the needs of the person concerned to the extent required.

### **3) Employees of guardianship associations (association-employed guardians)**

Guardianship associations employ professional, full-time guardians. The association is responsible for their monitoring, training, further training and qualification. Association-employed guardians may only be appointed in a particular case with the agreement of the respective association.

### **4) Guardianship agency / guardianship authority**

Employees of guardianship agencies and authorities act as official guardians only in exceptional cases.

### ***Who bears the costs?***

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In principle, the person in need himself pays the costs of guardianship. This applies to those whose assets exceed the sum of 2,600 euros. Should the person concerned be impoverished and have little or no income, the costs are borne by the state.

That part of a person's income that exceeds his cost of living is drawn on to a reasonable extent as a contribution towards the cost of guardianship. It is also important to know that should assets be later acquired, and also in the case of misrepresentation, the state can claim reimbursement of costs incurred in the previous ten years.

As far as the costs of legal proceedings are concerned, there is an asset allowance of 25,000 euros. Persons with assets in excess of this personal allowance must themselves pay for possible charges, or for expert medical reports.

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## II. Advance directive on guardianship (Betreuungsverfügung)

With an advance directive on guardianship, a person can already determine beforehand who should be appointed as his guardian. Through the advance directive it is established which person or persons of trust should be appointed by the court.

This precautionary measure also enables wishes concerning the guardianship procedure, areas of responsibility, payments to third parties, instructions regarding medical treatment as well as place of abode to be regulated in advance. In an advance directive, several persons can be named for different areas of responsibility, or persons named who should under no circumstances be appointed as guardians. An advance directive on guardianship can only be implemented if a guardianship is set up by court order. Should the local district court be aware of such an advance directive on guardianship it has, in principle, to take it into account in reaching its decision. The advance directive on guardianship should be submitted to the local district court or lodged with the Federal Association of Notaries.

### **Summary**

- *The advance directive on guardianship is a precautionary measure.*
- *With an advance directive it can be laid down who should be appointed guardian as well as the wishes he should observe.*
- *The court appoints a guardian in accordance with the instructions of the person concerned.*

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### III. Power of attorney (Vorsorgevollmacht)

With power of attorney a person of trust is authorized to act and decide in a legally binding manner. In principle, an adult, competent person can authorize a person that he trusts to deal with individual legal transactions or with his legal transactions in general. The person authorized, who is in possession of such authorization, is capable of acting at any time and with immediate effect.

Power of attorney can also cover **health matters** and **responsibility for a person's place of abode**. Such authorization is of a "precautionary" nature and should basically only be acted upon when the donor, or grantor, of power of attorney is no longer able or willing to look after his own affairs. Power of attorney is often all-embracing and should as far as possible avoid the setting up of a guardianship by the Guardianship Court.

Financial institutions, however, often only recognize powers of attorney that have been documented on a form that they themselves provide, or which have been drawn up and certified by a notary.

For reasons of legal security in external relationships, every power of attorney should be granted without conditions, so that if the worst comes to the worst the power of attorney can be exercised immediately, for example, with a doctor

or bank. The authorized person (attorney) can then act immediately on behalf of the grantor of power of attorney, without bureaucratic intervention or the need for further evidence.

This presumes that there is a special internal relationship of trust between the grantor and his attorney. In the internal relationship, however, it can be agreed between the grantor of power of attorney and the person so authorized that the power of attorney may only be acted upon in accordance with a specific directive, for example, should mental or physical incapacity set in. Many people already practise such trust, insofar as they grant a bank mandate with immediate effect, even if the person so authorized may only exercise it by arrangement.

#### **Powers of attorney in Germany need not be documented in a particular form and certified.**

A power of attorney only requires the grantor's signature to be legally valid. It should, however, be in written form. In order that the text of a power of attorney is perceptibly and completely safeguarded by the signature, it is advisable to limit the text to one page, or to write it on both sides of a sheet of paper.

Since spouses in Germany are not automatically attorneys for each other, they ought to grant each



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other reciprocal power of attorney.

A notary can attest the authenticity of the signature on a power of attorney, or, alternatively, he can certify with his signature under the document that the declaration contained therein has been made in his presence.

In the latter case, the notary also advises the grantor on the content of the power of attorney, which they draw up together. Should the notary doubt the legal competence of the grantor, he will not certify the power of attorney, since he would have to express his doubt in the document itself.

There are cases where attestation or certification by a notary is legally stipulated; for example, if the person granted power of attorney can or should be able to dispose of properties or of shares or interests in a limited company or partnership.

Guardianship authorities can also attest powers of attorney, but they are not authorized to record it as an official document.

The German Federal Association of Notaries has set up a central register for advance directives (or living wills). Every power of attorney or advance directive on guardianship can be notified to the central register. From this register a court can become aware of your advance directive, in which case the appointment of a legal guardian can be avoided.

Since the person granted power of attorney (the attorney) must identify himself through presentation of the original document, its safe-keeping is very important.

A securely stored power of attorney protects against misuse; on the other hand, a power of attorney that cannot be found cannot be acted upon.

It is important that the attorney knows where the original document is to be found, so that he can present it. Should you have with you a list of addresses in case of emergency, it would be useful to include reference to the location of a power of attorney.

### **Summary**

- *Power of attorney is an agreement between a person and someone he trusts.*
- *The grantor decides himself on the single directives contained in a power of attorney.*
- *The person concerned has to be mentally and physically competent at the time he grants power of attorney.*
- *Power of attorney can be regulated in accordance with the individual wishes of the person concerned.*
- *Certification of the power of attorney by a notary guarantees its recognition.*

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## IV. Living will (Patientenverfügung)

With a living will, provision can be made for medical measures (for example, diagnosis and therapy). In the living will, the patient's own wishes are laid down concerning treatment.

It is sensible to draw up a living will in combination with power of attorney. The objective of a living will is then to assist the attorneys in their search for the will of the patient, hence eliminating any doubts concerning the patient's probable will. Thus, with a combination of a living will and power of attorney, the attorney can assert the patient's will, as laid out in the living will. The living will should be as precise as possible; that is, it should name possible illnesses and health constraints, and should name for each of these situations the treatment measures he (the patient) would like, or reject, (for example, operations, artificial respiration, dialysis, drugs or total parenteral nutrition). Moreover, it should name personal value judgements. It is recommended that the formulation of such a directive be discussed, where possible, with one's GP, and that it be confirmed.

The manifold options of modern intensive medical care for illnesses or accidents make it necessary for people themselves to determine whether, and if so, how they would like to be treated in intensive medical care. For instance, is intrave-

nous feeding an option, or artificial respiration, at least for a limited period of time? Should pain be treated so extensively that passing away prematurely cannot be ruled out as a result?

On the one hand, directions can be given to explicitly rule out certain measures (for example, reanimation); on the other hand, certain forms of treatment (such as palliative care) can be demanded.

A living will must be in written form; apart from this, there are no official rules for its form.

### **Summary**

- *With the living will, the medical care or treatment to be given, or not to be given, can be stipulated for the event that a person is unable to make decisions.*
- *It is best to discuss the living will with a doctor.*
- *A living will should be regularly reviewed and, where necessary, updated.*
- *There is no rule for the form that living wills should take.*
- *The living will is to be observed by guardians, attorneys and the attendant doctors.*

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***The advance directive on guardianship, power of attorney and living will represent three different possibilities of help in a critical situation. They have a common objective, namely the protection and retention of the self-determination of every single person.***

Migrants should note that their power of attorney and directive is valid, as a rule, only in Germany. In order to achieve validity in people's home countries, recording or certification is recommended at the respective consulate general, consulate or notaries. The laws of the respective country governing power of attorney or advance directives have also to be observed.

A guardianship set up in accordance with German law (Article 1896 of the German Civil Code) is valid in many countries only when acknowledged by a court of law.

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***Where can further information and advice be obtained?***

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Questions concerning guardianship law, powers of attorney and advance directives on guardianship will be answered by Guardianship Courts (Betreuungsgerichte), guardianship authorities and agencies, and guardianship associations. Notaries, lawyers or public legal information services provide advice and information on matters concerning precautionary measures.

Guardianship associations advise voluntary guardians and offer training.

Guardianship associations also offer advice to persons granted power of attorney.

Addresses of advice centres and places to contact are available in the Annexe.

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## V. List of addresses

### ***Guardianship authorities in Lower Saxony***

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#### ***1) Urban districts***

##### **Stadt Braunschweig**

Betreuungsstelle  
Langer Hof 8  
38100 Braunschweig  
Tel: 05 31/470-1 (Bürgertelefon)

##### **Stadt Delmenhorst**

Betreuungsstelle  
Am Stadtwall 10  
27749 Delmenhorst  
Tel: 0 42 21/99-24 97

##### **Stadt Emden**

Betreuungsstelle  
Maria-Wilts-Straße 3  
26721 Emden  
Tel: 0 49 21/87-14 77, -16 09

##### **Stadt und Landkreis Göttingen**

Betreuungsstelle  
Hiroshimaplatz 1-4  
37083 Göttingen  
Tel: 05 51/400-32 16

##### **Stadt Oldenburg**

Betreuungsstelle  
Pferdemarkt 14  
26121 Oldenburg,  
Tel: 04 41/235-25 03

##### **Stadt Osnabrück**

Betreuungsstelle Stadthaus 2  
Natruper-Tor-Wall 5  
49076 Osnabrück  
Tel: 05 41/323-31 91, -25 88

##### **Stadt Salzgitter**

Fachdienst Gesundheit  
Betreuungsstelle  
Marktplatz 11  
38259 Salzgitter (Bad)  
Tel: 0 53 41/839-20 22

##### **Stadt Wolfsburg**

Betreuungsstelle im Gesundheitsamt  
Rosenweg 1a  
38440 Wolfsburg  
Tel: 0 53 61/28-20 40

##### **Stadt Wilhelmshaven**

Betreuungsstelle  
Gökerstraße 68  
26384 Wilhelmshaven  
Tel: 0 44 21/16-15 66, -15 68, -15 87,  
-13 96

#### ***2) Rural Districts***

##### **Landkreis Ammerland**

Betreuungsstelle  
Ammerlandallee 12  
26655 Westerstede  
Tel: 0 44 88/56-31 80, -32 00

##### **Landkreis Aurich**

Gesundheitsamt  
Betreuungsstelle  
Extumer Weg 29  
26603 Aurich  
Tel: 0 49 41/16 53 00  
Betreuungsstelle  
Neuer Weg 36/37  
26506 Norden  
Tel: 0 49 41/16 53 70

##### **Landkreis Celle**

Betreuungsstelle  
Mühlenstraße 2  
29221 Celle  
Tel: 0 51 41/90 90-206, -205

##### **Landkreis Cloppenburg**

Betreuungsbehörde  
Eschstraße 29  
49661 Cloppenburg  
Tel: 0 44 71/15-557

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**Landkreis Cuxhaven**

Betreuungsstelle  
Vincent-Lübeck-Straße 2  
27474 Cuxhaven  
Tel: 0 47 21/591 83 10

**Landkreis Diepholz**

Betreuungsstelle Syke  
Amtshof 3  
28857 Syke  
Tel: 0 42 42/976-46 67, -46 42  
Betreuungsstelle Diepholz  
Wellestraße 19-20  
49356 Diepholz  
Tel: 0 54 41/976-18 12

**Landkreis Emsland**

Betreuungsstelle  
Ordeniederung 1  
49716 Meppen  
Tel: 0 59 31/44-13 99 oder 44-1408  
Außenstelle Lingen  
Tel: 05 91/84 33 36  
Außenstelle Aschendorf-Hümmling  
Tel: 0 49 62/501 31 40

**Landkreis Friesland**

Gesundheitsamt  
Betreuungsstelle  
Beethovenstraße 1  
26441 Jever  
Tel: 0 44 61/919-74 30

**Landkreis Gifhorn**

Betreuungsstelle  
Schloßplatz 1  
38518 Gifhorn  
Tel: 0 53 71/82-552

**Landkreis Grafschaft Bentheim**

Betreuungsstelle  
Van-Delden-Straße 1-7  
48529 Nordhorn  
Tel: 0 59 21/96-12 67

**Landkreis Goslar**

Fachbereich Familie, Jugend &  
Soziales  
Betreuungsstelle  
Klubgartenstraße 11  
38640 Goslar  
Tel: 0 53 21/76-513, -578, -573, -594

**Landkreis Helmstedt**

Betreuungsstelle  
Conringstraße 28  
38350 Helmstedt  
Tel: 0 53 51/121-24 66, -24 67, -24 68

**Landkreis Hameln-Pyrmont**

Fachbereich Gesundheit  
Betreuungsstelle  
Hugenottenstraße 6  
31785 Hameln  
Tel: 0 51 51/903-51 14

**Region Hannover**

Team Betreuungsangelegenheiten  
Hildesheimer Straße 20  
30169 Hannover  
Tel: 05 11/616-224 23

**Landkreis Hildesheim**

Betreuungsstelle  
Ludolfingerstraße 2  
31137 Hildesheim  
Tel: 0 51 21/309-42 71, -42 82, -42 81

**Landkreis Harburg**

Betreuungsstelle  
Schloßplatz 6  
21423 Winsen (Luhe)  
Tel: 0 41 71/693-434

**Landkreis Holzminden**

Betreuungsstelle  
Bürgermeister-Schrader-Straße 24  
37603 Holzminden  
Tel: 0 55 31/707-331

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**Landkreis Leer**

Gesundheitsamt  
Betreuungsstelle  
Jahnstraße 4  
26789 Leer  
Tel: 04 91/9 26-11 30, -11 31

**Landkreis Lüchow-Dannenberg**

Betreuungsstelle  
Königsberger Straße 10  
29439 Lüchow  
Tel: 0 58 41/120-477

**Landkreis Lüneburg**

Betreuungsstelle  
Auf dem Michaeliskloster 4  
21335 Lüneburg  
Tel: 0 41 31/26-14 00

**Landkreis Nienburg**

Gesundheitsamt  
Betreuungsstelle  
Triemerstraße 17  
31582 Nienburg (Weser)  
Tel: 0 50 21/967-944, -943, -953, -936

**Landkreis Northeim**

Betreuungsstelle  
Medenheimer Straße 6/8  
37154 Northeim  
Tel: 0 55 51/708-268

**Landkreis Osterode**

Gesundheitsamt  
Betreuungsstelle  
Abgunst 7  
37520 Osterode am Harz  
Tel: 0 55 22/960-552 oder -553

**Landkreis Osterholz**

Gesundheitsamt  
Betreuungsstelle  
Heimstraße 1-3  
27711 Osterholz-Scharmbeck  
Tel: 0 47 91/930-155

**Landkreis Oldenburg**

Betreuungsstelle  
Delmenhorster Straße 6  
27793 Wildeshausen  
Tel: 0 44 31/85-202

**Landkreis Osnabrück**

Betreuungsstelle  
Am Schölerberg 1  
49082 Osnabrück  
Tel: 05 41/501-30 38, -34 38

**Landkreis Peine**

Betreuungsstelle  
Burgstraße 1  
31224 Peine  
Tel: 0 51 71/401-12 13, -12 14

**Landkreis Rotenburg**

Gesundheitsamt  
Betreuungsstelle  
Bahnhofstraße 15  
27356 Rotenburg (Wümme)  
Tel: 0 42 61/983-32 74  
Gesundheitsamt Bremervörde  
Betreuungsstelle  
Amtsallee 4  
27432 Bremervörde  
Tel: 0 47 61/983-52 25

**Landkreis Schaumburg**

Gesundheitsamt  
Betreuungsstelle  
Probsthäger Straße 6  
31655 Stadthagen  
Tel: 0 57 21/97 58-39

**Landkreis Soltau-Fallingb. b. S.**

Betreuungsstelle  
Vogteistraße 17  
29683 Bad Fallingb. b. S.  
Tel: 0 51 62/970-371

**Landkreis Stade**

Betreuungsstelle  
Heckenweg 7  
21680 Stade  
Tel: 0 41 41/12-711, -740, -741,  
-742, -743

**Landkreis Uelzen**

Gesundheitsamt  
Betreuungsstelle  
Auf dem Rahlande 15  
29525 Uelzen  
Tel: 05 81/82-468, -459, -470

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**Landkreis Vechta**

Betreuungsstelle  
Ravensberger Straße 20  
49377 Vechta  
Tel: 0 44 41/898-20 30

**Landkreis Verden**

Betreuungsstelle  
Lindhooper Straße 67  
27283 Verden (Aller)  
Tel: 0 42 31/15-519 oder -537

**Landkreis Wesermarsch**

Betreuungsstelle  
Rönnelstraße 10  
26919 Brake  
Tel: 0 44 01/927-520

**Landkreis Wittmund**

Gesundheitsamt  
Betreuungsstelle  
Dohuser Weg 12  
26409 Wittmund  
Tel: 0 44 62/86-15 01

**Landkreis Wolfenbüttel**

Gesundheitsamt  
Betreuungsstelle  
Friedrich-Wilhelm-Straße 2a  
38302 Wolfenbüttel  
Tel: 0 53 31/84-178, -179, -281, -283

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**State-recognised Guardianship  
Associations in Lower Saxony**

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**Sozialdienst katholischer Frauen  
Bersenbrück e.V.**

Bürgermeister-Kreke-Straße 3  
49593 Bersenbrück  
Tel: 0 54 39/17 73

**Betreuungsverein Institut für  
Persönliche Hilfe e.V.**

Bruchtorwall 9-11  
38100 Braunschweig  
Tel: 05 31/25 64 30

**Betreuungsverein der  
Arbeiterwohlfahrt  
Kreisverband Rotenburg e.V.**

Neues Feld 50  
27432 Bremervörde  
Tel: 0 47 61/80 89-65, -70

**Betreuungsverein Der Anker e.V.**

Fritzenwiese 117  
29221 Celle  
Tel: 0 51 41/992 91-60

**Betreuungsverein des  
Caritasverbandes  
Celle Stadt und Land e.V.**

Bullenberg 6  
29221 Celle  
Tel: 0 51 41/75 08-20

**Sozialverband Deutschland  
Betreuungsverein Celle e.V.**

Wehlstraße 29  
29221 Celle  
Tel: 0 51 41/90-10 27, -70 02

**Betreuungsverein Cloppenburg e.V.**

Molberger Straße 21  
49661 Cloppenburg  
Tel: 0 44 71/91 30-0

**Betreuungsverein Delmenhorst e.V.**

Lahusenstraße 9  
27749 Delmenhorst  
Tel: 0 42 21/5 38 64

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**Persönliche Hilfe e.V.**

Jahnstraße 16  
49356 Diepholz  
Tel: 0 54 41/49 69

**Caritasverband Gifhorn e.V.**

Steinweg 55a  
38518 Gifhorn  
Tel: 0 53 71/98 74-0

**Goslarer Verein für Betreuung e.V.**

Bäringerstraße 24/25  
38640 Goslar  
Tel: 0 53 21/3419-16, -17

**Betreuungsverein Hameln-Pyrmont e.V.**

Grütterstraße 8  
31785 Hameln  
Tel: 0 51 51/9 31 40

**Betreuungsverein der  
AWO Region Hannover e.V.**

Deisterstraße 85 A  
30449 Hannover  
Tel: 05 11/21 97 8-167

**AWO Region Hannover e.V.**

BeVor Betreuung und Vorsorge  
im Gebiet der Landeshauptstadt  
Deisterstraße 85 A  
30449 Hannover  
Tel: 05 11/21 97 8-196

**Institut für transkulturelle  
Betreuung (BtV) e.V.**

Freundallee 25  
30173 Hannover  
Tel: 05 11/59 09 20-0  
■ Außenstelle Braunschweig  
Hannoversche Straße 41  
38116 Braunschweig  
Tel.: 0531/580 865-0

**Diakonischer Betreuungsverein  
Hannover e.V.**

Zeißstraße 10  
30519 Hannover  
Tel: 05 11/2 20 01 70-0

**Sozialdienst katholischer Frauen e.V.**

Goethestraße 31  
30169 Hannover  
Tel: 05 11/1 64 05 60

**Betreuungsverein Hildesheim e.V.**

Wallstraße 3-5  
31137 Hildesheim  
Tel: 0 51 21/7 53 50

**Arbeitslosenselbsthilfe**

Jahnstraße 2  
26789 Leer  
Tel: 04 91/9 25 09 78

**Rat und Hilfe Leer**

Augustenstraße 41  
26789 Leer  
Tel: 04 91/9 87 98 79

**Sozialdienst katholischer  
Frauen Lingen e.V.**

Bögenstraße 12  
49808 Lingen  
Tel: 05 91/8 00 62-0

**SKM – Kath. Verein für  
Soziale Dienste in Lingen e.V.**

Lindenstraße 13  
49808 Lingen  
Tel: 05 91/91 24 60

**AWO Betreuungsverein  
Lüchow-Dannenberg e.V.**

Probsteikamp 12  
29451 Dannenberg  
Tel: 0 58 61/98 55 90

**Betreuungsverein Lüneburg e.V.**

Auf dem Wüstenort 4-5  
21335 Lüneburg  
Tel: 0 41 31/7 89 58-0

**Sozialdienst katholischer  
Frauen Meppen e.V.**

Nagelshof 21b  
49716 Meppen  
Tel: 0 59 31/9 84 10



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**Sozialdienst katholischer  
Männer – Emsland Mitte e.V.**

Margaretenstraße 23  
49716 Meppen  
Tel: 0 59 31/9 31 10

**Betreuungsverein Nienburg**

Bismarckstraße 11  
31582 Nienburg  
Tel: 0 50 21/9 22 49 90

**AWO Betreuungsverein Nordhorn**

Petkuserstraße 2  
48531 Nordhorn  
Tel: 0 59 21/8 19 02 90

**Sozialdienst katholischer  
Frauen Nordhorn e.V.**

Bentheimer Straße 33  
48529 Nordhorn  
Tel: 0 59 21/85 87 0

**Sozialdienst katholischer  
Männer Nordhorn e.V.**

Mittelstraße 7  
48529 Nordhorn  
Tel: 0 59 21/1 40-18, -19

**Sozialdienst katholischer  
Frauen Oldenburg e.V.**

Georgstraße 2  
26122 Oldenburg  
Tel: 04 41/2 50 24

**Betreuungsverein im  
Diakonischen Werk  
des Kirchenkreises Osnabrück e.V.**

Turmstraße 10–12  
49074 Osnabrück  
Tel: 05 41/94 04 94 40

**Hilfe für Hörgeschädigte  
in Niedersachsen e.V.**

Knollstraße 96  
49088 Osnabrück  
Tel: 05 41/1 80 09 73  
E-Mail: [otten@sozialdienst-hfh.de](mailto:otten@sozialdienst-hfh.de)

**Sozialdienst katholischer  
Frauen Osnabrück e.V.**

Johannisstraße 91  
49074 Osnabrück  
Tel: 05 41/3 38 76 10

**Sozialdienst katholischer  
Männer Osnabrück e.V.**

Alte Poststraße 11  
49074 Osnabrück  
Tel: 05 41/3 31 44-0

**Sozialdienst katholischer  
Frauen/Männer Papenburg e.V.**

Gutshofstraße 46  
26871 Papenburg  
Tel: 0 49 61/6 60 78-0

**Peiner Betreuungsverein e.V.**

Echternplatz 19/20  
31224 Peine  
Tel: 0 51 71/5 08 14-11

**Sozialdienst katholischer  
Frauen/Männer Artland e.V.**

Schiphorst 23  
49610 Quakenbrück  
Tel: 0 54 31/22 68

**Betreuungsverein Salzgitter e.V.**

St. Andreas-Weg 2  
38226 Salzgitter  
Tel: 0 53 41/88 88-13

**Betreuungsverein Schaumburg e.V.**

Börries-von-Münchhausen-Weg 2  
31737 Rinteln  
Tel: 0 57 51/91 81 11

**Betreuungsverein  
im Landkreis Stade e.V.**

Harsefelder Straße 22  
21680 Stade  
Tel: 0 41 41/60 00 90-0

**Betreuungsverein der AWO**

Todtglüsinger Straße 22  
21255 Tostedt  
Tel: 0 41 82/29 35 97

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**Betreuungsverein Uelzen e.V.**

Bohldamm 26  
29525 Uelzen  
Tel: 05 81/78-149, -159

**Albert-Schweitzer-Familienwerk e.V.**

Jahnstraße 2  
37170 Uslar  
■ Geschäftsstelle Northeim  
Bahnhofstraße 26  
37154 Northeim  
Tel: 0 55 51/97 73-0  
■ Geschäftsstelle Göttingen  
Kurze-Geismar-Straße 16 –18  
37073 Göttingen  
Tel: 05 51/5 47 03-0

**Betreuungsverein  
der AWO Vechta**

An der Christoph-Bernhard-Bastei 1  
49377 Vechta  
Tel: 0 44 41/91 32 00

**Sozialdienst katholischer  
Frauen Vechta e.V.**

Kronenstraße 5  
49377 Vechta  
Tel: 0 44 41/92 90-0

**Sozialdienst katholischer  
Männer Vechta e.V.**

Dominikanerweg 8  
49377 Vechta  
Tel: 0 44 41/73 22

**Betreuungsverein  
Soltau-Fallingbostel e.V.**

Saarstraße 14  
29664 Walsrode  
Tel: 0 51 61/91 10-61, -62  
Bornemannstraße 8  
29614 Soltau  
Tel: 0 51 61/21 91

**Betreuungsverein  
Oldenburg-Land e.V.**

Ahlhorner Straße 10  
27793 Wildeshausen  
Tel: 0 44 31/7 27 67

**Anderland e.V.**

Betreuungsverein  
Von-Somnitz-Ring 5  
21423 Winsen (Luhe)  
Tel: 0 41 71/6 44 44

**Deutsches Rotes Kreuz**

Mühlenstraße 27a  
26409 Wittmund  
Tel: 0 44 62/86 15 21

**Wolfsburger Betreuungsverein e.V.**

Seilerstraße 6  
38440 Wolfsburg  
Tel: 0 53 61/27 87-0

**Freundeskreis Betreuungsverein e.V.**

Langestraße 47  
31515 Wunstorf  
Tel: 0 50 31/6 86 99

**Lebenshilfe****Betreuungsverein Wunstorf e.V.**

Moritzstraße 3  
31515 Wunstorf  
Tel: 0 50 31/91 41 91  
■ Außenstelle Neustadt am  
Rübenberge  
Schützenplatz 2  
31535 Neustadt  
Tel: 0 50 32/912 67 77

Überreicht durch (handed to you by):

Erstellt von:

Ali Türk & Jessica Bussler  
Institut für transkulturelle  
Betreuung (Betreuungsverein) e.V.  
Freundallee 25  
30173 Hannover

In Zusammenarbeit mit:

Ethno-Medizinisches Zentrum e.V.  
Königstr. 6  
30175 Hannover

Gefördert durch:

Nds. Ministerium für Soziales, Frauen,  
Familie, Gesundheit und Integration  
Hinrich-Wilhelm-Kopf-Platz 2  
30159 Hannover

Nds. Justizministerium  
Am Waterlooplatz 1  
30169 Hannover



Institut für  
**transkulturelle**  
Betreuung  
(Betreuungsverein) e.V.

**Ethno-  
Medizinisches  
Zentrum e.V.**



Niedersächsisches Ministerium  
für Soziales, Frauen, Familie,  
Gesundheit und Integration



Niedersächsisches  
Justizministerium