

REPORT DIAKONIA-DRAE

GROUP 3: DENMARK, ESTONIA AND NORWAY

February 2017

DRAE has two members in Denmark: Den danske Diakonissestiftelse and Diakonissehuset Sankt Lukas.

In Estonia there is one member: The Diaconal Hospital

In Norway there are three members: Stiftelsen Bergen Diakonissehjem – Haraldsplass, Diakonova and Diakonissehuset Lovisenberg.

DENMARK

Den danske Diakonissestiftelse

Personnel

Forstanderinne, sister Merete Pelle Poulsen

Diakonifællesskabet at Diakonissestiftelsen had at the end of 2016 74 members.

Three deacons passed away during the year.

There is no change in the staff.

Issues

In 2016 Diakonissestiftelsens Homecare extended their customer number by four to a total of 800 customers.

The new Hospice was inaugurated on April 8. 2016. The Hospice has now 16 rooms, which is an increase from the old Hospice that had 10 rooms.

Diakonissestiftelsen have finished the volunteer programme: “Voluntariness as a strategic choice”. Furthermore, they have opened a new thrift shop, so they now have three shops.

As part of our 2020-plan, they began building 47 senior apartments, a new concept about the future homes for the elderly.

Diakonissehuset Sankt Lukas Stiftelsen

Personnel

The fellowship has only some few members and the leading sister is Diakonisse Marie Oved.

Issues

Diakonissehuset Sankt Lukas is an active institution especially in the hospice tradition. They have started the first children hospice in Denmark.

ESTONIA

The Diaconal Hospital, a foundation under the Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Personnel

They are a group of about 7 people; pastor, deacons, spiritual workers and social workers. Pastor Annika Laats is the leader of the group.

Events

The group meets regularly to strengthen their call and understanding of diakonia. They do this by sharing, Bible readings and prayers.

Issues/Challenges

The groups biggest challenge is to get the understanding and the acts of diakonia more rooted in the church.

NORWAY

Haraldsplass Diakonale Stiftelse

Personell

Forstanderinne Rollaug Waaler.

Diakonifelleskapet at Haraldsplass had at the end of 2016 226 members, both consecrated deaconesses and lay diaconal workers. During this year they had 4 new deaconesses and all together there are 74 deaconesses connected to Haraldsplass Diakonale Stiftelse. The other members are diaconal workers that are not consecrated. "We are thankful to God that he still calls people to serve in a diaconal ministry."

Events

Haraldsplass has been planning to renew their hospital for a long time, and during 2016 the work on the buildings have started. According to the plans, it will be finished 2018.

Issues

The Nursing College has merged with other diaconal colleges in Norway starting a University College called VID and this new specialized university is going very well.

In spite of the refugees' situation in Europe, not so many are allowed to enter Norway. Haraldsplass started a home for refugee children and they were ready to welcome them. Unfortunately the government placed nobody there and the house is still waiting to be used.

Diakonova

Personnel

Diaconal leaders: Kirsti Eide and Ann-Elin Winsnes Slettahjell.

Diakonifelleskapet at Diakonova had at the end of 2016 653 members.

They are organized in groups for diaconal nurses around Norway. In 2016 they have had about 10 such groups. The two diaconal leaders are visiting regularly.

Events/Celebration

The big Alumni-day was Friday 14th October. On that day and during the weekend they celebrated the College 100 years, the College that was founded by the diaconal fellowship. They also celebrated 25, 50 and 60 years anniversaries for the deaconesses. On the Sunday, 16th October, they had a huge service in the Cathedral of Oslo.

The Alumni for 2017 will be in September.

Issues

At the end of 2016 Diakonova finalized their fourth project connected to Hospice-project in Narva, Estonia. They are continuing their advisory work, helping out in running hospice conferences and helping establishing training for nursing assistants.

The Nursing College has not yet become a part of the new University College VID. They hope there will be a decision on this during spring 2017.

Stiftelsen Diakonissehuset Lovisenberg

Personnel

Diakonifelleskapet at Diakonissehuset Lovisenberg had at the end of 2016 some more than 200 members.

There has been no appointment of a new leading sister.

Events

The annual meeting was arranged 6th February and a new board was elected.

Issues/Challenges

The climate between the Foundation and the fellowship is still not very good.

The CEO of the Foundation is claiming, in the absence of a leading sister, to be the leader of the board. But he is taken no action to fulfil his obligations. Therefore little work is done.