

**Group:** 5                      **Year: 2016**

### Personnel

- **Deutscher Gemeinschafts-Diakonieverband (DGD)**

144 Members, their slogan: **Dankbar Gott Dienen** (serve God with thankfulness)  
engaged in social and diaconal Institutions

- **Europäischer Verband Freikirchlicher Diakoniewerke (EVFD)**

27 Organizations with 990 Members, all over Europe  
their goal: "As diaconal Organizations we want to give mutual support in fulfilling social and diaconal engagements"

*Diakonisches Werk Bethanien, D - Solingen (DWB)*

Number of coworkers: 1'680; one of their goals is to invest in Training and Development, there are 107 trainee in their institutions: Hospital, Old Peoples Home, Ambulatory for palliative care, Center for rehabilitation for drug addicted people.

- **Diakoniewerke in der Schweiz**

6 Motherhouses with 350 Members, only a few new ones

*Diaconis Bern:*

"At the end of June 2015, the Sister in charge, Sr. Lydia Schranz, gave up her responsibility after 25 years.

For her replacement, a person from outside the Sisterhood – Dorothea Marti - started her ministry to the Sisters in August 2015.

She is no longer a member of the business management of „Stiftung Diaconis“. 44 Deaconesses are members of the "Stiftung Diaconis", all living on the compound of the foundation. They see their ministry now in taking care for each other and in prayer for each other, for our country and for the world."

- **Zendings-Diaconissenhuis Amerongen**

12 Members

### Events/Celebrations

The conference of **EVFD**, was held at Pilgerheim Weltersbach, Leichlingen (Germany) in September 2015. The theme was: "Economy and appreciation - and the challenges for Diaconia in the future."

## **DRAE Reports**

About 40 people attended the conference. The focus were two interesting presentations to the theme.

During two outings to Wuppertal and Köln there was room for sharing and chatting together. It was interesting to see, that the supply of „Assisted living“ is more and more common in the different institutions.

In Hamburg the "Bethanien-Höfe" was opened, a new center with the motherhouse for the deaconesses, two places for old peoples care and a place for the church. **(EVFD)**

At **Zendings-Diaconissenhuis Amerongen** there was the celebration of the 80 years jubilee on May 8<sup>th</sup> 2015.

### **Issues/Concerns/Impediments/Challenges**

In **DGD** there have structural changes taken place; there is no longer a Director in fulltime work but a board of voluntary members. This requires the work on new laws.

At the "**Diakonische Werke Bethanien**" in D-Solingen, structural work is done together with a law office.

Many of the diaconal Institutions are engaged in different ways in caring for refugees, a real challenge.