



**PREZYDENT
MIASTA KATOWICE**

Commitments of the City of Katowice to Implement the European Pillar of Social Rights

Commitment to Principle 19: "Housing and Assistance for the Homeless"

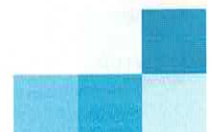
"In 2024 and 2025, the City of Katowice will provide assistance and support to approximately 400 people experiencing homelessness, offering not only shelter but also services aimed at enhancing their social engagement, overcoming homelessness, and achieving self-sufficiency."

The foundation of the actions carried out for people in or at risk of homelessness in Katowice is a three-stage support system aimed at individuals using support centres, with the possibility for a person living in clusters of homeless people to "enter" the system. Stages I and II involve providing shelter and meeting basic needs at the warming facility and night shelter. Stage III, in cooperation with the homeless person, allows for their stay at the Men's Shelter or the Women's Shelter. Shelter workers conduct extensive social work with all residents, aimed at solving individual problems, and also provide psychological counselling, individual consultations, and group forms of social work. At the shelters, social skills training necessary for independent living upon leaving the shelter and obtaining housing is provided, including practical lessons on economical media management and cohabitation in a neighbourhood environment. The strengths of the homelessness prevention system are the competence and commitment of the people who form associations and community assistance institutions for people experiencing homelessness. The cooperation between the Municipal Social Welfare Centre in Katowice and uniformed services and institutions operating in the field of support for people experiencing homelessness is also very well-functioning. The system of support for people experiencing homelessness includes specialized types of support offered by street workers, creating an effective communication link between homeless people and institutions. An important element of the policy against homelessness is the qualification and entitlement system concerning housing accessibility for people experiencing homelessness, as outlined in the Katowice City Council Resolution on the Principles of Renting Premises from the Municipal Housing Resource of the City of Katowice. This system allows for transparent and effective access to housing from the resources of the Katowice City Hall. The plan is to develop the existing system of assistance for people experiencing homelessness based on cross-sector partnerships, as an alternative to seeking the most appropriate systemic solutions, including homelessness prevention, intervention for those experiencing homelessness, and developing a system for integrating people experiencing homelessness and supported housing.

The City of Katowice currently has a total of 110 places in three night shelters for homeless men, 133 places in shelters for men, as well as 126 places in a shelter for women. Therefore, the total number of places providing shelter is 379, intended for both men and women.

By the end of 2024, it is planned to provide support to approximately 400 people experiencing homelessness.

In 2024, Katowice will allocate PLN 7,938,830.00 for this purpose (including PLN 5,852,000.00 for five shelters for people experiencing homelessness, i.e., homeless men, homeless women, and women with



children, run by the Municipal Social Welfare Centre, and PLN 2,086,830.00 for three shelters, one shelter for homeless men, and street work for homeless people run by non-governmental organizations).

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Marcin Krupa

