

PRESS RELEASE

ZB MED Cologne donates 2,041 euros to hospice association sinnan e.V.

Ulrich Korwitz, Director of the ZB MED, presents cheque to the hospice association

Cologne, 24 January 2013 – Twice a year, the Cologne branch of the German National Library of Medicine (ZB MED) sells off surplus textbooks from the stocks of the Medical Department of the University and City Library of Cologne to raise money for a good cause. In October 2012, this event raised a record-breaking 2,041 euros for the Cologne-based hospice association ‘sinnan e.V.’ On 22 January 2013 Ulrich Korwitz, Director of the ZB MED, handed over the cheque to Kerstin von Rappard, head of the hospice association, and Dr. Karin Urselmann, member of the promotional association of sinnan e.V.

The volunteers who work for the association provide care to terminally ill patients in the final stage of life and support the members of their families through the caring and grieving processes. “The support we give differs from case to case”, says Kerstin von Rappard, head of the hospice association. „Sometimes we try to fulfill last wishes of terminally ill patients, sometimes we just support the families.“

“The aim of our book sales is to support associations from Cologne and the surrounding area,” says Ulrich Korwitz, Director of the ZB MED. “We want to help local people, and that's why we decided to donate the proceeds of this textbook sale to sinnan e.V., the hospice association of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta.” This is the fourth time that the association sinnan e.V., which has its headquarters in Cologne, has received a donation from the ZB MED. This year's donation will primarily be used to provide further training to the association's volunteers.

Background information: The German National Library of Medicine (ZB MED)

The ZB MED is an independent and non-partisan public institution. Since it was founded nearly 40 years ago, it has developed into the world's largest specialist library covering the combined fields of medicine, health, nutrition, the environment, and agriculture. Alongside its traditional role in the field of library services, the ZB MED is also actively engaged in a number of projects aimed at developing, publishing and promoting electronic literature, primary data and research results and facilitating access to these resources. The ZB MED's projects include the semantic search engines MEDPILOT and GREENPILOT. The Cologne and Bonn branches of the national library also promote free access to scientific literature (‘open access’) through initiatives such as the German Medical Science (gms) portal. As a member of the Leibniz Association, the ZB MED helps provide the information infrastructure required for scientific research. It plays a major part in maintaining Germany's status as a key player in the world of science and research. The Medical Department of the University and City Library of Cologne maintains organisational links with the ZB MED.



From left to right: Kerstin von Rappard, head of the hospice association, Ulrich Korwitz, Director of the ZB MED, and Dr. Karin Urselmann, member of the promotional association for sinnan e.V.

Find out more:

www.malteser-stadt-koeln.de/hospizarbeit.html
www.zbmed.de

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