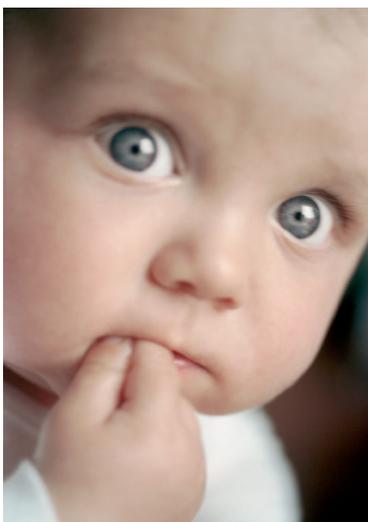




# STIFTUNG JA ZUM LEBEN



Haus Laer  
59872 Meschede, Germany  
Telephone +49 (0)291 22 61  
Fax +49 (0)291 61 91  
[www.ja-zum-leben.de](http://www.ja-zum-leben.de)  
[www.tim-lebt.de](http://www.tim-lebt.de)

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## Stiftung Ja zum Leben – "Protecting Children, Strengthening Families"

*"I am now in my 9th week of pregnancy and in the middle of professional training. At first I was looking forward to it ... Then I told myself that it would be right to abort it ... I was in a consultation and received an appointment for an abortion. Now I am torn again. When I look at this small (ultrasound) picture, tears come to my eyes. My emotions are also on a rollercoaster. Is there someone else who might have to go through something similar? How does one make the right decision?" (Internet entry of "Lotti" into the online consultation forum).*

Hundreds of young women battle for one of the hardest decisions of their lives every day. Facing the news of an unintended pregnancy, they often fret about their future, their education, their partnership – and above all, about the life of their unborn baby. Often, they are left alone in their decision-making or put under massive pressure and pushed to abort: By their environment, their family or their partners who want no (other) child ... In this situation of despair and hopelessness, they are desperately looking for advice and help.

### About us

The Stiftung Ja zum Leben ("Yes to Life" Foundation) has set itself the task of helping pregnant women in this situation by giving them all the support they need to make a self-determined decision for their baby. Most of the time their hearts say "yes" to the child, but this is clouded by panic, fear, misgivings and worries about the future. When solutions are found the

#### Founders:

Johanna Graefin von Westphalen (†)  
Friedrich Wilhelm Graf von Westphalen (†)

#### Advisory Board:

Dr. med. Josef Dohrenbusch  
Consuelo Graefin von Ballestrem  
Elisabeth Motschmann MdB  
Hartmut Steeb  
Gloria Fuerstin von Thurn und Taxis

#### Foundation Board:

Marie Elisabeth Hohenberg  
Hedwig Graefin Buquoy  
Managing Director:  
Rainer Klawki

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#### Donations account:

Commerzbank Meschede  
IBAN: DE50 4408 0050 0771 2200 00  
BIC: DRES DE FF 440

maternal heart can prevail, turning desperate, pregnant women into happy mums. Therefore, for us, loving support and unconditional help for a pregnant woman in need is inextricably linked with a pro-life approach. To this end, the foundation supports counselling centres for pregnant women and facilities. These guide pregnant women and their families and provide sensitive advice without having to issue the abortion certificate according to section 219 of the German Criminal Law (Strafgesetzbuch, StGB). This is how mother and child can be helped! The aim of our commitment is to change our society for the better – to make it child- and family-friendly, because the protection of human life, in all its phases, and stable marriages and families form the basis of a humane and healthy society. Therefore, the foundation also supports various Christian initiatives that give young people guidance and help on their path to a successful partnership and marriage. These also encourage and accompany them in their desire to start a family with children.

## Our projects

### Schwangerenfonds "Kultur des Lebens"

With this fund we support Pregnancy Counselling Centres which do not issue counselling certificates for a punishment-free abortion and are therefore, not provided with any state funds. In 2017, the fund, sponsored by a total of over EUR 830,000, amongst other entities was able to support the following organizations: joint project "1000plus - Hilfe statt Abtreibung [help instead of abortion]" (sponsor: Pro Femina eV), Donum Domini (Bad Laer), Kaleb Chemnitz, Kaleb Vogtland, Lebenszentrum München, Lichtblick eV, Mutter-Kind-Haus Martha (Ichenhausen), Schwangerenhilfe Hall eV, Vaterhaus Fulda.

### 1000plus

1000plus is a joint project of the Foundation Ja zum Leben and the initiatives "Pro Femina e.V." and "Die BIRKE e.V." to provide pregnancy counselling. In the founding year 2009, the goal was initially to be able to reach out to over 1,000 unintentionally pregnant women per year with direct and online counselling. In 2017, 1000plus was already able to advise 8,414 pregnant women in conflict with 24 advisors. Out of those women who informed about their final decision, 65% opted for their child.

### "Tim lebt" ("Tim lives")

Tim survived his own late-term abortion in 1997. In the 6th month of pregnancy he was aborted because he had been diagnosed with Down Syndrome. However, he survived, having initially been left without medical care for nine hours until the hospital staff took life-support measures. Today he lives with a foster family. In 1998 the foundation launched the campaign "Tim lebt" ([www.tim-lebt.de](http://www.tim-lebt.de)) to support Tim in his fight for life and draw attention to the wrongdoing of late abortions. With a signature campaign (so far more than 100,000) we urge the legislator to amend section 218 of the German Criminal Law in accordance with the requirements of the German Federal Constitutional Court, to attain effective protection of unborn children. In addition, the foundation finances very successful Dolphin therapies for Tim, which significantly improved his quality of life.

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**The Stiftung Ja zum Leben** is a German non-profit public foundation under civil law (gemeinnützige öffentliche Stiftung bürgerlichen Rechts). It was founded in 1988 by Johanna Graefin von Westphalen and her son Friedrich Wilhelm. The foundation is recognised as non-profit and is subject to the foundation supervision of the government of Upper Bavaria. The finances are audited every year by a certified public accountant.