

## SERVICES

### For the elderly

We make it possible for our clients to stay at home in their natural environment for as long as possible. Home care workers help with day-to-day activities ranging from shopping and cleaning to help with personal hygiene. District nurses provide clients with basic nursing services. A form of transition between care at home and living in a residential establishment is provided by day care centres. Senior citizens can stay here during the day. Depending on their state of health and interests they can take part in various activities such as craft work, going for walks or reading together.

In our homes for the elderly, in addition to permanent residence we also offer the possibility of temporary and respite stays. In this way we help caring families to cope with their demanding situation and offer them the opportunity to relax. In eight of our homes, in cooperation with the Czech Alzheimer's Society, we have set up "Dragonfly" sections for people with various types of dementia.

### For handicapped children, young people and adults

We provide services at home, in day centres, and in weekly or all-year residential centres. Early intervention centres help families in which handicapped children have been born and accompany them until the children are aged seven. In special schools we teach on the basis of individual education programmes and, together with the parents, try and find ways of promoting the further development of each pupil. We were one of the first to open special classes for autistic children.

In our day care centres, too, we develop the natural abilities of our clients. We concentrate primarily on training in self-care and social skills, enabling handicapped people to be integrated as far as possible into society. We offer adults work in sheltered workshops. Short-stay centres and residential homes provide accommodation for people with severe handicaps. The less severely handicapped can make use of sheltered accommodation services, where they can live independently, with a lower level of support. We try to create the best possible conditions for them and their families so they can live life as fully as possible.



## For people in difficult situations

People who are experiencing a crisis in their lives can turn for help to establishments such as SOS centres, women's refuges, low-threshold centres, and advice centres. These establishments help those who are threatened by marginalisation in society as a result of poverty, a crisis in personal relationships, a low level of education, or the fact that they belong to a minority ethnic group. We help children to spend their free time in a meaningful way and to improve their communication and social skills. We also try to make life easier for foreigners coming to the Czech Republic. We arrange for them to receive help from the congregations of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren, and we work in the establishments of the Ministry of the Interior.

## For the dying

The Citadela hospice in Valašské Meziříčí is intended for people who are unable to stay at home because of the seriousness of their condition. In addition to professional treatment for their pain there is also space for accompanying those who are dying, with the possibility of their friends and family being close to them. In the hospice we offer Christian pastoral care to those who want this. In other Diaconia centres and home care services, too, we try to ensure that the time of dying is seen as a part of life which can be experienced to the full in peace and reconciliation.

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Contact details and information for the individual centres of the Diaconia of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren can be found on our website at [www.diakoniecce.cz](http://www.diakoniecce.cz)

