



**Every Tuesday people queue up here.
We turn nobody away.**

DaN Basel · Dienst am Nächsten · Basel, since 2008



Food, clothing and help when no one else is responsible

Every Tuesday DaN Basel hands out food, runs a clothing boutique and steps in where public offices can no longer help. Unbureaucratic, non-denominational, nothing asked in return.

980

bags handed out every Tuesday

620

tonnes of food per year

1200

registered families

65

volunteers, 90 % in need themselves

Each week we hand out **twelve tonnes** of food, around **51 000 bags** a year. That makes DaN Basel the largest single project of its kind in Switzerland.

A bag costs the recipient **CHF 2** – a symbolic contribution, not a price.

Our catchment area is not just Basel-Stadt but the whole TNW region. Every client chooses which distribution point to go to.

Helping one person may not change the whole world, but it can change the world for that one person.

WHERE WE STARTED

Five bags, August 2008

We started with **five bags**, packed full with food we donated ourselves. Today we hand out **up to 980 bags a week** – still packed full, thanks to many private donors and organisations such as Schweizer Tafel and Tischlein deck dich.

As the number of bags grew, so did what we offer. Out of many conversations grew a bond and the wish to give more than food: support in finding housing, language courses, help with official paperwork.

Today **over 1200 families** are registered with us – from a charity that started with five bags.



A helper brings the trolley to the handout. Bags are packed on Tuesday itself – so everything goes in fresh.

2008

Five bags, donated by us

2010

First Christmas party for families in need

2016

Boutique DaN – clothing for the whole family

2019

First time at the UN, Geneva

2020

Swiss Peace Award at Swiss Peace Symposium

2025

ECOSOC consultative status at the United Nations

Six services, one charity



Food

Every Tuesday at Birsstrasse 58. Registered recipients from 11.00, guests from 16.00. A bag costs CHF 2.



Boutique DaN

Clothing, shoes and household goods for a symbolic amount. Tuesdays 11.00 – 16.00.



Social services

Help with offices, forms, finding housing, listening. When no one else is responsible.



Christmas party

A celebration of cultures with the children at its centre. Every year on 24 December.



Volunteering

Lend a hand on Monday and Tuesday – as an individual, a team or a company.



Impact

What a Basel charity has become – all the way to the UN in Geneva.



All in one place

Anyone collecting food on Tuesday can find clothes in the same hour, book an appointment about housing and sign up for the Christmas party. That is no coincidence; it is why these services belong together.

Twelve tonnes a week



Hundreds of packed bags ready to hand out. Each holds vegetables, bread and staple foods.

Every Tuesday people in need receive food and everyday products for a symbolic contribution. What is worthless to some means a better quality of life for others.

The open meeting point counters social isolation and encourages exchange between cultures. People in need take on committed roles – which strengthens self-esteem and the motivation to help themselves.

- **Distribution** Tuesdays 11.00 – 16.45, Birsstrasse 58, 4052 Basel
- **Registered recipients** from 11.00, **guests** from 16.00
- **A bag costs CHF 2** – a symbolic contribution
- **Goods intake and pre-sorting** Mondays 08.30 – 16.30
- **Bags are packed on Tuesday** – so everything goes into the bag fresh

Donate food

Bring non-perishable food, fruit and vegetables in larger quantities to Birsstrasse 58 on Monday. For companies, pallets and surplus production please arrange in advance – we can collect.

andyschaepi@danbase1.ch

Not just about fabric – about dignity

Clothing for the whole family – from babies to women's and men's plus sizes. Plus shoes, fabrics, bed linen and accessories, all for a symbolic amount, every Tuesday at Birsstrasse 58.

Being able to clothe yourself and your children without having to ask: that is the point. Anyone who finds nothing that fits elsewhere may find it here – we deliberately stock plus sizes too.

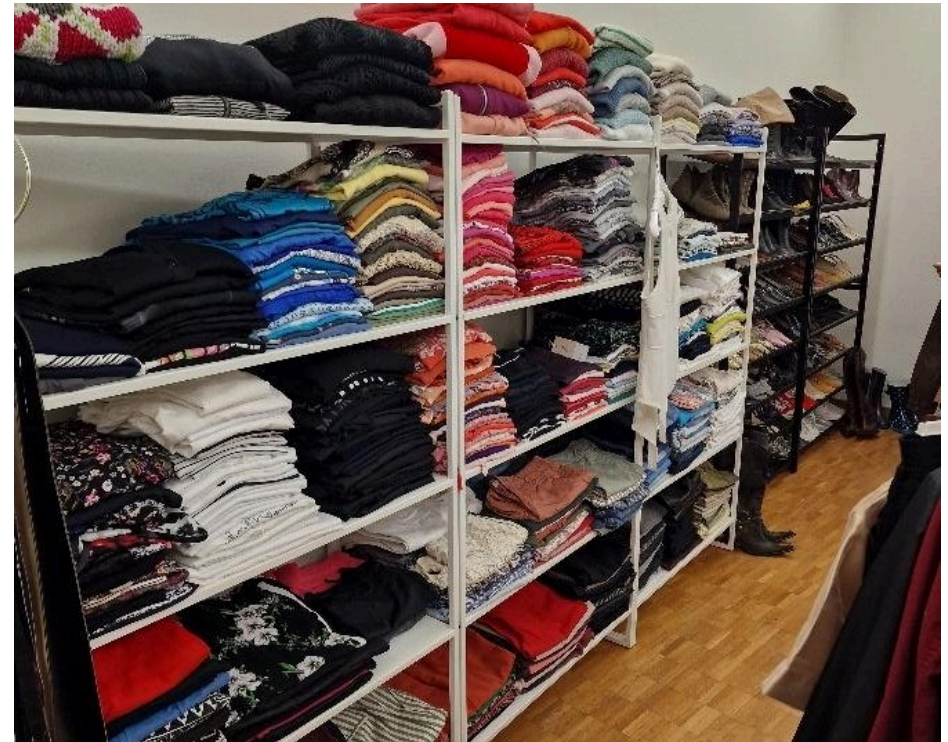
Donate clothing

We accept clothing in good condition on Monday between 08.30 and 16.30. Larger quantities by arrangement – we will also collect them from you.

Boutique lead

Carola Schaeppi, supported by Jrene and Ramona.

carolaschaeppi@danbasel.ch



The boutique is open every Tuesday from 11.00 to 16.00 – three quarters of an hour shorter than the food distribution. Birsstrasse 58, 4052 Basel.

Most of what DaN Basel does is invisible

People who come to us often need more than a bag of food.
Letters to authorities, flat viewings, job applications, listening –
all of it happens alongside the handout and appears in no statistic.

Work support

- CV and covering letters
- Applications for the client, contact with the job centre
- Support into the new workplace too

Housing help

- Finding flats, viewings, negotiating with the landlord
- Arranging deposits with authorities or foundations
- Present at handover inspections

Paperwork

- Mediating between clients and authorities
- Drafting documents, calls and enquiries
- Accompanying clients to case-worker meetings
- Help with permits for migrants

Debt and debt collection

- Help with restructuring debt
- Finding workable solutions, avoiding costs
- **DaN Basel does not itself provide financial means.**



People in need should be enabled to live and work without dependency.

sozialdienste@danbasel.ch · Andreas & Carola Schaeppi

Christmas – and ice cream when it is hot



Christmas party

Almost 200 guests, staff and friends celebrate together: a festive mood, a fine meal, a Christmas story for young and old. At the end the highlight for the children, who are the centre of the evening – handing out the presents.

People from other countries in particular experience an important part of our culture here. Every year on **24 December**, for registered recipients only, with registration.



Gelato in summer

When it is hot we treat our guests at the food distribution to homemade gelato from Gelateria ACERO in Basel. The delight is huge every time. On hot Tuesdays, no registration.

Support the Christmas party

Your donation helps make this event possible – and makes sure the children receive presents.

Reference: Christmas

65 volunteers – around 90 per cent of them in need themselves



Part of the team outside the handout point at Birsstrasse 58.

As the charity grew, so did the organisation. **More than 65 volunteer helpers** now carry the individual DaN projects – and **around 90 per cent of them are in need themselves.**

We got to know and value them at the food distribution. People with few social contacts have become players: helpful, reliable, responsible. They gain dignity, self-confidence, a structure to the week – and a new sense of purpose.

We are responsible for what we do – and also for what we do not do.

A Basel charity with a voice at the UN

Since 2025 DaN Basel has been recognised as an NGO with special consultative status at the UN Economic and Social Council – **ECOSOC**.

It was awarded for many years of work on “Zero Hunger”, “No Poverty”, “Reduced Inequalities” and “Responsible Consumption”, in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and for work with refugees and intercultural mediation.

2020 DaN Basel received the **Swiss Peace Award** at the Swiss Peace Symposium, presented by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat Switzerland.

Since 2019 Andreas Schaeppi has regularly attended meetings of a humanitarian nature and speaks on poverty in Switzerland. With consultative status DaN Basel can hold its own meetings – and address the taboo of “poverty in rich countries too”.



Geneva, Palais des Nations. Alongside: Swiss Peace Symposium and reports in various media.

**Poverty in Switzerland is mostly invisible.
Anyone who has spent a Tuesday at
Birsstrasse sees it.**

A day of social work – as an individual, team or company

We offer companies, public offices and individuals the chance to help out for a day and gain a direct insight into hardship and poverty.

What you do

- **Monday:** taking in goods, pre-sorting, carrying crates
- **Tuesday:** packing and handing out bags – packed fresh on the day
- Welcoming people – with dignity and kindness
- Interpreting, if you speak one of the languages needed

When

- **Volunteers work from 09.00 to 16.45** – regardless of handout times
- Intake and pre-sorting Mondays 08.30 – 16.30
- Packing and handout Tuesdays; handed out 11.00 – 16.45
- Please arrange dates in advance so we can deploy you sensibly

Languages needed

We are looking for volunteers to interpret at the handout. Our website exists in 26 languages – and all of them are spoken every Tuesday.

info@danbasel.ch



Volunteers pre-sort the delivered goods on Monday. Packing then happens on Tuesday.

In our experience that changes more than any presentation.

What participants take away from a taster day

How you can help

DaN Basel is exempt from cantonal and direct federal tax.
Donations **from CHF 100 a year** are deductible from direct taxes.

Bank transfer

DaN Basel, 4052 Basel

CH15 0900 0000
6159 7858 8

TWINT

Straight from the TWINT app, without typing an IBAN. The button is on danbasel.ch under "Donate money".

PayPal

For donations from abroad and for everyone used to it.

paypal.me/danbasel

This helps too

- **Food** – non-perishable goods, fruit and vegetables in larger quantities, Mondays to Birsstrasse 58
- **Clothing** – in good condition, Mondays 08.30 – 16.30
- **Time** – one day on Monday or Tuesday
- **Companies and pallets** – we collect surplus production

We issue a donation receipt automatically. We also thank every donation by letter.

Donors

Companies, foundations and organisations that support DaN Basel regularly – with money, with goods, with services:

das team ag · Waser AG · FGP Fischer Gerber Pfister · GGG Basel · Accutor ·
Gonser · Regiogemeinde · Livimo AG · SECEND · Bachletten Physiotherapie ·
Die OffeneBlende · Stöcklin Logistik · Hirschmann Stiftung

Our warmest thanks.

A non-profit, non-denominational association based in Basel

- DaN Basel does not look away when we meet people in need.
- We listen, take them seriously and try to understand their needs.
- Help comes after careful assessment and without bureaucracy.
- No commercial purpose, not profit-oriented, funded by donations.
- Exempt from cantonal and direct federal tax.
- Since 2025 an NGO with ECOSOC consultative status at the UN.

Contact

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danbasel.ch

The website exists in 26 languages.

The board



Andreas Schaeppi

President and head of Food,
Social Services, Volunteering,
Fundraising, Christmas Party

andyschaeppi@danbasel.ch



Carola Schaeppi

Vice-President, head of
Boutique DaN, co-head
Christmas Party

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Michel Fischer

Vice-President

Small things done in love change the world.