

# Statutes "Noah Gray's Ark"

## § 1 Name, registered office and financial year

1. The association bears the name "Noah Gray's Ark" and has its seat in Weilheim/Teck. It is to be entered in the register of associations and then carries the addition e.V.
2. The association is politically, ethnically and confessionally neutral.
3. The business year is the calendar year.

## § 2 Purpose and principles

1. The purpose of the association is the support of needy persons according to § 53 AO No. 1.

Especially orphaned parents and their relatives should be helped and supported in their search for a new meaning in life, a goal in life and perspectives in life.

The purpose of the statutes is realized in particular through:

-the construction and operation of one or more living spaces close to nature, in which orphaned parents and their relatives can take a break for a certain period of time in order to find peace in nature, to catch their breath, to draw strength and to get impulses to "carry on" in order to find their way back into life strengthened. At these places there should be enough literature on the topic of loss, mourning processing, etc., which can give impulses on how to learn to live with the severe loss.

-Organization and realization of time-out weeks, weekends and trips. These offers with expert guidance are intended to create free space in which those affected can allow and share their feelings of pain, grief and anger, accusation, shame and guilt, despair and powerlessness, in order to experience strength and healing through this exchange.

-construction of an Internet side, on which beside the switching of the time-out offers also a multiplicity of other offers of assistance is to be found like

- nationwide addresses and contact details of counselling centers / grief groups and Grief counselling
- Literature and documentation/films on the topic
- Ideas for mourning processing in the artistic field
- Forum for an exchange among each other

-support for media networking between orphaned parents by founding groups on e.g. Facebook or WhatsApp or by using the forum of the website, in order to give each other support in "living on" and to be able to simply "tell" what is on one's mind at the moment and especially to give each other advice in problem situations or other life situations that automatically come up when a child is lost.

Examples of such problems are:

- Loss of friendships, as friends often do not know how to deal with the grief of the affected person
- Tensions in the partnership, parents often grieve differently, which then often lead to separation or divorce
- the mourning behaviour of the surviving siblings: affected parents are often so lost

in their own grief, that they no longer can give their surviving children the support they would need for their own mourning work.

- Mourning parents often experience concentration disorders up to psycho-somatic complaints. In many cases, the affected persons are not able to work in their previous profession anymore.
- in case of accidents or murder, the parents have to deal with the police and Public prosecutor's office and often reach their limits

2. The association supports with its work also affected persons who are not members of the association.

### **§ 3 Execution of the work**

1. The association can acquire property and maintain special-purpose operations for the realization of the statutory tasks. In doing so, it is bound by the relevant provisions of the German Fiscal Code.
2. An office with full-time staff may be set up to carry out the work.
3. Specially qualified staff may be employed or commissioned for a fee to carry out the work.

### **§ 4 Non-profit status**

1. The association pursues exclusively charitable purposes in the sense of the section "tax-privileged purposes" of the tax code (A.O.).
2. The association is selflessly active. It does not primarily pursue its own economic purposes.
3. Funds of the association may only be used for the purposes set out in the statutes. The members do not receive any allowances from the funds of the association. No person may be favoured by expenses that are alien to the purpose of the association or by disproportionately high remuneration.

### **§5 Membership**

1. Any natural or legal person can be a member of the association.
2. The association consists of full and supporting members:
  - a. Full members are all natural and legal persons who, for reasons of their own concern or for other reasons important to them, wish to support the association in the fulfilment of its statutory tasks (§ 2) not only financially but also actively.
  - b. Supporting members are natural or legal persons who waive their right to vote and promote the fulfilment of the purposes and tasks of the Association (§ 2), above all through their material support (e.g. through a higher membership fee)
3. Full members are entitled to vote from the age of 16 years.

4. The Board of Directors decides on the written application for acceptance into the Association. In the event of rejection, it is not obliged to inform the applicant of the reasons.
5. A written application for membership is a prerequisite for the acquisition of membership, on which the executive committee decides. With the admission the new member acknowledges the statutes of the association.
6. Membership expires by resignation, exclusion or death.
7. Resignation from the association is made by written notification to the board. The withdrawal can only be declared at the end of the business year with a period of notice of 3 months.
8. The executive committee can expel members who violate the goals and interests of the association. The member can appeal against the decision to the general meeting within one month.

## **§ 6 Membership fee**

Contributions are levied from the members. The amount of the annual fee and its maturity are determined by the general meeting. Resigning members are not entitled to any pecuniary claims against the association from their membership. Children and adolescents under 18 years of age are always free of charge.

## **§ 7 Organs of the association**

Organs of the association

- the Board of Directors
- the General Meeting

## **§ 8 General Meeting**

1. The general meeting is constituted by the full members.
2. The general meeting is convened by the executive committee with a notice period of 4 weeks every 3 years in writing, stating the agenda. Every member can request an addition to the agenda in writing to the board of directors at least 14 days before a general meeting.
3. Extraordinary general meetings are to be convened by the board of directors if the interests of the association require it or one fifth of the members request this in writing, stating the purpose and reasons.
4. The duly convened general meeting has a quorum regardless of the number of full members present.
5. The general meeting is chaired by one of the board members.

6. The general meeting decides with a majority of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the members present and represented by written power of attorney on changes to the association's statutes.
7. Each member has one vote. It can be represented in the exercise of the right to vote by a person designated by written power of attorney. In the event of a tie, the chairman shall have the casting vote.
8. The resolutions of the general meeting are certified by the signature of the chairman and the secretary.

#### **§9 Board of Directors**

1. The board of directors consists of the first chairman and the second chairman.
2. The board of directors can represent the association individually/jointly.
3. The board of directors are appointed for life.
4. If a member of the board resigns prematurely, the board can elect a successor for the remaining term of office of the resigning member.

#### **§ 10 Dissolution of the Association**

1. A dissolution of the association can only be decided with a majority of  $\frac{3}{4}$  by the general meeting, provided that at least two thirds of the members are represented. If fewer members are represented, a new general meeting must be called within 6 weeks, which can then decide on the dissolution of the association with a  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority of all represented members. A corresponding agenda item must be announced in the invitation to the general meeting.
2. In the event of the dissolution of the association or the loss of tax-privileged purposes, the assets of the association will be transferred to Echo e.V., which must use them directly and exclusively for non-profit or charitable purposes.
3. There is no claim to the return of contributions, allowances, donations or other contributions, neither in the case of dissolution nor in any other case