



Willisau

Lucerne University of
Applied Sciences and Arts

**HOCHSCHULE
LUZERN**

Soziale Arbeit

In Willisau

Advancing in

Tandem

An Integration Project



Foreword

Willisau is a place where many immigrants from different countries stay and live. Some arrived only recently, others have lived here for decades and some have been naturalised; often their children were born here and go to local schools. They have gathered valuable experience and important know-how.

The project “**In Willisau Advancing in Tandem**”, experienced former immigrants accompany and support newcomers with similar backgrounds.

Together with the AG Integration, play group principals, under the guidance of the HSLU-SA, are experimenting with „Advancing in Tandem“ (contact and support). The aim is to foster a feeling of belonging to Willisau and to take part in town life.

Willisau is a town with a tradition of mutual support and appreciation of voluntary engagement. We wish to use this positive experience of mutual support to promote the integration and participation of newcomers, regardless of their nationality.

Project „In Willisau Advancing in Tandem“

- Gather previous experience of immigrants who have participated in local activities
- Use the particular abilities and traditions of immigrants
- Develop ways to find those who would like to take part

What Do Advancing in Tandem Participants Do?

- Establish Contacts
 - (e.g. show that life is easier when people work together, that sharing experience makes one stronger, that new acquaintances can replace the missing family, etc.)
- Sharing Experience
 - (e.g. relating their own immigration stories, telling about their own experiences of participating in events in Willisau, make the first introductions, etc.)
- Give General Information
 - (e.g. planning, telephone directory, rubbish disposal, schooling, German language courses, maps with hiking trails, etc. residence controls from newcomers registers)

Where Can Those Who Wish to Advance in Tandem Get Help?

 Play Group Principal Nadja Birrer, 041 970 02 09

 Willisau Town Philipp Dobmann, 041 972 63 76
Irma Schwegler, 041 972 63 51

 Women's Group Principal Karin Leichtle, 041 980 14 74

 Men's Group Principal Reto Danuser, 041 970 10 70

 Willisau German Courses Karin Leichtle, 041 980 14 74