

eaf rheinland- standing by families in North Rhine-Westfalia

The voluntary association **eaf rheinland**, seated in Düsseldorf, is one of the 14 regional associations that form part of the **evangelische aktionsgemeinschaft familie** (eaf) at federal level. It can be described as an umbrella organization of regional Protestant institutions, movements, associations and working parties as well as related associations at the federal level, which are concerned with family policy from a Protestant point of view.

In North Rhine-Westfalia, the most populous of the 16 federal states which is as well characterized by a large proportion of immigrants and their descendants, the eaf rheinland, is an **interdisciplinary network** with professional competences in family- related issues. Based on the Gospels, it is committed to family concerns and needs in the sociopolitical and ecclesiastic field and work on ethical, social, economic and legal questions concerning the diverse field of family policy in this federal state. The eaf rheinland operates alongside the eaf Westfalia-Lippe, in particular on topics like **Care, poverty among the elderly** and **family poverty** related to NRW and its population. The eaf comments on political decisions and developments and is dialog partner in politics and society. It stands up for strong intergenerational relationships and campaigns for all forms of family life.

The eaf rheinland has 19 associated members and is represented in several committees at the political and ecclesiastical level in the Rhine region. It follows the **eaf's agenda about family policies** (Familienpolitische Leitlinien), published in 2009 in a document commonly agreed upon by the 16 regional eaf associations, which define the organizations' fundamental political aims and benchmarks for a **righteous and family- friendly social policy**. In this agenda the eaf comments on the socio-ethical principles of their work as well as the financial situation and social security of families, it also includes statements on points of law and family-adequate housing. Due to the ever-changing living and working conditions, it is important for all of the eaf member organizations in every federal state, to consistently renew their collective beliefs on this agenda.



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