

Powerful Mentoring

Programs against Inequalities



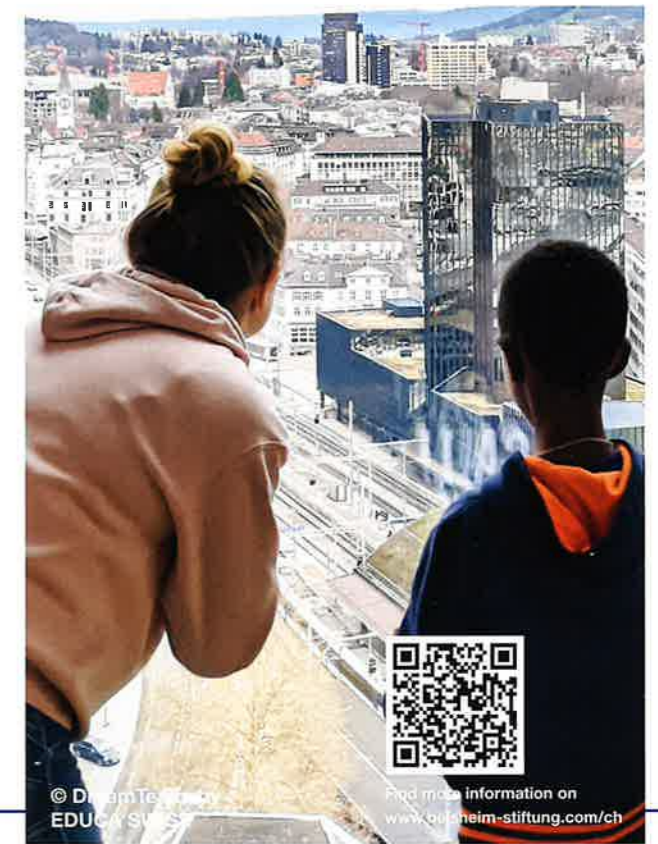
The Beisheim Foundation Switzerland contributes to equality and focuses on developing individual potentials by supporting people in transitional situations through different projects. Two projects that emphasize equal opportunities are presented here: **ROCK YOUR LIFE! (RYL!) Schweiz and DreamTeam.**

Contributions to equality and eliminations of inequalities between disadvantaged groups is on everyone's lips. In the case of the Beisheim Foundation, it is indeed lived. The two projects ROCK YOUR LIFE! and DreamTeam, which were implemented in Germany and with adaptation successfully introduced in Switzerland, focus on equal opportunities by supporting people in transitional situations.

ROCK YOUR LIFE! is a one-to-one mentoring project between a pupil and his or her young mentor with the aim of successfully mastering the transition to working life after the compulsory school period. In Switzerland, at the age of about 14 years pupils have to search for a follow-up solution. Two thirds of all pupils choose vocational trainings out of about 250 different possibilities. This is a difficult task,

especially for those who have insufficient family support. A successful transition from school to working life also depends on the social and economic situation of the parents. RYL! offers long-term and individual support. Since its start in 2013 RYL! has matched more than 1000 mentoring pairs in almost all regions of Switzerland. Thanks to the support from the mentors in helping the pupils to i.e. write an application, 90% of the mentees find an apprenticeship or another individual study solution. The Beisheim Foundation Switzerland has been engaged in the project since 2015 and is very pleased about its development.

DreamTeam too is a one-to-one mentoring project with similar impact. But in difference to RYL! the mentees are exclusively primary school children. DreamTeam is based on the highly effective approach of the project 'Balu und Du', which has successfully been operating in Germany for more than 20 years. Adapted to the Swiss context, the project was launched with the name 'DreamTeam' in Switzerland in 2022. Last year, 27 'DreamTeams', consisting of a young adult (average age is 24 years) and a primary school child (average age is 9 years), were matched. They meet once



per week for the duration of at least one year. Mentors help their mentees to learn how to master challenges of everyday life through personal attention and active leisure activities. Throughout 400 meetings in 2022, they engaged in 35 different activities, such as going to the zoo or playing in the forest. For the majority of mentees, such activities mark whole new experiences and do not only support informal and non-formal learning but contribute to a sustainable and trustful relationship as well. One of the mentees said: "Recently, my mentee's parents told me that I now have two homes, theirs and mine."

Supporting people in transitional situations is one of the central concerns of the Beisheim Foundation in the field of education. In the long term, reducing inequalities, developing individual potentials, promoting the voluntary commitment of young people, facilitating formal, non-formal and informal learning lead to effectiveness and efficiency for the whole society. We are proud to be part of it!

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The Beisheim Foundations

The Beisheim Foundations are the largest institutional sponsors of the German business school WHU, which was named after Otto Beisheim when it received an endowment of 50 million German marks from him in 1993.

Dr. Toni Calabretti and Dr. Fredy Raas, the Chairmen of the Executive Board of the Beisheim Foundations, are also involved in WHU's governing bodies – Dr. Calabretti as Chairman of the WHU Foundation and Dr. Raas as an Executive Board member of the WHU Foundation. Besides their substantial support for WHU over the years, the Beisheim Foundations develop their own programs and support innovative projects for people of all ages, which we present to you regularly on this double-page spread of Keep in touch!

The Beisheim Foundations intend to intensify their cooperation with WHU – and with its alumni – during the years to come. Through this exchange, the foundations aim to create visibility for topics that are also important to WHU alumni as well as offering specific opportunities to become involved in foundation projects, for example as coaches or mentors.