

Get involved!



MANNERHEIMIN
LASTENSUOJELULIITON
Varsinais-Suomen piiri

Lapset ensin.

The Mannerheim League for Child Welfare

The Mannerheim League for Child Welfare

- is a non-governmental organisation founded in 1920
- Works to promote the well-being of children, young people and families with children
- Operates across Finland
- Has no political or religious affiliation

The Mannerheim League for Child Welfare:

- A nationwide central organisation
- 10 district organisations
- 588 local associations
- More than 91,000 members

MLL's values

- Valuing children and childhood
- Sharing a common responsibility
- Humanity
- Equality

MLL's principles

- Openness
- Joy
- Companionship
- Participation
- Valuing the everyday

MLL Southwest Finland District
Perhetalo Heideken (Family House Heideken)
Sepäncatu 3
20700 Turku

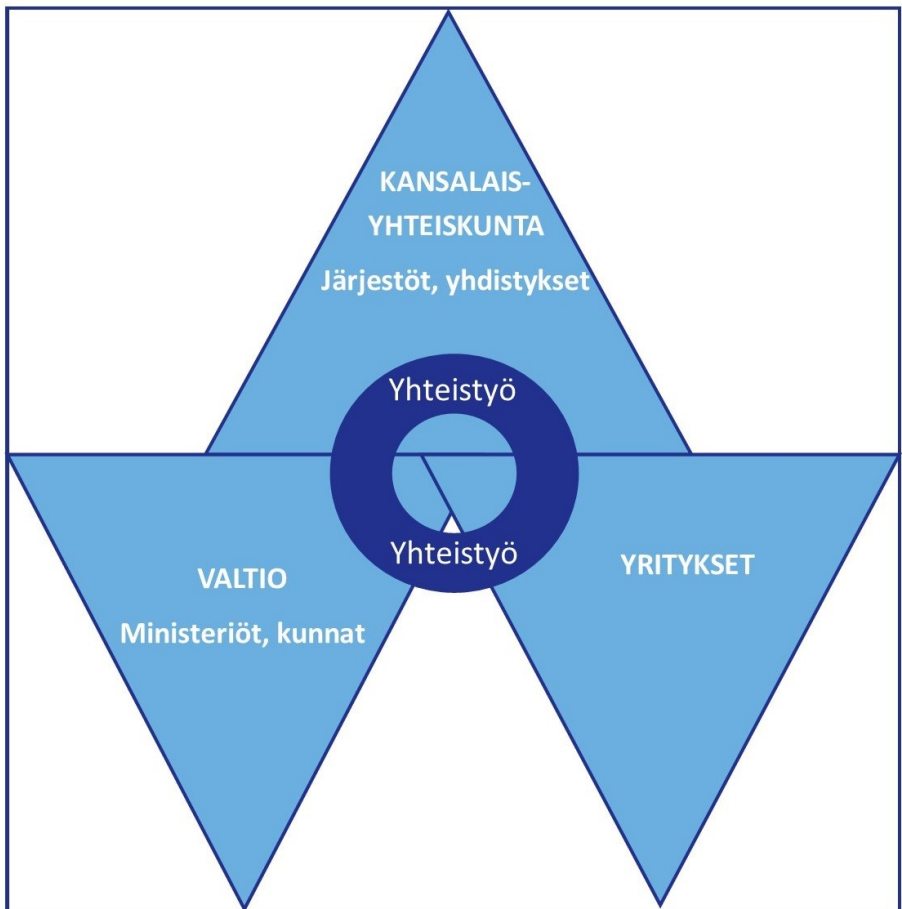
NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS (NGOs)

- NGOs offer many opportunities to participate in society and in different activities.
- NGOs offer a way to influence the society.
- Many NGOs offer the possibility to do volunteer work e.g. as a sports coach, a group leader or a support person for a child.
- The NGOs also offer professional assistance in many fields.
- Amongst the best-known NGOs are the Finnish Red Cross (SPR) and the Mannerheim League for Child Welfare (MLL).
- MLL is an almost 100-year-old NGO. It works in the whole country. Its aim is to promote the well-being of children, young people and families with children in collaboration with different stakeholders.



NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS (NGOs)

Well-being in Finland can be enhanced through joint efforts. The state, enterprises as well as NGOs and associations are all working together.



Become a volunteer

Volunteering is where you donate some of your time to work without pay to help others. Volunteering gives back the feel-good reward of being able to make a difference. Volunteering is also a way to meet new people and gain new experiences.

At MLL, all volunteers are given appropriate training and support for their role, for example as an instructor for a club or a group.

You can volunteer for MLL, even if your Finnish isn't perfect. Volunteering is, in fact, great for learning the language.

The Mannerheim League for Child Welfare offers many types of volunteering opportunities:

- Family Café instructor
- Club instructor
- Family support volunteer
- Befriender for children or young people
- Father-child activity instructor
- Peer group instructor
- Communal grandparent
- Befriender for immigrants
- Volunteer for events

We have a wide range of volunteering opportunities to suit your schedule and personal interests.

Activities and services for families

Family Cafés

MLL's Family Cafés give parents of small children a place where they can meet other parents and share experiences. Children are able to enjoy the chance to play with other children. Family Cafés are for chatting, having a cup of coffee or tea, and playing with children. They also host presentations by experts. Activities are run by volunteer instructors.

Family Cafés welcome all families with children!

You can also get involved and become a Family Café instructor yourself.



Clubs

MLL runs a range of different clubs for children and families. At these clubs, children get to do things that interest them, and they are allowed to play, explore and learn at their own pace. The clubs' atmosphere helps them make new friends and they also learn how to get along with others.

MLL welcomes all children to the clubs!

You can also get involved and become a club instructor yourself.



Family support volunteers

MLL trains volunteers to act as support persons to families with children. Family support volunteers provide help with and support for different aspects of family life, giving advice on parenting and helping parents to cope with everyday life.

Family support volunteers are available to families with one or more pre-school children and to families where the mother is pregnant.

You can also get involved and train to become a family support volunteer yourself.

Befrienders

Befriending is a professionally managed scheme that matches individuals with volunteer befrienders. Befrienders are reliable adults who have been trained for their role – to provide support to the child or young person they befriend. Befrienders meet with their friend on a regular basis to spend time together and do activities both enjoy. Befrienders are available to children and young people aged 6–17.

Contact us if you'd like us to match you with a befriender, or if you'd like to get involved and train to become a befriender yourself.

Father-child activities

The father-child activities are designed to support fatherhood and strengthen interaction between fathers and their children. The activities include clubs, father-child camps, peer group sessions and different types of events.

All fathers are welcome!

You can also get involved and train to become an instructor for the father peer groups.



Activities for parents

Peer groups

Peer groups are for meeting other parents who share similar life situations. They are an opportunity to share one's own experiences and feelings with other parents.

Peer groups are always led by an instructor. There are separate groups for first-time parents and parents of children at the temper tantrum age as well as many other groups.

All parents are welcome!

You can also get involved and become a peer group instructor yourself.



Communal grandparents

MLL's team of communal grandparents is made up of adults who want to volunteer their time and do activities with children. Communal grandparents may, for example, visit MLL's Family Cafés to read stories, play, and do arts and crafts with children.

Become a communal grandparent!



Befriend an immigrant mother

The "Befriend an Immigrant Mother" scheme matches up Finnish mothers with immigrant mothers to spend time together and learn about each other's customs and language. A befriender can give practical advice on everyday matters, such as dealing with officials.

Get involved and become a befriender!



Events

MLL is active in organising events and happenings for the whole family. MLL also hosts lectures on child well-being, parenting and parenthood.

Come along to receive up-to-date information or to help with organising an event!



Childcare

The Mannerheim League for Child Welfare trains and provides babysitters for families with children. MLL's childcare service is designed to meet temporary and short-term needs for childcare assistance. It is targeted at parents who need to travel for work or who need a break to spend some time together, for example. Babysitters are available at all hours.

The charge is €9,00 per hour, Sundays €18,00 per hour.

Book a babysitter

tel. +358 44 030 3301

Open weekdays 8am–12pm

<http://elastenhoito.fi>

How can I get involved?

Come visit us at the District Office, our staff is here to help.

MLL Southwest Finland District
Perhetalo Heideken (Family House Heideken)
Sepänkatu 3
20700 Turku

Further information:

MLL Southwest Finland District
<http://varsinaissuomenpiiri.mll.fi>

The Mannerheim League for Child Welfare
<http://www.mll.fi>



The Mannerheim League for Child Welfare (MLL) is an open-membership NGO that works to promote the well-being of children, young people and families with children.



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