

MISSION AND VISION

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

The Danish Welfare Museum is part of Svendborg Museum and situated in a unique setting: The best preserved poor- and workhouse in the Nordic countries; it was built in 1872 and closed down in 1974, where the buildings were handed over to the museum.

We secure the heritage of the poor, institutionalized and socially vulnerable through research, mediation, collection and preservation of objects and by documenting life stories from cradle to grave.

Through interdisciplinary research, targeted outreach programmes and co-production we aim for a social history which focuses on the lives of marginalized people whose story was or is not told.

We use strategic partnerships and our museum professionalism to co-create a social history which sheds light upon and secures the history, the objects and the memories of the less privileged members of society.

OUR PURPOSE AND AMBITIONS (Mission and vision statement)

The Danish Welfare Museum strive to be an important cultural institution that addresses contemporary social issues, engages in and qualifies debates about the welfare state.

We counter prejudice and stigmatization and thereby contribute to the cohesion of society.

It is our ambition to create a dynamic museum through a close collaboration with people who have experienced socially vulnerability, exclusion, severe personal downturns or stigmatization.

The Danish Welfare Museum aims to continuously be the historical consciousness of the social welfare system.

WE BELIEVE (Values)

The Danish Welfare Museum believes in the importance of promoting insight in the lives lived on the edge of society.

We believe that we can counter prejudice and stigmatization through co-produced initiatives.

We believe in creating a platform from where the marginalized members of the welfare system e.g. homeless, long time unemployed, care leavers or socially vulnerable can contribute to Danish welfare history.

We believe in the importance of creating citizenship and empowerment and in facilitating agency for these often marginalized members of society.

We believe that debating social history, welfare and social politics on a historic basis engages the visitors and creates insight.

We are committed to work socially responsible in both research, education and communication, and we see a diverse museum workforce as a strength.

We believe that museums can have pivotal roles in creating dialogue and inspiration for social change.

THE PATH WE FOLLOW (Overall strategies)

Through effective and sustainable partnerships with e.g. public bodies, NGO's, educational institutions, professionals and life witnesses from the welfare system we seek out and develop new ways of providing services and opportunities for the welfare sector of today.

We will continuously be aware of political and social changes to ensure that our work is relevant for present day society.

Last but not least we must secure the museum's economic ground to keep the museum sustainable and innovative.