



## **Press release**

**03.07.2008**

### **Noël Martin establishes a foundation**

**– the encounters between youths from Brandenburg and Birmingham will continue to be held in the future**

The Brandenburg **Minister for Development, Youth and Sport, Holger Rupprecht**, will travel to Birmingham on **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2008**, on the occasion of the foundation of the Noël- und Jacqueline-Martin-Stiftung. Noël Martin and the deputy manager of the foundation "Großes Waisenhaus zu Potsdam", Gesine Hanebuth-Schubert, will jointly sign the foundation documents, thus creating a steady base for the first contact between German and British youths.

In 1996, the Briton of Jamaican origin, Noël Martin became a victim of a racist attack in Brandenburg Mahlow, which led to him having a heavy car accident. Since then, Noël Martin is severely paraplegic and depends 100% on outside care. On Noël Martin's initiative and with the compensation received from the Brandenburg State Government, the "Noël- und Jacqueline-Martin-Fond" was established in 2003.

The fond is under the management of the foundation "Großes Waisenhaus zu Potsdam" and pursues the promotion of the encounters between youngsters from Brandenburg and Birmingham: this international, intercultural and antiracist youth work is aimed at giving young persons the chance to learn about other cultures as well as international interrelations and to deal with them. Thanks to these experiences, the youngsters should feel encouraged to change and to live their everyday lives for antiracism, tolerance as well as for democracy and living together in peace.

The foundation of the Noël- und Jacqueline-Martin-Stiftung is a further step to develop a long-standing effect of this important work. The management duties of the fiduciary foundation carried out by the fond will in future be assumed by the foundation "Großes Waisenhaus zu Potsdam".

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