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Bikar company hands over 12,000 euros to the "Balthasar" children's hospice

On the occasion of its own anniversary Bikar distributed gifts itself

Olpe/Raumland. (win) A proud anniversary was recently celebrated by the Bikar-Metalle company from the Raumland district of Bad Berleburg. The family business, which manufactures semi-finished metal products and trades in metal, turned 50. The company management decided to donate money to a good cause to mark the occasion. "It should be something the family identifies with," Claudia Bikar, one of the company's five managing directors, reported yesterday.

The decision fell on the "Balthasar" children's hospice in Olpe. "Our employees thought it was a good idea, they collected immediately, and in the process 2,000 euros came together," said Claudia Bikar. Bikar has 230 employees, 170 of whom work at the Raumland site.

The family decided that 10,000 euros would be given from the company coffers. And so Claudia Bikar and sales manager Heinz-Georg Stark came to Olpe yesterday to present two checks to hospice director Rüdiger Barth. Barth thanked the hospice for the large donation, which came in very handy, because in addition to the running costs, which have to be financed for the most part by donations, it has recently become more and more common for health insurance companies to no longer pay for the transport of sick children to the hospice. "As long as they can come here with their parents in their own car, everything is fine. But if the child is too sick and has to be driven by ambulance, then there is a problem," Rüdiger Barth revealed.

After handing over the check, the hospice director gave the two guests from the Wittgensteiner Land region a tour of the facility, where eight sick children and their families can find care so that the families can be relieved for a while of the costly care of children with life-shortening illnesses.

Health and nursing care insurers only pay for around 30 percent of the costs incurred, so the hospice, which is run by the Gemeinnützige Gesellschaft der Franziskanerinnen zu Olpe, needs donations of around 1.2 million euros every year.