# Zones of Responsibilities

Stadt Nach Acht 2023







# Hi, I'm Carl

- → City administration of Ghent (approx. 270.000 citizens)
- → Safer nightlife
  - → Main focus on 'noise', (sexual) harassment and A&D
- → Working on a safer and more liveable city
  - → Equality and a maximum of emancipation for all citizens is key
  - → From a broad social perspective
  - → Strong focus on
    - Connection (proximity) to every stakeholder
    - Wellbeing (care)
    - Defining borders



## Ghent Festivities: a (very) short introduction

- $\rightarrow$  Yearly festival in the historical city of Ghent
- → Mid July
- $\rightarrow$  Public domain
- $\rightarrow$  10 days from 10am until 8am
- $\rightarrow$  13 cost-free music squares
- $\rightarrow$  100+ organisers
- $\rightarrow$  Visitors from all over the world, age 0-99
- → Edition 2023: 1.6 million visitors





## Ghent Festivities: a (very) short introduction

- → Open to everyone
- $\rightarrow$  No barriers (with one exception)
- $\rightarrow$  13 music squares
  - $\rightarrow$  11 close at 2am
  - $\rightarrow$  1 closes at 5am (8am on the last day)
  - $\rightarrow$  1 closes at 8am (10am on the last day)
- $\rightarrow$  City services are closed
- → "Small" team takes coordination during festivities
- $\rightarrow$  In very close collaboration with all safety services





#### Ghent Festivities: challenges

- → Finding a balance between partying and living in the city center
- → Finding a balance between the music squares and clubs/bars
- → Very diverse crowds can lead to more conflict
- $\rightarrow$  Alcohol and other drug (ab)use



#### Ghent Festivities: challenges

- → Sexual harassment
- → Integral and integrated approach
- $\rightarrow$  Communication  $\rightarrow$  'No means no'
- $\rightarrow$  Training organisers, bar staff, toilet staff, waste collectors,...
- → Care space / safe space





#### Need more info?

 $\rightarrow$  I'm here for the next three days!







event safety & nightlife hospitality

Mood stewarding: making sure that you can go out carefree



event safety & nightlife hospitality

Steenbeheer





99% without police or official security firms















How do you control this chaos?

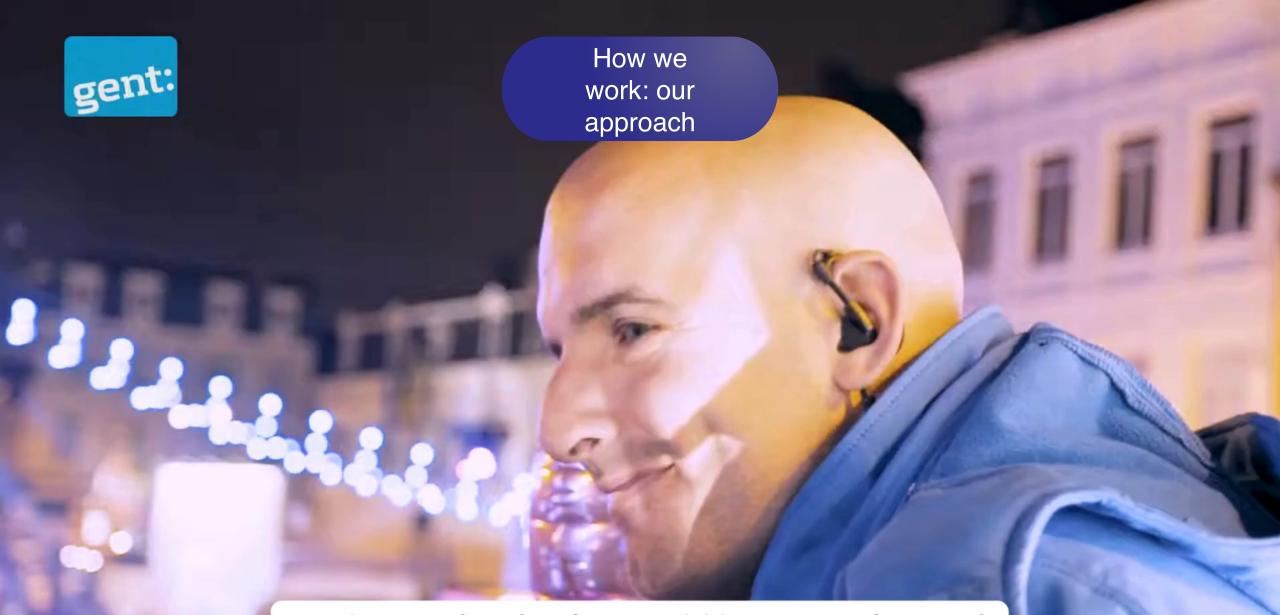




How we work: mood stewards

- $\rightarrow$  Peers:
- $\rightarrow$  Passion:
- $\rightarrow$  Professional:

diversity is key because they care selected and trained in first aid, harm reduction, conflict handling and dealing with sexual harassment



I'm Mica, I work at the Ghent Festivities as a Mood Steward.

How we work: clear communication

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- $\rightarrow$  50+ Mood Stewards
- $\rightarrow$  'Tower' decides
- → Communication through walkie talkie (radio), Whatsapp, face-to-face
- → Designated working areas
- → In direct contact with command centre of city

How we work: CARE ZONE

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# LS HET KLI

**UETPLAN** 

- → sexual harassment
- $\rightarrow$  harm reduction
- $\rightarrow$  safe space

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- → Growing responsibilities
  - → sexual harassment & discrimination

CHALLENGE

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- → Harm reduction + prevention
- → Bystander effect
- $\rightarrow$  Security money  $\rightarrow$  prevention
- $\rightarrow$  Cooperation with police
- → Legal framework



→ Prevention through presence

- → Peers & diversity
- → Professionalism

We stay sober, so you don't have to



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