

# SEVGİ CAFÉ



Sevgi Café ('Sevgi' meaning 'Love' in Turkish) is a social enterprise founded in 2017, on March 21, which is also known as the World Down Syndrome Awareness Day, with the request of Atilla Aydiner, the Mayor of Bayrampaşa District.

The cafe welcomes its customers with the help of 15 special and beautiful people with down syndrome, or a physical or hearing disadvantage, who

range from 17 to 60 years of age.

The cafe doesn't earn a lot of money, but the greater part of the income is used for the constant costs such as the rent, the bills, provisions for the food and drinks that are served in the cafe, cleaning, staff salaries, taxes, etc. And the remaining amount (if there's any) is spent for 'the special teammates' in various ways.

Sevgi Café basically aims to socialize these disadvantaged people by integrating them into the society and everyday life, and thus supporting them into becoming stronger and happier individuals.

The manager of the cafe, Sevim Fakiç, states that she loves her special teammates very much and that it's a great pleasure to work with them, especially when she observes how they can be of help in the society and work with a great motivation and energy. And she adds "I'm sure you'll also get your share from that beautiful energy. And I believe you'll see the world more beautifully after getting to know them and leaving this place!"

