WORLD VILLAGES FOR CHILDREN

England & Wales · Charity number 1058973

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	03267479
Registered	1996-11-01
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	World Villages For Children Kings Buildings 16 Smith Square London SW1P 3HQ
Phone	02076293050
Email	enquiries@worldvillages.org.uk
Website	www.worldvillages.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS ARE RESTRICTED SPECIFICALLY TO THE FOLLOWING, IN SUPPORT OF THE WORK OF THE SISTERS OF MARY IN CHILDREN?S VILLAGES, CHILD WELFARE PROGRAMMES, SCHOOLS, HEALTH CARE FACILITIES OR OTHERWISE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT: 1. THE RELIEF OF POVERTY, HARDSHIP AND DISTRESS SUFFERED BY CHILDREN THROUGHOUT THE WORLD THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF CHILDREN'S VILLAGES FOR CHILDREN WHO ARE WITHOUT PARENTS OR GUARDIANS OR WHO AS A RESULT OF SEVERE POVERTY ARE IN NEED OF FOOD, ACCOMMODATION AND CARE; 2. THE EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING OF CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY THROUGHOUT THE WORLD; 3. THE RELIEF OF POVERTY, HARDSHIP AND DISTRESS SUFFERED BY ADULTS AND CHILDREN THROUGHOUT THE WORLD BY THE PROVISION OF MEDICAL AND WELFARE SERVICES AND THE PROVISION OF SHELTER FOR THE HOMELESS; 4. THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC CONCERNING THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN AND ADULTS LIVING IN POVERTY THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AND THE ADVANCEMENT OF RELIGION IN ALL OR ANY OF THE CHARITABLE WORKS UNDERTAKEN; AND 5. THE PROMOTION OF SUCH CHARITABLE OBJECTS CONCERNED WITH THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN AND ADULTS SUFFERING FROM POVERTY, HARDSHIP, SICKNESS AND DISTRESS AS THE DIRECTORS SHALL, IN THEIR ABSOLUTE DISCRETION, DETERMINE.

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Activities: To relieve poverty suffered by children thoughout the world by providing them with food, clothing, shelter and education, including vocational training, so that they can break free from a life of poverty and despair. Educate the public concerning children and adults living in poverty and promote the advancement of religion in the charitable works undertaken.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Accommodation/housing, Religious Activities, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Amateur Sport, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** WORLDWIDE
- Brazil
- Guatemala
- Honduras
- Mexico
- Philippines
- Tanzania

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£2,231,776	£2,087,720	£708,005	5
2023-12-31	£2,365,435	£2,238,877	£563,949	5
2022-12-31	£2,203,474	£2,477,905	£437,391	5
2021-12-31	£2,748,808	£2,734,592	£711,822	6
2020-12-31	£3,019,184	£2,875,248	£697,606	6

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Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Clare Jessica Bamberger		2019-07-11
Duk Lim Cho		2016-07-08
Elena Grengia Belarmino		2016-07-08
Father Fretch Ballesteros SDV		2023-08-07
JOHN MARTIN GRAHAM		2019-04-18
Nicola Lawson		2016-07-08
Sister Margarita Campos Abeja		2023-07-06

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WORLD VILLAGES FOR CHILDREN

England & Wales - Charity number 1058973

Accounts

World Villages for Children

2024 ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS



Ending poverty through education

UK Registered Charity Number: 1058973





MARIA

On our cover is Maria Irene.

She has had a very difficult start in life and thanks to the support of our generous donors we have been able to provide funding for a school place for Maria at the Sisters' Villa de las Niñas girls' school In Mexico. She joined us in the summer of 2024. This is her story:

"My situation before school was quite bad because there was not enough money for my brothers or for my mother. My house was an old bus, and that's where my brothers, my mother, and I lived. We hardly ever ate because there wasn't enough food for everyone, and we didn't have enough space. My mother wouldn't eat and would say she wasn't hungry so we could be happy. She worked everyday in the fields planting crops or she would make napkins and sell them to earn some money for food"

Without the basics for survival like proper shelter, regular nutrition, sanitation, medical care and education, Maria had lost hope and she lived in fear as her father would hurt her mother and sometimes her brother. It was a relief for the family when we were able to offer Maria a place in school.

She says "Here at Villa de las Niñas, I feel safe. I enjoy running with my mother-sister, playing, and attending classes. I love helping my classmates and always try to be kind. I have two younger brothers. I want to study to help care for my mother, my brothers, and my family and build a better future for them. One day, I hope to become a nurse, a nun, or an architect—someone who helps others, just like you"



Maria Irene at school in 2024

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Company Number: 3267479
UK Registered Charity Number: 1058973

World Villages for Children



Meeting new children in the Philippines

COMPANY INFORMATION

Directors & Trustees	Sister Elena Grengia Belarmino (Appointed Chair 6 July 2023) Sister D L Cho (Sister Maria), (Resigned as Chair 6 July 2023) Nicola Lawson (Appointed 8 July 2016) John Graham, Treasurer (Appointed 18 April 2019) Jo Ogilvie (Appointed 12 April 2022) Clare Bamberger (Appointed 4 July 2019) Sr Margarita Campos Abeja (Appointed 6th July 2023) Fr Fretch Ballesteros (Appointed 7th August 2023)
Key Management Personnel	UK Manager
Website	www.worldvillages.org.uk
Registered Office & Charity address	Kings Buildings, 16 Smith Square, London SW1P 3HQ
Auditor	Kreston Reeves, LLP, 9 Donnington Park, 85 Birdham Road, Chichester, PO20 7AJ
Solicitor	Broadfield Law UK LLP One Bartholomew Close, London EC1A 7BL
Bank	National Westminster Bank, 250 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4AA



Sr Elena with the Kindergarten children, Tanzania

INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHAIR

Another year has passed and we are so grateful to all of you our dear supporters for your continued generosity which allows us to maintain and grow our charity programmes. I thank also all our dedicated staff and trustees who run the charity without whom our mission would be impossible.

Every time we start the year my Sisters and I are uncertain of the challenges that lie ahead for us in our care and education of the world's poorest children. In 2024 we faced many challenges including rising prices, aging school infrastructure requiring urgent repairs, changes in education curricula and increasing malnutrition, poverty and violence faced by our children in their home regions.

In Tanzania we have a saying "Kidogo Kidogo hujaza kibaba" little by little will fill the cup and in 2024, little by little we were indeed able to continue, expand and enhance our programs of providing holistic care and education for all our students.

Thanks to your support we were able to make ends meet at our schools and accepted 6,243 new children during the year. 21,089 were safe in our care mid-year and 3,947 passed their final exams and graduated ready for work. Many of these children are already employed and able to help their families practically and financially.

We made good progress with sustainable practices at our schools growing much more of our own food, and working with employers to develop updated vocational training courses for our children and preparing them for employment locally.

We celebrated the completion of the Five Story Building and Gymnasium in Dodoma Boystown, Tanzania which will be inaugurated on March 25, 2025 and will increase our capacity to help the poorest boys in that country and we marked the 60th foundation Anniversary of the Sisters of Mary which greatly encourages us to continue with our work and remain faithful to our mission established by Father Al.

This coming year the construction of the 4 storey Digital Transformation Center at Biga Girlstown will be completed to help with skills training of our 9,500 children here; we renew our focus on sustainable and climate friendly operations at our schools whilst providing a quality vocational education for the children who need it most and we hope the Jubilee Year for the Catholic Church, will bring more blessings to us all.

Thank you for your compassion towards our children their lives and the lives of their poor families are being transformed because of your generosity towards their care.



Sr Elena Belarmino
Chair of Trustees



Nicola Lawson with Sr Margarita (left), our graduate Sthefanny (right) and Sr Elena (extreme right)

INTRODUCTION FROM THE UK MANAGER

Reflecting on 2024, I am so very grateful for the loyalty of our committed friends, supporters and funding partners.

Despite a difficult fundraising environment, their energetic interest in and support of our work helped us to maintain regular grants to the Sisters of Mary and stand firm in our support of the transformative education work they are delivering for the poorest children worldwide.

We were thrilled during the year to meet up around the country with many of these generous supporters. We remain humbled by the spirit of collaboration we have witnessed through individual and organisational gifts received, church collections, schools' activities and marathon runners in supporting our work. It was also a delight for us to see more of our supporters visit the Sisters' programmes overseas and witness for themselves the depth of the poverty relief work being done there and the impact of their support.

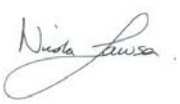
You will read in this report how all these generous gifts were utilised across the full spectrum of needs of the children in the Sisters' care and education. The Sisters, of course, give their time for free. This means 100% of our grant goes directly to the care and education of the children. Every £1 was stretched and in 2024 we helped 21,089 children in school with immediate essentials like food, accommodation, and medical and learning supplies, as well as measures to develop and sustain the schools for the long term.

The children who come into the care of the Sisters have been marked by poverty but a place at school with the Sisters transforms their lives. In 2024, we were privileged to get to know more of these children as they graduate from the schools and to learn about the difference they are making in the world. You will read more about this in the report but we were so touched by the support of these alumni with sharing their stories and holding fundraising activities for us in 2024.

Our work is governed by our trustee board. My wholehearted thanks to them for their guidance and expertise which they provided so generously in 2024 and to the whole staff team at WVC. Their hard work and commitment always exemplifies our values of compassion, dedication and integrity but particularly in 2024. Their skills, energy and desire to achieve drove fundraising progress during the year and were much appreciated.

Supporting the Sisters of Mary programmes to end poverty through education is the heart of our mission. We are so grateful for your trust in us to deliver this vision of a world where the poorest children can equally access an education, develop skills and build themselves a dignified and brighter future.

Thank you



Nicola Lawson
UK Manager and Trustee

Empowering futures, erasing poverty

Our student in Amarateca, Honduras, loving his music class



ABOUT WORLD VILLAGES FOR CHILDREN

World Villages for Children supports the worldwide education programmes of the Sisters of Mary (SoM) to provide a free, quality education to the poorest children in the world.

Today 1 in 10 people[1] worldwide live in extreme poverty – deprived of not just income but the means of earning it, the essentials for survival as well as opportunity, dignity and hope for the future.

Progress towards poverty relief has slowed in recent years on the back of crises including the Covid 19 pandemic, slow economic growth, conflict, and severe weather related shocks. Low income regions have been hit the hardest and it is the children of these regions that are the most vulnerable.

Children go without nutrition, water, shelter, medical care & education. They are often neglected and increasingly victims of abuse inside and outside the home often exposed to gang crime and for girls, the devastating consequences of early marriage. Access to education for these children transforms their lives.

Our work funds school places for these children in the Philippines, Mexico, Guatemala, Brazil, Honduras and Tanzania. In a safe and loving environment, the boys and girls receive full time care and an accredited education which gives them skills, dignity and access to good job opportunities to provide a better future for themselves and their families.

ABOUT THE SISTERS OF MARY EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

The Sisters of Mary Education programmes started in 1964 and have grown at the invitation of governments to the poorest regions in new countries and communities. They now operate 13 live-in secondary schools for children aged 11-17, (Philippines, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Brazil & Tanzania), 5 day-care centres for toddlers aged 3-5 (Mexico, Guatemala, Brazil (2), Tanzania), 1 elementary school for youngsters aged 6-11 (Brazil), 3 medical centres (Philippines (2) & Guatemala) and 1 training centre for out of work young women (Tanzania).

Together we provide places for nearly 20,000 of these countries' poorest children each year. The programmes are run on a modest, sustainable basis. The Sisters and children grow much of their own food and they utilise huge operating efficiencies to welcome the maximum number of children. In 2024, despite cost rises around the world, it still cost £1,200 per year to educate and care for one child.

The Sisters' holistic care for each child underpins the values of the UNSDGs[2], and helps the children to recover from their difficult early lives. By nurturing them to full health, they allow them to build their talents, grow in confidence, independent and skilled enough for work and able to help their families and contribute positively to society.

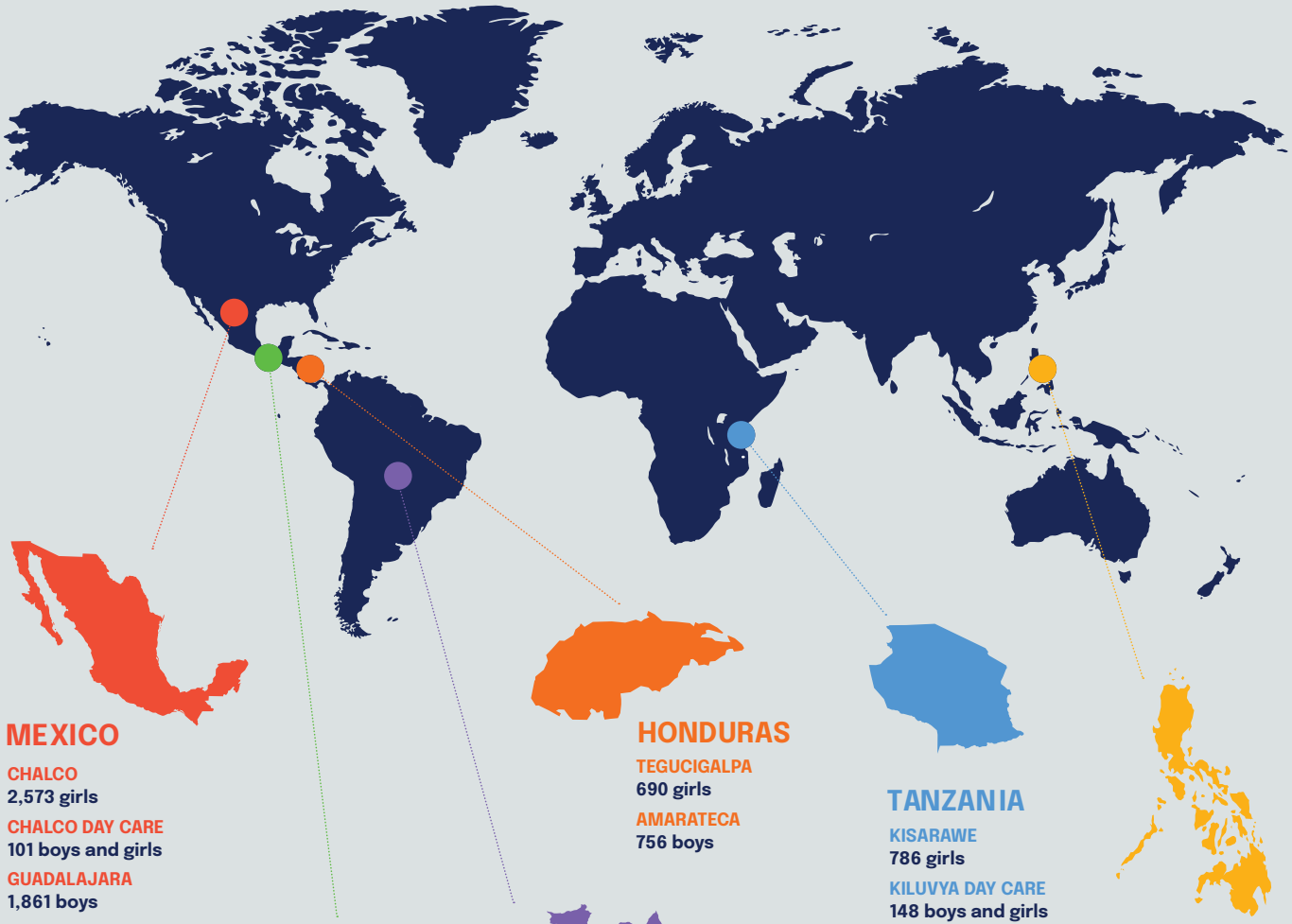
Education is central to the Sisters' mission and is provided by professional teachers, with curricula accredited by the national education authorities and also includes vocational training courses tailored to the skill needs of local employers. "Our charity programs seek to give the youth dignity and a better future by giving them the necessary skills to find good job opportunities".[3] So far over 170,000 children have graduated from these schools into employment but many more family and community members have been helped by the impact of the programme.



1 Worldbank.org/en/topic/poverty/overview
2 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals – a call to action for sustainable development to improve human lives and protect the environment.
3 Sr Elena Belarmino

WHERE WE WORK

SISTERS OF MARY PROGRAMMES AROUND THE WORLD 2023



MEXICO

CHALCO
2,573 girls

CHALCO DAY CARE
101 boys and girls

GUADALAJARA
1,861 boys

GUATEMALA

ZONA 6
1,016 boys

ZONA 13
767 girls

ZONA 21 DAY-CARE
85 boys and girls

BRAZIL

BRASILIA
850 girls

BRASILIA DAY CARE
79 boys and girls

SAO PAULO ELEMENTARY AND DAY CARE
470 boys and girls

HONDURAS

TEGUCIGALPA
690 girls

AMARATECA
756 boys

TANZANIA

KISARAWE
786 girls

KILUVYA DAY CARE
148 boys and girls

KILUVYA TRAINING CENTRE
100 young women

DODOMA
115 boys

THE PHILIPPINES

BIGA
2,443 girls

ADLAS
1,864 boys

TALISAY
2,379 girls

MINGLANILLA
1,787 boys







Trustees' Report



TRUSTEES REPORT

The Trustees of WVC are pleased to present their annual report for the year ended 31 December 2024 under the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011, together with the audited accounts for the year. They confirm that the latter complies with the requirements of the Acts, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Charities SORP 2019.

Our Charity Objects for WVC are to:

- **Provide financial support for the Sisters of Mary (SoM) humanitarian programmes**
- **To raise the profile of the SoM's education work for the relief of poverty**
- **To educate the public and promote understanding of childhood poverty and the work of the Sisters' programmes to alleviate poverty amongst children, the most vulnerable group.**

STRATEGY

"Kidogo Kidogo hujaza kibaba" as Sr Elena Belarmino mentioned, the Tanzanian saying "little by little we will fill the cup". In 2024 our strategy echoed this saying as we pursued our objectives to support the Sisters of Mary steadily, step by step, as they reached out to the world's poorest children – in some of the most remote and hard to reach areas – to offer a life changing education to the most vulnerable.

By the side of the Sisters and in the face of a volatile fundraising environment, we stewarded every investment made by our supporters to transform each gift into another school place for a child, another life changed, and another family lifted from poverty - permanently.

In 2024, our grants delivered education and care for children in 6 countries - in 13 secondary schools, 1 elementary school, 5 day-care centres, 3 medical centres and 1 training centre and the following special achievements were marked during the year:

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024



MORE CHILDREN WELCOMED

6,243

new children were accepted during the year including a total of 171 into the newest boys school in Dodoma, Tanzania.



60 YEARS OF SERVICE

THE SISTERS CELEBRATED 60 YEARS OF CARING FOR THE WORLD'S POOREST CHILDREN

They were deeply moved to receive recognition from the Pope for their dedication to the mission of fighting poverty.



HIGHEST EVER ENROLMENT

AT THE MID-POINT OF THE YEAR PRIOR TO GRADUATIONS THERE WERE A STAGGERING

21,089

children aged 3-17 being cared for in places at the programmes, the highest ever.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024



3,392

FINAL YEAR STUDENTS FINISHED SCHOOL WITH US

qualified and ready for employment this includes the first graduation of 162 of the senior girls in Tanzania.



WE HELPED TO PROVIDE

63,267

meals a day so all the children at the schools had the balanced nutrition needed to thrive.



NEW VOCATIONAL TRAINING

FUNDED & EXPANDED

across all country programmes



EMPLOYMENT SUCCESS

ACROSS ALL COUNTRIES EMPLOYMENT RATES OF THE GRADUATES FAR EXCEEDED THE NATIONAL AVERAGE.

In the Philippines 100% of graduates continued to find work.



TWO BIG GIVE MATCHED APPEALS DURING THE YEAR

funded national exams for the girls in Tanzania and new technical drawing tables for the grade 11 & 12 girls in Biga, Philippines.



SUPPORTER FUNDRAISING

OUR SUPPORTERS AND GRADUATES GOT ACTIVE FUNDRAISING FOR US TO HELP FUTURE GENERATIONS OF CHILDREN,

including Malou our Philippine graduate who completed the Berlin Marathon in October 2024 and then the London Marathon in April 2025.

OUR 2024 OBJECTIVES

2024 was a busy and productive year as we pursued our objectives to ensure the regular flow of funding to support the children in our schools. Our specific aims in 2024 were 1) Flexible funding for the essential everyday costs of care 2) funding to prepare the children for employment 3) Funding to support sustainability and preparing the schools for the future.

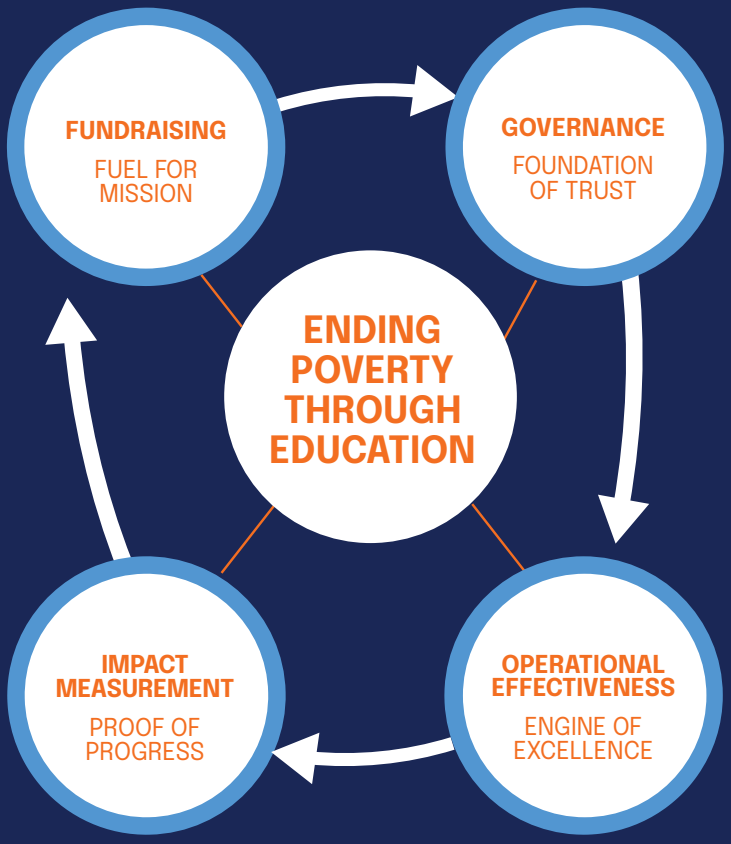
100% of our grant was spent on activities that directly support the care and education of the children.

- Goal 1 - Against a backdrop of rising prices in all countries, we spent 75% of our grant helping with the essential everyday needs of the children. The majority of this was spent on food to provide 63,267 meals a day at the schools, helping the Sisters to buy, grow or make the food needed for three healthy, balanced meals a day for every child.

- Goal 2 - We raised funding for the extensive range of academic and vocational training needs of the children to help them learn the new skills and technologies required by local employers. 14% of our grant funded these needs like books, learning supplies and included specific equipment like the technical drafting tables for the girls in Biga and helping the children towards success by funding exam fees for the girls in Tanzania.

- Goal 3 - We provided funding to cover the operating costs at the schools, particularly helping with utilities for a number of the schools, safety equipment, school repairs and equipment for the new farming initiatives. In total 11% of our grant was used to develop the schools' sustainability projects which improve efficiency, reduce running costs and protect the planet.

MISSION DRIVEN STRATEGY



OUR STRATEGIC APPROACH IS DIRECTED BY THE FOUR PILLARS OF GOVERNANCE, OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS, IMPACT MEASUREMENT, AND FUNDRAISING WHICH TOGETHER FOSTER CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT AND REINFORCE OUR CORE MISSION OF ENDING POVERTY THROUGH EDUCATION.



In 2024 the children got even more active learning gardening and helping to grow food for the school.

GOVERNANCE

2024 was a year of consolidation and contribution for our diverse board. All members continued to provide unstinting and invaluable support and guidance in every area. The WVC board provides a stable framework of direction and support for the charity. In 2024 they brought their experience, expertise and best practice knowledge to their governance role to ensure the effective running of the charity. Our small team of staff gained immeasurably from their individual skills particularly around digital, financial, fundraising practice and data insight.

OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

The engine of our charity operation continued to operate efficiently in 2024. Stewarding our donors investment and using our resources well was a continual focus, in particular to keep overhead costs controlled. In 2024 we automated a number of our processes, introducing new technology to help with some of the basic donation handling processes and integrations. This has been a great success, reducing costs, reducing errors, and improving donor gift stewardship.

As in 2023 we have grown our collaborations with other charities on our fundraising, and this helps us to benefit from new input and perspectives and optimise our activities – especially around direct mail and legacy income raising.

IMPACT MEASUREMENT

Collection and consolidation of data from the schools continued to improve in 2024 and our fortnightly updates with the individual country programmes supplied good insight and rich data with which we can analyse the outcome of our work.

The alumni survey which has supplied such good data in the past was not conducted in 2024 but the Sisters of Mary have developed a new website and data platform which connects all the global alumni groups and will provide a robust source of data on the education programmes, and the graduates going forward.

In 2024 we gathered significant amounts of qualitative data particularly stories of the children before, during and after their time at school with the Sisters. Whilst we continued to refine our overall approach to impact measurement, we utilised these stories to communicate with our stakeholders. Many of these stories feature in our 2024 dedicated Impact Report. They tell the story of the lives changed by an education funded by our work and demonstrate our impact.

FUNDRAISING

In 2024 the fundraising environment was similar to 2023 and we faced a number of challenges during the year. On a macro level, the cost of living constraints and the turbulence of the political change during the year all affected our supporters propensity to give. On a micro level, we were able to mitigate the rising costs affecting our supply contracts but were impacted by delays affecting the accurate calculation and realisation in the year of some large legacy gifts.

Our fundraising goals focused on diversification of our income for future financial resilience, nurturing existing relationships, stewarding and reporting well and building new relationships with new funders. In 2024 we defined a prudent income forecast for the charity to ensure regular grant funding to the Sisters and thanks to the generosity of our kind supporters we were pleased to finish 4.5% ahead of this target at £2,231,776 although behind 2023 figures.

Fundraising for individual gifts via direct mail performed consistently well during the year measured by our established KPIs on response rate, average gift and RoI. We generate good efficiencies with direct mail by collaborating with other charities in the design and production. Appeals to reflect the Diamond Jubilee of the Sisters, as well as Christmas and Easter performed strongly. Notifications of legacy gifts were 30% higher than 2023 with the inclusion of one large residuary legacy gift which is not wholly reflected in the year's income figures.

Digital income continued to improve with two successful matched giving (Big Give) appeals in the year. Trust and Foundation income has however not reached the level forecast and we continue to work to improve this whilst making new relationships with new corporate funding partners whose values align with our poverty relief mission.

We were thrilled to meet so many more of our supporters during the year and into 2025 and to receive their generous feedback on their experience when visiting the schools:

"It is uplifting to see the contrast from the hell of the streets of Chalco to the piece of paradise that the Sisters and the staff at World Villages for Children are building here on earth."

Our supporter Enrique, on his visit to the school in Chalco, Mexico.

"the breadth of the education is huge, the potential for improving lives of this generation and the next generation through this work is enormous. This is an outstanding human endeavour and if I can help in the future, I'll do so".

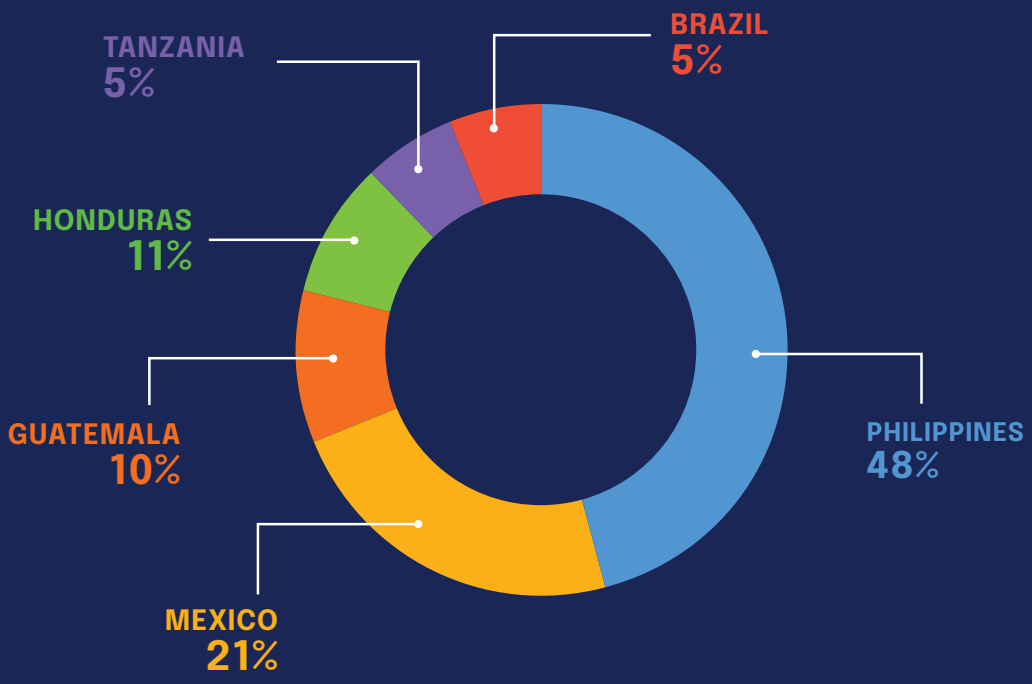
Our supporter Geoffrey on his visit to the schools in Tanzania.

As in prior years, we focused on raising unrestricted income that can be used for the range of needs of the children. We were pleased that 95% of the 2024 income remained unrestricted. It allowed the Sisters to provide vital food and medical care as well as education to 6,243 new children during the year. This meant that mid-year they had a whopping 21,089 boys and girls in school or day care with them, being cared for and educated ready for final employment and a poverty free life for themselves and their families. I hope you enjoy reading the reports on the detailed use of our funding and the enormous progress made possible at the schools by the generosity of our supporters.

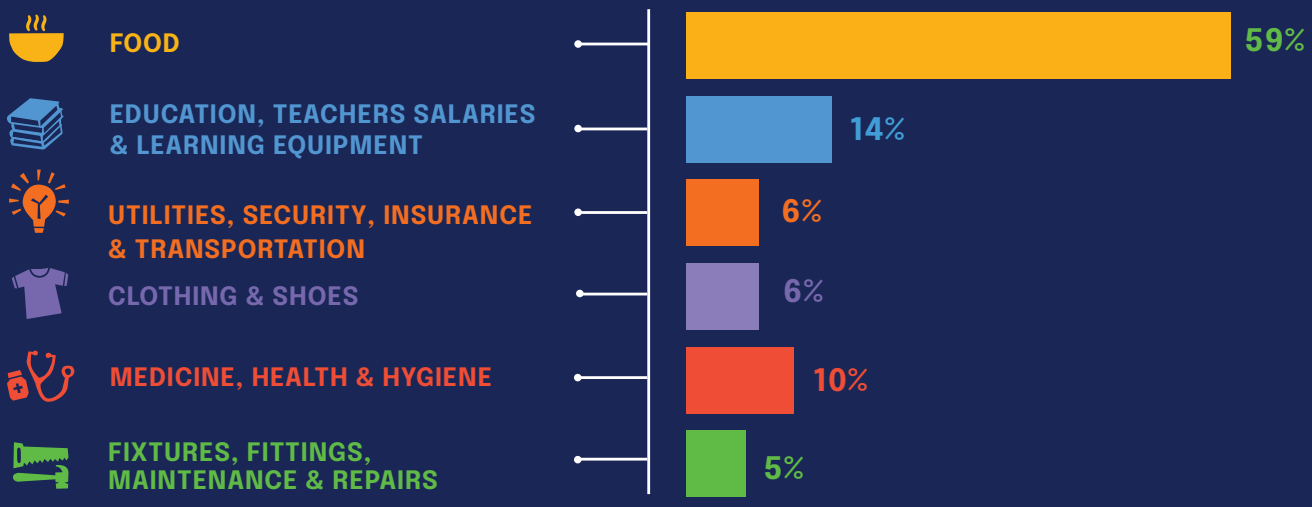
GRANT DISTRIBUTION

HOW YOUR FUNDS WERE USED IN 2024

Grant of £1,375,000 was distributed in 2024 as follows



HOW YOUR FUNDS WERE USED IN 2024



PROGRESS AT THE COUNTRY PROGRAMMES

Thanks to the support of our friends and donors, in 2024 we continued to ensure the Sisters had the regular funds needed to welcome the most deprived boys and girls in the world.

Thanks to you, the most neglected children were safe, well-fed, healthy and educated, ready for a better future.

At the midpoint of the year there were 21,089 children at our schools. Following graduations, the average for the year was 19,655 children in the schools and education programmes within 6 countries. Cared for by 268 Sisters with 631 ancillary staff, doctors & nurses, and 699 teachers employed to educate the children.

COUNTRY	NUMBER OF CHILDREN [4]	TEACHERS	ANCILLARY STAFF	DOCTORS & NURSES	SISTERS	NEW CHILDREN ACCEPTED IN 2024
PHILIPPINES						
Biga Girlstown	2577	71	79		30	646
Adlas Boystown	1942	72	51		20	461
Talisay Girlstown	2603	93	76		25	783
Minglanilla Boystown	1859	68	60		15	446
Medical Centre Biga	135 [5]		12	4	2	
Medical Centre Minglanilla	74 [6]		7	5	2	
MEXICO						
Chalco Girlstown	2649	90	70	6	45	905
Guadalajara Boystown	1833	62	41	3	19	577
Day Care centre, Chalco	106	7	10		2	54
GUATEMALA						
Zona 13 Girlstown	784	28	56		16	233
Zona 6 Boystown	973	30	41	5	11	252
Day Care centre Zona 13	97	7	7		2	101
Medical Clinic Zona 13 (4)	69 [7]		2	7	1	
BRAZIL						
Brasilia (Girlstown)	819	30	14	2	14	225
Day care centre Brasilia	77	4			4	80
Sao Paulo Elementary	299	14	5		2	98
Sao Paulo day care	157	8	3		4	163
HONDURAS						
Tegucigalpa (Girlstown)	679	31	27	2	16	185
Amarateca (Boystown)	782	34	30	2	11	250
TANZANIA						
Kisarawe (Girlstown)	911	36	20	3	21	159
Kisarawe (Day Care)	166	1	3		1	98
Kisarawe Training centre (Kwa Komba)	105	8	7		2	106
Dodoma Boystown	168	5	8		8	171
Average number of boys & girls in school in the year	19655					

4 Total student numbers vary due to new starters and graduations during the year so these are the average for the year
5 Average out-patients per day
6 Average out-patients per day
7 Average out-patients per day

COUNTRY FOCUS
PHILIPPINES



Sisters Community visits to reach new children in need – February 2024

- In the poorest regions of the country, children are malnourished, lack access to education and many young children now work long hours in rural occupations or on landfill sites to support their families.
- The Sisters travelled even more extensively during the year to reach these poorest families[8] and offer a school place to thousands of the vulnerable children in need.
- In 2024 they had 9,416 children in their four schools in Biga, Adlas (near Cavite), Talisay and Minglanilla (Cebu) including 2,336 new boys and girls accepted during the year.



New starters June Adlas 2024

PROVIDING A LIFE CHANGING EDUCATION AND PREPARATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

Through our supporters' generosity, we were able to send grants of £662,677 to these schools, 48% of our total grant, to fund food, clothing, school supplies and equipment, medicines, maintenance, repairs and utilities.

The children were happy at school. Properly fed, safe and well cared for. They made new friends, studied and played hard and grew in confidence.



Mary Joy at school in Biga.

Mary Joy

"The gratitude I feel for the Sisters of Mary and the generous donors who support us is immense. Their kindness has given me the chance to dream big and strive for a life filled with hope and opportunities. Every night at school, as I wrap myself in my warm blanket, I am reminded of their love and support, and it fuels my determination to succeed."

The children received TESDA[9] accredited vocational training in addition to their academic studies which included new courses in digital, visual design, AI, cyber security, robotics and caregiving and the senior children had on the job training to prepare them for jobs available locally. 2,084 children graduated from school in May 2024 and all of them secured employment.

8 Particularly to Bicol region of the Luzon where poverty is very extreme
9 Technical Education & Skills Development Authority of the Philippines

COUNTRY FOCUS MEXICO



- Nearly 46% of children in Mexico remain in poverty with 9% of these in extreme poverty lacking access to education, healthcare, adequate housing, and the basics for survival. Children, especially from indigenous communities are the most affected[10]. Child marriage is common, drug trafficking is a risk for the boys and girls, and family situations are dangerous and complex.

"In December, one of the girls arrived late because her family had promised her in marriage but she escaped and came back to school. Early marriage happens because the families receive land or cows in exchange for the girls. They also get money. 80,000 pesos for a girl, to sell one child into marriage." (Sr Martha, SoM May 2024).

- In 2024 the Sisters confronted the dangers in these regions and travelled extensively to reach these vulnerable, neglected children.
- They welcomed 1,536 new children to the schools during the year from throughout the country making a total of 4,875 children at the schools in 2024. 2,903 in Chalco (girls) (Villa de las Niñas), 1972 in Guadalajara (boys), (Villa de los Niños) and 123 in Chalco day care.





First day at school – Chalco August 2024

PROVIDING A LIFE CHANGING EDUCATION AND PREPARATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

We were able to send £289,510 (21% of our grant) to the schools in Mexico to help them with food, clothing, repairs and maintenance for the school, utilities and security services. Our grant was also spent on teaching salaries and ensuring that the Sisters could deliver an excellent level of accredited education.

The girls and boys were happy, healthy and successful at school. Some of the newest girls who have faced much trauma early in life needed considerable support and counselling but they finished the year thriving and able to learn well in the care of the Sisters. They studied and played hard during the year and were ambitious for success, competing in academic and sports competitions throughout Mexico.



A harvest of 14 medals for some of the girls in Chalco!

The boys and girls learnt the full national academic and vocational curriculum and enjoyed new courses in electronics, nursing, greenhouse vegetable and organic farming. Skills which will help them to find good jobs or develop their own businesses. 569 senior children graduated ready for work in July and many of these are already running their own enterprises or employed by local and national companies including BMW and Chevrolet.



Boys learning organic farming in Guadalajara, October 2024

10 The states of Chiapas, Guerrero, Oaxaca & Veracruz (CONEVAL)

COUNTRY FOCUS
BRAZIL



- Nearly 56% of children in Brazil live in poverty, marked by a variety of deprivations[11] - including lack of food, water, shelter, healthcare and education. The Sisters' work reveals a country where the poorest secondary age girls in regions like Pará are permanently out of school, working long hours to support the family or marrying young. They live hungry and exposed to often complex and violent situations in their homes and communities.
- The Sisters community visits show families in a pitiful state, living in makeshift homes, at increased risk of floods, with the young daughters in these families the most vulnerable.[12] These children are the focus of our charitable work.
- In 2024, the Sisters' programmes in Brazil cared for 860 of these poorest girls at the secondary school in Brasilia, 314 boys and girls in the elementary school (ages 6-11) in São Paulo and 243 in the two day care programmes in Brasilia and São Paulo. This total of 1417 includes 566 children welcomed into these programmes during the year.
- In 2024 funding from our generous supporters allowed us to distribute vital grants to the programmes in Brazil of £72,917, 5% of our total grant. 42% of this grant was spent on food for the children at all these programmes as well as clothing, health and hygiene supplies, equipment, and utility bills for the school and urgent repairs.



New girls joining the school in Brasilia

PROVIDING A LIFE CHANGING EDUCATION AND PREPARATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

The children were so thankful to be at school during the year. As in Mexico, many of the secondary age girls have suffered greatly in their early lives and the new girls needed counselling and support from the Sisters to recover. The Sisters' also reported that the girls have missed out on significant amounts of learning during the pandemic when schools were closed so arrived in urgent need of additional academic support. "They are struggling with reading and writing. It's precarious. So we are providing additional tutoring to help them".[13]

In the care of the Sisters, all the children were able to grow and flourish during the year, taking advantage of the full academic and vocational courses provided to prepare themselves for good jobs including training in ICT, nursing, and dental hygiene.



Nursing training in Brasilia 2024

The girls were ambitious and successful in and out of the classroom. For the first time they competed in the National Science Olympiad, they had fun helping the Sisters with gardening (to help with the food budget) and the nursing students enjoyed internships in the Municipal Hospital and health centres. In December, 128 girls graduated skilled, ready for employment and to help all their families.



Helping the Sisters with growing crops 2024

11 Unicef, Multiple Dimensions of Child Poverty 2023
12 Sr Melinda – SoM Brazil 2024
13 Sr Melinda, SoM Brasilia, August 2024

THE STORY OF ELISA VICTORIA

BRAZIL



"My name is Elisa Victoria, from the State of Maranhao in Brazil. My parents both have health problems, and my father works hard tending animals on a small farm. On weekends, I help him as much as I can, but even with our combined efforts, there are times when we struggle to have enough food. Some mornings, our breakfast is only a cup of coffee with cassava flour — and sometimes just coffee alone."

"To help my family, I also worked as a babysitter whenever possible. Every small effort counts when you're trying to make ends meet.

Coming to the Sisters of Mary has been one of the greatest blessings of my life. Here, I am learning so many things I never had the opportunity to learn before — not just academics, but also how to be an honest and good person, and how to dream of a brighter future.

My goal is to finish my studies and become a veterinarian, so I can help care for animals and support my family. One day, I also hope to give back to the Sisters of Mary, who have given me so much love, education, and hope.

Thank you for making this opportunity possible. Your kindness is helping to change my life and the lives of so many others like me."



Elisa now safe at school and thriving with the Sisters

THE STORY OF NORBETO

GUATEMALA



"My name is Norberto. Before arriving at Villa de los Niños, (Zona 6) I worked in the fields with my dad for other people in order to bring food home. The problems at home were mainly the lack of clothes and food, as we were a family with very limited resources."

"My dad worked as a farmer and my mum was a housewife. I also have 8 siblings. I was lucky to come to Villa de los Niños because my parents didn't have enough money to pay for my education.

Since arriving at Villa de los Niños, I now have the clothes, food, and education I need, and I've noticed many changes in my life. Now, I bathe and comb my hair well, I brush my teeth, and I organize my things. There are many things I like about Villa de los Niños, but the most important ones are: studying, working, participating in singing practice and working in the workshops. In the future, when I grow up, I want to be a teacher."



Norberto now that he is happy and settled at school

COUNTRY FOCUS
GUATEMALA



Community outreach, Guatemala 2024

- 64% of children in Guatemala live in poverty with those in rural, indigenous areas like Alta Verapaz, most affected.[14] There, 90% of children face the effects of extreme poverty including chronic malnutrition resulting in stunting. They live in flimsy, inadequate shelters, lack access to healthcare, sanitation, and are exposed to violence and exploitation.
- Education is difficult to access and poor quality. In the poorest communities, only four out of every 10 children are able to attend a secondary school and only two of those will be able to finish school[14]. Consequently demand for places at our schools grew again in 2024 and the Sisters travelled extensively in these remote rural areas to reach the children most in need of their help.
- The Sisters were able to accommodate 1982 boys and girls in their schools in 2024. 842 at their Villa de Las Ninas (Girlstown, Zona 13), 1028 at Villa de Los Ninos (Boystown, Zona 6) and 112 at their day care centre. This includes 586 new children who were welcomed during the year.



Carlos Enrique (on the right with his new friend) joined Zona 6 in January 2024.

Carlos is loving his place at school "because he can play football on the real football field, and he can eat three times a day delicious food!"

- Thanks to the kindness of our supporters we were able to send £139,274, 10% of our total grant to the Guatemalan schools. 42% of the grant was spent on food for the children, with the remainder spent on educational supplies, clothing, security services and utilities. 9% of our total grant was spent on helping the Sisters with medicines for the children, particularly on dental care. Poor nutrition severely affects the dental health of the poorest children and many children in 2024 needed remedial dental and orthodontic treatment to repair and replace teeth and help them onto better health.
- Despite their early difficulties, all the children settled into school and were happy and fulfilled during the year. They made lasting friendships, played hard, kept fit, loved their lessons and sports and enjoyed a proper, stress free childhood.



Boys having fun, Guatemala Zona 6

PROVIDING A LIFE CHANGING EDUCATION AND PREPARATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

In 2024 the boys and girls were able to study a full syllabus of nationally accredited academic and vocational studies including accounting, electricity and pneumatics, ICT, fashion design and Industrial electronics. They grew confident and hopeful in the care of the Sisters.



The top 16 senior girls in Zona 13 were awarded their final certificates by the regional Mayor, the senior boys in Zona 6 enjoyed financial education training from Banrural and a careers talk and on-the-job training from Toyota. 307 senior boys and girls graduated in October ready for employment and the majority of these have already secured permanent employment with employers including Axalta, Toyota, LG, and Banrural.

14 Unicef Guatemala 2024

COUNTRY FOCUS HONDURAS



Cynthia, one of our students, at her home in Honduras

- Honduras is one of the poorest countries in Latin America and 63% of the population live in poverty with 1 in 5 rural inhabitants facing extreme poverty [15]. Paid work is difficult to secure and the poorest families require their youngest to contribute by working long hours for little pay often in rural occupations like harvesting coffee. 40% of school age children are out of school.
- Children in these communities are hungry and exposed to organised crime and extreme violence. The poorest regions are additionally vulnerable to the impact of climate change with droughts and floods, which exacerbate food insecurity and damage livelihoods and lives.
- The Sisters were able to accommodate 1520 of these most vulnerable boys and girls in their schools in 2024. 703 at their school for girls in Tegucigalpa and 817 at their boys' school in Amarateca. This includes 435 new children who were welcomed during the year.



New boys making their dreams come true at school in Amarateca

- Thanks to the kindness of our supporters we were able to fund their care and send the Sisters £145,337, 11% of our total grant for use at the Honduran schools. 34% of the grant was spent on food for the children, with the remainder spent on educational supplies, clothing and repairs including - vital safety equipment, like the new fire hose and cabinet. Good nutrition was an urgent requirement to help the children gain weight and strength after the deprivations of their early lives.
- As with Guatemala, a large proportion (over 11%) of our grant went towards medicines and healthcare support, particularly dental supplies and eye care. Many of the children required extensive courses of dental repair and replacement of missing teeth [16] so that they can eat properly. Over 50% of the children also arrived with eye problems and needed urgent care and glasses for cataracts, infections, and deteriorating eyesight.

PROVIDING A LIFE CHANGING EDUCATION AND PREPARATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

In 2024, the boys and girls in Honduras had a full range of accredited academic lessons together with vocational training which was tailored to local employment vacancies, this included dress making, digital marketing, finance and administration, electricity, welding, and ICT.

The children flourished and with a good balanced and nutritious diet, the care of the Sisters, new friends and opportunities for play and learning, they made the most of their precious opportunities inside and outside the classroom. They studied hard towards their exams and were passionate about extra-curricular activities like drawing, music, dancing and sports as well as helping the sisters to grow and rear their own food[17]. The boys' handball team won first place in the Regional Central Oriental Handball tournament and got the first place during the National Student Games-CODICADER, qualifying to represent Honduras in El Salvador – an amazing achievement.



The Tegucigalpa girls with their science competition entry.

At the end of the academic year, the senior students enjoyed on-the-job training with a variety of employers, passed their exams and 272 children graduated ready for work with employers including Toyota, Sherwin Williams, and Axalta.

15 World Food Programme
16 One child arrived in 2024 with only four teeth
17 The schools have been gifted some chickens which are productive egg layers and a good learning opportunity for the boys!

COUNTRY FOCUS TANZANIA



- Working on the ground in Tanzania the Sisters paint a stark picture of the poverty, facing its children. Their extreme deprivations – hunger, lack of shelter, lack of water and sanitation, absence of health care and their lack of access to education. Published data underlines this - nearly 85% of these children are out of secondary education unable to afford uniforms or school materials, and needed at home to contribute to household labour or for girls to face early marriage[18].
- These extreme hardships perpetuate a cycle of poverty across generations. Addressing this is a critical priority for our Sisters in this country so that all children, especially girls, can realize their right to an education. In 2024 the Sisters travelled extensively throughout the remotest regions of Tanzania to reach these most vulnerable children including Kagera, Tanga, Morogoro, Iringa, Zanzibar, Songea, Mwanza, Shinyanga, Manyara and Kilimanjaro.
- They were able to care for 1,378 children in their schools and day care facility from these most deprived regions. 924 girls in Kisarawe Girlstown, 171 boys in Dodoma Boystown, 108 in the Mary Training Centre and 175 in the Day Care Centre.
- All the children were so thankful for their school place. Many of the newest children, especially our boys at the new school in Dodoma, arrived extremely weak from hunger and the traumas of their early life but with a regular balanced diet and the loving care of the Sisters they soon began to grow and thrive.



Oloikishaan now at our school in Dodoma, Feb 2025

"Now that I am here the worry and burden of having an education had finally come at ease. I can enjoy privileges like adequate food and fresh water"[19]

- Thanks to our generous friends we were able to send funds totalling £65,907 to the schools in Tanzania, 5% of our total grant. 49% of this grant was spent on food needs for the children with the remainder split across the range of needs including clothing, education supplies, health and hygiene, furniture, equipment, repairs, medicines and utilities. The children were so grateful for the support, and studied hard during the year. The newest children struggled to learn the English needed for their courses and the Sisters provided additional tuition, dictionaries and support to get the children up to the level needed for success in their exams.



PROVIDING A LIFE CHANGING EDUCATION AND PREPARATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

The training centre ladies studied sewing and design technology, bread and pastry production and electrical installation and were rewarded with job offers on qualifying or help to set up their own small businesses. At the boys' school, in addition to academic studies, the boys learnt electrical and solar technology, carpentry, ICT and welding. The girls' school programme of vocational training expanded to include advanced sewing and design technology, cookery, ICT and electrical installation and solar. The oldest girls sat their final exams in the year and all passed ready for the first graduation and progress into employment in early 2025.



The very first girls graduate from school in Kisarawe, Tanzania, May 2025

18 State of the World's Children 2024 - Unicef
19 https://www.worldvillages.org.uk/casestudy/oloikishaan-story/

THE STORY OF MARIA
HONDURAS


Maria and her mother

Maria is from a remote community in Honduras. It is a large family and her older siblings are married and the younger ones work in the fields to help provide for the family's basic needs. They live alone with their mother as sadly Maria's father passed away.

Life hasn't been easy for Maria and she has suffered many difficult problems. When she was younger the family often didn't have enough food because her father chose to spend what little they had on alcohol. That hurt her family deeply.

Her house was a flimsy wooden shack and during heavy rains, it would sometimes collapse. The whole family would have to seek shelter in other people's homes. But everything changed for Maria when she was offered the chance of a place with the Sisters at Villa de las Niñas, Tegucigalpa at the end of 2023. She joined the Sisters in January 2024.


Maria with her new classmates
(second row from front, fourth from right)

"Now I have food every day, proper clothes, and the opportunity to study. I finally feel safe and cared for. My dream is to graduate, and I'm deeply thankful to everyone who supports me and makes this possible. Being here has taught me that my dreams can come true. I will continue to work hard and always give my best."


Maria at school in 2024

THE STORY OF BEISHA
TANZANIA


Beisha at home

"A difficult time is at home when we face scarcity of water and food; there are days when we have to sleep with empty stomachs. One more painful memory was being sick and not being able to afford medicine, as my parents had no money to buy it."

Beisha lives in Tanzania. Her parents are farmers and she is the fourth of seven children. Her house is built with blocks and has a dirt floor. Since water is scarce the family have to buy buckets of water daily for one hundred shillings per bucket.

Beisha's early life has been very traumatic. Supported physically and financially by her grandmother, it was a difficult time for her and the whole family when she passed away, and everyday the family struggled with the necessities for survival. Her siblings were required to help the family by working on the farm so they have not been able to continue with their education. Like them, Beisha's prospect of a secondary education looked doubtful until she met the Sisters of Mary in 2024.

Thanks to our kind supporters we were able to fund a place for Beisha at school with the Sisters and at this news her family rejoiced knowing that her life, and theirs would be changed forever.

"It was one of the happiest moments of my life when I was informed that I would be able to attend the Sisters of Mary School. I felt overwhelming joy knowing that I had been given the opportunity to study, something I love deeply and a step toward achieving my dreams.

My ambition is to become a doctor because I want to help and heal many sick people. I am determined to study very hard to reach this goal. I want to sincerely thank the Sisters of Mary for all the help and support they have given me!"







Thank you

Every child's education is only made possible through the generous support of individual donors, regular Guardian Angels, organisations, churches, Trusts and Foundations, and our volunteers, whose commitment to investing in children's lives has enabled us to provide free education to the poorest children worldwide.

Thank you for your gifts and grants to us in 2024 including:

- C&K Sommer Trust
- Cork of Ashbourne Trust
- Forest Hill Charitable Trust
- Gordillo Coleridge Charitable Trust
- The Grail Society
- Hall Hunter Foundation
- Help the Poor Trust
- Highgate School
- Marsh Charitable Trust
- Rise Technical
- ShareGift (Orr McIntosh Foundation)
- Singer Giving
- The Chalk Cliff Trust
- The Rainford Trust
- The Tula Trust
- UBS UK Donor Advised Foundation
- Van Mesdag Fund
- William Jerome Charitable Trust





The impact of our work

We collect a wide range of data about the outputs and outcomes of our work but the stories of our children before, during and after their time at school are the greatest indicators of the far reaching effect of our work and the life changing impact made with our supporters' investment.

These compelling stories shed light on the transformation created by educating one child. With the education provided and skills learnt, these children have gone on to find stable employment.

They are motivated to give back and provide generations of their families with financial and practical help to escape poverty. They drive positive progress towards better, poverty-free and fair lives not just for their families but for those in the wider communities and countries where they live. Through their alumni groups in each country they are also a powerful ongoing support for the continuing work of the Sisters and the new children in their care. They multiply the impact of our work many times over.



Our graduates, qualified, successful and at work in the world.













THE STORY OF CARLOS
GUATEMALA



Carlos Baltazar Presidential Commissioner Against Discrimination and Racism, (Codisra), at the Sisters' Jubilee ceremony in August 2024, with young Carlos, one of our newest students.

Graduate of Boystown, Zona 6 Guatemala

Carlos was one of the first group of boys to be educated in Zona 6-Boystown, Villa de los Ninos, Guatemala City, joining the school in 1998. From Livingston, Guatemala he grew up in extreme poverty despite his parents' efforts to provide for him.

In the care of the Sisters, Carlos had the opportunity to learn various vocational skills alongside academic secondary school education.

He says "there were many positive experiences that contributed to my personal growth, such as living with indigenous brothers from all over the country and learning to turn towards respect, love, and understanding of others."





After school with the Sisters, he earned a scholarship to study Computer Science in Puerto Barrios, Izabal, from 2003 to 2005 and got his first job that year. He then co-founded the Guatemalan Garifuna Youth Organization (JUGAGUA) to promote cultural rights in Livingston, Izabal, shortly after this forming a company to promote Garifuna culture through audiovisuals.

In 2016, Carlos was invited to join the municipal executive committee in Livingston, Izabal, to address the social challenges faced by the Garifuna people eventually becoming appointed as Presidential Commissioner against Discrimination and Racism, a position he held from 2020 to 2023, representing Guatemala at UN human rights forums between 2022 and 2023. Today Carlos is named "Messenger of Peace of Guatemala" and is currently serving a second term, as commissioner whilst studying for a second university degree, from Galileo University of Guatemala.

He says "The Villa de los Niños was a pivotal point in my adolescence. The training I received there was vital to shaping the person I have become. All the success I have today is due to the dedication of the Sisters of Mary to my education during those three years, for which I will be eternally grateful."

THE STORY OF STHEFANNY
BRAZIL





Graduate of the Girlstown in Brasilia, Brazil

"My name is Sthefanny, and my story is one of faith, hope, and transformation"

Sthefanny grew up in a small town in Brazil in a very poor family. She has four brothers and sisters. All were raised by her mother alone. Life was incredibly hard for Sthefanny and she often saw her mother crying because of their struggles. Yet, despite this she held onto her dreams of a better life, even though they seemed so far away.

Everything changed when she met the Sisters of Mary while they were visiting her hometown in 2013 and thanks to our supporters were able to offer her a place at their school in Brasilia. For the first time, Sthefanny felt a spark of hope and excitement.

"The Sisters of Mary and World Villages for Children were able to offer me a place where I could get a good education and feel safe – a place where my dreams could become possible."

Stefanny flourished at school with the Sisters and was able to find a good job after school and pursue higher education at a reputable university. The opportunity opened doors she never thought possible. Today, Sthefanny is living and working in the UK. She is pursuing a career that she loves and is ambitious for her future.





She says "living and working in Devon, allows me to support my family in Brazil and share my story wherever I go."

She has helped her mother with financial support and continues to help her brothers and sisters by paying for their education and medical care, to ensure they can lift themselves out of poverty. One of her sisters, Ana Clara, has followed in her footsteps, and has just finished school with the Sisters in Brasilia.

Sthefanny has long term ambitions to use her qualifications to work for the United Nations.

She says "as I work towards my dreams and support my family, I carry with me the values and love that Fr Al and the Sisters of Mary have bestowed upon me. Their influence is the foundation of my strength, guiding me to live a life of faith, love, and purpose."

Our plans for 2025 and beyond



One of our students helping out with his family



Three students from the Philippines enjoying their time at school with us

Our strategic planning is driven by the needs of the Sisters of Mary in delivering their life saving mission. In 2025 we will focus on diversifying and growing our income so that the Sisters can continue to care for the children in their schools.

There is a pressing need to generate funding for additional schools places for new children around the world. To support the Sisters in this mission we will focus on the provision of unrestricted income so they can fund new places and enhance the education provided against the backdrop of changing technology so that all the children are ready and skilled for employment and able to help their poor families.

PROVIDING FUNDING FOR NEW CHILDREN

Our priorities in 2025 are to support the sisters in caring for the children currently in their schools and to help them welcome new children in need. We will particularly focus on provision for essentials like food, medicines, school supplies, teaching equipment and salaries. 2024 has seen a rise in the cost of food worldwide. Some essential components of the children's diet have risen by nearly 30% and the impact of this is keenly felt in all the schools where 60,000 meals per day must be provided for the malnourished children who join us. Hungry children can't learn. We commit to providing every child with three balanced meals daily to help them grow and thrive.

PREPARING THE CHILDREN FOR EMPLOYMENT

In 2024 provision of updated vocational training equipment became a very pressing need at the schools as the Sisters readied the children for jobs in new sectors and with new technologies, like 3D printing and cyber security. Our 2024 Big Give appeal for technical drafting tables for the girls in Biga was an example of this need.

This therefore is a key target for our 2025 fundraising to help the Sisters evolve the vocational training in response to industry needs.

Good, well paid employment of the children after graduation is the number one priority outcome at the education programmes and in 2025 we will help the Sisters to ensure they can maintain the exceptional employment rate they already achieve by providing funding to procure updated tools and equipment to support training in the new courses planned which are relevant to local employers.

SUSTAINABILITY

During the year the Sisters made great progress on developing the sustainability initiatives at the schools. This includes installation of solar panels to power some of the schools, extending the farming initiatives which utilise more of their land, reusing and recycling more in their everyday activities. This includes reuse of waste water on the farm land for crop growing.

In 2025 we will support them in these initiatives, prioritising many of the new projects for items like greenhouses for crop growing, provision of seeds for new crops, helping with agriculture training for the children and also helping with the repair and replacement of some of the school infrastructure. Some of the schools are now more than 40 years old and in urgent need of repair and replacement. We will help them with this so that they can optimise their budgets in the care of the children whilst protecting the planet.

Key Objectives to deliver this strategy

FUNDRAISING AND COMMUNICATIONS

In 2025 we will accelerate our strategy to diversify our funding model. 2024 saw good progress in widening our audience of supporters and raising the profile of the Sisters work but 2025 will be a chance to create greater depth and financial support in these new partnerships whilst also maintaining momentum in those fundraising channels which we know work well for us, like direct mail.

Nurturing existing supporter relationships will be a priority particularly with the appointment of new volunteer ambassadors. 2025 will see us focus on using their engagement and understanding of our work to raise greater awareness of our mission around the UK - generating new fundraising opportunities including churches, schools, and other organisations. Every year we continue to be blessed by the energy and engagement of our supporters and in 2025 we will encourage them all to spread the word even further in their communities about the work of the Sisters and the need for their involvement to continue it.

IMPACT MEASUREMENT

Demonstrating the enormous scale of these education programmes and the poverty relief impact created by our work together is key to engagement with new audiences.

In 2025, we will survey and analyse further data from the graduates as it provides valuable insight and measurement on the progress of the children after their time at school, their employment successes, earning potential, the number of family members they are able to help and the difference they go on to make in the world.

As in 2024 we will also continue to liaise closely with the Sisters to capture the stories of the children who come into their care and how their lives are transformed at school. This will be via the regular calls with the Sisters in each school and visits made to the countries to hear and to witness first-hand the situations of poverty faced by the children and how the work of the sisters addresses this need.

The Sisters continue to evolve how they collect their data on the activities of the growing network of their alumni. Their new ARDC research office, will have a vital function in 2025 in helping us to measure and report on the outputs from the schools and the outcomes for each of the children. Together this data measures what happens when the children leave school, they are able to lift many generations of their families and communities out of poverty and onto a better life - the multiplier effect of our donors' generous support.

GOOD GOVERNANCE

Over the last few years we have achieved a great deal of progress with recruiting and retaining our experienced board of trustees. 2024 was a year of consolidation for the board and a chance to utilise the expertise of each of the members in the various objectives of the charity.

Our board continue to be a source of great guidance and wise counsel and they have a variety of skills including lived experience of poverty and being educated at the Sisters' programmes, all of which contributes to the strategic direction of our mission and the good governance of our charity activities in its pursuit.

In 2025 we will review the board composition to ensure these talents are optimised in the service of the charity and that we have a mix of skills to help us with our growth ambitions to support our engagement with new audiences, and enhanced grant giving aims for the Sisters programmes.





Financial Review for 2024



Financial Information for the year 2024 is set out in the attached statement of financial activities. Total income for the year was £2,231,776 (2023 £2,365,435).

In 2024 the fundraising environment was similar to 2023 and we faced a number of challenges during the year including the cost of living constraints and the turbulence of the political change during the year which all affected our supporters' propensity to give as well as delays affecting the accurate calculation and realisation in the year of some large legacy gifts which affected that income stream.

We were however so blessed with the support we received. We are so grateful to learn of the interest of so many of our supporters, their understanding of our work helping the Sisters and the many energetic efforts and sacrifices they make to continue to give so generously and we were pleased to finish 4% ahead of our income forecast for the year although behind 2023.

INCOME

Like last year 37% of our income in 2024 was generated by the loyal support of our special Guardian Angels. These donors who give regularly by direct debit or standing order are invaluable to our work providing a regular flow of mainly unrestricted income so that we can fund all the essential recurring costs of the children like food, clothing, and health care. Without these gifts our work would not be possible.

29% of our income was generated by individual gifts from direct mail and digital. This is slightly higher than 2023. We are very touched to receive gifts from donors like this, many of whom were kind enough to support us repeatedly during the year, particularly to mark the Diamond Jubilee of the Sisters of Mary in August and to help us with our Big Give digital appeals during the year. We were also especially pleased to those donors who thoughtfully ticked the box and allowed us to claim gift aid on their donations and we were efficient in this regard recovering £263,206 in gift aid during the year.

Trust and Foundation income still represented just 1% of the year's total, a small but consistent presence and we are so grateful for every repeat gift and every new relationship made.

Legacy (gifts in wills) and in memory giving declined slightly in 2024 forming 21% of our income although notifications were up on prior year. Not all the income raised in the year is recorded due to the difficulties in estimating some estates. We remain so very touched to receive these final gifts which are the result of a long lasting relationship with the charity. They are a chance to remember and continue the humanitarian work started by these supporters and they help us make a really transformative difference to the lives of the poorest children.

As in previous years we were pleased to record that the majority of income raised was unrestricted as to use, 95%. We are so grateful to our supporters for giving us their gifts in this way.

EXPENDITURE

Expenditure in 2024 was £2,087,720, a 7% decrease on 2023 (2023 £2,238,877). As in prior years, we were able to operate very efficiently and generate cost savings across a number of cost centres in fundraising operations whilst maintaining income raising momentum.

During the year we maintained our reserves at the same level as previously in line with our active assessment of the fundraising environment. This represents six months expenses (not including grant payments to the Sisters of Mary). We consider the figure appropriate to the level of risk faced.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Through 2024, WVC continued to take a proactive approach to analysing and managing the risks faced by the charity. The risk register was reviewed at every board meeting and additionally at the fortnightly sub-committee meeting as needed. We continued to scan the horizon for the risks that relate to our activity, train, and test for those which are pertinent to our fundraising work. Where significant changes occur, these risks are notified to the board.

We classify risk into the following categories: Government & Management, Environment & External, Finance, Operational & Compliance. The current risk register identifies 22 risks across these categories, the major risks are as follows, including our management strategies for each:



RISK MANAGEMENT

RISK	RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY
Operational Risk IT Security/ Cyber Security	**As a board we continue to focus investment on managing this risk which is one of the most significant facing the charity by utilising an array of measures including:** ■ Fully managed technology network with ISO accredited support company to monitor security of our IT network, systems and protections. ■ Robust Backup protocol. ■ Cyber insurance and staff training on all risks
Operational Risk Absence/loss of key staff	**The charity continues to maintains a small team of 5 staff who cover the main functions of our business. Potenal operational risks are managed by:** ■ Documenting of processes and comprehensive guidelines for performing essential activities. ■ Cross training of staff on key functions.
Financial risk Lack of diversity in funding or decline in income	**Our fundraising strategy continues to build towards a diverse array of income streams to manage risk. This approach includes:** ■ Planning & investing in new fundraising methods, skills and capabilities to expand our reach to new individual and organisational sources, corporates, and Trusts & Foundations. ■ Prompt stewardship to help reduce attrition, maintain engagement and encourage repeat giving.
Financial Risk Fraud	**Our management of financial risk includes:** ■ Segregation of financial activities relating to handling income and expenditure. ■ Guidelines and policies on money handling, recording and oversight of cash handling together with staff training on all aspects of finance management and fraud. ■ Whistleblowing and staff protection policies for the above.
Operational Risk Supplier dependence	**Processes to manage this risk include:** ■ Managing relationships with alternative suppliers. ■ Sharing services with other charities and collaboration on certain functions.
Macro Political and Economic instability	**Economic Instability affects donor contributions. The board has in place processes to manage this risk to income which include:** ■ Diversifying income to remain resilient by seeking funding from multiple sources. ■ Maintaining adequate reserves to ensure operations continue without immediate funding pressures.



GOING CONCERN

The trustees completed an assessment of the going concern status of the charity and reviewed the income and expenditure figures for 2024, the budget forecast for 2025 and going forward, one year from signing of the accounts. Through the provision of management accounts, cash flow projections and reports and risk register reviews, the board continue to monitor the level of income, unrestricted reserves and the changing risks facing the charity. These are also monitored regularly by the Finance and Operations Sub-committee.

From this ongoing assessment, they conclude that there are no material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that would cast doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern.

FUNDING SOURCES

In 2024 we made good progress with engaging new audiences and raising income and in-kind gifts from new sources this included Trusts & Foundations, Corporates, new organisations including churches and schools and new digitally engaged supporters. We maintained a consistent performance with individual giving via direct mail, regular gifts from our Guardian Angel donors and continued to benefit from legacy and in memory gifts. We also continued to take advantage of the Gift Aid scheme where our donors were kind enough to confirm their eligibility.

Some of our individual giving donors were adversely affected by cost of living challenges which affected responses on some direct mail appeals but the seasonable appeals (Christmas, Easter, Birthday), as well as the special Diamond Jubilee appeal for help with the Sister's mission were year highlights.

Our efficiencies also continue strongly in this fundraising as we collaborate more with other of our sister charities on design and printing.

Digital fundraising had a year of great momentum. We are excited to be learning more about this method of fundraising whilst closely following the sector's best practice guidance on approaches. We were grateful to be accepted for two Big Give appeals during the year and both achieved their targets early. KPIs on our digital activity are closely monitored and we use these results to model and shape our strategy going forward.

Supporter meetings with the Sisters in the UK in May and the new lunch and learn series of Zoom link ups for supporters with the schools have really increased donor engagement and fundraising opportunities. We will do more of this in 2025. We were also so grateful to the supporters and alumni who fundraised for us during the year, particularly Malou (alumni of the Philippines school) who ran the Berlin Marathon and will run the London Marathon in April 2025 to raise funds for us.

Gifts in Wills didn't quite meet 2023 levels although notifications were 30% increased on that year and funds from one of the estates will be realised in 2025. They remain a significant part of our fundraising and such a blessing to receive. During the year we were so very grateful to learn of our inclusion in the wills of a number of our supporters either those who have used our Free Wills Network subscription or who have acted independently. Such a final gift, whatever the size, is an enormous privilege for us to receive and makes a lasting difference for the children in our care.



Chickens donated by supporters! Our boys in Mexico are learning how to care for them at school to ensure a regular supply of eggs.

FUNDRAISING PRACTICE

Our supporters place their trust in us to steward their gifts efficiently and effectively and in 2024 it was again a priority for us to ensure we upheld this trust. We were humbled by the kindness and sacrifice of our supporters and cherished every single gift received, ensuring it was quickly and safely banked, distributed to the Sisters for the children promptly, and that we reported clearly on the expenditure with the details provided by the schools.

Our charity values of compassion, dedication, and integrity underpin our fundraising and all our charity operations and we prioritise ensuring the maximum amount of our fundraising income is included in each grant and gets to the point of use quickly. The Sisters' diligence in reporting on the expenditure helps us hugely in delivering transparent reporting to our funders to show the variety of ways their funds have been used and how they are supporting this poverty relief work.

We focus on:

- Quick thanking and efficient stewardship of our supporters gifts, demonstrating the difference made by the donations.
- We protect our supporters' data ensuring our data protection policies and processes are up to date with legislative changes and are followed by staff, volunteers and partners. Our privacy policy shows how we use our donor data and provides clear instructions on how supporters can opt out of contact or make a complaint. There were no complaints in 2024 (2023 none).

  Enquiries to the charity are actioned within 48 working hours but generally much quicker than this. All feedback received from supporters is promptly acknowledged and appreciated as it helps us to improve our fundraising.

  www.worldvillages.org.uk/privacy-policy

- As well as being members of the Fundraising Regulator, we are members of the NCVO, the DMA and the CIoF so that we can stay up to date on training and good guidance on fundraising. This includes codes of practice which relate specifically to digital communications[20].

- Our fundraising continues to be designed in-house with content provided and authored by our beneficiaries. Our children are the best authors of their lives and experiences so we often use unedited content from the boys and girls at school to tell the story of their lives. External agencies help us to produce and post the direct mail appeals and to bank some of the responses. We manage these relationships closely and monitor for quality and accuracy.

- Our work is supported by a wide range of generous friends and we take great care to protect all their interests including the most vulnerable. We follow guidance issued by the CIoF and feedback direct from our donors in the construction of our fundraising to ensure it is accessible and acceptable for all. Our vulnerable donors' policy ensures any donor notified to us as vulnerable or who we believe may lack capacity is not contacted for fundraising purposes.

RESERVES

The charity's reserves policy is key to our risk management approach. When planning our charity activity and grant giving we review the level of reserves that need to be held and strike a balance between utilising our funds promptly to support the children and the need to retain sufficient surplus to meet commitments per our reserves policy.

The reserves policy is based on the level of core costs, risks that we face and the quality of income for its contribution to surplus.

In 2024 the majority of our income continued to be unrestricted (95%) (96.5% in 2023) and thus the risk profile remained largely the same as for 2023.

The level of reserves is calculated on six months' expenditure (excluding grants to the Sisters of Mary) and this is approximately £350,000.
The reserves are retained as follows: £190,000 held in liquid assets which can be accessed within 35 days and the remainder held on the balance sheet as a legacy debtor.

At 31 December 2024 the total reserves figure was £708,005 of which £688,168 is represented by unrestricted reserves and £19,837 is represented by restricted reserves. Free reserves at year end, taking into account assets that are not readily available were £10,154 – for the purposes of this calculation both fixed assets and accrued legacy income are not deemed readily available.

The board note that the free reserve total at 31 December 2024 is significantly below the level stated by the policy, however post year end several significant legacy amounts have been realised, increasing the free reserves.

20 Code of Digital Fundraising Practice



New girls, Tegucigalpa, Honduras

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

World Villages for Children was incorporated on 23rd October 1996. Our governing document is the Memorandum and Articles of Association which was revised in September 2017.

World Villages for Children is governed by the Board of Trustees. The board meets a minimum of three times a year in addition to meetings of the Operations and Finance Sub-Committee which meets fortnightly. The board is responsible for setting the strategic planning for the charity as well as its overall governance, including signing the Trustees' Annual Report. The board oversees WVC's management, with day to day responsibility delegated to Nicola Lawson as UK Manager, who, as authorised by the Charity Commission, also serves as a trustee on the board.

The board define the objectives which are the focus of our activities. They manage the risk to the charity, monitor performance toward our objectives and scrutinise the monthly grant giving to the Sisters of Mary programmes. They ensure reporting and compliance with the regulatory standards for charities and companies and that all legal standards are adhered to, including maintenance of a conflict of interest policy.

GRANT MAKING AND REPORTING ON EXPENDITURE

WVC sends its grants to the Sisters of Mary programmes on a monthly basis based on an agreed budget, with additional surpluses where available, based on their operational budget and the needs of the children in the schools. The grant expenditure process is underpinned by an overarching Deed of Grant-making Policy which also defines how reporting on the expenditure is to be handled. The expenditure reports sent by the Sisters are monitored closely by the UK Manager and board and thoroughly audited to ensure that funds are spent as agreed, in line with our charitable objectives and particularly where restricted funds are sent. The analysis included in this report is based on this expenditure reporting.

CHARITY GOVERNANCE CODE

WVC continues to be indebted to its dedicated board of trustees which has been recruited over the last few years to support the governance of the charity. In 2016 a detailed Governance review was conducted which provided guidance on recruitment of UK domiciled trustees. We have followed this guidance on composition of the board as well as the Charity Code of Governance to ensure that we are building a strong board which meets the needs of the charity and serves it well in the delivery of its mission. We continue to review the board for efficacy and skills needed to ensure the growth of the charity in the years to come.

2024 was a year of consolidation for our board as we utilised the variety of skills and talents within our governance group which is extremely diverse as to age, gender and experience.

We are grateful to our board for the time they give so generously to guide the charity. They act honestly and with the interests of the charity at the centre of everything they do.

Our Finance and Operations sub-committee of the board focuses on all the issues relating to the running of the charity and particularly risk and financial performance. We also remain grateful to the programme alumni who participate on our advisory committee. The group did not meet in 2024 but the alumni continued to provide us with their support, skills and insight on the Sisters' programmes and contribute greatly to our impact measurement work.

TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT, INDUCTION & TRAINING

Trustees are recruited to the board for their experience, skills and knowledge as well as their understanding of education and its part in poverty relief and their alignment with the values on which our charity is centred.

Following interview by the board, new Trustees are appointed by resolution and have a period of induction to familiarise themselves with the legal requirements of their role. They also learn about our governance framework, our charity objects and the detailed work of the Sisters of Mary at the schools. It is mandatory for all our trustees to be DBS checked and to be fully compliant with our safeguarding policy.

www.worldvillages.org.uk/what-we-do/safeguarding/

All trustees, especially those who are new to the board are encouraged to travel to the schools and meet the children and alumni unless they have good prior experience, such as Fr Fretch, who is a graduate of the Adlas schools programme. Those not wishing to travel maintain close contact with the programmes through Zoom meetings, in person meetings with alumni and the Sisters when they travel to the UK.

SAFEGUARDING

WVC maintains a detailed safeguarding policy which covers its UK charity activities and also monitors the safeguarding provisions and child protection processes at the Sisters of Mary schools worldwide. We do not tolerate abuse, maltreatment or neglect of any person. The charity, its trustees, staff and all involved in its operation are committed to protecting and fulfilling our duty of care to those we work with in the UK and the children in our care overseas.

Our safeguarding policy and processes are designed to keep all our staff, volunteers and trustees safe and we train and update to support awareness and capacity in safeguarding. The Sisters also report to us on the implementation of their safeguarding protocols and we observe them in person at the Sisters of Mary schools, day care and training centres worldwide. Together our activities ensure a safe and happy environment for our staff, volunteers, stakeholders here and all our vulnerable beneficiaries overseas at all times.

ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE

At WVC, we recognise our responsibility to operate as a force for positive change, both within our organisation and through the Sisters of Mary in the communities we serve. We bring together dedicated UK funders who want their investments to make a difference, with overseas education programmes which seek to provide an education to relieve poverty and create real change in the lives of people and communities, whilst protecting the planet.

Our values of dedication, integrity and commitment guide our decisions, actions and interactions with all our stakeholders and we view climate change and environmental impact as significant and a matter which is our responsibility now and for the future.

In 2024 we started to evaluate our ESG factors alongside financial outcomes in our activities as well as when making decisions about our grant allocations for the Sisters of Mary programmes which specifically support the sustainability, climate friendly initiatives they are developing in their schools programmes.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND IMPACT

FOR US THIS COVERS TWO PRIMARY AREAS:

- Internal activities – This includes how we conduct our fundraising work, our travel, material usage, procurement practices, office operations and staff travel arrangements.

  We take proactive steps to mitigate climate change. This includes reuse and recycling, working towards a paperless office, partnering with suppliers who adhere to ethical and environmentally responsible practices to help us in our fundraising, minimising the carbon footprint of our office operations, minimising use of electricity and encouraging staff to use public transport and climate friendly means to access their work – like cycling or walking.

- External activities – the Sisters of Mary education projects we support and how they mitigate the impact on climate change and conduct their activities sustainably.

  The SoM continue to develop sustainable operating practices which reuse and recycle materials, they generate a good deal of their power (particularly in the Philippines) from sustainable sources – like solar and continue to develop sustainable farming practices which utilise waste water and help them feed the children at the schools and protect the planet.

SOCIAL FOCUS

We value and benefit from the collective power and potential of our workforce. Our dedication to building a workforce that is well cared for and nurtures inclusion will unlock the potential of our employees and drive organisational success. Our benefits package for staff and approach to recruitment and retention underline this belief, with fair pay, a safe and healthy work environment and encouragement to make space for active engagement outside the office as well as volunteering within our local community.

GOVERNANCE

Our objective in 2024 continued to be a diverse and equitable trustee board and we have built a governance structure which is diverse across a range of skills, gender, age and experience. We operate with strong principles of honesty and integrity and our trustees act with the interests of the charity at the centre of everything they do. The charity provides transparency in its financial accounting, works towards robust ethical guidelines in its fundraising and has clear accountability to donors and the public.

We believe strong governance is the bedrock of trust, assuring our stakeholders that the organisation is well-managed and that their contributions are being used effectively and ethically.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH RELATED (CONNECTED) PARTIES

Throughout 2024 WVC continued to work closely with the family of independent affiliated charities based in the EU and US. Income from these charities together sustains the Sisters of Mary programmes and the children in their care.

These include Wereld Doorpen voor Kinderen in Belgium and the Netherlands, Villages du Monde pour Enfants in France, Asian Relief (trading as World Villages for Children) in the US and Die Schwestern Maria in Germany. All these charities share similar aims as World Villages for Children for the relief of poverty through education but they are separate, independent legal entities and there is no one controlling party.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR SETTING PAY AND REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

WVC aims to reward its employees fairly and to ensure sufficient skilled staffing to achieve our objectives, in keeping with our status as a charity.

Pay rates are benchmarked against sector averages and take into account the specifics of the job role, responsibility, experience and quality of performance. As with all staff remuneration, WVC reviews and benchmarks management remuneration with sector standards and in relation to other staff salaries. Trustees are not remunerated with the exception of the UK Manager who receives a salary for her management role whilst also holding the role of trustee as requested by the board and authorised by the Charity Commission in 2016.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

In setting the objectives for the charity and planning its activities, the Board has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on the public benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011.

The humanitarian poverty relief programmes that we fund support those children in greatest need and no charges are made for any care provided, therefore the board considers that the charity meets the following four important principles of the public benefit requirements in its work:

- Relief of poverty through the funding of free education for children which enables them to access a vocation and to acquire employment – to break free from the cycle of poverty and assist their families.
- Advancement of education, by ensuring all the children attend one of our schools or day-care facilities.
- Advancing health and welfare – ensuring all the children at the schools receive medical support, proactive health care, regular food and nutrition and extra supplements where needed.
- Enabling children in the countries where we operate to access a better, poverty free future.

Our fundraising work provides children with a lifesaving education and a route out of poverty. When children from the poorest countries and communities have the chance of a place at one of our schools their lives and the lives of their families are changed forever. The children can find work, become independent, able to help themselves and their families onto a better, poverty free future but we cannot help these children without you. By supporting our appeals, becoming a Guardian Angel, giving online, giving a grant, leaving a gift in your will or simply sharing about our work with your friends and community you can transform the life of a child and their family – permanently www.worldvillages.org.uk

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of World Villages for Children for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards).

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions, disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and the provisions of the charity's constitution.

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently

Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent

State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

AUDITORS

Kreston Reeves LLP have indicated their willingness to continue in office and are deemed to be reappointed in accordance with section 487 (2) of the Companies Act 2006.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees 8th September 2025

Nicola Lawson.

N Lawson
Trustee

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of World Villages for Children



OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of World Villages for Children (the 'Charity') for the year ended 31 December 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows, Analysis of Net Debt and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31 December 2024 and of the charity's incoming resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

OTHER INFORMATION

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' Report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard

OPINIONS ON OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

In our opinion based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations require us to report you, if in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 37, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below

CAPABILITY OF THE AUDIT IN DETECTING IRREGULARITIES, INCLUDING FRAUD

Based on our understanding of the charity and sector, and through discussion with the Trustees and other management (as required by auditing standards), we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to health and safety, anti-bribery, GDPR legislation and employment law. We considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 2019, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and other relevant charity legislation. We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries to increase revenue or reduce expenditure and management bias in accounting estimates specifically in recognising the accrued legacies.

Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Discussions with management and assessment of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud; and
- Identifying and assessing the design effectiveness of controls that management has in place to prevent and detect fraud; and
- Performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships, including related party transactions, that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud; and
- Confirmation of related parties with management, and review of transactions throughout the period to identify any previously undisclosed transactions with related parties outside the normal course of business; and
- Reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; and
- Review of significant and unusual transactions and evaluation of the underlying financial rationale supporting the transactions; and
- Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any manual entries made at the year end for financial statement preparation; and
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting estimates.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion of the effectiveness of the Charity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our Auditors' Report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our Auditors' Report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Charity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

USE OF OUR REPORT

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and its Trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Kreston Reeves LLP

Kreston Reeves LLP
Partner

Statutory Auditor, Chartered Accountants, Chichester

Date 15 September 2025

Kreston Reeves LLP are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	**Total Funds 2024 £**	*Total Funds 2023 £*
INCOME FROM					
Donations and legacies					
Donations and grants	3	1,646,061	111,711	**1,757,772**	*1,810,287*
Legacies and bequests	3	469,835	-	**469,835**	*551,529*
Interest income		4,169	-	**4,169**	*3,619*
Total		**2,120,065**	**111,711**	**2,231,776**	*2,365,435*
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising Funds	4 & 5	358,273	-	**358,273**	*365,139*
Charitable Activities	4 & 6	1,636,319	93,128	**1,729,447**	*1,873,738*
Total		**1,994,592**	**93,128**	**2,087,720**	*2,238,877*
Net Income		125,473	18,583	144,056	*126,558*
Net movement in funds		**125,473**	**18,583**	**144,056**	*126,558*
Total Funds Brought Forward	12 & 13	562,695	1,254	**563,949**	*437,391*
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	12 & 13	**688,168**	**19,837**	**708,005**	*563,949*

During the current financial year the salary allocation model has been amended to more accurately reflect the time spent on activities, and this has retrospectively been applied to the prior year figures adjusting the split between expenditure on raising funds and charitable activities as shown in note 4. Total expenditure remains unchanged.

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing operations.

The notes on the pages 44 to 53 form a part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	£	2024 £	£	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Intangible fixed assets	9		10,840		*14,453*
Tangible fixed assets	8		33,966		*42,197*
			44,806		*56,650*
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock		11,065		12,643	
Debtors	10	672,375		487,258	
Cash at bank and in hand		200,288		237,821	
		883,728		737,722	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	(220,529)		(230,423)	
Net Current Assets			**663,199**		*507,299*
Net Assets			**708,005**		*563,949*
The funds of the charity					
Restricted funds	**12 & 13**		19,837		*1,254*
Unrestricted funds	**12 & 13**		688,168		*562,695*
Total Funds			**708,005**		*563,949*

For the year ending 31 December 2024 the charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. However an audit is required under the Charities Act 2011.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and preparation of accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to the small companies regime.

The Financial Statements were approved and authorised for distribution by the Board of Trustees on ...8th September 2025..... **and signed on their behalf by:**



.....

Nicola Lawson
Trustee
Company Registration No. 3267479

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2024 £	*2023 £*
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net (Expenditure)/ income for the year	144,056	*126,558*
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and amortisation of fixed assets	11,844	*12,217*
Interest received	(4,169)	*3,619*
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	(185,117)	*(296,882)*
(Decrease) / increase in creditor due within one year	(9,894)	*(1,242)*
Decrease / (increase) in Stock	1,578	*1,100*
Net cash from by operating activities	**(41,702)**	*(161,868)*
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Interest received	4,169	*3,619*
Net cash from investing activities	**4,169**	*3,619*
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**(37,533)**	*(158,249)*
Cash and cash equivalents at the start of the year	237,821	*396,070*
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the ear	**200,288**	*237,821*

The charity had no borrowings or debt instruments during the reporting period. As such, no net debt reconciliation is required or presented.

The notes on the pages 44 to 53 form a part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Status of the charity

World Villages for Children is registered as a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales (company number 03267479) and its registered office is Kings Building, 16 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HQ. World Villages for Children is a Public Benefit Entity registered with the Charity Commission (Charity number 1058973).

Basis of Preparation of the Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Report Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) second edition - effective 1 January 2019.

The functional currency of the charity is Pound Sterling. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Going Concern

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these accounts. The Trustees have made this assessment in respect to a period of one year from the date of approval of these accounts. The Trustees of the Charity have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees are of the opinion that the Charity will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

The Trustees have considered a number of factors when forming their conclusion as to whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate. They take into account the budget forecast for up to December 2025, cash flow forecast to December 2025 and the review of risks facing the charity, particularly the ongoing cost of living crisis. Key current risk is the decline in income due to economic factors affecting cost of living and the ongoing conflicts in the Ukraine and the Middle East.

Our fundraising planning addresses this risk and since year end fundraising has continued consistently, overseen fortnightly by the board sub-committee to monitor performance and liquidity. Expenditure and operating efficiency continue to be closely scrutinised by management and the whole board quarterly with forecasts adjusted for different outcomes to assess liquidity and going concern status.

Our forward planning beyond 2025 takes into consideration the changing fundraising context and the economic climate and its potential impact on the various sources of income and planned expenditure.

The Charity's monthly financial statements, along with a cash flow forecast and scenario planning, show that the Charity has sufficient funds and liquidity and having regard to all of the above it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Legacies

Legacies are recognised in the statement of financial activities when there is entitlement, adequate probability and reliability of receipt and their value can be accurately measured. For both pecuniary and residuary legacies this is when probate has been granted and a reasonable estimate calculated for this income.

Donations

Donations are accounted for when conditions for their receipt are met, it is probable that the amounts will be received and the amount receivable can be reliably estimated.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The key sources of uncertainty in our estimations that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are described in the accounting policies and are summarised below:

- *Residuary legacies*
  The charity recognises residuary legacies once probate has been granted, which therefore requires an estimation of the amount receivable.

Pensions

Pension contributions are made for all employees and recorded as they fall due. These are defined contributions paid to approved private pension schemes for each employee.

Taxation

World Villages for Children is a registered charity and all of its income falls within the exemptions under part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.

Gift Aid Repayments

Income from Gift Aid repayment claims is only included for claims which have been submitted for tax periods ending on or before the year end and when the receipt of this income is certain.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred.

Grant payments are recognised when a constructive obligation arises that results in the payment being required.

Raising funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income.

The costs of appeals are matched where possible with the income generated. The accounting effect of this policy means that, at the balance sheet date, a proportion of the cost of the December mailing is carried forward as a prepayment as part of the response anticipated in January.

Support costs including central functions and costs primarily associated with constitution and statutory requirements have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating staff cost by work done, office costs by floor area, return mail processing and finance costs by work done. The staff costs which relate specifically to fundraising for the charity have been apportioned within support costs on the basis of time calculated as spent on this activity.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Leasehold improvements	over the term of the lease
Plant and equipment	20% on cost

All assets are capitalised at a cost.

Intangible Fixed Assets

Amortisation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Website development and software	20% on cost

All assets are capitalised at cost

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds comprise monies raised for, or their use restricted to, a specific purpose, or donations subject to conditions imposed by donors.

Designated funds comprise funds set aside out of unrestricted funds for a specific purpose.

Leasing Commitments

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Foreign currency transactions

Transactions denominated in a foreign currency are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction or at an average rate for the relevant month where that provides a close approximation.

Stock

The stock held is used for the direct marketing mailings, all the stock is held at the printers and valued at cost price.

Other Financial Instruments

i. **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at banks and in hand and short-term deposits with a maturity date of three months or less. As at 31st December 2024, total cash held was £200,288 (2023: £237,821).

ii. **Debtors and Creditors**

Debtors and creditors receivable or payable within one year of the reporting date are carried at their transaction price. Debtors and creditors that are receivable or payable in more than one year and not subject to a market rate of interest are measured at the present value of the expected future receipts or payment discounted at a market rate of interest. Balances for 2023 and 2024 are set out in notes 10 to 11.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

World Villages for Children

2. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total *Funds 2023* £
INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES				
Donations and grants	3	1,727,944	82,343	*1,810,287*
Legacies	3	551,529	-	*551,529*
Interest income		3,619	-	*3,619*
Total		*2,283,092*	*82,343*	*2,365,435*
EXPENDITURE ON				
Raising Funds	4 & 5	365,139	-	*365,139*
Charitable activities	4 & 6	1,767,348	106,390	*1,873,738*
Total		*2,132,487*	*106,390*	*2,238,877*
Net income/(expenditure)		150,605	(24,047)	*126,558*
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		150,605	*(24,047)*	*126,558*
Total funds brought forward	12 & 13	412,090	25,301	*437,391*
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	12 & 13	*562,695*	*1,254*	*563,949*

3. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	**Total 2024 £**
Donations and grants	1,646,061	111,711	**1,757,772**
Legacies and bequests	469,835	-	**469,835**
Total	**2,115,896**	**111,711**	**2,227,607**

	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	*Total 2023* £
Donations and grants	1,727,944	82,343	*1,810,287*
Legacies and bequests	551,529	-	*551,529*
Total	*2,279,473*	*82,343*	*2,361,816*

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

World Villages for Children

4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE

	Grants to Sisters of Mary £	Direct staff Costs £	Other direct Costs £	Support Costs £	**Total 2024 £**
COSTS OF GENERATING FUNDS:					
Fundraising and publicity	-	113,680	179,394	65,199	**358,273**
Charitable expenditure	1,375,000	64,416	217,485	72,546	**1,729,447**
Total charitable activity	1,375,000	64,416	217,485	72,546	**1,729,447**
Total resources expended	**1,375,000**	**178,096**	**396,879**	**137,745**	**2,087,720**

	Grants to Sisters of Mary £	Direct staff Costs £	Other direct Costs £	Support Costs £	*Total 2023* £
COSTS OF GENERATING FUNDS:					
Fundraising and publicity	-	111,827	190,337	62,975	*365,139*
Charitable expenditure	1,500,000	63,399	240,996	69,343	*1,873,738*
Total charitable activity	1,500,000	63,399	240,996	69,343	*1,873,738*
Total resources expended	*1,500,000*	*175,226*	*431,333*	*132,318*	*2,238,877*

An analysis of expenditure on raising funds split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 5.

An analysis of expenditure on charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 6.

An analysis of staff costs can be found in note 7.

Support costs consist of two main elements: indirect staff costs and office costs. These costs have been apportioned across the work of the charity on the basis in Note 1 and allocated to each of the charity's activity as set out in the table below.

	Indirect Staff (time) £	Office costs (Area) £	**Total 2024 £**
Fundraising and publicity	23,361	41,838	**65,199**
Charitable activities	13,007	59,539	**72,546**
Total costs allocated	36,368	101,377	**137,745**

	Indirect Staff (time) £	Office costs (Area) £	*Total 2023* £
Fundraising and publicity	23,405	39,570	*62,975*
Charitable activities	13,032	56,311	*69,343*
Total costs allocated	36,437	95,881	*132,318*

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE (Continued)

Included within expenditure are the following costs

	2024 £	*2023 £*
Operating lease payments	48,136	*48,840*
Auditors remuneration:		
Audit services	20,340	*19,200*
Accountancy and other professional services	30,215	*38,279*

5. EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	**Total 2024 £**
Direct staff costs	113,680	-	**113,680**
Other direct costs	179,394	-	**179,394**
Support costs	65,199	-	**65,199**
Total	**358,273**	**-**	**358,273**

	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	*Total 2023 £*
Direct staff costs	111,827	-	*111,827*
Other direct costs	190,337	-	*190,337*
Support costs	62,975	-	*62,975*
Total	365,139	-	365,139

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

6. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	**Total 2024 £**
Grants to Sisters of Mary	1,281,872	93,128	**1,375,000**
Direct staff costs	64,416	-	**64,416**
Other direct costs	217,485	-	**217,485**
Support costs	72,546	-	**72,546**
Total	**1,636,319**	**93,128**	**1,729,447**

	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	*Total 2023 £*
Grants to Sisters of Mary	1,393,610	106,390	*1,500,000*
Direct staff costs	63,399	-	*63,399*
Other direct costs	240,996	-	*240,996*
Support costs	69,343	-	*69,343*
Total	1,767,348	106,390	*1,873,738*

7. STAFF COSTS

	2024 £	*2023 £*
Wages and salaries	194,194	*191,882*
Social security costs	15,426	*15,204*
Pension costs	4,844	*4,578*
Total	**214,464**	*211,664*

The average headcount during the year was 5 persons (2023 – 5).

Total remuneration paid to such key management personnel including trustees (see note 15) amounted to £54,116 (2023: £55,206).

There are no employees earning £60,000 per annum or more (2023: none).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

World Villages for Children

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Leasehold Improvements £	Equipment £	**Total £**
COST			
At 1st January 2024	75,556	20,491	**96,047**
At 31st December 2024	75,556	20,491	**96,047**
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION			
At 1st January 2024	34,557	19,293	**53,850**
Charge for the year	7,555	676	**8,231**
At 31st December 2024	42,112	19,969	**62,081**
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st December 2024	**33,444**	**522**	**33,966**
At 1st January 2024	40,999	1,198	42,197

The fixed assets are used wholly for the activities of the charitable company.

9. INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Website development & software costs	**Total £**
COST		
At 1st January 2024	34,448	**34,448**
At 31 December 2024	34,448	**34,448**
ACCUMULATED AMORTISATION		
At 1st January 2024	19,995	**19,995**
Charge for the year	3,613	**3,613**
At 31 December 2024	23,608	**23,608**
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31st December 2024	**10,840**	**10,840**
At 1 January 2024	14,453	14,453

10. DEBTORS

	Total 2024 £	*Total 2023 £*
Legacies receivable	633,208	*416,327*
Gift aid receivable	2,742	*28,030*
Prepayments	34,155	*29,135*
Other debtors	2,270	*13,766*
	672,375	*487,258*

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

11. CREDITORS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Total 2024 £	*Total 2023 £*
Trade creditors	42,738	*61,017*
Accruals	24,952	*24,448*
HMRC payable	4,137	*6,937*
Pension payable	808	*957*
Grants due to the Sisters of Mary	100,000	*125,000*
Other	47,894	*12,064*
	220,529	*230,423*

12. ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS

	Balance @ 01.01.2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	**Balance @ 31.12.2024 £**
Unrestricted	562,695	2,120,065	(1,994,592)	-	**688,168**
Restricted					
Guatemala	-	7,764	(7,754)	-	**10**
Tanzania	-	56,348	(54,829)	-	**1,519**
Philippines	-	21,291	(7,590)	-	**13,701**
Honduras	528	17,351	(17,068)	-	**811**
Brazil	-	8,224	(4,428)	-	**3,796**
Mexico	-	553	(553)	-	-
Other	726	180	(906)	-	-
Restricted	1,254	111,711	(93,128)	-	**19,837**
Total	**563,949**	**2,231,776**	**(2,087,720)**	**-**	**708,005**

	Balance @ 01.01.2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	*Balance @ 31.12.2023 £*
Unrestricted	412,090	2,283,092	(2,132,487)	-	*562,695*
Restricted					
Guatemala	2,915	2,061	(4,976)	-	-
Tanzania	21,790	61,825	(83,615)	-	-
Philippines	50	1,061	(1,111)	-	-
Honduras	528	755	(755)	-	*528*
Brazil	18	15,779	(15,797)	-	-
Mexico	-	136	(136)	-	-
Other	-	726	-	-	*726*
Restricted	25,301	82,343	(106,390)	-	*1,254*
Total	437,391	2,365,435	(2,238,877)	-	*563,949*

Each of the restricted funds is to be spent on charitable activities within the relevant country.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

13. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	**Total 2024 £**
Intangible fixed assets	10,840	-	**10,840**
Tangible fixed assets	33,966	-	**33,966**
Cash at bank and in hand	180,451	19,837	**200,288**
Other net current assets	462,911	-	**462,911**
	688,168	**19,837**	**708,005**

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	*Total 2023 £*
Intangible fixed assets	*14,453*	-	*14,453*
Tangible fixed assets	*42,197*	-	*42,197*
Cash at bank and in hand	*236,567*	*1,254*	*237,821*
Other net current assets	*269,478*	-	*269,478*
	562,695	1,254	563,949

14. LEASE COMMITMENTS

	LAND AND BUILDINGS **Total 2024 £**	*Total 2023 £*
At 31 December, the charity has total future minimum commitments under operating leases as follow:		
Within one year	48,393	*15,387*
Between two and five years	190,722	*183,968*
Greater than five years	-	*15,295*
	239,115	*214,650*

15. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND DONATIONS

A total of £nil (2023: £nil) expenses were paid by the charity in the year. Nicola Lawson, who became a trustee in July 2016, received remuneration of £47,567 (2023: £48,500) and pension of £1,240 (2023: £1,268) during the year, in her capacity as an employee of the charity. This has been discussed and agreed with the Charity Commission. No other trustee receives remuneration (2023: £nil).

Total donations from trustees amounted to £7,818 (2023: £10,812) within the year.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

16. CONNECTED PARTIES

World Villages for Children based in the United Kingdom pays on behalf of, and has had paid on its behalf, various expenses related to the charity as a whole by other affiliates based overseas.

The charity made grants totalling £1,375,000 to The Sisters of Mary in the year (2023: £1,500,000), which while not a strict affiliate is closely aligned to the ideals of the charity.

Balances between other affiliates have been settled before the balance sheet date except for those balances due to, and from, such affiliates as disclosed in Notes 10 and 11 of the financial statements.

Two trustees of the charity, Sister D.L Cho and Elena Grengia Belarmino also sit on the boards of four other humanitarian entities that all share similar visions and purposes as World Villages for Children; these entities are in France, Netherlands, Belgium and the U.S.A. In addition, one former trustee, Sister Y Cheong, also sits on the board of the U.S entity. However, World Villages for Children does not consolidate these foreign entities in its financial statements, as they are separate legal entities with no one controlling party.

They were no other financial dealings with these entities during the year, apart from those transactions, and year end balances already disclosed below.

17. MEMBERS' LIMITED LIABILITY

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of the same being wound up while they are a member. This contribution, not exceeding £10, covers the payment of debts and liabilities of the company contracted before each individual ceased to be a member and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves.

18. LEGACY INCOME

World Villages for Children is aware of legacies of which the charity's share is estimated at £100k (2023: £0). This has not been included in these financial statements as it does not reach the necessary recognition criteria as laid out by the charity's accounting policy.

World Villages for Children



FAMILY VISITING DAY FOR OUR NEW BOYS AT SCHOOL IN DODOMA, TANZANIA.

THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT, THE BOYS HAVE THE PRECIOUS CHANCE TO SHOW THEIR LOVED ONES THE ENORMOUS PROGRESS THEY HAVE MADE AT SCHOOL AND THE HOPE THEY CAN BRING FOR THE FUTURE OF GENERATIONS OF THEIR FAMILIES.

Ending poverty through education

World Villages for Children

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enquiries@worldvillages.org.uk

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2022 NCVO MEMBER

Corporate member DMA Data & Marketing Association

UK Registered Charity Number: 1058973

WORLD VILLAGES FOR CHILDREN

England & Wales - Charity number 1058973

Accounts



2023
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

World Villages for Children

Ending poverty through education

UK Registered Charity Number: 1058973



AIZACK

On our cover is Aizack.
He comes from Ruvuma in Tanzania where he lived in a single room brick house with his mother, father and four other siblings.

His mother is a farmer and his father works in construction but it was a very hard life for all of them. When the crops failed there was nothing for the family to eat and this happened regularly.

Aizack was able to attend a local primary school but had to walk miles to reach it.

Without any income, the family couldn't afford the books and uniform needed for Aizack to go to secondary school and so he just helped his mother on the farm. When the Sisters met Aizack in May last year he was malnourished and fearful for his future and that of his family.



Aizack with Sr Margie and his new friends at Dodoma Boystown, Tanzania.

Thanks to the support of our donors we were able to provide funding for a place for Aizack at the Sisters' new school in Dodoma. He was one of the first to join the school in August 2023.
We were delighted to meet him in September with all his new Form 1 friends. Safe in the care of the Sisters the change in him has been truly remarkable.

Thanks to you he is loving every day at school and hopeful for his future. He says **"the Sisters of Mary greatly helps a lot of students who are like me having the strong desire to finish my education in order to help my family. The sisters had provided us with everything we need like food, clothing and shelter. Also the environment is perfect to study hard and achieve my dream of becoming a sailor someday"**.

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Company Number: 3267479
UK Registered Charity Number: 1058973

World Villages for Children



Anastazia on the right, with her family when she first met the Sisters in Tanzania.

COMPANY INFORMATION

Directors & Trustees	Sister Elena Grengia Belarmino (Appointed Chair 6 July 2023) Sister D L Cho (Sister Maria), Chair of Trustees (Resigned as Chair, 31st March 2023) Nicola Lawson (Appointed 8 July 2016) John Graham, Treasurer (Appointed 18 April 2019) Jo Ogilvie (Appointed 12 April 2022) Clare Bamberger (Appointed 4 July 2019) Sr Margarita Campos Abeja (Appointed 6th July 2023) Fr Fretch Ballesteros (Appointed 7th August 2023) Sister Y Cheong (Sister Margie) (Resigned 17th September 2019) Sister Teresita Mendoza Prudente (Resigned 6th July 2023)
Key Management Personnel	UK Manager
Website	www.worldvillages.org.uk
Registered Office & Charity address	Kings Buildings, 16 Smith Square, London SW1P 3HQ
Auditor	Kreston Reeves, LLP, 9 Donnington Park, 85 Birdham Road, Chichester, PO20 7AJ
Solicitor	BDB Pitmans, One Bartholomew Close, London EC1A 7BL
Bank	National Westminster Bank, St James & Piccadilly Branch, P O Box 2DG, 208 Piccadilly, London W1J 9HE



INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHAIR

As I look back at 2023, I am so grateful to you, our dedicated donors for your continued support of our charity programmes. Without you, our work educating the poorest children in the world would not be possible. In 2023 you truly helped us face a year of great challenges but also allowed us to make good progress.

As I took over the baton of leadership from Sister Maria Cho in March 2023 and the Chairmanship of WVC in July, my heart has been so touched by the words of support and encouragement from all our friends and supporters.

With your support and the dedication of my Sisters of Mary, along with WVC's staff and trustees, we joyfully opened Tanzania's first school for the poorest boys. Introducing this new facility to Dodoma ignites hope within the children, envisioning a future where they can secure employment, become productive individuals, and support the needs of their impoverished families. We were fortunate to receive the first cohort of 115 young boys at the school in August.

Your generosity also ensured that we were able to accept new children at our other schools around the world and to provide all the food, clothing and educational supplies needed for a total of 20,879 children in our care at the mid point of 2023 so they could recover, grow healthy and thrive with us.

During the year 1,381 final year students passed their exams and graduated from our schools ready for work. So very many of these are already employed, able to be productive, help their parents and siblings financially and provide support for members of their community.

The heartbreaking desperation of children in poverty continued to increase in 2023 with malnutrition, violence, abuse and early marriage much witnessed during our community work in the poorest regions. In 2023 we ventured further to more remote areas to reach these most vulnerable children and your support allowed us to bring them into a safe place at our schools.

The rising cost of food and basic commodities during the year was a constant concern. As for you all, we have seen the cost of food for our children rise, in some cases by more than 30%. With your help and continued support we hope that we can continue to address this challenge and find new ways to run our programmes and feed our children whilst protecting the planet's resources.

We remain so grateful to you for your commitment to our mission, your humanitarian interest and care for the welfare and future of our poorest children and your longstanding generosity towards their care.



Sr Elena Belarmino
Chair of Trustees



INTRODUCTION FROM THE UK MANAGER

In 2023, we were so grateful for the kindness, interest and continued financial support from our friends, individual and organisational donors, trusts and foundations.

We were thrilled to meet up with more of our donors during the year and to celebrate our lasting bonds with them. We are so touched by the enormous lengths (and heights) they go to by fundraising for us and to hear the emotional stories of their visits to the schools overseas.

During the year we were again blessed with the hard work and good guidance of our WVC board who gave their time so generously. We were delighted to welcome Sr Elena as our new Chair in July and thrilled Sr Maria remains as an active member on our board. During the year we were also delighted to welcome Sr Margarita Abeja and Fr Fretch Ballesteros onto the board, the latter joins as an alumni of the Philippines school.

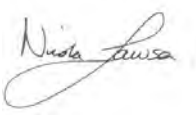
It was a very difficult year for our fundraising but with your good will and constant kindness we were able to keep our strategic focus on fundraising, good governance, and effective use of resources, exceed our budgets and continue sending regular grants to the Sisters of Mary to help them in their poverty relief work. I am particularly grateful to the WVC team for their hard work during the year – their diligence, understanding of the SoM programmes and motivation to succeed is much appreciated.

As in previous years, we focused on raising flexible use, unrestricted funding to help with the full range of the children's needs. Food was a high priority in 2023 as the costs continued to rise around the world. We also provided funds for the vocational training so new courses could be added and tailored to the needs of local employers.

We were buoyed up by the support of the alumni of the SoM during the year whose honest engagement with us speaks volumes for the transformative power of the Sisters programmes. We continued gathering data and measuring impact, and closely followed the progress of the children in the schools, especially two in Brazil who are featured later.

Our fundraising is driven by profound respect for the Sisters' poverty relief work. We were privileged to witness the new boys' school opening in Dodoma, Tanzania, spend time with local families, and support new children at all the schools. It is our joy to contribute to the annual growth of this programme, providing education and care to the world's most impoverished children.

Thank you



Nicola Lawson
UK Manager and Trustee

Empowering futures, erasing poverty



One of our newest students, Alirah.

ABOUT WORLD VILLAGES FOR CHILDREN

World Villages for Children supports the worldwide education programmes of the Sisters of Mary (SoM) to provide a free, quality education to the poorest children in the world.

At the end of 2022, approximately 8.4% of the world's population, or as many as 670 million people, were living in extreme poverty and the majority of these were in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. If current trends continue, only one third of countries will halve national poverty by 2030[1].

Children in these countries are the most vulnerable; they lack food, water, shelter, medical care & education. They are often exposed to neglect, violence, abuse, malnutrition and early marriage. Access to education for these children transforms their lives and that of their families.

Our fundraising provides school places for the children in the Philippines, Mexico, Guatemala, Brazil, Honduras and Tanzania. In a safe and loving environment with the Sisters, the boys and girls receive full time care and an accredited education which gives them technical skills relevant to local employment and helps them to find stable, fairly paid employment. These children are the focus of our fundraising work.





ABOUT THE SISTERS OF MARY EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

The Sisters' education programmes started in 1964 and have grown at the invitation of governments to the poorest regions in new countries and communities. They now operate 13 live-in secondary schools for children aged 11-17, (Philippines, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Brazil & Tanzania), 5 day-care centres for toddlers aged 3-5, (Mexico, Guatemala, Brazil (2), Tanzania), 1 elementary school for youngsters aged 6-11 (Brazil), 3 medical centres (Philippines (2) & Guatemala) and 1 training centre for out of work young women (Tanzania).

Together we provide places for nearly 20,000 of the poorest children each year. The programmes are low cost and generate huge operating efficiencies and in 2023 it cost an average of just £1,200 to educate and care for one child for the year.
The Sisters provide holistic support for each child, helping them to recover from their early lives, grow healthy and well, to become confident, independent, skilled enough for work and able to help their families and contribute positively to society.

Education is provided by professional teachers, accredited by the national education authorities in each country and also covers technical subjects relevant to local jobs most recently including Care giving, Cyber security and Digital jobs training.

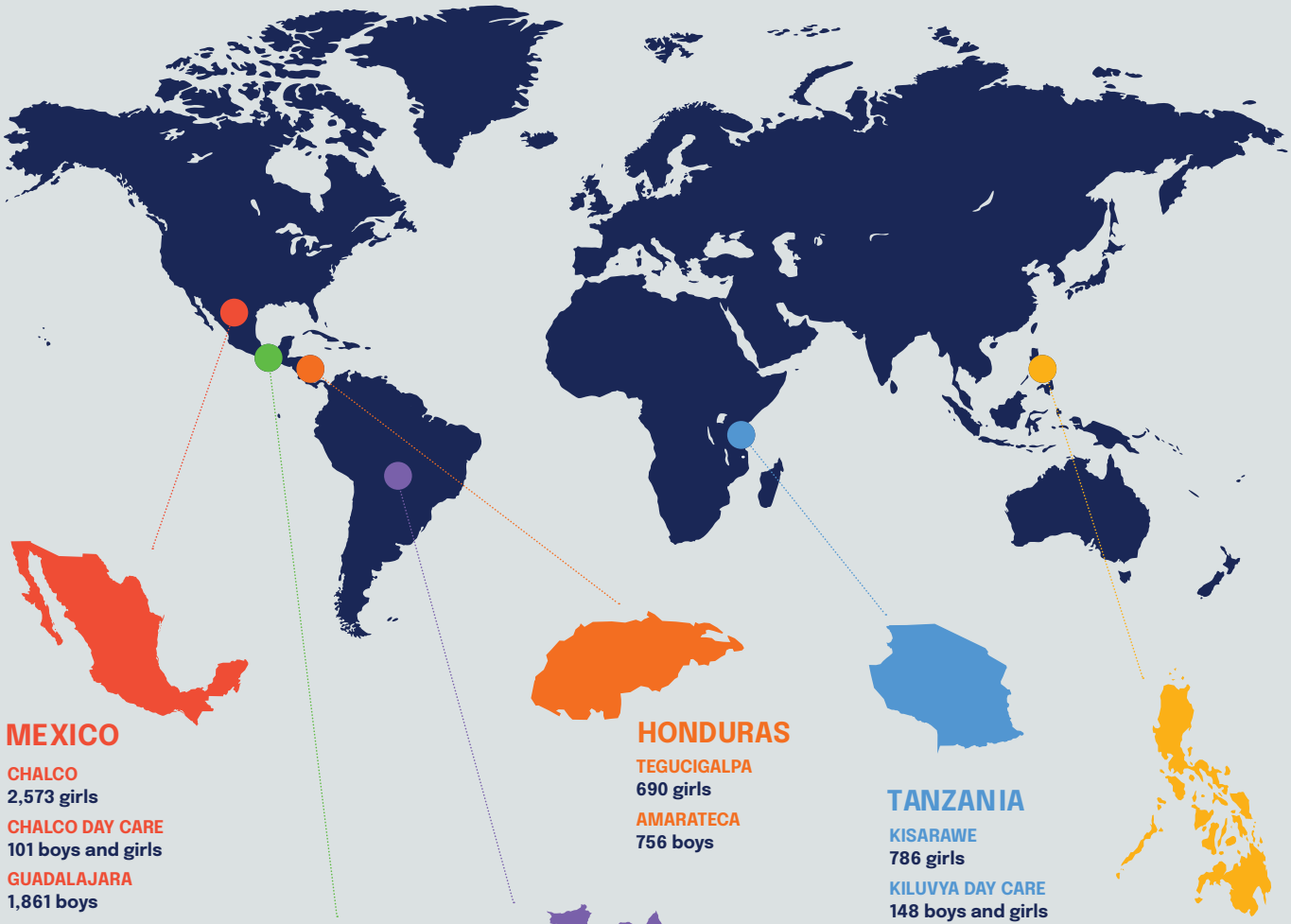


The values of the UNSDGs **underpin the** Sisters' work. T**hey use their dedication and in country expertise to access the poorest communities. They regularly put themselves in harm's way to reach the most deprived children and offer them the comforts of a normal childhood**

[1] The target date for the UNSDG – no poverty

WHERE WE WORK

SISTERS OF MARY PROGRAMMES AROUND THE WORLD 2023



MEXICO

CHALCO
2,573 girls

CHALCO DAY CARE
101 boys and girls

GUADALAJARA
1,861 boys

HONDURAS

TEGUCIGALPA
690 girls

AMARATECA
756 boys

TANZANIA

KISARAWE
786 girls

KILUVYA DAY CARE
148 boys and girls

KILUVYA TRAINING CENTRE
100 young women

DODOMA
115 boys

THE PHILIPPINES

BIGA
2,443 girls

ADLAS
1,864 boys

TALISAY
2,379 girls

MINGLANILLA
1,787 boys

GUATEMALA

ZONA 6
1,016 boys

ZONA 13
767 girls

ZONA 21 DAY-CARE
85 boys and girls

BRAZIL

BRASILIA
850 girls

BRASILIA DAY CARE
79 boys and girls

SAO PAULO ELEMENTARY AND DAY CARE
470 boys and girls







Trustees' Report



TRUSTEES REPORT

The Trustees of WVC are pleased to present their annual report for the year ended 31 December 2023 under the Companies Act 2006, together with the audited accounts for the year. They confirm that the latter complies with the requirements of the Act, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Charities SORP 2019.

Our Charity Objects for WVC are to:

- **Provide financial support for the SoM humanitarian programmes**
- **To raise the profile of the SoM's education work for the relief of poverty**
- **To educate the public and promote understanding of childhood poverty and the work of the Sisters' programmes to alleviate poverty amongst children, the most vulnerable group.**

STRATEGY

2023 was a busy and effective year for the charity as we exceeded both our forecast and prior year performance and focused on maintaining the regular flow of funding to support the sisters, not only for the day to day needs of the existing children but to help them welcome new children. We were pleased to send a grant of £1,500,000 to the schools.

Our funding aims included preparing those children for employment and progressing the sustainability initiatives at the programmes -reducing operating costs, preserving the food budget, protecting the planet and crucially releasing new funding to help additional children.

The Sisters welcomed 5,393 new children during the year and 1,381 children graduated into work. Employment rates improved and in the Philippines 99% of 2022[1] graduates are already employed and helping their families.

The Sisters education programmes are now leading the way in many of their countries with their tailored approach to relevant vocational training for local employment. During the year we were pleased to help this progress and provide help with funds for the updated technologies needed to teach IT, electronics and solar panel installation.

As in 2022, the charity defined core objectives for its activities for 2023 around governance, operational effectiveness, impact measurement and fundraising.

GOVERNANCE

2023 was a very successful year in progressing our objective to build a more diverse board for the charity. The existing board continued to provide invaluable support and guidance in every area and the staff and management team gain considerably from their experience and expertise, particularly around digital, financial and data insight. In the summer we were sad to lose Sr Maria as Chair as she stood down as Superior General of the Sisters but delighted to welcome Sr Elena as the new Chair and to have Sr Maria remain as a trustee. We were also excited to welcome Sr Margarita Campos Abeja onto the board and Fr Fretch Ballesteros who is a graduate of the Philippines programme working in the UK. As a charity we are already gaining immeasurably from their varied experiences.

Our board advisory group formed of alumni of the programmes also met during the year and these relationships continue to add depth to our understanding of the programmes, the lives and careers of the graduates and how we evolve our impact measurement framework



OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

In 2023 we continued the initiative started in 2022 to utilise our resources differently and better to maximise our efficiency and effectiveness in the face of the rising costs. We brought some of our response handling in-house which was an overwhelming success, reducing cost, improving donor stewardship, thanking and engagement and increasing repeat gifts.

We also collaborated with other charities on certain areas of fundraising which helped to reduce our fundraising costs whilst increasing our engagement and income.

IMPACT MEASUREMENT

Thanks to the involvement of our board advisory group and the support of the Sisters and alumni of the SoM programmes, 2023 saw another improvement in how we measure and assess the impact of our work. Content and data from the Sisters' programmes is improving continually and 2023 was a big upward shift in the volume of data being generated and received. Our regular contacts with the programmes moved to fortnightly so we had good access and transparency on the use of our funding and also the ongoing project needs.

The alumni are generous with their time and supportive of the need to share their data with us. The alumni now totals 170,000 children who have graduated from the schools and the most recent alumni survey data was the largest data set so far. The results of this are shown later. When these children graduate into productive work, able and motivated to support their families and community members, they multiply the impact of our donor's support many times over. Their desire to pay forward the help they received also extends to the new graduates, as they in turn help the Sisters to reach new children, help the existing students and accelerate their transition into work, all of which further boosts the poverty relief impact created by our donors' support.

1 There was no graduation from the Philippine programmes in 2023 whilst the Sisters aligned the courses with the national timetable

FUNDRAISING

The fundraising environment continued to be a challenge in 2023 and the charity defined a cautious budget to ensure regular funding for the Sisters' programmes. Thanks to the commitment of our generous supporters we were pleased to meet our targets and to finish the year ahead of our overall fundraising aim at £2,365,435 a 7.3% uplift on 2022 and 15% ahead of the forecast. Individual giving particularly around direct mail performed consistently according to our KPIs on response rate, average gift and RoI. Appeals at the latter part of the year were particularly strong in response and efficiency despite the increase in mailing costs. Legacy income has begun to recover with some large legacies notified during the year. Income from the other income streams including Trust & Foundations however has not yet reached the level forecast and continues to be a focus for the future.

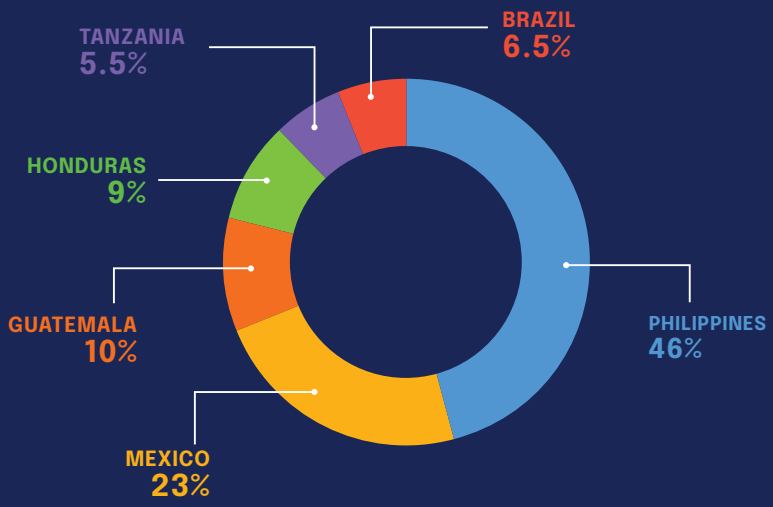
As in 2022, our refreshed branding continues to help in engagement with audiences particularly through the digital channels and we have been pleased to see the increased momentum in digital reach in 2023 using the regular updated content and data provided by the Sisters.

We were pleased to send the majority of our funding (96.5%) to the Sisters as unrestricted grants ensuring that it could be used in every area of care for the children. This allowed the Sisters to reach new, more isolated and vulnerable children in each country, helped them welcome 5,393 new children into the schools during the year and at the mid-point in August they were caring for a staggering 20,879 in all their programmes worldwide.

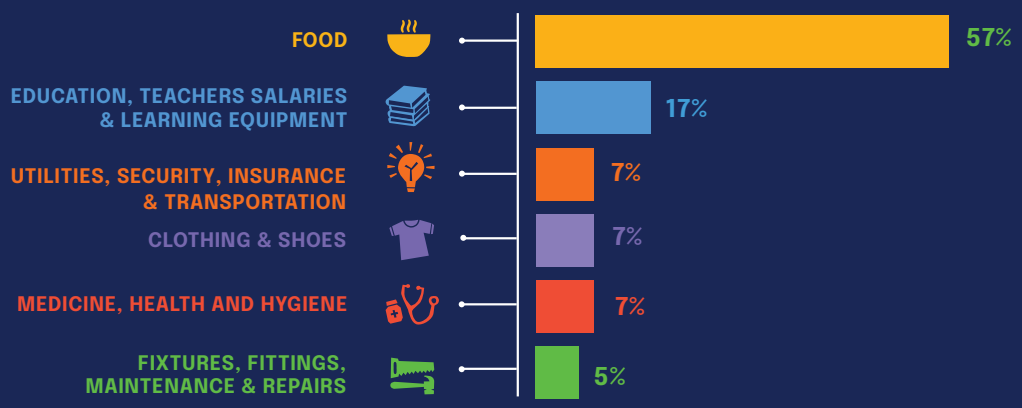


OUR GRANT OF £1,500,000 WAS DISTRIBUTED IN 2023 AS FOLLOWS:

WHERE YOUR GIFT WAS USED



HOW YOUR FUNDS WERE USED IN 2023



PROGRESS AT THE COUNTRY PROGRAMMES

Thanks to the support of our friends and donors in 2023 we continued to ensure the Sisters had the regular funds needed to welcome the most deprived boys and girls in the world.

Thanks to you the most neglected children were safe, well fed, healthy and educated ready for a better future.

COUNTRY [2]	NUMBER OF CHILDREN	TEACHERS	ANCILLARY STAFF	DOCTORS & NURSES	SISTERS	NEW CHILDREN ACCEPTED IN 2023
PHILIPPINES						
Biga Girlstown	2443	63	76		34	638
Adlas Boystown	1864	66	55		21	489
Talisay Girlstown	2379	82	73		22	558
Minglanilla Boystown	1787	70	69		14	362
Medical Centre Biga	112 [3]		12	4	2	
Medical Centre Minglanilla	76 [4]		7	1	2	
MEXICO						
Chalco Girlstown	2573	100	67	6	51	779
Guadalajara Boystown	1861	65	42	4	21	559
Day Care centre, Chalco	101	8	12	2		62
GUATEMALA						
Zona 13 Girlstown	767	26	43		14	173
Zona 6 Boystown	1016	35	45	4	12	260
Day Care centre Zona 13	85	8	7		1	54
Medical Clinic Zona 13	59 [5]		2	7	1	
BRAZIL						
Brasilia (Girlstown)	850	28	14	2	16	172
Day care centre Brasilia	79	4			1	44
Sao Paulo Elementary	317	14	6	2		70
Sao Paulo day care	153	8	3		4	45
HONDURAS						
Tegucigalpa (Girlstown)	690	28	27	2	16	173
Amarateca (Boystown)	756	32	38	2	10	205
TANZANIA						
Kisarawe (Girlstown)	786	32	22	3	18	192
Kisarawe (Day Care)	148	1	3		2	108
Kisarawe Training centre (Kwa Komba)	100	8	8		2	200
Dodoma Boystown	115	2	3		6	151
Total	19476 [6]					

2 Total student numbers vary due to new starters and graduations so these are the average recorded for the year
3 Average out-patients per day
4 Average out-patients per day
5 Average out-patients per day
6 Average number of children during the year – does not include medical centre. Totals move significantly during the year due to new arrivals and graduations

Highlights from our work and how your gift helped in 2023





Our first boys' school in Dodoma, Tanzania, finished phase 1 construction and welcomed the first boys from the region in September.

At the midpoint of the year prior to graduations there were 20,879 children aged 3-17 being cared for in places at the programmes, the highest ever.

We helped to provide over 62,600 meals a day so all the children at our schools around the world had the balanced nutrition needed to thrive.



Graduation in Tegucigalpa, Honduras





1,848 senior grade children finished school during the year, equipped and ready for work. In the Philippines 99% of graduating children are already employed.

Girls in Brazil with new reading books.

We continued to support with educational supplies including for the 881 girls at Brasilia girlstown who received the vital text, reference and reading books needed for grades 7-9 to help their learning and get them ready for employment.

Vocational training was expanded across all programmes to enhance job prospects for all, including care giving, electrical and solar technology, digital skills, medical transcription, cyber security and automation.

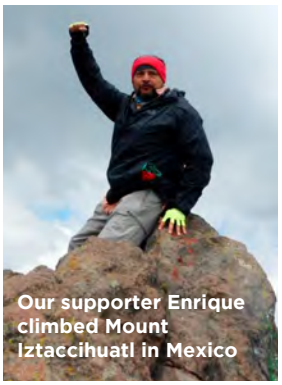


New boys in Guatemala

5,393 new children and trainees were welcomed into a place in our care during the year.



Girls in Philippines – Care giving course 2023



Our supporter Enrique climbed Mount Iztaccihuatl in Mexico

Our graduates and supporters went to extreme lengths (and heights) to help us with fundraising for future generations, raising vital funds to support our work.



Our graduate Ross, completed the London Marathon 2023



Sr Elena was elected as the new Superior General of the Sisters of Mary.

COUNTRY FOCUS
PHILIPPINES


Joriz at his home

- There were 9,741 children in the care of the Sisters in 2023, from the most deprived communities of the country.
- 2,047 new youngsters were welcomed during the year into the four schools in Biga, Adlas (near Cavite), Talisay and Minglanilla (Cebu).
- Increasingly, the Sisters are travelling to more distant rural communities to reach those families which experience the greatest deprivations.[7]
- Malnourished and lacking adequate shelter, their children have little or no access to secondary education. A place at the Sisters of Mary school for these youngsters provides vital education and brings profound change for their families and entire communities.



ACCESS TO A LIFE CHANGING EDUCATION

- Thanks to our donors, we were able to send grants totalling £692,444 to the Philippine schools in 2023, 46% of our total grant.
- The majority of these grants were spent on food, medical and essential living expenses for the children as well as clothes, shoes, learning supplies and vocational training equipment. We also helped with the repairs needed to maintain these schools some of which are now nearing 40 years old.
- In 2023 the children had everything they needed to learn and thrive in the care of the Sisters, including three healthy meals a day and academic and vocational teaching accredited by TESDA[8] and tailored to the skill needs of local employers.
- The children worked hard in class and also enjoyed a variety of spare time clubs and sports. They were enthusiastic competitors, succeeding in a vast array of regional, national and international competitions[9].
- Making the most of their new found childhood and this precious opportunity provided by our donors, our student Joriz says **"***living at the Sisters of Mary is like paradise***"**.


Joriz in class at Adlas

FOCUS ON EMPLOYMENT & INDEPENDENCE

There was no graduation in 2023 as the schools aligned their school timetable with the nationwide curriculum but all the senior children had on the job training (OJT) with local employers, a vital ingredient towards their future employment.[10]

The Sisters built on their wide network of relationships with local employers to ensure vacancies for the children and a fast track into good jobs after graduation. Recent employers include Mercedes, Audi, Samsung, Ernst & Young, and Epson.

7 Including city slum dwellers or regions like Palawan, where families survive by farming or fishing
8 Philippine Technical Education & Skills Development Authority
9 Competition successes were extensive across all schools including Talisay girls who won bronze in the Philippine International Math Olympiad (Asia Digital Challenge), September 2023.
10 The Sisters now report nearly 99% employment rate for the graduates from these programmes.

COUNTRY FOCUS
MEXICO



- There were 4,770 children in total cared for at the Sisters of Mary programmes in Chalco (Villa de las Niñas, girlstown), Guadalajara (Villa de los Niños, boystown) and Chalco day care.
- Demand for places was again unprecedented and the Sisters met thousands of children in need of a place during the year. They were overjoyed to be able to welcome 1,400 new children in August 2023.
- These youngsters come from complex and sometimes violent family and community situations living in deep poverty in areas like Guerrero, and Wahaca[11]. Earning meagre income through menial jobs or farming, children are often malnourished, neglected, exposed to the danger of drug gangs and deprived of basic education. These vulnerable children[12] were the priority for the care and educational support of the Sisters.[13]



ACCESS TO A LIFE CHANGING EDUCATION

- Thanks to the kindness of our donors we were able to send grants totalling £343,903 to the programmes in 2023, 23% of our total grant. 39% of this grant was spent on essential food and medicines to nourish the children and keep them healthy.
- 37% of the grant helped with educational costs, salaries of teachers, books & pens etc, and the remaining grant funded clothing, school and kitchen equipment, repairs, paid utility bills for the school and resourced their security services to ensure the safety of the children.
- In 2023, the Sisters were able to provide additional teaching and emotional support to help the newest children to recover from their early childhood and catch up with their lost learning. All the youngsters enjoyed an accredited education, vocational training relevant to local employment and three balanced meals a day to help them grow strong. Their time at school was joyful under the nurturing care of the Sisters.
- They were successful in and out of the classroom. The boys in Guadalajara qualified to represent Mexico in the VANDA International Science competition to be held in Bali and the Chalco girls received first place in the Handball national competition and second place in their first Chess competition.



FOCUS ON EMPLOYMENT & INDEPENDENCE

The focus at school in 2023 continued to be eventual employment and the children enjoyed additional vocational courses including caregiving and agriculture to equip them for future employment locally. They also enjoyed a period of OJT with local employers. In July 674 senior boys and girls graduated ready for work for employers including TATA Industries and Hyundai.



Growing crops at school in Guadalajara (Sept 2023)

11 Sr Martha, Sisters of Mary Chalco Girlstown, November 2023
12 Girlsnotbrides.org 21% of women in Mexico are married or in a union before the age of 18 and 4% before their 15th birthday
13 'Sold for a six pack of beer'. https://www.worldvillages.org.uk/iwd-2024/

COUNTRY FOCUS
BRAZIL



Esteffany with her mother and sister

"These girls are not just financially poor but intellectually poor" [14]

- There were 1,461 children in the care of the Sisters at their Brazil programmes in 2023. 881 at the girls' secondary school in Brasilia, 332 in the elementary school (ages 6-11) in São Paulo and 248 in the two day care programmes in Brasilia and São Paulo (for toddlers aged 3-5).
- They welcomed 331 new children into places at the schools during the year, 172 of these were girls in Brasilia.
- Later in the year the Sisters' community work took them even further into the interior of the country than ever before. They witnessed great poverty, many families living on the edge of survival with little access to education for their children. They saw families in a pitiful state and their young girls vulnerable in every regard. So for January 2024 they have stretched capacity at the girls' school to welcome 224 of these children.
- All the new students in 2023 were well below the level needed for their grade. The country's education system has failed to recover after the Covid-19 pandemic and education levels are low. The older girls arriving now need considerable help and support to catch up to the basic level needed to pass their exams.

ACCESS TO A LIFE CHANGING EDUCATION

- At all the programmes, the children have started to receive the care they need to recover from their early lives. The Sisters nurture the children carefully, providing the necessary physical and psychological support to help them recover and thrive. With three regular meals a day, safe shelter at school, and accredited academic and vocational teaching, school has been a joyful revelation for all the youngsters and they are so thankful for their opportunity.
- Two girls who have been particularly touched by the programmes in Brazil are **Isabella and Kethelyn** who have progressed all the way from day care and elementary in São Paulo and joined the secondary school in Brasilia last year.
- With the help of our kind donors we sent grants totalling £96,216 (6.5% of our total) to the Sisters' programmes in Brazil in 2023. 56% of these funds were spent on food, medicines, utilities and security.
- The remaining 44% of these funds were spent on education and learning supplies; this particularly included vital text, reference and reading books for Brasilia girls, grades 7-9 which were provided thanks to the generous donors who responded to our Big Give 2023 appeal.





Isabella and Kethelyn at our day care centre in São Paulo in 2018 and at school in Brasilia last year.

FOCUS ON EMPLOYMENT & INDEPENDENCE

The children worked hard in class and in their vocational courses in 2023. Nursing students enjoyed internships at the Public Health centre readying themselves for future employment and in December 144 girls graduated from senior school equipped and ready for work.



Girls with the vital books funded by our 2023 Big Give appeal

14 Sr Melinda, SoM Brasilia Update, 2023

THE STORY OF JORIZ

PHILIPPINES



Joriz's parents separated when he was young. Joriz and his four siblings lived with their grandparents for a while until their mother could care for them again. His mother worked collecting rubbish but struggled desperately to feed her young family. Joriz worked on the rubbish dump after school helping her to recycle waste to earn a little but it was a terrible life and left them hungry and poor. When his mother remarried, his stepfather was cruel towards Joriz and his siblings. Seeking safety and a chance of an education, Joriz was delighted to meet the Sisters and be offered a place at their boys school in Adlas, Philippines.

With the Sisters, Joriz has finally found safety. A place where he does not need to work to help his family put food on the table, but can rest securely and focus on his education. He loves learning, especially languages, and dreams of providing a more stable future for all his family. Joriz has the chance to make a better life, free from poverty and deprivation, thanks to the education he is receiving.

"The Sisters of Mary School became a beacon of hope for me. It offered a haven for aspiring students like me, providing free education, food, shelter, spiritual education, and a supportive community." (Joriz)



THE STORY OF ESTEFFANY

BRAZIL



Esteffanny lived with her mother and stepfather in a small village in Pará (Northern Brazil). She has six siblings and her mother is pregnant with another child. They had little money and life at home was not easy – just eating one meal a day if they were able. Her stepfather works on a plantation of beans and cassava, he earns so little that her 15-year-old brother has now left school to work with him, too. She says:

"I really love to study but unfortunately, I am not that good in studying because I was absent, caring for my siblings and if I have not eaten something, I could not concentrate."



"When I heard about Sisters of Mary, and the School in Brasilia, I wanted to join them. I said to myself 'this is my only salvation.' It was a great miracle and now I am here. I am so happy that I did not have chance to be lonely and sad. This is a big chance to devote myself to studies with no worries.

The Sisters welcome us with joy, the teachers are doing their best to share their knowledge to us. I already made friends. I feel that I am in heaven. I will do my very best to be a good student and be a better professional someday. When I grow up, I want to be a Police Chief. I am so grateful for the chance to live in this wonderful place. I thank our dear friends and benefactors for being so kind and generous to all of us. May God bless you always." (Estefanny)

COUNTRY FOCUS
GUATEMALA



"The girls of Guatemala are living in precarious poverty" [15]

- 55% of the population live in poverty in Guatemala and young women are the most affected.[16] With corruption and high levels of inequality there are few ways out of poverty for the most vulnerable families. In their community work, the Sisters see that families can rarely afford proper food or access to school for their youngsters. This lack of education denies the children any hope of a better future and underlines the urgency of the Sisters' work.
- There were 1,868 children at the SoM schools and day care centre in 2023. 767 at Villa de las Niñas (Girlstown, Zona 13), 1,016 at Villa de los Niños (Boystown, Zona 6) and 85 at the day care centre.
- 487 new children were welcomed during the year into the three programmes and at the end of the year the Sisters extended their usual community outreach to the more remote communities including the heavily forested hills of Cahabon in Alta Verapaz[17]. These deeply deprived children will start school in 2024.



ACCESS TO A LIFE CHANGING EDUCATION

- Thanks to the kindness of our donors we were able to send 10% of our grant to Guatemala in 2023, totalling £156,422.
- 59% of this grant was spent on food and medicines for all the children, with the remainder spent on educational supplies, clothing, shoes, utilities and repairs.
- In 2023 the children had everything they needed to learn and thrive at school and for the newest youngsters who joined in January the opportunity was hugely emotional for them.
- The Sisters at Zona 6 reported that many of the new boys were overwhelmed to see the nutritious food that was available to them for the first time and so thrilled with their first new clothing, educational and sport supplies, colouring pens, board games and sports shoes.



FOCUS ON EMPLOYMENT & INDEPENDENCE

The children at school all studied hard in 2023. They worked diligently, played hard outside of class and competed against their friends and peers, locally and nationally. [18]In September, three girls at Zona 13 were recognised for their outstanding academic performance by the Industrial Bank of Guatemala.

Getting ready for the world of work, all the senior grade 12 children in Guatemala enjoyed a period of OJT during the year with the girls from Zona 13 doing internships at Banc Rural. Graduation was in October and 333 boys and girls graduated from school ready for employment or further education equipped and ready to work hard and help their families onto a better life.[19]



15 Sr Jasmin, SoM Guatemala Zona 13, 14th December 2023
16 **www.worldbank.org/en/country/guatemala/overview, 2024**
17 These remote communities were accessed with the help of a local company who provided helicopter access for the Sisters to reach the families and then transport for the 20 children who were offered places to reach school in January 2024.

18 Two girls in Guatemala won the Maths competition and represented the country in Costa Rica and in El Salvador, they also took first place in Guatemala's national Hockey competition

19 Two Guatemala girls secured permanent positions working in the Office of the National General Comptroller

COUNTRY FOCUS HONDURAS



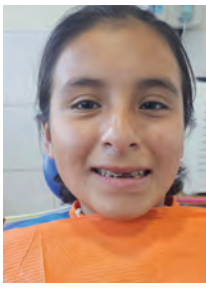
- Throughout 2023, the Sisters journeyed extensively in Honduras to connect with impoverished families, focusing on the rugged mountain regions of Comayagua and Lempira (which is known as the poorest department of the whole country).[20]
- Children within these profoundly impoverished families face exposure to violent crime and exhibit the enduring effects of stress and deprivation, through malnutrition, stunting, and premature mortality. Poor nutrition has also affected their bone and teeth development and so when the children come into the care of the Sisters they are urgently in need of dental and medical intervention to support their recovery. This is a focus for our fundraising in 2024.
- From their community work, the Sisters welcomed 378 children newly into the school in January 2023 and cared for an average of 1,446 children in their two schools during the year. 690 at the girls' school in Tegucigalpa and 756 at the boys' school in Amarateca. Following their outreach over the year they will strive to increase capacity and welcome another 435 in January 2024.



ACCESS TO A LIFE CHANGING EDUCATION

- Our generous donors helped us to send £129,346 (9% of our overall total) in total grants to the schools in Honduras. The majority of these grants (56%) were spent on food, medicines and medical supplies and supplements for the children. The remainder of our funds were spent on educational supplies (particularly supplies for the vocational training courses), clothing and school maintenance.
- In 2023, the new youngsters had everything they needed for school life and had a lot to learn. They struggled with Maths and Spanish but with additional teaching and the support of the older students they quickly caught up. Your funds ensured all the boys and girls enjoyed their time at school and had the full curriculum of accredited academic teaching which will prepare them for an independent life.
- Outside of class, the children at both schools grew strong, had fun and were energetic and successful in a variety of activities, competitions and challenges. The children loved their increasingly vital agriculture classes and had success with a bumper crop of mangoes for the school.
- The Tegucigalpa girls came second in the National Physics Olympiad and their soccer team took first place representing Honduras in the Central American games in Belize. In Amarateca, the boys took first place in national competitions in science, soccer, basketball and volleyball.





The newest children suffer dental problems as a result of their early malnutrition



FOCUS ON EMPLOYMENT & INDEPENDENCE

In vocational classes, our Honduran boys and girls focus particularly on practical skills in computing, electronics, tailoring, welding and auto mechanics for which local jobs are plentiful. The SoM school training with experienced, qualified teachers, gives them a head start with employers who regard them as skilled and reliable. 54% of last year's graduates from Amarateca are already in work in these roles[21], earning a steady salary and helping their families.

In December 2023, 230 senior year students graduated from these schools and many are already working in roles with employers including Toyota, Sherwin Williams and Fruit of the Loom.

20 In terms of Human Development Index **https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/human-development-index#** which measures life expectancy and access to education.
21 Sr Liliana Martinez, SoM Amarateca Update 23 Feb 24

COUNTRY FOCUS TANZANIA



- In 2023 there were 1,149 children and trainees from the most deprived regions of Tanzania in the care and education of the Sisters, 786 girls at school in Kisarawe, 148 toddlers aged 3-5 at the day care centre in Kiluvya, 100 young women per term at the training centre there and 115 boys at the new school in Dodoma.
- During the year, the Sisters travelled extensively to reach the most vulnerable children including to Morogoro, Iringa, Zanzibar, Mwanza, Kilimanjaro and Hombolo to meet girls and, for the first time, boys, in desperate need of a place at school. They met thousands of children.
- 43% of the Tanzanian population remained in extreme poverty in 2023[22] deprived of the basics for survival, particularly access to the protection and support of education. The majority of these poor families rely on farming[23] for their income but they were affected by drought through the year and heavy rains at the close of 2023 destroyed many precious crops.
- The boys and girls from these families were the focus for the Sisters and the priority for our care.



ACCESS TO A LIFE CHANGING EDUCATION

- Thanks to our donors we were able to send grants totalling £81,774 (5.5% of our total) to the Tanzania schools in 2023.
- Expenditure of the grants was spread across the array of needs of the children in 2023 including food, clothing, shoes, educational supplies, equipment for the kitchens and learning areas, and utilities so that the children had all the essentials needed to access a vital education.
- 2023 was a significant year for Tanzania with the opening and inauguration of the new school for the boys in Dodoma. The first 115 boys were welcomed and in September, the WVC team were thrilled to join the ceremony, meeting these new youngsters so grateful for their life-changing opportunities, courtesy of our donors. Professor Adolf Mkenda (Tanzania Education Minister) who attended the opening thanked those involved for *"offering privilege that would have been impossible for kids like these to enjoy. I can only say Asante sana, thank you very much."*
- Throughout the year the children at all the programmes were able to study and enjoy their time at school. The boys in Dodoma got straight down to their learning and the senior girls in Kisarawe, now in Form 4, passed their exams in November. All the children in the schools were happy and content, making new friends and enjoying a variety of activities and sports.[24]
- The youngest students in day care also had a fulfilling 2023, enjoying their early learning, playtime, and nutritious meals supporting their growth, ready for primary school.





FOCUS ON EMPLOYMENT & INDEPENDENCE

Now in their final two years, the senior girls at Kisarawe will have 2 years of advanced study which includes specialising in VETA[25] accredited vocational subjects including electrical installation and solar technology, computer system services and tailoring. The Ministry of Education support and recognise the unique blend of academic and vocational studies[26] being offered at the school which equips girls for locally available job opportunities.[27]

At the ladies training centre, two hundred young women completed vocational skills courses in 2023. Many have already secured employment in tailoring or baking, earning steady salaries that sustain their families, all made possible by the Sisters' efforts in establishing a network of new employers.



22 World Bank Tanzania Briefing 2024
23 Sr Merry Jane, SoM, Kisarawe Girlstown, December 2023
24 Kisarawe girls triumphed in the volleyball, basketball and netball regional championships
25 Tanzania Vocational and Educational Training Authority
26 Sisters of Mary, Kisarawe Update, December 2023
27 www.worldvillages.org.uk/making-national-news-in-tanzania

THE STORY OF BARACKA
TANZANIA



Baracka is 11 years old and lives with his mother in Hombolo village, on the outskirts of Dodoma. She has been severely affected by polio and is unable to walk. She found it challenging to work and raise enough money to feed her two children.

Now that Baracka's sister has grown up and left home, his mother supports Baracka by taking in sewing. Work is infrequent and so there is little money to support them both and Baracka frequently missed meals. There was no money to send him to secondary school.

The Sisters met Baracka and his mother in early 2023 and were troubled by their difficulties. He was one of the first young boys to be offered a place at the new school in Dodoma and he joined as the doors opened in August 2023. We met him in September.

In the care of the Sisters he is recovering from his difficult early life, studying hard, eating everything that we can provide for him and growing fast. He is a happy little boy, and loves his time at school, determined to pass his exams and be successful so that he can help his mother.

We were privileged to also meet Baracka's mother during a visit to his community and the pride shown by his mother at the progress of her son shines through.

Thank you for your help in making this life changing chance possible for this young family.



THE STORY OF DARELY
HONDURAS



Darely is from Lempira in Honduras. She is 14 years and she has two sisters, one of whom is her twin. She doesn't know her father and her mother left her when she was five to take a new life and start a new family. Darely went to live with her grandmother. Darely is also separated from her twin. At the age of 12 her twin ran away from their home and had a baby, when she was just 13 years old.

It was a difficult life for Darely living with her grandmother who cared for her deeply but there was never enough money for food and she was constantly hungry. Darely couldn't afford to continue school after 5th grade (age 10). Her aunt offered to help with additional schooling to grade 6 in return for cleaning and household chores. So Darely would wake early to do her housework and then complete her chores after homework in the evening.

Last year her grandmother told her about the mission of the Sisters and in November the Sisters were able to met Darely. They were moved by her difficulties. Thanks to the support of our donors we were able to offer Darely a place at the Sisters' girls' school in Tegucigalpa. She joined them in January 2024.

Now that she is in the care of the Sisters, Darely is beginning to recover from her difficult start in life and thrive in the care of the Sisters. With the regular food at school she has overcome her terrible hunger and is growing fast. Although her education level is very low she is having additional teaching and support to help her catch up. She is happy at school, receiving special care from the Sisters and enjoying a childhood, making new friends and developing skills and talents which will give her a dignified, poverty free, independent future.

"Now that I am here, I am very fine, happy and contented, living and learning a lot of things. With a grateful heart, I would like to say, thank you very much for helping me and my companions and the Sisters of Mary School."





Thank you

None of this life changing work would be possible without the generosity of our individual donors, regular Guardian Angels, organisations, churches, and Trusts and Foundations whose commitment and interest through the year have enabled us to continue caring for the worlds' poorest children.

We thank them all for their donations and grants to us in 2023 including:

- The Bryan Guinness Charitable Trust
- C&K Sommer Trust
- Cork of Ashbourne Trust
- Daughters of the Heart of Mary
- Diocese of Wrexham
- Ecton Trust
- Forest Hill Charitable Trust
- Gordillo Coleridge Charitable Trust
- Hall Hunter Foundation
- Living Water World Outreach
- Marsh Charitable Trust
- S&F Goodman Charitable Trust
- ShareGift
- Sherer Family Trust
- Souter Charitable Trust
- The Coles Medlock Foundation
- The Northern Trust
- The Tula Trust
- UBS UK Donor Advised Foundation
- Van Mesdag Fund
- William Jerome Charitable Trust







The impact of our work

We collect a range of data about the outputs and outcomes of our work but the stories we collect from the children who graduate from our schools are the greatest indicator of the impact of our work and your support.

When these poorest children graduate from the SoM schools equipped with the skills they need to find stable employment they are able to help their families and communities and lift them out of poverty. These groups of alumni are a powerful force for change, they lift up generations of lives and they multiply the impact of your support many times over.







THE STORY OF DIANA
MEXICO



Diana was born in Mexico City in 1996. She was raised by a single mother and spent time living with her mother in her grandmother's home. Her mother then remarried and had two more children. Both her parents worked very hard in a local flea market to care for the family but despite this there was little money and the children often went hungry. Diana didn't have much chance to go to school as she needed to care for her siblings whilst her mother worked, in fact her education had all but stopped when she met the Sisters of Mary.

The Sisters accepted her on the spot and she says: **"this marked the beginning of a new chapter of my life. I arrived in Girlstown in July/August 2008"**.

Learning to seize and be grateful for every day, Diana made friends with girls from many states and had the opportunity to learn more about other cultures in Mexico. Her favourite subjects were English, Maths and drawing and she loved the food!

"the school was a very happy place, it was a wonderful place. Father Al built a beautiful place, I love the Sisters I love the food, I love the friends. This place, all the activities nurtures desires"

She finished school in 2013 and became a sales and customer services agent at Air Mexico then Interjet at the same time as studying for a degree in Graphic Design. In 2022, after several years running her own graphic design business she founded her first venture, Albbus, a collaboration with her husband who is a computer engineer. They joined up to establish a company, his expertise is in software and complemented her digital product design. They also have two children aged 8 and 6.

With the skills she learnt at school her life was transformed and now she has been able to help her mother with healthcare and her siblings with financial support for schooling. She also sometimes helps her grandparents and of course she continues to visit the sisters and provide support for the new children in their care, paying back her original opportunity many times over.



Diana with Sr Margarita

OUR IMPACT DATA

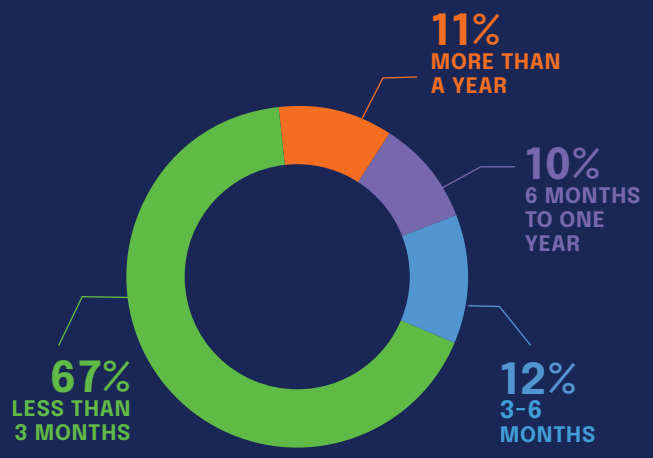
In addition to the stories of the children that we collate and the lives that we follow, in 2023 we were also delighted to be able to report further results from a survey carried out amongst the graduates and alumni of the schools across the world in the Philippines, Guatemala, Mexico, Honduras and Brazil.

This new research which provides valuable insights on the outcomes of our work and the wider impact of the mission shows the fundamental difference our supporters are making to poverty relief in these regions. As last year, we focus on the employment of the children who leave our schools as a key priority of our activity. Stable fairly paid employment allows the children to build a dignified productive existence where they can help themselves and their families.

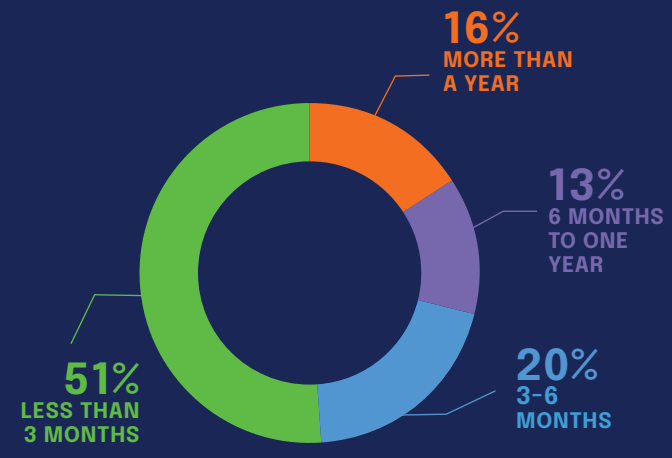
The largest graduate data set was received from alumni of the Philippine programme where there are the highest number of graduates.

89% of the graduates who responded on this revealed that they were fully employed by 12 months after leaving school. The majority of these young graduates, 67%, were employed less than 3 months after leaving the schools and many had job offers prior to leaving. We had more data in 2023 from the other schools and in Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Brazil similar trends are seen.

Q: HOW LONG DID IT TAKE YOU TO FIND YOUR FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATING FROM THE SISTERS OF MARY SCHOOL PHILIPPINES?

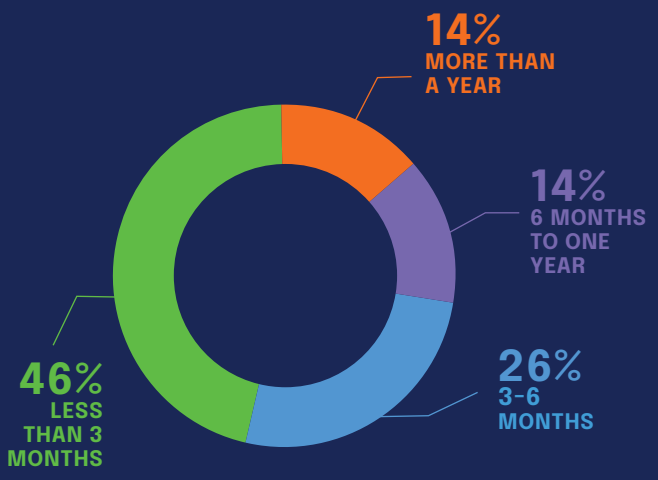


Q: HOW LONG DID IT TAKE YOU TO FIND YOUR FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATING FROM THE SISTERS OF MARY SCHOOL GUATEMALA?



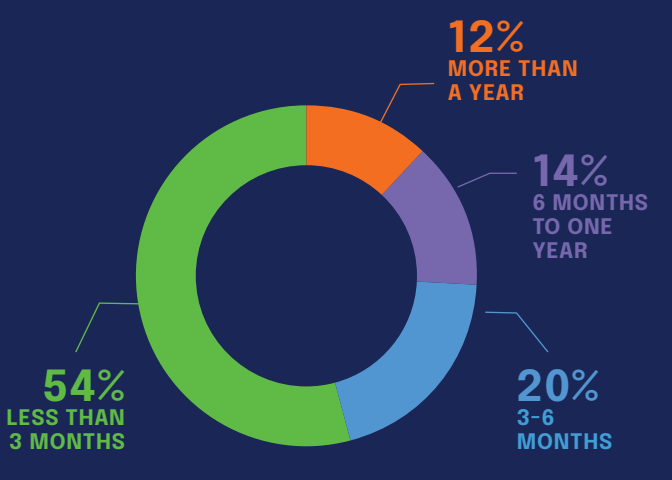
In Guatemala 84% of respondents were in employment within a year and 51% of these within 3 months.

Q: HOW LONG DID IT TAKE YOU TO FIND YOUR FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATING FROM THE SISTERS OF MARY SCHOOL HONDURAS



In Honduras 86% of the graduates were employed within a year with 46% taking less than 3 months

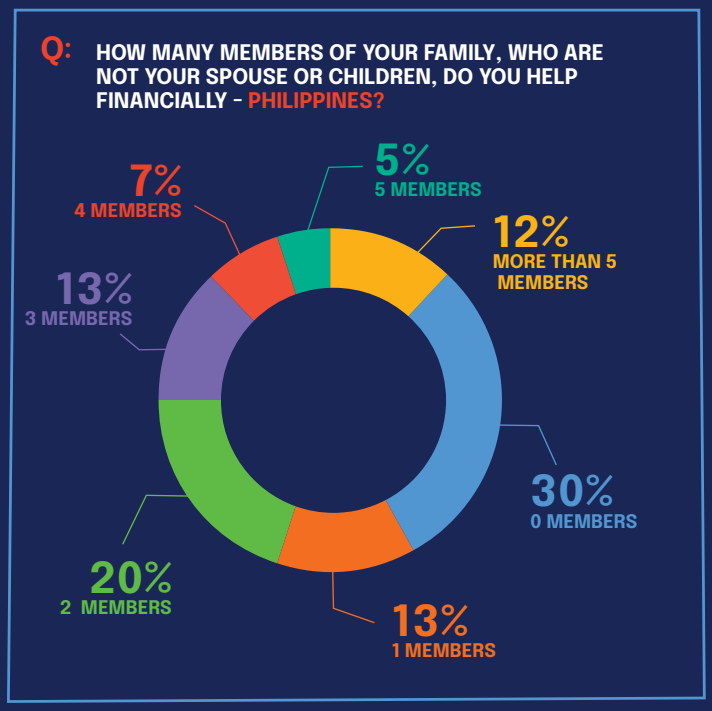
Q: HOW LONG DID IT TAKE YOU TO FIND YOUR FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATING FROM THE SISTERS OF MARY SCHOOL MEXICO



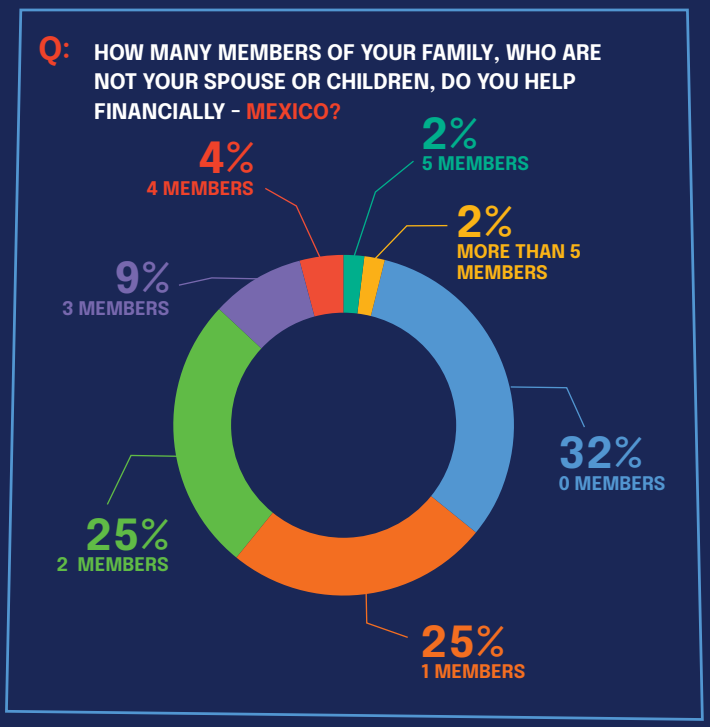
In Mexico, 88% of the children who graduated were in work within 12 months, 54% within 3 months.

OUR IMPACT DATA

When our children graduate from school able to find stable employment they are active in supporting their extended families. This lifts many generations out of poverty and multiplies the impact of your support many times over.



70% of these employed Philippine graduates are helping at least one member of their extended family with living costs, education, access to healthcare and housing being the highest priorities for help needed within the families, with 12% helping more than 5 members.



68% of those employed in Mexico are helping at least one member of their extended family with living costs, housing and education the key areas of support.

Gathering this data to measure our impact ensures that we are moving in the right direction. It shows that the outcome of educating a child is an improvement in the lives of families and communities. When children have the skills necessary for employment and secure stable jobs it means their families can afford proper housing, access to nutritious food, healthcare, education and a life which is profoundly changed for the better, permanently.



Growing crops in Adlas, the Philippines, helps to supplement the food budget and sustain the children

Summary of future aims, objectives and activities



Our Mexican student is motivated to use his education to help care for generations of his family.

Our Plans for 2024 and beyond

Our annual planning and objectives underpin the mission of the Sisters of Mary programmes. In 2024 we will continue our focus maintaining and increasing the funds we provide to the Sisters so they can care for more children living in poverty worldwide. By building the profile of the charity and growing the momentum of fundraising across a variety of income streams, we will continue our focus on raising unrestricted income to be used across the range of needs of the children at the schools. Flexible support is crucial in their care as the cost of essentials like food is rising.



SUPPORTING WITH THE ESSENTIAL EVERYDAY COSTS OF CARE

Our priorities in 2024 are to support the sisters in caring for the children currently in their schools and to help them welcome new children in need. We will particularly focus on provision for essentials like food, medicines, school supplies, teaching equipment and salaries. 2023 has seen a rise in the cost of food worldwide. Some essential components of the children's diet have risen by nearly 30% and the impact of this is keenly felt in all the schools where an average of 57,000 meals per day must be provided to the malnourished children who join us. Hungry children can't learn. We commit to providing every child with three balanced meals daily to help them grow and thrive.

PREPARING THE CHILDREN FOR EMPLOYMENT

Like last year, our focus in 2024 will be help for the Sisters to progress the children towards employment.. We will raise funding for the specific academic and vocational training tools and equipment that are needed by the children to learn the new skills required by local employers. Across the 13 secondary schools, courses continue to evolve in response to industry needs. Up to date tools and equipment for training in digital skills, cyber security, caregiving, agriculture, robotics, computer programming, solar panel installation etc are all desperately needed across all the programmes.

SUSTAINABILITY

Some of the 13 schools operated by the Sisters of Mary are now nearly 40 years old and require urgent repair and maintenance. In addition, operating costs at the school, particularly utilities, continue to be an enormous cost burden. The Sisters have already started a programme of sustainable practices at the school aimed at maintaining the schools, lowering operating costs, optimising budgets and protecting the planet. We will support them with this including help with their new agri-farming initiatives at some of the bigger schools like Adlas.





Key Objectives to deliver this strategy



Our student Angela with her parents in the Philippines

FUNDRAISING

In 2024 we will continue our strategy to diversify our funding model. 2023 saw a consistent performance in direct mail and 2024 will improve on this performance as measured against our efficiency KPIs and against prior year but the year will show additional progress in Trusts & Foundations, corporates and engagement with other organisations. This will include new relationships established via existing donors to boost fundraising particularly around churches and schools.

We will continue to steward our donors well and ensure they have the opportunity to maintain regular engagement with us particularly via events with the Sisters themselves and visits to the programmes overseas. This will help with the transparency of our work and demonstrating the impact of their support.

Digital fundraising will form a bigger part of our activities in 2024. We continue to build our experience in this area and utilise digital skills to build the profile of the charity, access new audiences and improve digital income.

IMPACT MEASUREMENT

In 2024 we will continue to invest in the measurement of our work to quantify the impact delivered by our supporters on the poverty relief of the children and their families.

In their community and school work the Sisters witness first-hand the effects of extreme poverty on families in the most deprived regions and gather significant real time data which sheds light on the issues faced by their children. This timely data provides unique insights into the changing poverty levels over time, highlighting the crucial need for our work and the impact of our interventions.

The Sisters are generous in sharing this data and committed to helping us with this impact measurement objective. Stories directly from the children and graduates in particular help us to gauge the change in their lives, post school - the outputs and outcomes of our work. When each child leaves school able to find work, live independently and support generations of their family members with access to life saving services and a better poverty free life we record this broader, longer term impact and the multiplier effect of the education.

Data capture within the alumni group is also improving and the regular alumni surveys now deliver a vast amount of data and help us analyse their lives post school, demonstrating the impact made by our funders' investment in our work. This impact measurement objective is vital for our donors' understanding of our work and their contribution and is essential for future fundraising and therefore continues to be a focus for 2024.

GOOD GOVERNANCE

During 2023 we achieved a great deal of progress with the growth of the board and change in structure to ensure greater compliance with the charity governance code. We now enter 2024 with a proactive, diverse and experienced board who are generous with their time and dedicated to the support of the charity.

During 2024 we will build on this progress and ensure that each board member is able to utilise their talents to grow the charity. Our board now has an array of talents which contribute to our understanding of the lives of the children at school, the impact of our activities, how to measure the data we gather, optimise our finances and fundraise for the future and these skills will help us with our growth ambitions through 2024.

Financial Review for 2023



Our student Joriz with his mother and grandmother in the Philippines.

Financial Information for the year 2023 is set out in the attached statement of financial activities. Total Income for the year was £2,365,435.

2023 was another challenging year for our fundraising due to the economic difficulties experienced by our donors. Their cost of living challenges resulted in a reduced propensity to donate although we remain so touched by all the support we received and the many sacrifices made by our loyal friends who continued to give generously, particularly to the special seasonal appeals – through the year (Easter, Christmas and Birthday).

Despite this, we were pleased to conclude the year ahead of our target by 15% and ahead of 2022 by 7.3%.

INCOME

37% of our income in 2023 was generated by the loyal support of our special Guardian Angel donors who give regularly by direct debit or standing order. These Guardian Angels are invaluable to our work supporting the Sisters of Mary as they allow us to give a regular flow of mainly unrestricted income to the schools to fund the essential recurring costs of the children like food, clothing, shoes, health and hygiene supplies and educational equipment and supplies. Without these gifts our work would not be possible.

27% of our income was generated by individual gifts via direct mail and digital. We are so blessed to have this support from our donors, many of whom undertook to support us repeatedly during the year, and also to those donors who confirmed their tax payer status so that we were able to claim gift aid on their donations. We recovered £271,793 in gift aid during the year.

Trusts and Foundation income represented 1% of the year's total, a small but consistent presence in our portfolio and we are so grateful for every repeat gift from existing partners and every new relationship made. We were delighted to be supported again by the Coles Medlock Foundation as our match funder in the Big Give digital appeal at Christmas. This highly effective fundraising appeal is a great way for us to fundraise for the larger capital items needed by the schools and to raise awareness of our work with a new audience.

Legacy and in memory giving increased last year and formed 23% of our income. We feel so privileged to receive these final gifts which are the result of a long lasting interest in our work and make such a transformative difference to the lives of the children in our care. As in previous years we continued to prioritise fundraising for unrestricted income to ensure that our grants could be used across the variety of needs of the children. 96.5% of our income was unrestricted and we are grateful to our donors for giving us their gifts in this way.

EXPENDITURE

Expenditure in 2023 was £2,238,877, a 9.64% decrease on the prior year. There was a very slight decrease in the grants to the Sisters but savings across a number of cost centres in fundraising including response handling. By utilising our existing resources differently and managing overheads we are pleased to record these savings, given the rise in the costs of some of our supplier contracts during the year.

Managing these expenditure levels, costs and overheads continues to be a priority for 2024.

During the year we maintained our reserves at the same level as previously in line with our active assessment of the fundraising environment. The reserves level represents six months expenses (not including our grant payments to the Sisters of Mary) and we consider the figure represents an appropriate approach to the risk we face.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Through 2023 the WVC board took a proactive approach to the risks facing the charity through regular review at each board meeting and at the fortnightly sub-committee meetings. The charity continues to determine the risks that relate to its activity by scenario scanning, training, testing and observation to identify those which are pertinent to our activity, to recognise and record the changes in those risks and where significant changes occur these risks are notified to the board.

We classify risk into the following categories Government & Management, Environment & External, Finance, Operations & Compliance. The current risk register identifies 22 risks across these categories, the major risks are as follows, including our management strategies for each:



RISK MANAGEMENT

RISK	RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY
Operational risk IT Security/ Data Protection Cyber Security	**This continues to be considered to be one of the most significant risks facing the charity which would impact our donor data and finances. This is where investment has been concentrated to manage and mitigate the potential threats as follows:** ■ Fully managed technology network with ISO accredited support company to monitor security of our IT network, systems and applications. ■ MFA for remote access to network plus all other platforms. ■ Robust backup protocol for network data and donor CRM for business continuity and protection of data which is tested monthly. ■ Cyber insurance and scanning of network by security agency Security Metrics for compliance. Support and scanning and early warning notification of threats from NCSC. ■ Training for staff on all risks relating to cyber security and data protection and new potential threats, this includes phishing training. ■ Charity policies which are understood and enforced which cover IT security, data protection and best practice in data handling.
Operational Risk Absence/ loss of key staff	**The charity continue to maintain a small team of 5 staff who cover the main functions of our business. Absences could affect operations and this risk is minimised by:** ■ Documenting of processes and comprehensive guidelines for performing essential activities. ■ Cross training of staff on key functions. ■ Succession planning is ongoing for senior management role.
Financial Risk Fundraising - lack of diversity in funding, or decline in income	**Our fundraising strategy continues to build towards a diverse array of income streams to minimize the risk associated with over-reliance on any single source. This approach includes:** ■ Planning & investing in new fundraising methods, skills and capabilities to expand our reach to new individual and organisational sources, corporates, and trusts & foundations. ■ Expanding our online giving to reach new donors. ■ Specific acquisition activity to engage new audiences. ■ Prompt stewardship to help reduce attrition, maintain engagement and encourage repeat giving.
Financial Risk Fraud	**Individual giving at WVC includes a number of cash and cheque donations and so special attention has been given to the risks of fraud within all of our activities, including the whole risk analysis conducted during the year. Our management of this risk includes:** ■ Segregation of financial activities relating to handling income and expenditure. ■ Finance handbook, guidelines and policy on money handling, recording and oversight of cash handling. ■ Regular reconciliation to accounts and testing of accounting treatment of finance items. ■ Staff training on recognising fraud and how to safely report suspected instances of fraud including cyber and physical, supplier invoice fraud, CEO impersonation fraud, legacy fraud etc. ■ Whistleblowing and staff protection policies for the above.
Operational Risk Supplier dependence	**WVC outsources some of its key services to a small number of trusted suppliers, however rising costs of suppliers and supplier failure remains a risk to our operations which is managed as follows:** ■ Identifying potential alternative suppliers and testing. ■ Sharing services with other charities and collaboration on certain functions. ■ Increasing in-house abilities so function can be brought in if cost effective to do so.
Macro Political and Economic instability	**Economic Instability and political uncertainty remains a risk factor for WVC. It particularly affects our donor contributions - as the economy turned downwards over the last two years, individual giving declined. Rising inflation also affects our cost of operations with increased cost of suppliers and services. This is not just for WVC but also for the SoM programmes globally and so we are funding more for the Sisters with less. At WVC we address these risks by:** ■ Diversifying income which is helping us to remain resilient by seeking funding from multiple sources. ■ Maintaining our reserves to ensure operations continue without immediate funding pressures. ■ Remaining flexible with our approach to fundraising so we can adapt more effectively to changing political and economic conditions. ■ Maintaining our communication with donors helps us to maintain trust and support, even during these challenging times.



GOING CONCERN

The Trustees have completed an assessment of the going concern status of the charity. They have reviewed the income and expenditure figures for 2023, the forecast for 2024 and going forward, one year from signing of accounts. Through the provision of regular management accounts and cash flow reports to the board they continue to monitor the level of income, unrestricted reserves and the changing risks facing the charity. These are also monitored on a fortnightly basis by the operating and finance committee of the full board.

From this ongoing assessment, they conclude that there are no material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that would cast doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern.

FUNDING SOURCES

In 2023 we continued to make progress with diversifying our income raising across new sources of funding. This included Trusts & Foundations, Corporates, new organisations including churches and schools and new digitally engaged donors. We maintained a consistent performance with individual giving via direct mail, regular gifts from our Guardian Angel donors and a slightly improved performance from Gifts in Wills. We continued to take advantage of the gift aid scheme where our donors confirmed to us their eligibility.

Some of our individual giving donors have been adversely affected by the cost of living challenges in the UK so this has slightly depressed responses for direct mail on certain appeals but the birthday, Easter and Christmas appeals were again highlights in the year where response rates for certain segments exceeded expectations.

Digital fundraising is gaining in momentum as our skills increase and with the new content provided from the schools this was buoyant during the year and helps to raise the profile of the charity and new income. The matched Big Give appeal for new books for the girls in Brasilia didn't quite make its target this year but was still a very worthwhile endeavour.

Gifts in Wills increased in 2023 and remain a significant part of our funding portfolio. We were particularly touched during the year to be remembered as significant residuary beneficiaries by some of our donors and to finalise some very long lasting legacy administrations. We were also very blessed to learn of the legacy pledges made by many of our current donors. Such a final gift, whatever the size, is an enormous privilege for us to receive and will make a lasting difference to the lives of the poor boys and girls in our care.

FUNDRAISING PRACTICE

The relationship with our supporters and the trust they place in us to effectively steward their gift for the care of the children is central to our work. We value every single gift and remain constantly humbled by the sacrifice our donors make to support our work.

Our charity values of compassion, dedication and integrity underpin our fundraising and it is our priority to minimise fundraising costs and ensure the maximum amount of our fundraising income is distributed quickly and safely to the Sisters' programmes overseas for the immediate use at the schools.

Thanks to the efficient expenditure reporting from the Sisters of Mary on our grant distributions, we are able to provide transparent accounting on our grant funding, to show our donors how their funds are used and the variety of ways in which they are supporting this poverty relief work.



Careers guidance in Guadalajara, Mexico

We focus on:

- Quick and efficient stewardship of our supporters gifts with timely thanking demonstrating the difference made by the donations.
- We protect our supporters' data ensuring our data protection policies and processes are up to date and followed by all staff, volunteers and partners. Our privacy policy shows how we use our donor data and provides clear instructions on how donors can opt out of contact or make complaint. We were pleased to note there were no complaints received in 2023 (2022 none).

  Enquiries to the charity are actioned within 48 working hours. All feedback received from donors is promptly acknowledged and appreciated as it helps us to progress and improve our fundraising.

  www.worldvillages.org.uk/privacy-policy
- As well as being members of the Fundraising Regulator, we are members of the NCVO, the DMA and the CIoF to stay up to date on training and standards of best practice in the sector.
- Our fundraising is designed in-house with content provided and authored by our beneficiaries. A song is always sweeter from the author's mouth and our children are the best authors of their lives and experiences. External agencies help us to produce and post the direct mail appeals and to bank some of the responses. We manage these relationships closely and monitor for quality and accuracy.
- Our work is supported by a wide range of generous supporters and we take great care to protect all their interests including the most vulnerable. We follow guidance issued by the CIoF and feedback direct from our donors in the construction of our fundraising to ensure it is accessible and acceptable for all. Our vulnerable donors' policy ensures any donor notified to us as vulnerable or who we believe may lack capacity is not contacted for fundraising purposes.



RESERVES

The charity's reserves policy is key to our risk management approach. When planning our charity activity and grant giving to the Sisters' programmes we review the level of reserves that need to be held and strike a balance between utilising our funds promptly to support the children and the need to retain sufficient surplus to meet commitments per our reserves policy.

The reserves policy is based on the level of core costs, risks that we face and the quality of income for its contribution to surplus.

In 2023 the majority of our income continued to be unrestricted (96.5%) and thus the risk profile remained largely the same as for the prior year. The level of reserves is calculated on six months expenditure (excluding grants to the Sisters of Mary) and this is £305,525.

The reserves are retained as follows: £225,000 held in liquid assets which can be accessed within 35 days and the remainder held on the balance sheet as a legacy debtor.

At 31 December 2023 the total reserves figure was £563,949 of which £562,695 is represented by unrestricted reserves and £1,254 is represented by restricted reserves. Free reserves at year end, taking into account assets that are not readily available were £89,718 – for the purposes of this calculation both fixed assets and accrued legacy income are not deemed readily available.

The board note that the free reserve total at 31 December 2023 is significantly below the level stated by the policy, however post year end several legacy amounts have been realised, increasing the free reserves.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

World Villages for Children was incorporated on 23rd October 1996. Our governing document is the Memorandum and Articles of Association which was revised in September 2017.

World Villages for Children is governed by the Board of Trustees. The Board meets three to four times a year in addition to meetings of the Operations and Finance Sub-Committee which meets fortnightly. The Board is responsible for setting the strategic planning for the charity as well as its overall governance, including signing the Trustees' Annual Report. The Board oversees WVC's management, with day to day responsibility delegated to Nicola Lawson as UK Manager who, with the authority of the Charity Commission, also serves as a trustee on the board.

The Board define the objectives which are the focus of our activities. They manage the risk to the charity, monitor performance towards our objectives and scrutinise the monthly grant giving to the Sisters of Mary programmes. They ensure reporting and compliance with the regulatory standards for charities and companies and that all legal standards are adhered to, including maintenance of a conflict of interest policy.

GRANT MAKING AND REPORTING ON EXPENDITURE

WVC sends its grants to the Sisters of Mary programmes on a monthly basis based on budget and the needs of the children in the schools. The grant expenditure process is underpinned by an overarching Deed of Grant making policy which also defines how reporting on the expenditure is to be handled. The expenditure reports sent by the Sisters of Mary are monitored closely by the UK Manager and board to ensure that funds are spent as agreed, in-line with our charitable objectives and particularly where restricted funds are sent.

CHARITY GOVERNANCE CODE

WVC continues to be indebted to its dedicated board of trustees for effective governance of the charity. In 2016 a Governance review was conducted which provided guidance on recruitment of UK domiciled trustees. We have followed this guidance on composition of the board as well as the Charity Code of Governance to ensure that we are building a strong board which meets the needs of the charity and serves it well in the delivery of its mission.

As we enter 2024 we have a strong board built across a variety of skills, gender, age and experience. Our board act honestly and with the interests of the charity at the centre of everything they do. They give their time generously and provide close attention to their responsibly in governance.

Our board sub-committee which focuses on Operations and Finance continues to closely review all the issues relating to the running of the charity and particularly risk and financial performance.

We also remain grateful to the programme alumni who participate on our advisory committee and provide us with new skills and insight on the detailed elements of the Sisters of Mary programme and contribute so greatly to our impact measurement work.

TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT, INDUCTION & TRAINING

Trustees are recruited to the board for their experience, skills and knowledge as well as their understanding of education and its part in poverty relief and the values on which our charity is centred.

Following interview by the board, new Trustees are appointed by resolution and have a period of induction to familiarise themselves with the legal requirements of their role – eg particularly the CC3 responsibilities. They also learn about our governance framework, our charity objects and the detailed work of the Sisters of Mary at the schools. It is mandatory for all our trustees to be DBS checked and to be fully compliant with our safeguarding policy.

www.worldvillages.org.uk/what-we-do/safeguarding/

All trustees, especially those who are new to the board are encouraged to travel to the schools and meet the children and alumni unless they have good prior experience, such as Fr Fretch, who is a graduate of the Adlas schools programme. Those not wishing to travel maintain close contact with the programmes through Zoom meetings, in person meeting with alumni and the Sisters when they travel to the UK.



SAFEGUARDING

WVC maintains a detailed safeguarding policy which covers its own UK based activities and monitors the activities at the SoM schools worldwide. We do not tolerate abuse, maltreatment or neglect of any person. The charity, its trustees, staff and all involved in its operation are committed to protecting and fulfilling our duty of care to those we work with in the UK and the children in our care overseas.

Via our safeguarding policy and processes we intend to keep safe all our staff, volunteers and trustees and we train and update to support awareness and capacity in safeguarding in the UK. We also have regular oversight of safeguarding in action at the Sisters of Mary programmes worldwide and their processes in place to safeguard the children in their care. Together these activities ensure a safe and happy environment for our staff, volunteers, stakeholders and all our vulnerable beneficiaries and overseas at all times.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH RELATED (CONNECTED) PARTIES

Throughout 2023 WVC continued to work closely with the family of independent affiliated charities based in the EU and US. Income from these charities together sustains the Sisters of Mary programmes and the 20,879 children in school and day care places with them in 2023.

These include Wereld Doorpen voor Kinderen in Belgium and the Netherlands, Villages du Monde pour Enfants in France, Asian Relief (trading as World Villages for Children) in the US and Die Schwestern Maria in Germany. All these charities share similar aims as World Villages for Children for the relief of poverty through education but they are separate, independent legal entities and there is no one controlling party.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR SETTING PAY AND REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

WVC aims to reward its employees fairly and ensure sufficient skilled staffing to achieve our objectives, in keeping with our status as a charity.

Pay rates are benchmarked against sector averages and take into account the specifics of job role, responsibility, experience and quality of performance. As with all staff remuneration, WVC reviews and benchmarks management remuneration with sector standards and in relation to other staff salaries. Trustees are not remunerated with the exception of the UK Manager who maintains a salary for her management role whilst also holding the role of trustee as requested by the board and approved the Charity Commission in 2016.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

In setting the objectives for the charity and planning its activities, the Board has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on the public benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011.

The humanitarian poverty relief programmes that we fund support those children in greatest need and no charges are made for any care provided, therefore the board considers that the charity meets the following four important principles of the public benefit requirements in its work:

- Relief of poverty through the funding of free education for children which enables them to access a vocation and to acquire employment – to break free from the cycle of poverty and assist their families.
- Advancement of education, by ensuring all the children attend one of our schools or day-care facilities.
- Advancing health and welfare – ensuring all the children at the schools receive medical support, proactive health care, regular food and nutrition and extra supplements where needed.
- Enabling children in the countries where we operate to access a better, poverty free future.

Our work provides children with a lifesaving education and a route out of poverty. When they have the chance of a place at one of our schools their lives are changed forever – they find work, become independent, able to help themselves and their families onto a better, poverty free future but we cannot help these children without you. By supporting our appeals, becoming a Guardian Angel, supporting us online, giving a grant or leaving a gift in your will you can transform the life of a child and their family – permanently. www.worldvillages.org.uk

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of World Villages for Children for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards).

- Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:
- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions, disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and the provisions of the charity's constitution.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

AUDITORS

Kreston Reeves LLP have indicated their willingness to continue in office and are deemed to be reappointed in accordance with section 487 (2) of the Companies Act 2006.

SMALL COMPANIES EXEMPTION

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies' exemptions in the Companies Act 2006.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees 2nd August 2024



N Lawson
Trustee

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of World Villages for Children



OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of World Villages for Children (the 'Charity') for the year ended 31 December 2023, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows, Analysis of Net Debt and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31 December 2023 and of the charity's incoming resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

OTHER INFORMATION

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' Report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations require us to report you, if in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 36, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities, including fraud

Based on our understanding of the charity and sector, and through discussion with the Trustees and other management (as required by auditing standards), we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to health and safety, anti-bribery, GDPR legislation and employment law. We considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 2019, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and other relevant charity legislation. We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries to increase revenue or reduce expenditure and management bias in accounting estimates specifically in recognising the accrued legacies.

Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Discussions with management and assessment of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud; and
- Identifying and assessing the design effectiveness of controls that management has in place to prevent and detect fraud; and
- Performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships, including related party transactions, that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud; and
- Confirmation of related parties with management, and review of transactions throughout the period to identify any previously undisclosed transactions with related parties outside the normal course of business; and
- Reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; and
- Review of significant and unusual transactions and evaluation of the underlying financial rationale supporting the transactions; and
- Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any manual entries made at the year end for financial statement preparation; and
- Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any manual entries made at the year end for financial statement preparation; and
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting estimates.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion of the effectiveness of the Charity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our Auditors' Report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our Auditors' Report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Charity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

USE OF OUR REPORT

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and its Trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Kreston Reeves LLP

Kreston Reeves LLP
Partner

For and on behalf of Kreston Reeves LLP
Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants

Chichester

Date 12 August 2024

Kreston Reeves LLP is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	**Total Funds 2023 £**	Total Funds 2022 restated £
INCOME FROM					
Donations and legacies					
Donations and grants	3	1,727,944	82,343	**1,810,287**	1,994,217
Legacies	3	551,529	-	**551,529**	208,091
Interest income		3,619	-	**3,619**	1,166
Total		**2,283,092**	**82,343**	**2,365,435**	**2,203,474**
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising Funds	4 & 5	365,139	-	**365,139**	379,150
Charitable Activities	4 & 6	1,767,348	106,390	**1,873,738**	2,098,755
Total		**2,132,487**	**106,390**	**2,238,877**	2,477,905
Net (Expenditure)/ Income		150,605	(24,047)	126,558	(274,431)
Net movement in funds		**150,605**	**(24,047)**	**126,558**	(274,431)
Total Funds Brought Forward	12 & 13	412,090	25,301	**437,391**	711,822
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	12 & 13	**562,695**	**1,254**	**563,949**	437,391

During the current financial year the salary allocation model has been amended to more accurately reflect the time spent on activities, and this has retrospectively been applied to the prior year figures adjusting the split between expenditure on raising funds and charitable activities as shown in note 4. Total expenditure remains unchanged.

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing operations.

The notes on the pages 43 to 51 form a part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	£	2023 £	£	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Intangible fixed assets	9		14,453		18,067
Tangible fixed assets	8		42,197		50,800
			56,650		68,867
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock		12,643		13,743	
Debtors	10	487,258		190,376	
Cash at bank and in hand		237,821		396,070	
		737,722		600,189	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	(230,423)		(231,665)	
Net Current Assets			**507,299**		368,524
Net Assets			**563,949**		437,391
The funds of the charity					
Restricted funds	**12 & 13**		1,254		25,301
Unrestricted funds	**12 & 13**		562,695		412,090
Total Funds			**563,949**		437,391

For the year ending 31 December 2023 the charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. However an audit is required under the Charities Act 2011. The Trustees acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The Financial Statements were approved and authorised for distribution by the Board of Trustees on 2nd August 2024 **and signed on their behalf by:**

Nicola Lawson.

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Nicola Lawson
Trustee
Company Registration No. 3267479

The notes on the accompanying pages 43 to 51 form part of these financial statements.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net (Expenditure)/ income for the year	126,558	(274,431)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and amortisation of fixed assets	12,217	12,860
Interest received	(3,619)	(1,166)
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	(296,882)	257,811
(Decrease) / increase in creditor due within one year	(1,242)	13,017
(Decrease) / increase in creditors due within more than one year	-	(6,719)
Decrease / (increase) in Stock	1,100	(3,390)
Net cash from by operating activities	**(161,868)**	(2,018)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Interest received	3,619	1,166
Purchase of fixed assets	-	(7,121)
Net cash from investing activities	**3,619**	**(5,955)**
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**(158,249)**	(7,973)
Cash and cash equivalents at the start of the year	396,070	404,043
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the ear	**237,821**	396,070

The notes on the pages 43 to 51 form a part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Status of the charity

World Villages for Children is registered as a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales (company number 03267479) and its registered office is Kings Building, 16 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HQ. World Villages for Children is a Public Benefit Entity registered with the Charity Commission (Charity number 1058973).

Basis of Preparation of the Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Report Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) second edition - effective 1 January 2019.

The functional currency of the charity is Pound Sterling. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Going Concern

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these accounts. The Trustees have made this assessment in respect to a period of one year from the date of approval of these accounts. The Trustees of the Charity have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees are of the opinion that the Charity will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

The Trustees have considered a number of factors when forming their conclusion as to whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate. They take into account the budget forecast for up to December 2025, cash flow forecast to December 2025 and the review of risks facing the charity, particularly the ongoing cost of living crisis. Key current risk is the decline in income due to economic slowdown resulting from the pandemic and the ongoing conflict in the Ukraine.

Our fundraising planning addresses this risk and since year end fundraising has continued consistently, overseen fortnightly by the board sub-committee to monitor performance and liquidity. Expenditures and operating efficiency continue to be closely scrutinised by management and the whole board quarterly with forecasts adjusted for different outcomes to assess liquidity and going concern status.

Our forward planning beyond 2025 takes into consideration the changing fundraising context and the economic climate and its potential impact on the various sources of income and planned expenditure.

The Charity's monthly financial statements, along with a cash flow forecast and scenario planning, show that the Charity has sufficient funds and liquidity and having regard to all of the above it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Legacies

Legacies are recognised in the statement of financial activities when there is entitlement, adequate probability and reliability of receipt and their value can be accurately measured. For both pecuniary and residuary legacies this is when probate has been granted and a reasonable estimate calculated for this income.

Donations

Donations are accounted for when conditions for their receipt are met, it is probable that the amounts will be received and the amount receivable can be reliably estimated.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The key sources of uncertainty in our estimations that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are described in the accounting policies and are summarised below:

- *Residuary legacies*
  The charity recognises residuary legacies once probate has been granted, which therefore requires an estimation of the amount receivable.

Pensions

Pension contributions are made for all employees and recorded as they fall due. These are defined contributions paid to approved private pension schemes for each employee.

Taxation

World Villages for Children is a registered charity and all of its income falls within the exemptions under part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.

Gift Aid Repayments

Income from gift aid repayment claims is only included for claims which have been submitted for tax periods ending on or before the year end and when the receipt of this income is certain.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred.

Grant payments are recognised when a constructive obligation arises that results in the payment being required.

Raising funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income.

The costs of appeals are matched where possible with the income generated. The accounting effect of this policy means that, at the balance sheet date, a proportion of the cost of the December mailing is carried forward as a prepayment as part of the response anticipated in January.

Support costs including central functions and costs primarily associated with constitution and statutory requirements have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating staff cost by work done, office costs by floor area, return mail processing and finance costs by work done. The staff costs which relate specifically to fundraising for the charity have been apportioned within support costs on the basis of time calculated as spent on this activity.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Leasehold improvements	over the term of the lease
Plant and equipment	20% on cost

All assets are capitalised at a cost.

Intangible Fixed Assets

Amortisation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Website development and software	20% on cost

All assets are capitalised at cost

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds comprise monies raised for, or their use restricted to, a specific purpose, or donations subject to conditions imposed by donors.

Designated funds comprise funds set aside out of unrestricted funds for a specific purpose.

Leasing Commitments

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Foreign currency transactions

Transactions denominated in a foreign currency are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction or at an average rate for the relevant month where that provides a close approximation.

Stock

The stock held is used for the direct marketing mailings, all the stock is held at the printers and valued at cost price.

Other Financial Instruments

i. **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at banks and in hand and short-term deposits with a maturity date of three months or less. As at 31st December 2023 total cash held was £237,821 (2022: £396,070).

ii. **Debtors and Creditors**

Debtors and creditors receivable or payable within one year of the reporting date are carried at their transaction price. Debtors and creditors that are receivable or payable in more than one year and not subject to a market rate of interest are measured at the present value of the expected future receipts or payment discounted at a market rate of interest. Balances for 2022 and 2023 are set out in notes 10 to 12.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

World Villages for Children

2. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2022 restated £	Restricted Funds 2022 restated £	Total Funds 2022 restated £
INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES				
Donations and grants	3	1,840,853	153,364	1,994,217
Legacies	3	208,091	-	208,091
Interest income		1,166	-	1,166
Total		2,050,110	153,364	2,203,474
EXPENDITURE ON				
Raising Funds	4 & 5	379,150	-	379,150
Charitable activities	4 & 6	1,963,797	134,958	2,098,755
Total		2,342,947	134,958	2,477,905
Net income/(expenditure)		(292,837)	18,406	(274,431)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(292,837)	18,406	(274,431)
Total funds brought forward	12 & 13	704,927	6,895	711,822
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	12 & 13	412,090	25,301	437,391

3. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	**Total 2023 £**
Donations and grants	1,727,944	82,343	**1,810,287**
Legacies and bequests	551,529	-	**551,529**
Total	**2,279,473**	**82,343**	**2,361,816**

	Unrestricted 2022 £	Restricted 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Donations and grants	1,840,853	153,364	1,994,217
Legacies and bequests	208,091	-	208,091
Total	2,048,944	153,364	2,202,308

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

World Villages for Children

4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE

	Grants to Sisters of Mary £	Direct staff Costs £	Other direct Costs £	Support Costs £	**Total 2023 £**
COSTS OF GENERATING FUNDS:					
Fundraising and publicity	-	111,827	190,337	62,975	**365,139**
Charitable expenditure	1,500,000	63,399	240,996	69,343	**1,873,738**
Total charitable activity	1,500,000	63,399	240,996	69,343	**1,873,738**
Total resources expended	**1,500,000**	**175,226**	**431,333**	**132,318**	**2,238,877**

	Grants to Sisters of Mary £	Direct staff Costs restated £	Other direct Costs restated £	Support Costs restated £	Total 2022 restated £
COSTS OF GENERATING FUNDS:					
Fundraising and publicity	-	106,722	213,864	58,564	379,150
Charitable expenditure	1,708,000	63,570	263,642	63,543	2,098,755
Total charitable activity	1,708,000	63,570	263,642	63,543	2,098,755
Total resources expended	1,708,000	170,292	477,506	122,107	2,477,905

An analysis of expenditure on raising funds split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 5.

An analysis of expenditure on charitable activities split between restricted and unrestricted funds can be found in note 6.

An analysis of staff costs can be found in note 7.

Support costs consist of two main elements: indirect staff costs and office costs. These costs have been apportioned across the work of the charity on the basis in Note 1 and allocated to each of the charity's activity as set out in the table below.

During the current financial year the salary allocation model has been amended to more accurately reflect the time spent on activities, and this has retrospectively been applied to the prior year figures adjusting the split between expenditure on raising funds and charitable activities as shown in the table below. Total expenditure remains unchanged.

	Indirect Staff (time) £	Office costs (Area) £	**Total 2023 £**
Fundraising and publicity	23,405	39,570	**62,975**
Charitable activities	13,032	56,311	**69,343**
Total costs allocated	36,437	95,881	**132,318**

	Indirect Staff (time) restated £	Office costs (Area) restated £	**Total** 2022 restated £
Fundraising and publicity	23,498	35,066	58,564
Charitable activities	13,082	50,461	63,543
Total costs allocated	36,580	85,527	122,107

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Included within expenditure are the following costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Operating lease payments	48,840	48,840
Auditors remuneration:		
Audit services	19,200	20,880
Accountancy and other professional services	38,279	51,913

5. EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	**Total 2023 £**
Direct staff costs	111,827	-	**111,827**
Other direct costs	190,337	-	**190,337**
Support costs	62,975	-	**62,975**
Total	**365,139**	**-**	**365,139**

	Unrestricted 2022 restated £	Restricted 2023 restated £	Total 2022 restated £
Direct staff costs	106,722	-	106,722
Other direct costs	213,864	-	213,864
Support costs	58,564	-	58,564
Total	379,150	-	379,150

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

World Villages for Children

6. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	**Total 2023 £**
Grants to Sisters of Mary	1,393,610	106,390	**1,500,000**
Direct staff costs	63,399	-	**63,399**
Other direct costs	240,996	-	**240,996**
Support costs	69,343	-	**69,343**
Total	**1,767,348**	**106,390**	**1,873,738**

	Unrestricted 2022 restated £	Restricted 2022 restated £	Total 2022 restated £
Grants to Sisters of Mary	1,573,042	134,958	1,708,000
Direct staff costs	63,570	-	63,570
Other direct costs	263,642	-	263,642
Support costs	63,543	-	63,543
Total	1,963,797	134,958	2,098,755

7. STAFF COSTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	191,882	187,722
Social security costs	15,204	15,813
Pension costs	4,578	3,337
Total	**211,664**	206,872

The average headcount during the year was 5 persons (2022 – 5).

Total remuneration paid to such key management personnel including trustees (see note 15) amounted to £55,206 (2022: £55,502).

There are no employees earning £60,000 per annum or more (2022: none).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

World Villages for Children

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Improvements £	Equipment £	**Total £**
COST			
At 1st January 2023	75,556	20,491	**96,047**
At 31st December 2023	75,556	20,491	96,047
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION			
At 1st January 2023	27,001	18,246	**45,247**
Charge for the year	7,556	1,047	**8,603**
At 31st December 2023	34,557	19,293	**53,850**
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st December 2023	**40,999**	**1,198**	**42,197**
At 1st January 2023	48,555	2,245	50,800

The fixed assets are used wholly for the activities of the charitable company.

9. INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Website development & software costs	**Total £**
COST		
At 1st January 2023	34,448	**34,448**
At 31 December 2023	34,448	**34,448**
ACCUMULATED AMORTISATION		
At 1st January 2023	16,381	**16,381**
Charge for the year	3,614	**3,614**
At 31 December 2023	19,995	**19,995**
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31st December 2023	**14,453**	**14,453**
At 1 January 2023	18,067	18,067

10. DEBTORS

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Legacies receivable	416,327	127,271
Gift aid receivable	28,030	29,066
Prepayments	29,135	27,732
Other debtors	13,766	6,307
	487,258	190,376

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

World Villages for Children

11. CREDITORS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Trade creditors	61,017	44,704
Accruals	24,448	25,027
HMRC payable	6,937	7,206
Pension payable	957	728
Grants due to the Sisters of Mary	125,000	145,000
Other	12,064	9,000
	230,423	231,665

12. ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS

	Balance @ 01.01.2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	**Balance @ 31.12.2023 £**
Unrestricted	412,090	2,283,092	(2,132,487)	-	**562,695**
Restricted					
Guatemala	2,915	2,061	(4,976)	-	**-**
Tanzania	21,790	61,825	(83,615)	-	**-**
Philippines	50	1,061	(1,111)	-	**-**
Honduras	528	755	(755)	-	**528**
Brazil	18	15,779	(15,797)	-	**-**
Mexico	-	136	(136)	-	**-**
Other	-	726	-	-	**726**
Restricted	25,301	82,343	(106,390)	-	**1,254**
Total	**437,391**	**2,365,435**	**(2,238,877)**	**-**	**563,949**

	Balance @ 01.01.2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance @ 31.12.2022 £
Unrestricted	704,927	2,050,110	(2,342,947)	-	412,090
Restricted					
Guatemala	2,915	352	(352)	-	2,915
Tanzania	3,402	85,296	(66,908)	-	21,790
Philippines	50	66,379	(66,379)	-	50
Honduras	528	1,153	(1,153)	-	528
Brazil	-	184	(166)	-	18
Restricted	6,895	153,364	(134,958)	-	25,301
Total	711,822	2,203,474	(2,477,905)	-	437,391

Each of the restricted funds is to be spent on charitable activities within the relevant country.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

13. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	**Total 2023 £**
Intangible fixed assets	14,453	-	**14,453**
Tangible fixed assets	42,197	-	**42,197**
Cash at bank and in hand	236,567	1,254	**237,821**
Other net current assets	269,478	-	**269,478**
	562,695	**1,254**	**563,949**

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Intangible fixed assets	18,067	-	18,067
Tangible fixed assets	50,800	-	50,800
Cash at bank and in hand	370,769	25,301	396,070
Other net current assets	(27,546)	-	(27,546)
	412,090	25,301	437,391

14. LEASE COMMITMENTS

	LAND AND BUILDINGS **Total 2023 £**	Total 2022 £
At 31 December, the charity has total future minimum commitments under operating leases as follow:		
Within one year	15,387	48,838
Between two and five years	183,968	15,387
Greater than five years	15,295	-
	214,650	64,225

15. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND DONATIONS

A total of £nil (2022: £559) expenses were paid by the charity in the year. The prior year amount was for one of the trustees and covered the cost of accommodation and travel required to fulfil their duties. Nicola Lawson, who became a trustee in July 2016, received remuneration of £48,500 (2022: £48,500) and pension of £1,268 (2022: £1,268) during the year, in her capacity as an employee of the charity. This has been discussed and agreed with the Charity Commission. No other trustee receives remuneration (2022: £nil).

Total donations from trustees amounted to £10,812 (2022: £3,013) within the year.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

16. CONNECTED PARTIES

World Villages for Children based in the United Kingdom pays on behalf of, and has had paid on its behalf, various expenses related to the charity as a whole by other affiliates based overseas.

The charity made grants totalling £1,500,000 to The Sisters of Mary in the year (2022: £1,708,000), which while not a strict affiliate is closely aligned to the ideals of the charity.

Balances between other affiliates have been settled before the balance sheet date except for those balances due to, and from, such affiliates as disclosed in Notes 10 and 11 of the financial statements.

Two trustees of the charity, Sister D.L Cho and Sister Elena Grengia Belarmino also sit on the boards of four other humanitarian entities that all share similar visions and purposes as World Villages for Children; these entities are in France, Netherlands, Belgium and the U.S.A. In addition, one former trustee, Sister Y Cheong, also sits on the board of the U.S entity. However, World Villages for Children does not consolidate these foreign entities in its financial statements, as they are separate legal entities with no one controlling party.

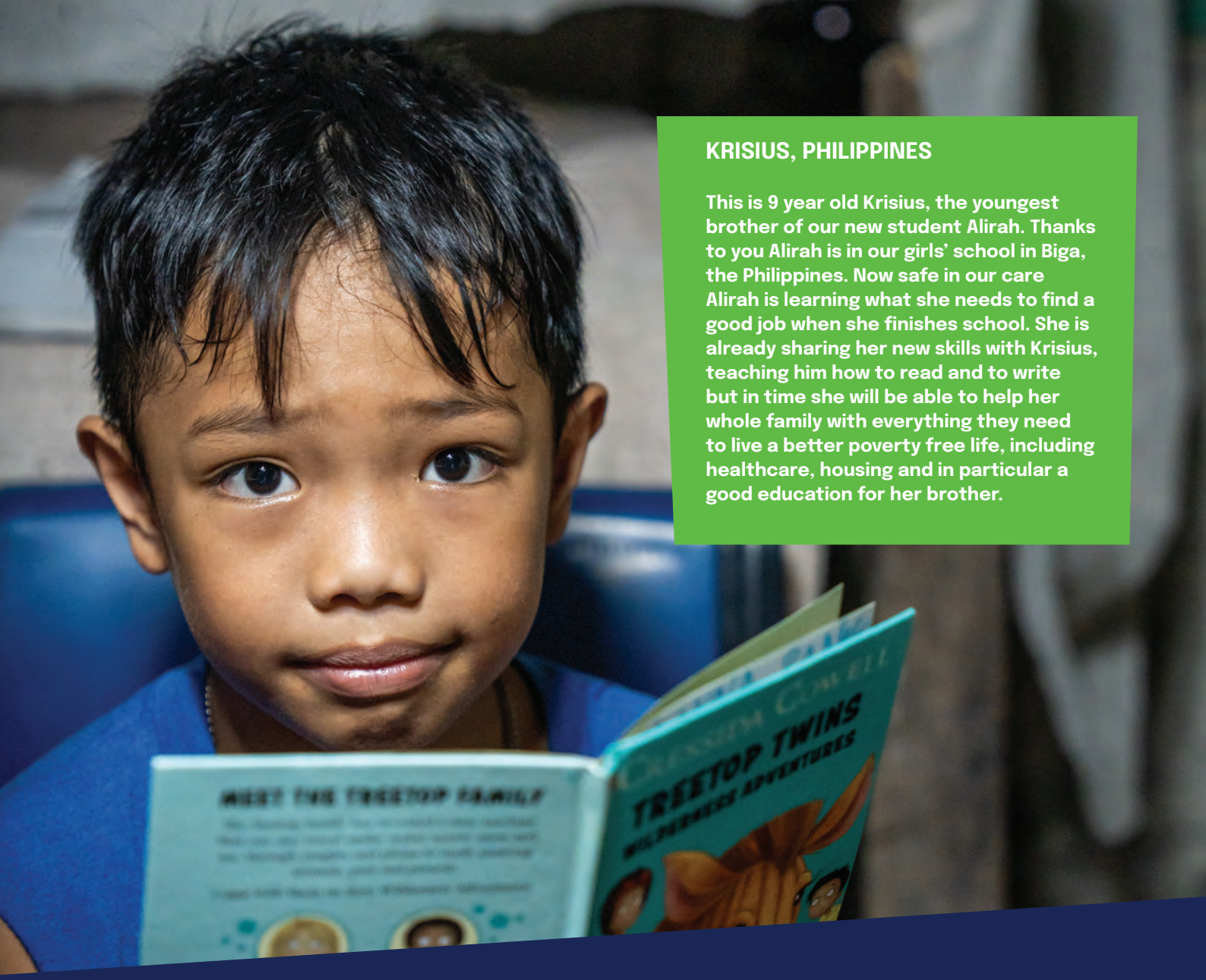
They were no other financial dealings with these entities during the year, apart from those transactions, and year end balances already disclosed below.

17. MEMBERS' LIMITED LIABILITY

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of the same being wound up while they are a member. This contribution, not exceeding £10, covers the payment of debts and liabilities of the company contracted before each individual ceased to be a member and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves.

18. LEGACY INCOME

World Villages for Children is aware of legacies of which the charity's share is estimated at £nil (2022: £25,000). This has not been included in these financial statements as it does not reach the necessary recognition criteria as laid out by the charity's accounting policy.



KRISIUS, PHILIPPINES

This is 9 year old Krisius, the youngest brother of our new student Alirah. Thanks to you Alirah is in our girls' school in Biga, the Philippines. Now safe in our care Alirah is learning what she needs to find a good job when she finishes school. She is already sharing her new skills with Krisius, teaching him how to read and to write but in time she will be able to help her whole family with everything they need to live a better poverty free life, including healthcare, housing and in particular a good education for her brother.

Ending poverty through education

World Villages for Children

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Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

2022 NCVO MEMBER

Corporate member DMA Data & Marketing Association

UK Registered Charity Number: 1058973

WORLD VILLAGES FOR CHILDREN

England & Wales - Charity number 1058973

Accounts

World Villages for Children

2022 ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS



Ending poverty through education

UK Registered Charity Number: 1058973



Madalena on the right and her older sister on the left.

ON THE COVER IS MADALENA

Madalena is 14 and from the poorest barrio in Santana do Araguaia – Pará, Brazil.

One of 9 children and deserted by their mother, Madalena and her younger brothers and sisters were left in the care of their elderly father until his death. With no one to care for them the family were split and Madalena was cared for by her oldest sister who by then had her own family.

She says **"My older sister that I consider as my mother works as a domestic helper. I was able to study in the morning and I worked in the afternoon in a restaurant – washing dishes, cleaning and wiping the tables so that I can help my sister and buy what I need."**

Because of her difficulties Madalena found life chaotic and learning difficult, after failing her exams her prospects for the future looked very bleak until she met the Sisters of Mary last year and we were able to fund a place for her at our girls school in Brasilia, Brazil.

In her own words **"Here I feel the care of a mother through the Sisters and I am learning many things. I like all the routine and schedule here because there in my house it is only I and no one else. Here I can feel that I am not alone. I will study hard and reach 3rd year high school and make technical in nursing. Then I can serve and help other people who are in need. Then continue to achieve my dream to be a police someday."**

www.worldvillages.org.uk/stories/madalenas-story/

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Company Number: 3267479
UK Registered Charity Number: 1058973



Company Information

Directors and Trustees	Sister Elena Grengia Belarmino (Appointed Chair 6 July 2023) Sister D L Cho (Sister Maria), Chair of Trustees (Resigned as Chair 31st March 2023) Nicola Lawson John Graham, Treasurer (Appointed 18 April 2019) Jo Ogilvie (Appointed 12 April 2022) Clare Bamberger (Appointed 4 July 2019) Sr Margarita Campos Abeja (Appointed 6th July 2023) Fr Fretch Ballesteros (Appointed 7th August 2023) Sister Y Cheong (Sister Margie) (Resigned 17th September 2019) Sister Teresita Mendoza Prudente (Resigned 6th July 2023)
Key Management Personnel	UK Manager
Website	www.worldvillages.org.uk
Registered Office and Charity address	Kings Buildings, 16 Smith Square, London SW1P 3HQ
Auditor	Crowe U.K. LLP, 55 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7JW
Solicitor	BDB Pitmans, One Bartholomew Close, London EC1A 7BL



New boys arriving in the Philippines



Introduction from the Chair

As we look back at 2022, I am amazed to see how the effort and dedication of the staff, leadership and board of WVC have navigated the challenges presented by the continuing global financial crisis continuing to raise funds to support the Sisters of Mary charity programs. The many poor children under our care have received joy and hope because of the vital education they have experienced, thanks to our supporters. As they become skilled and qualified for work, they have in turn been able to ease the burden of their poor families, lifting them from a life of poverty and multiplying the impact of your generous gifts.

As we strive to meet the growing need for education from more and more deprived children around the world we are so grateful to be able to accept new children every year and to have our children graduate from school with a good quality secondary education and vocational training ready for local employment. Each year we see more children finding jobs, making successful careers and building a brighter future for themselves free from poverty thanks to the untiring work of the Sisters and teachers in building lasting partnerships with local employers and training the children in the skills they need . It is our loyal donors who make it all possible.

In 2022 we were pleased to resume our grassroots community work within the poorest regions. My Sisters of Mary met many thousands of children in need of our care and we were pleased to welcome 5,253 of these boys and girls into our schools, day care and training centres worldwide. During the year it was wonderful to see 3,809 of the most senior children graduate ready to work, qualified and independent members of society ready to contribute, with agency and ambition. In the Philippines 97% of these graduates are already employed.

In Honduras, a new 3 storey building was completed and inaugurated for the technical training of the girls in school with us here and in Tanzania we completed the day care and ladies training centre in Kiluvya Tanzania and welcomed the first 100 young women and 90 toddlers into this facility. Elsewhere in Tanzania we received 12 hectares of land from the Archdiocese of Dodoma ready for the construction of a new school for the poorest boys in this country.

Across our programs, the new children in our schools are receiving additional teaching to help them catch up with lost early learning and they are improving numeracy and literacy. Our children are loving the return to face to face lessons and looking forward to the future.

As we face the challenges of the new year I wanted to thank all our dear supporters for your help in developing our mission and to update you that my term of service as superior general is now at an end and thus my Chairmanship of World Villages for Children. So I am pleased to welcome Sr Elena Belarmino as the new Superior General and Chair of WVC. She will continue handling the baton of our loving service to the poor. She will not be alone and we, Sisters of Mary, are all together in this charity work. We move in the same direction all for the welfare of the poor.

We remain so grateful to all our committed friends for your help in educating the poorest children. Without you our work simply would not be possible. We thank you sincerely for your longstanding kindness and humanitarian interest in the poor children in our care.

Sister Maria Cho

Sister Maria Cho
Outgoing Chair of Trustees



I look forward to my role as the new Chair of the Charity and continuing the work started by Sister Maria, committed to providing care and education for the poorest children around the world.

With the hard work of our staff and trustees, the dedication of all my Sisters of Mary and the loyal generosity of our friends and supporters, we can continue our mission for the protection and welfare of the poor.

Sr. Elena Belarmino

Sr Elena Belarmino
Chair of Trustees (Appointed 6th July 2023)



Introduction from the UK Manager

Nicola with Clara, graduate and now Physics teacher in Guatemala Girlstown

We remain as always deeply grateful for the kindness, interest and gifts we receive from our supporters, from individual donors, from organisations and from trusts and foundations. Your generosity allows us to continue and develop our mission, and the value of every gift is multiplied by our children when they graduate as independent and self-sufficient adults able to find work, build careers and go on to help generations of their families with access to a better life, healthcare and education.

2022 was a difficult year for fundraising and WVC, like many other charities, was affected by the external factors influencing the UK economy and we finished behind our income targets for the year. Despite this and thanks to the loyal commitment of our staff, trustees and supporters we maintained a regular flow of funds to support nearly 20,000 children at the Sisters of Mary schools worldwide. As in 2021 we continued to focus our grant giving on unrestricted support for the Sisters to help them in the variety of challenges they experienced during the year maintaining care of the children in the face of rising prices, particularly with the provision of food. Where we provided restricted funding this was particularly focussed on projects at the schools to support vocational teaching and work readiness for both boys and girls. This included the new technical training centre for ladies in Tanzania and the upgraded equipment for computing and engineering for the boys in the Philippines to meet the changing technology needs of local employers.

During the year we were delighted to work more closely with the alumni of all the Sisters of Mary schools around the world as they engaged with us on the new board advisory committee. You will read some of their stories within this report. We appreciate their involvement and time and they have deepened our knowledge of the enormous impact made by the education programmes on the success of their lives.

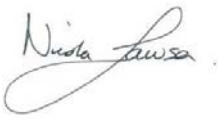
They have also helped us to better understand the realities of the challenges they face after school and how we might help the Sisters to evolve the programmes to address these.

Our strategic priorities for 2022 remained focussed on governance, fundraising, operational effectiveness, quality and impact measurement. We were blessed with the active contribution and guidance of our board of trustees throughout the year and in April 2022 were delighted to welcome our new trustee Jo Ogilvie who brings new experiences and skills to our board and has been a new source of learning for our whole staff team.

In July 2023 we were also delighted to welcome new trustees Sr Margarita Campos Abeja and Fr Fretch Ballesteros who add great depth and variety of experience to our board. We celebrated Sr Maria's dedicated service as she stood down as Superior General and therefore Chair of our board, being replaced in the role by Sr Elena. We also thanked Sr Teresita Prudente as she retired from her 4 years of committed service to our governance.

Despite the challenges of the year we were thrilled to support and celebrate the growth of the Sisters of Mary programmes including the completion of the new training centre and day care facility in Tanzania, welcoming the first 200 ladies and children there and to share the milestone ground-breaking for the new school for boys in Dodoma. None of this work would be possible without you.

Thank you



Nicola Lawson
UK Manager and Trustee



Young boys hoping for a place at the new school in Dodoma, Tanzania.

About World Villages for Children

World Villages for Children supports the education programmes of the Sisters of Mary (SoM) to provide a free, quality education to the poorest children in the world.

In 2022, the number of people living in poverty experiencing acute food insecurity and requiring urgent nutrition and livelihood assistance increased for the fourth consecutive year with over a quarter of a billion facing severe hunger. Education and the skills needed for stable employment are a pathway out of this poverty, the catalyst to a better, poverty free future and the driver of our fundraising work.

Through our donors' generosity we fund school places for the very poorest children at the Sisters' schools in The Philippines, Mexico, Guatemala, Brazil, Honduras and Tanzania. In a safe and a loving environment, the world's most deprived boys and girls receive an inclusive and equitable education which gives them good academic and vocational skills and helps them to find good work locally and become productive, independent adults.

About the Sisters of Mary education programmes

The schools programme has grown since 1964 and where funding and support permits, the programmes expand to new communities and new countries (most recently Dodoma in Tanzania). Each year the Sisters travel to the most remote and deprived communities in each country to help the poorest children access care and education.

The programmes include day-care facilities for younger children aged 3-5 which focus on the provision of care and foundational learning for the most vulnerable, (Mexico, Guatemala, Brazil and Tanzania), training centres to prepare the most disadvantaged young women for work (Tanzania) Medical centres for the poorest (Philippines, Guatemala) and live-in secondary schools for boys and girls (aged 11 onwards) in the Philippines, Mexico, Guatemala, Brazil, Honduras and Tanzania.

It is a low cost and sustainable education process, together we provide places for nearly 20,000 children each year and the schools generate significant operating efficiencies. In 2022 it cost just over £1,000 to feed, care for and educate one child for the year.

With post pandemic poverty a systemic problem in all our countries of operation, demand for places has again been at unprecedented levels and we cannot welcome all those who need and deserve a place. However in 2022 the Sisters welcomed a staggering 5,253 new children into a place in their care.

Their work underpins the principles of the UNSDGs. The Sisters use their dedication and in country expertise to ensure that the poorest children receive a lifetime of kindness as well as study nationally accredited academic and technical courses which prepare them for local employment. Saved from the hardships of a life in poverty like child labour, abuse, childhood marriage and early child rearing, these children enjoy the comforts of a normal childhood and graduate as confident adults able to hold down steady jobs.
The experience at school transforms their lives.

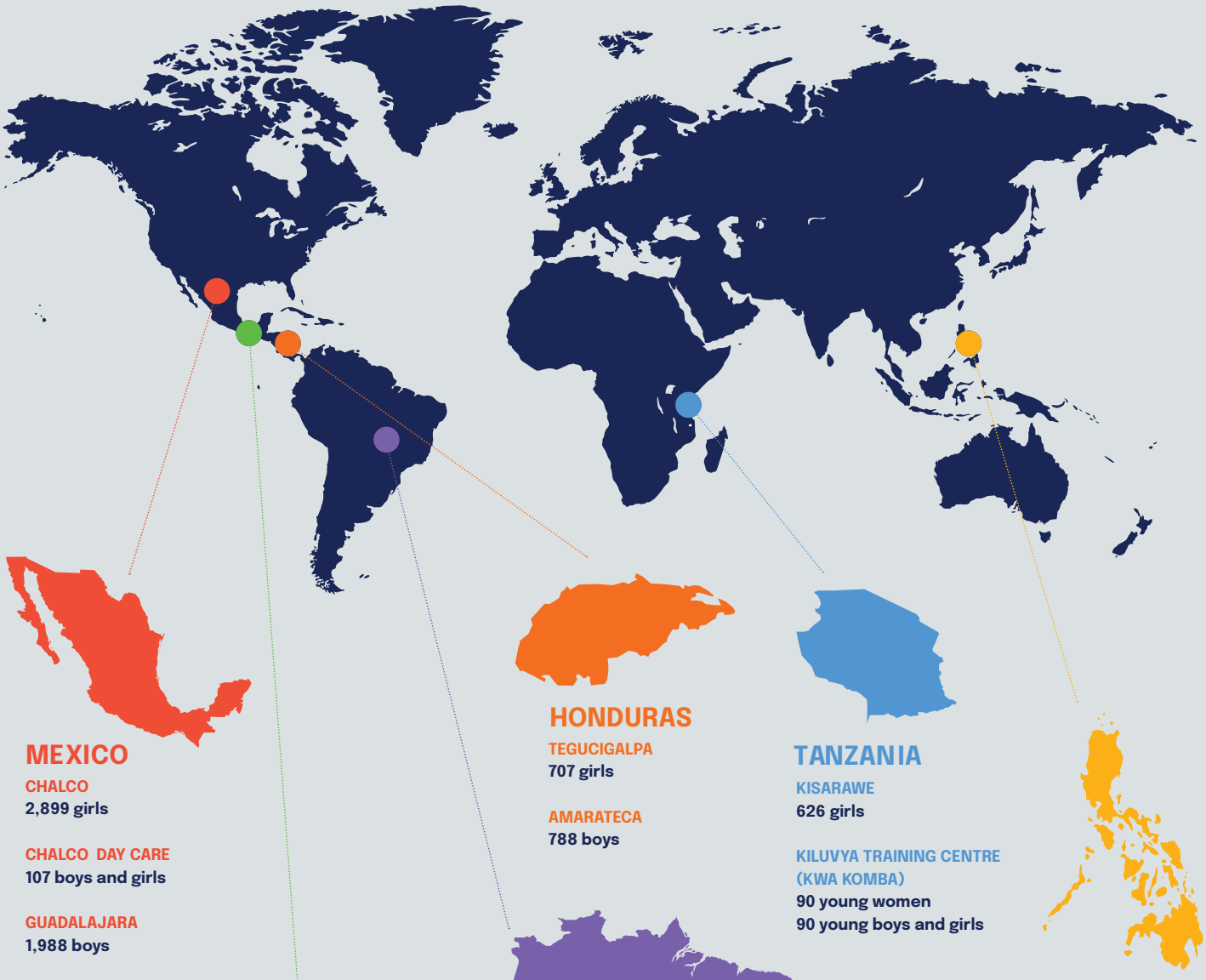








Where we work



MEXICO

CHALCO
2,899 girls

CHALCO DAY CARE
107 boys and girls

GUADALAJARA
1,988 boys

HONDURAS

TEGUCIGALPA
707 girls

AMARATECA
788 boys

TANZANIA

KISARAWE
626 girls

KILUVYA TRAINING CENTRE (KWA KOMBA)
90 young women
90 young boys and girls

THE PHILIPPINES

BIGA
2,244 girls

ADLAS
1,703 boys

TALISAY
2,195 girls

MINGLANILLA
1,652 boys

GUATEMALA

ZONA 6
908 boys

ZONA 13
1,108 girls

ZONA 21 DAY-CARE
99 boys and girls

BRAZIL

BRASILIA
827 girls

BRASILIA DAY CARE
66 boys and girls

SAO PAULO ELEMENTARY AND DAY CARE
468 boys and girls

SISTERS OF MARY PROGRAMMES AROUND THE WORLD 2022.

Trustees' Report



New girls at school in the Philippines

STRATEGY

The Trustees of WVC present their annual report for the year ended 31 December 2022 under the Companies Act 2006, together with the audited accounts for the year. They confirm that the latter complies with the requirements of the Act, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Charities SORP 2015.

The Charity Objects for WVC are to:

- **Provide financial support for the SoM humanitarian programmes**
- **To raise the profile of their poverty relief work through the provision of education**
- **To educate the public and promote understanding of childhood poverty and the work of the programmes to alleviate poverty amongst children, the most vulnerable group.**

Our mission to educate the poorest children to help end their lives of poverty continued in 2022. Our strategy goals to achieve this underpin the activities of the Sisters of Mary and fund the operation of their programmes providing secondary education, foundational learning and vocational training for the very poorest children as well as the growth of the programmes to new communities, within and between countries to reach new girls and boys in urgent need of our care.

During the year the charity responded to a number of challenges in the wider economy and adapted to take advantage of the opportunities available to us whilst optimising our existing resources.

GOVERNANCE



In 2022 we continued our objective to build a bigger, more diverse skill base for our board. It was enriched by the appointment of new trustee, Jo Ogilvie in April 2022 and then again in 2023 with the recruitment of Sr Margarita Campos Abeja (SoM) and Fr Fretch Ballesteros (graduate of the Philippines school and UK based).

Also in 2022, the charity formalised the new board advisory group and recruited members from amongst the whole of the alumni of the Sisters of Mary programmes. The new members were an exciting and insightful grouping and they are already adding enormous depth to our understanding of the programmes, all the outcomes of our work with the SoM and how we quantify the impact on poverty relief generated by our work.





IMPACT MEASUREMENT

The impact of our donors' support on poverty relief is multiplied many times over when our children graduate from school into secure livelihoods. Independent and productive, they are able to nurture generations of their families and communities, providing them with practical help, access to healthcare and education and leading them onto a better poverty-free life.

In 2022, with the support of the alumni network we were able to move forward on impact measurement and learn more from our graduates by surveying, for the first time, thousands of alumni of the programmes. These results are detailed later on. Graduates now number nearly 167,400, and this figure is growing every year as more children complete school and join them.

They not only nurture their own families but as part of the alumni network they also provide ongoing support to us in fundraising and the Sisters at the schools with help for new graduates, accelerating their transition into work, further boosting the impact of the work on improved community poverty levels.

FUNDRAISING

In 2022, the economic difficulties, Ukraine war and cost of living increases had a significant impact on our supporter's propensity to give and this affected all fundraising. Income at £2,203,474 was behind forecast by 12%. Although direct mail and committed giving were in line with expectations, Trust & Foundation and legacy income performed poorly.

The new brand and website which were launched during the year and new content received from the programmes has however built momentum in the digital revenue stream and is driving better overall donor engagement for the future.

Despite these difficulties we remained blessed with the support of a core of committed individual supporters and organisations who responded well to our appeals during the year and maintained generous support and interest in our work. Together with the savings created by the redesign of some of our processes to improve stewardship and increase efficiency, we were able to provide a regular flow of unrestricted grant income to fund the range of activities and care needs of 18,500 deprived children in our schools worldwide during the year.

We were particularly pleased to help the Sisters reach new regions during the year, welcome 5,193 new children and provide vital additional teaching for many of these who have lost 2 years of learning due to the Covid-19 pandemic.



PATHWAY TO EMPLOYMENT

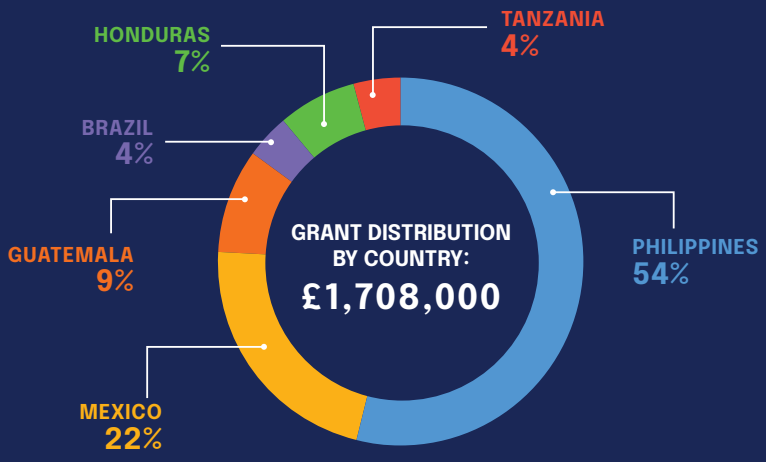
Our funds continued to help the Sisters invest in **sustainable practices** at the schools to optimise their funding budgets and to **upgrade vocational teaching equipment** to suit new skill needs of local employers and improve job opportunities.

This is vital to the achievement of our aims. In 2022 we also helped the Sisters equip and run a new dual function training and day care centre in Tanzania to support the most disadvantaged young women into work or their own businesses.

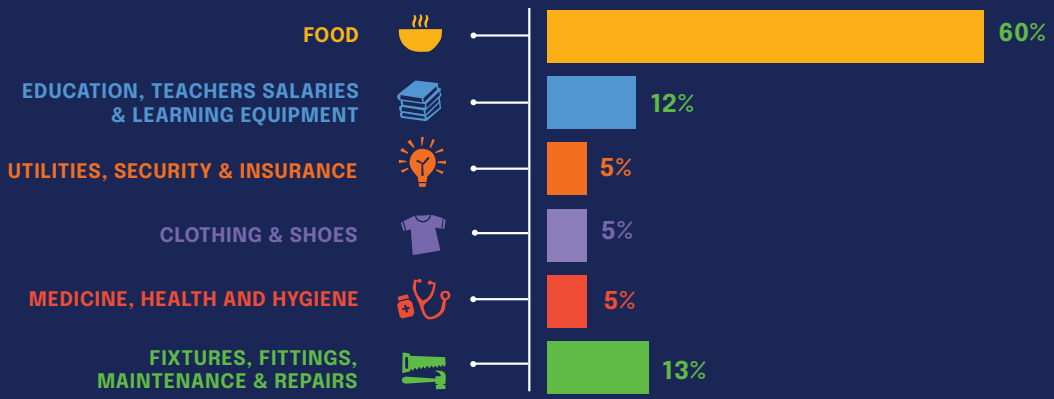
This facility represents an expansion of the SoM programmes, meets a desperate need in the region for vocational training and is already many times oversubscribed.

OUR GRANT OF £1,708,000 WAS DISTRIBUTED IN 2022 AS FOLLOWS:

WHERE YOUR GIFT WAS USED



HOW YOUR FUNDS WERE USED IN 2022



PROGRESS AT THE COUNTRY PROGRAMMES

Thanks to the support of our friends and donors in 2022 we continued to ensure the Sisters had the regular funds needed to welcome the most deprived boys and girls in the world.

Thanks to you the most neglected children were safe, well fed, healthy and educated ready for a better future.[1]

COUNTRY	NUMBER OF CHILDREN	TEACHERS	ANCILLARY STAFF	DOCTORS & NURSES	SISTERS	NEW CHILDREN ACCEPTED IN 2022
PHILIPPINES						
Biga Girlstown	2,198	55	65		33	639
Adlas Boystown	1,604	53	59		21	510
Talisay Girlstown	2,142	74	77		25	640
Minglanilla Boystown	1,592	61	79		17	451
Medical Centre Biga	75 Outpatients per day		9	3	2	
Medical Centre Minglanilla	59 Outpatients per day		7	2	1	
MEXICO						
Chalco Girlstown	3,040	108	66	6	52	775
Guadalajara Boystown	1,979	71	39	1	15	499
Day Care centre, Chalco	107	7	10		2	40
GUATEMALA						
Zona 13 Girlstown	862	27	43		15	173
Zona 6 Boystown	1,068	35	45	4	13	287
Day Care centre Zona 13	102	8	6		1	60
Medical Clinic Zona 13	74		2	5	1	
BRAZIL						
Brasilia (Girlstown)	837	27	13	2	15	183
Day care centre Brasilia	67	4			2	78
Sao Paulo Elementary	305	14			2	67
Sao Paulo day care	149	8	9		4	43
HONDURAS						
Tegucigalpa (Girlstown)	709	28	26	2	15	170
Amarateca (Boystown)	800	30	39	2	9	176
TANZANIA						
Kisarawe (Girlstown)	626	28	15	2	19	160
Training centre (Kwa Komba) [2]	90	4	5		4	212
Day Care	87	1	2		2	90

1 These are year end totals and move significantly during the year due to new arrivals and graduations.

2 Training centre has two intakes a year each of approx 90/100 ladies

Highlights from our work and how your gift helped in 2022



Almost 18,500 children were cared for in school or nursery places in 2022



5,253 new children received a place at our schools, day care and training centres worldwide



3,809 children graduated, skilled and ready to find work.



We provided specialist technical training equipment and materials for the most disadvantaged ladies of Tanzania to help them learn the skills needed for employment.



We helped provide food for 55,500 meals a day so all the children at the schools worldwide could thrive



Ground was broken and construction commenced in Dodoma, Tanzania for the first Sisters of Mary school for boys in that country.



We helped the 2,244 girls in Biga Girlstown Philippines with new windows to make their school watertight.



We supported 1,703 boys in the school in Adlas, Philippines with the computing and engineering tools and equipment they needed to be work ready for local jobs



Our graduates were motivated to pay back for their opportunity by supporting us with fundraising for future generations.

Country Focus



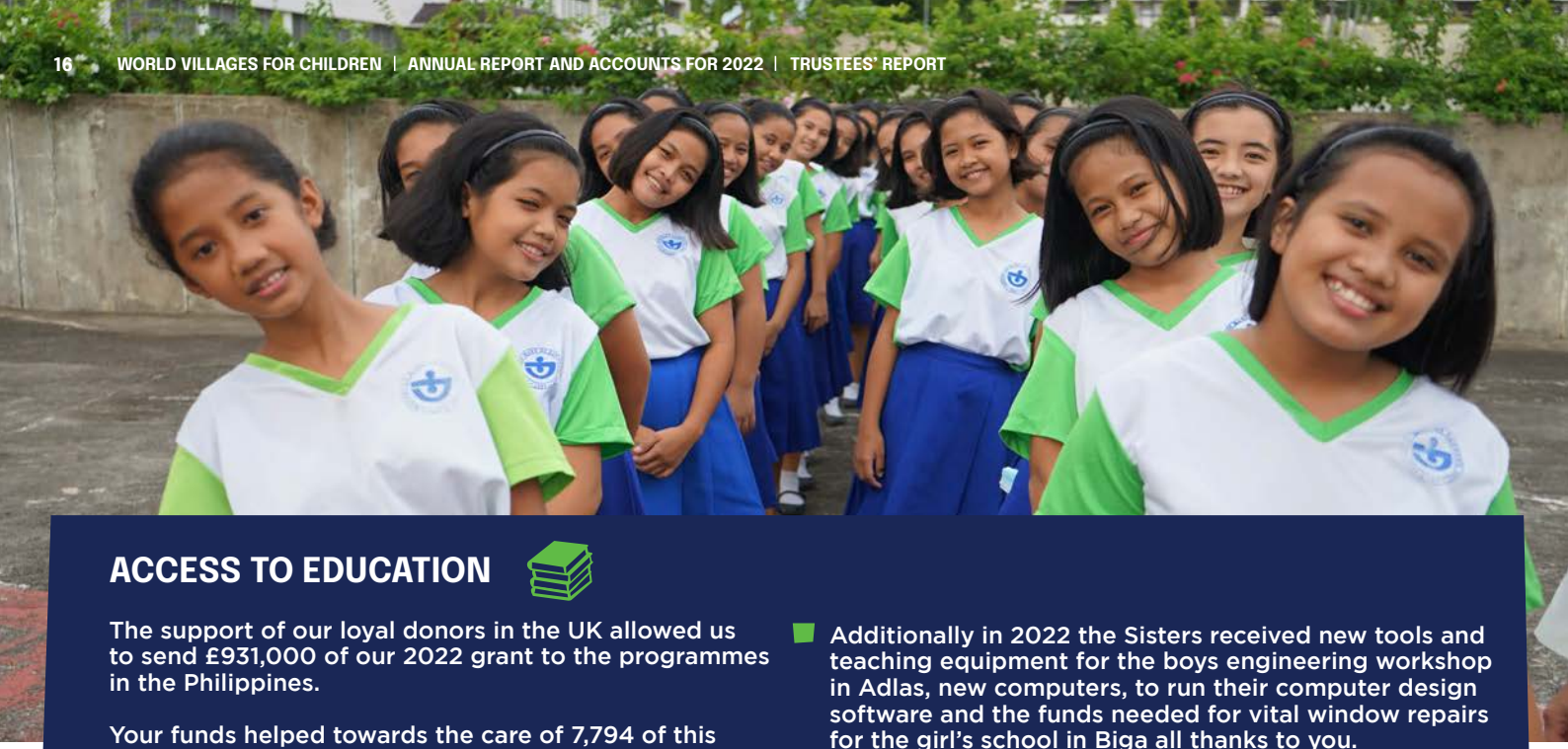
Children of impoverished families in the Philippines are the most vulnerable

PHILIPPINES



- One of the most unequal economies in the world. Over 19 million Filipinos were living in poverty in 2022[1]
- Families in the poorest regions like Central and Southern Luzon and Visayas are the most deprived, suffering the long-lasting impact of the Covid-19 pandemic
- Rising inflation has further devastated livelihoods causing wide-spread food insecurity and malnutrition amongst children, the most vulnerable cohort
- Recovery in employment rates suggests that with access to adequate education and training, opportunities do exist for these poorest families to find jobs and a more productive future.

1 World Bank Group, Poverty & Equity Brief April 2023



ACCESS TO EDUCATION

The support of our loyal donors in the UK allowed us to send £931,000 of our 2022 grant to the programmes in the Philippines.

Your funds helped towards the care of 7,794 of this country's poorest children in 2022, providing them with a safe place to grow, food, clothes, shoes, educational supplies and equipment, workshop tools and essential school repairs to ensure they had a better future.

- In four schools Biga and Adlas (Girlstown and Boystown) near Cavite, and Talisay and Minglanilla (Girlstown and Boystown) in Cebu.
- The most deprived children received three healthy meals a day, medical support, clothing and an academic and vocational education accredited by TESDA[2].
- Additionally in 2022 the Sisters received new tools and teaching equipment for the boys engineering workshop in Adlas, new computers, to run their computer design software and the funds needed for vital window repairs for the girl's school in Biga all thanks to you.
- 2022 saw a return to normal regional community work for the Sisters of Mary to meet children in most need. Thousands of children met with the Sisters and in August, 2,240 extremely deprived boys and girls were welcomed into school from throughout the country.
- Balanced meals and additional tuition were an urgent priority for these new children to help them recover their strength and catch up with lost learning. With the aid of your regular donations these children continue to recover well, gain confidence and learn fast. Rendel was one of our newest students in 2022.

THE STORY OF RENDEL

He is 12 years old. The eldest of 4 children from a farming family. After primary school he worked hard selling coconuts, fried bananas, and taking care of his younger siblings whilst his parents were out. His father deserted the family whilst Rendel was very young leaving his mother to care for the children alone. It was a miserable life and his future looked very bleak until he met the Sisters of Mary in early 2022.

In August your funds allowed us to make a place for Rendel and he joined the Sisters' school in Adlas. He is now flourishing. He is making new friends, eating regularly and enjoying the comforts of a proper childhood. He finally has hopes and ambitions for a different and brighter future, he says

"I thank all those people who have blessed my life I think now I would like to be a steward or even a pilot someday".





GROWING, LEARNING AND WORKING

The older children at the schools continued to thrive inside and outside the classroom. They were energetic in studying, competing and succeeding in academic subjects and a variety of sports[3], representing the school to the wider world[4] and preparing for future employment. Outside of the classroom they had fun, playing with friends, learning new hobbies and making the most of their new opportunities. Work experience was completed for all the senior children and there was renewed emphasis on upgrading vocational training and equipment to keep pace with the new technology and skill needs of local employers. 1,875 senior year children graduated from the schools in July 2022 ready for work. Over 90% of these children are already employed in companies including Mercedes Benz, Orbis Manufacturing and Epson Precision.



2 https://www.tesda.gov.ph/
3 The boys in Minglanilla even triumphed in Weightlifting for the first time at the National Weightlifting Championship in 2022.
4 Grade 12 student Joel was chosen by the Department of Education to represent the school in the UN Transforming Education Summit 2022

Country Focus



Children living in poverty in Mexico lack the basics for survival like shelter, healthcare and nutrition.

MEXICO

- Post pandemic economic shock and the impact of climate change were the main drivers of poverty in Mexico in 2022- inflation, job loss, disruption to essential supplies and crop failure causing loss of income and hunger for the most vulnerable families.
- Child poverty has now increased to 52.6% [5]; the harshest result of COVID-19. Youngsters in regions like Oaxaca and Guerrero are particularly affected, lacking adequate shelter, healthcare or nutrition.
- Involvement in crime and violence inside and outside the home has increased and particularly affects girls, instances of child marriage rose in 2022. 10 million girls and women were registered as married or in a union before age 18[6], preventing any further education or route to long-term productivity.
- The country is facing an in-depth educational crisis [7], the poorest children continue to have little access to quality education and so they lack the basic skills needed to secure paid work. The demand for places at our schools is consequently at an unprecedented level.

5 Unicef Country Office Annual Report, Mexico, 2022
6 https://data.unicef.org/resources/is-an-end-to-child-marriage-within-reach/
7 Unicef, Mexico Report 2022



ACCESS TO EDUCATION

Your generous gifts allowed funds of £367,000 to be sent to the programmes in Mexico in 2022 to support the education work by providing essential food and nutrition, clothing, education supplies, teaching salaries and utilities.

- In two schools, in Chalco, Villa de las Niñas (girls) and Guadalajara, Villa de los Niños (boys) the Sisters of Mary were able to care for a total of 4,887 secondary age children and 107 youngsters at the day care centre in Chalco, providing three healthy meals a day, vital care and an accredited education.
- The schools focused on welcoming as many children as possible and meeting the urgent need for places from families desperate for help for their children.
- 850 new boys and girls were accepted into school and day care during July and given the support and care they needed to recover.

THE STORY OF FELIPE

Felipe is one of the children benefiting from your kindness at the boys' school in Guadalajara. Originally from Calcahualco, Nueva Vaquería in the state of Veracruz his life was very difficult before he arrived at Villa de los Niños.

The eldest of four brothers, abandoned by their father, Felipe tried hard to help his mother to support the family and missed out on his early schooling whilst caring for his younger brothers. He had no hopes for the future until he met the Sisters of Mary and we were able to fund a place at school for him.

"What I like most about Villa de los Niños is that The Sisters of Mary give you so much love and that makes me feel free. Once I finished studying, I want to enter the army or the navy and study medicine and one day be recognized for my work. I would like to thank the benefactors for all their support. Thanks to their help, I am beginning to fulfill my dreams. May God grant you unlimited blessings for all the support you give me every single day. Thank you!"



Felipe (in glasses) in technical class and at leisure.



GROWING, LEARNING AND WORKING

Thanks to you, the most deprived children were happy and fulfilled at school in Mexico and enjoyed the freedom and comforts of a proper childhood in 2022.

In August, 810 boys and girls finished their academic and vocational studies and graduated ready for work. Over 50% of these children are already employed, living independently and many also pursue higher education studies through scholarships.



Girls football team in Chalco triumphant trophy winners

Country Focus



Meeting new young girls in need in Brazil, 2022

BRAZIL

- The poorest families in Brazil (particularly in the North and North East) face a precarious future as jobs have been lost post pandemic and the current rising inflation has eroded any meagre income they are able to earn.
- 75% of children from these vulnerable families which are mainly in rural areas, are living in poverty[8].
- Their daily struggle is marked by lack of access to adequate shelter, nutrition, drinking water, sanitation and electricity. These deprivations hinder their ability to access the protections of school or a healthy start in life.
- Young girls living in poverty are particularly affected, facing abuse and violence inside and outside the home and early marriage. 21.58 million girls in Brazil were married or in a union before age 18 in 2022 ending their hope of further education or a route out of poverty.[9] These children are the priority for the Sisters of Mary programmes.

8 Brazil Poverty and Equity Assessment, World Bank 2022
9 https://data.unicef.org/resources/is-an-end-to-child-marriage-within-reach/



ACCESS TO EDUCATION

Your generous support in 2022 helped to provide for the range of needs for 827 girls in their school in Brasilia, as well as 67 toddlers in their day care centre there, including food, clothing, shoes, medicines, toiletries, and learning supplies.

- In Sao Paulo, the Sisters' elementary school welcomed 320 boys and girls aged 6 to 11 and the day care centre cared for 149 toddlers aged 3-5, providing refuge for the youngsters of the poorest families and a vital early education.
- The Sisters resumed their community work in October 2021 travelling widely to reach the poorest families, particularly in the North East of the country. They met hundreds of desperately deprived children and in January 2022, 188 new youngsters were welcomed into the day care and elementary facilities and 183 new girls were welcomed to the school in Brasilia.
- These girls have suffered severely from the lack of education during the pandemic and most of them joined the school unable to read or write[10] and so your funds also helped the Sisters to arrange the additional tuition needed for these children. Thanks to you they are now thriving! Herika is one of them.

THE STORY OF HERIKA

"Hello! My name is Herika, I am 13 years old. I came from São Felix do Xingu, State of Pará. When I was born my mother didn´t have the condition to rear me because my father left her. My grandparents have taken care of me since birth. They also have a poor living condition. My grandfather is a fisherman and my grandmother is a fish vendor. Life is not easy at home. They are now getting old, so I helped in the household chores.

I have a big dream. I want to be Marine soldier and I want to help my grandparents to get out from poverty. Because of the pandemic, I was not able to study. When the Sisters came to our town I was so excited. I know I would be apart from my family but I see that though a unique opportunity I would have a bright future.

Now, I am studying hard. I am so happy with my new home. I thank God for giving such a grace. The sisters are very good and our benefactors are goodhearted people. I thank you with all my heart. I pray to God that He may continue to bless and keep you safe always.
Thank you so much!"



Herika is now loving her lessons and learning fast.

GROWING, LEARNING AND WORKING

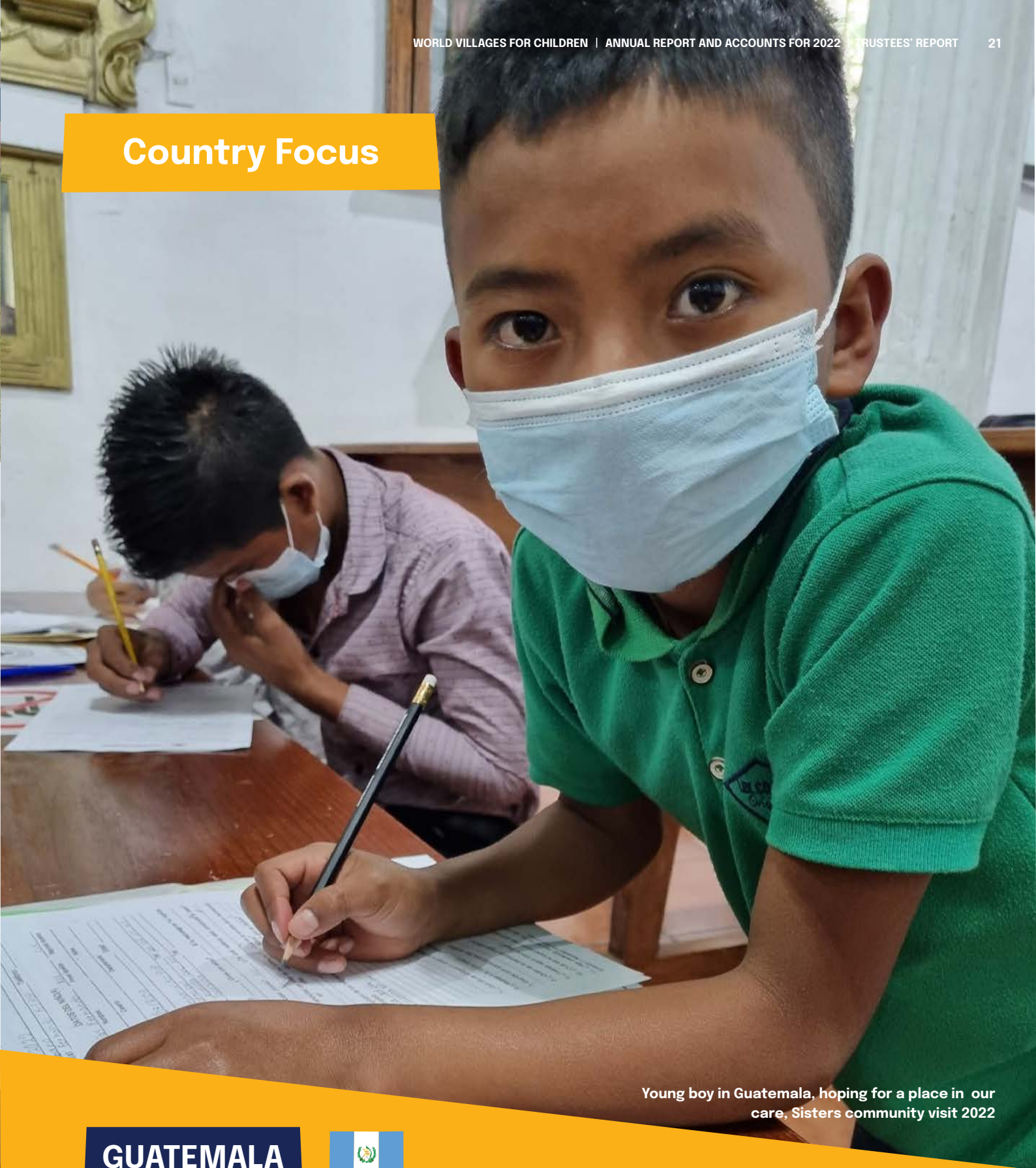
The senior girls at school enjoyed the full range of vocational training in 2022 to ready themselves for working life including training in Nursing and Dental hygiene.

Hospitals and clinics in Brazil lack nursing staff and so this is a popular role for the girls to pursue. 97 girls graduated in December 2022 and many of these are already employed in nursing and dentistry roles, building careers, serving their communities and able to help their families onto a better life.



10 Sr Theresa Shin, Sisters of Mary Brazil, February 2022

Country Focus

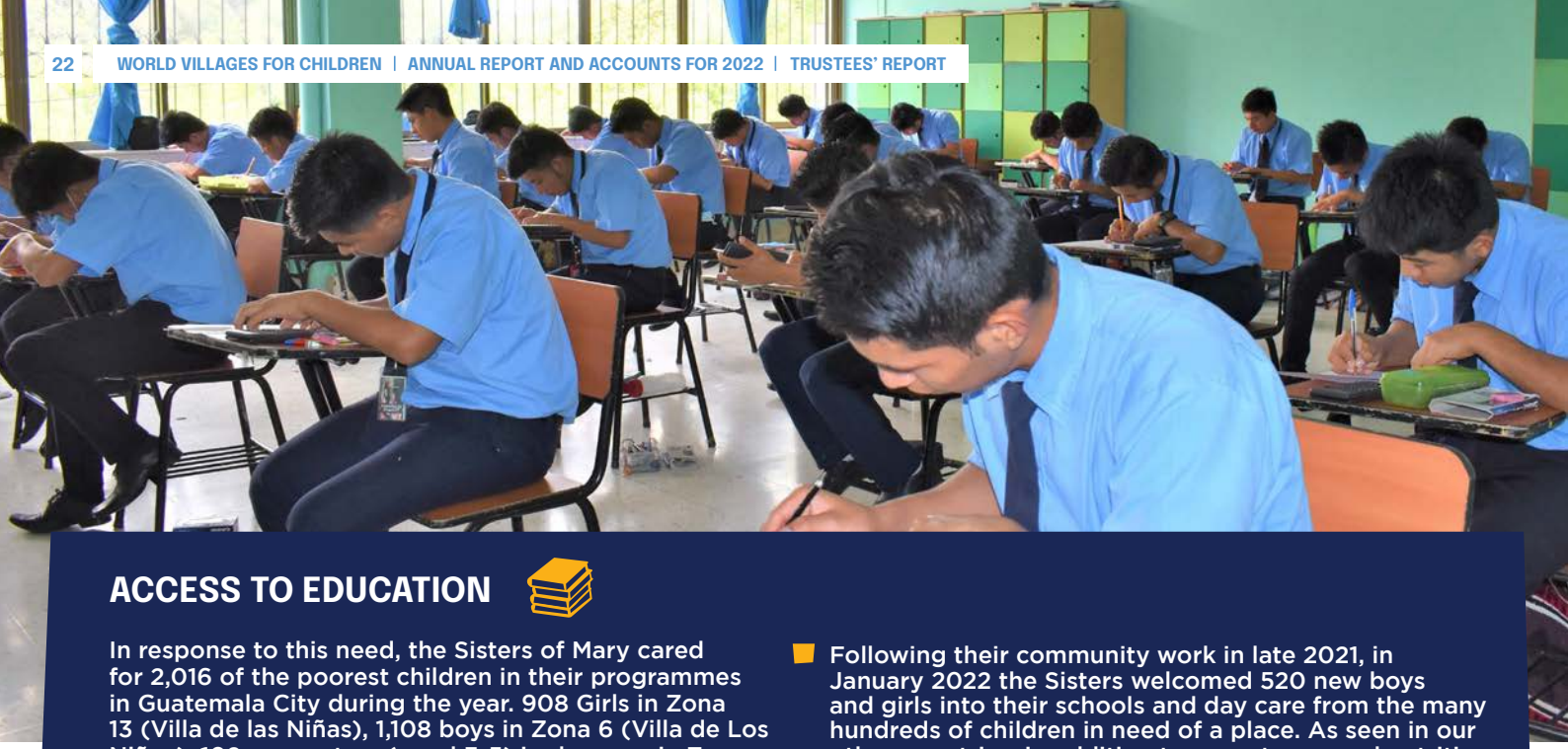


Young boy in Guatemala, hoping for a place in our care, Sisters community visit 2022

GUATEMALA

- The poverty rate in Guatemala is one of the highest in Latin America. Unequal distribution of income leads to extreme poverty particularly in rural and indigenous communities which lack access to education and are exposed to frequent natural disasters.[11]
- Malnutrition amongst the youngest children in these poor families is amongst the highest in the world[12] (at 43%) driving the increased rate of stunting and wasting for the most vulnerable.
- Impoverished families remain burdened by the impact of the economic crises. Informal jobs lost during the Covid pandemic have not been regained; the war in the Ukraine, disruption to supplies, inflation and the high prices for imported staple foods have devastated the poorest families on the lowest income.
- In 2022 rural occupations were particularly blighted by the effects of climate change with hurricanes Eta and Iota and then tropical storm Julia devastating many of the most humble livelihoods.

11 Estimated by the World Bank as 54% of the population. [World Bank Overview April 2023]
12 UNICEF-WHO-The World Bank: Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates (JME) — Levels and Trends – 2023



ACCESS TO EDUCATION

In response to this need, the Sisters of Mary cared for 2,016 of the poorest children in their programmes in Guatemala City during the year. 908 Girls in Zona 13 (Villa de las Niñas), 1,108 boys in Zona 6 (Villa de Los Niños), 102 youngsters (aged 3-5) in day care in Zona 13 and 74 patients per day (average) at the Clinica Medica Maria Medical Centre in Zona 13[13].

- Your generous funds were vital to the progress at the schools during the year, helping to provide regular funding for a balanced and nutritious diet for the children, adequate clothing for them for school and play, paying for teacher salaries, utilities and repairs and maintenance for the school.
- Following their community work in late 2021, in January 2022 the Sisters welcomed 520 new boys and girls into their schools and day care from the many hundreds of children in need of a place. As seen in our other countries, in addition to urgent care and nutrition to build these children up, they also required remedial lessons to reach the national standard, particularly in reading and writing.
- Thanks to you, in 2022, these poorest boys and girls had a chance to be in school happy, healthy and hopeful for their future. Including one of our most recent students, Daily.

THE STORY OF DAILY

The seventh of eight siblings, Daily says **"My life was quite complicated, I suffered a lot because my father is an alcoholic and he didn't take responsibility for me and my siblings, and my father also beat my mother"**. Daily had some early schooling until she had to leave in order to help support the family.

"We are a poor family, I could no longer continue studying, because since I was little I did jobs which are selling vegetables from house to house, a day I earned 35 quetzales."

One day she went to the church and learnt about the visit of the Sisters she says **"Thank God I discovered La Villa. Now that I am here I am very happy. I like food, playing with my classmates and especially studying. I want to get ahead, because I promised my mum and my brothers that I was going to get ahead, I promised my mum that I'm going to be someone in life and I'm going to help her."**

"To all our supporters I say Thank you for sending us help, if it weren't for them we wouldn't have the opportunity to be here."





GROWING, LEARNING AND WORKING

Throughout the schools, the children continued to enjoy their time, studying, playing and competing against their friends and peers, locally and nationally[14].

Vocational teaching of technical and practical skills relevant to local jobs including computing and electronics, was a focus for both the boys and girls and in September, 305 final year children graduated, skilled and ready for work.



Handball National Champions

13 This facility reopened to the general public during the year after closing due to the pandemic.
14 In October the boys were National Handball champions and the girls Hockey team qualified for the national schools final.

Country Focus



HONDURAS

- Honduras faces high levels of poverty, inequality and violent crime with 60% of the population currently living in poverty and 23% of all children displaying the effects of deprivation with malnutrition, stunting and premature death a common occurrence[15].
- Rising inflation and increasing food prices have strained the purchasing power of the lowest income families, limiting their access to basic food staples and deepening the difficulties they already face trying to feed themselves.
- Climate change events such as Storm Julia in October 2022 have had a further devastating effect on many of these families and communities, who rely heavily on rural occupations for survival[16].
- Access to education for the children of these families is precarious. Nearly 62% of adolescents from the poorest regions are out of school, and without its protection these children are vulnerable to abuse and involvement in gang related violence." [17]

15 World Food Programme Brief: Honduras
16 Honduras Humanitarian Needs Overview 2023
17 EDPC Spotlight on Honduras



ACCESS TO EDUCATION

- To meet these needs, the Sisters of Mary programmes have grown in this country. Thanks to your support in 2022, we were able to help the Sisters care for 1,495 boys and girls aged 11-17 in their schools in Tegucigalpa (girls) and Amarateca (boys), by providing food, clothing, shoes, educational supplies, cooking equipment and maintenance items for the schools.
- In January 2022 the Sisters welcomed 346 new boys and girls into school providing them with a safe place to live and learn and the chance of a proper childhood.
- The new children grew fit and healthy thanks to your support, they made new friends, grew in confidence and loved their studies, hobbies and sports.
- They helped out at school, contributing to the food budget by successfully growing a number of crops this year and they competed enthusiastically in a variety of competitions in and out of the classroom[18]. Achieving great success during the year was one of our youngest boys, Elias.

THE STORY OF ELIAS

Elias is from the province of Opatoro, La Paz Honduras. Aged 14, the second of four children from a farming family he had a simple but impoverished early life helping out on the land with his parents whilst attending primary school.

He says

"I had been working with my parents under the heat of the sun. It was an unforgettable moment during the pandemic time last 2020, when I was on my last year in elementary. Receiving classes was so hard that many times we lost topics that must be discussed. We only received classes twice a week with our teachers but most of the time, they just give us homework. Honestly, I didn´t learn so much during my sixth grade."

With no opportunity to progress his education further life looked bleak for Elias until he met the Sisters in late 2020 and they were able to offer him a place at school in Amarateca. **"Seeing the joyful atmosphere of having many boys like me I´m encouraged to study hard. My favorite subject is math because I like to solve exercises and I love to think how to solve them. But also, I like automotive mechanic."**

When Elias was in Grade 8 he took part in the National Maths quiz eventually winning. He says **"I was so happy and proud for winning the competition. I still want to participate the math olympics for this year or throughout my studies here at the Sisters of Mary".**

"My plan for my future is to have medals, to be a graduate of this wonderful school and someday have a good job and in that way I could help my family". I´m glad to share the story of my life as you are for all of us, who have a good and a big heart for the poor. Thank you very much for your time and your effort."



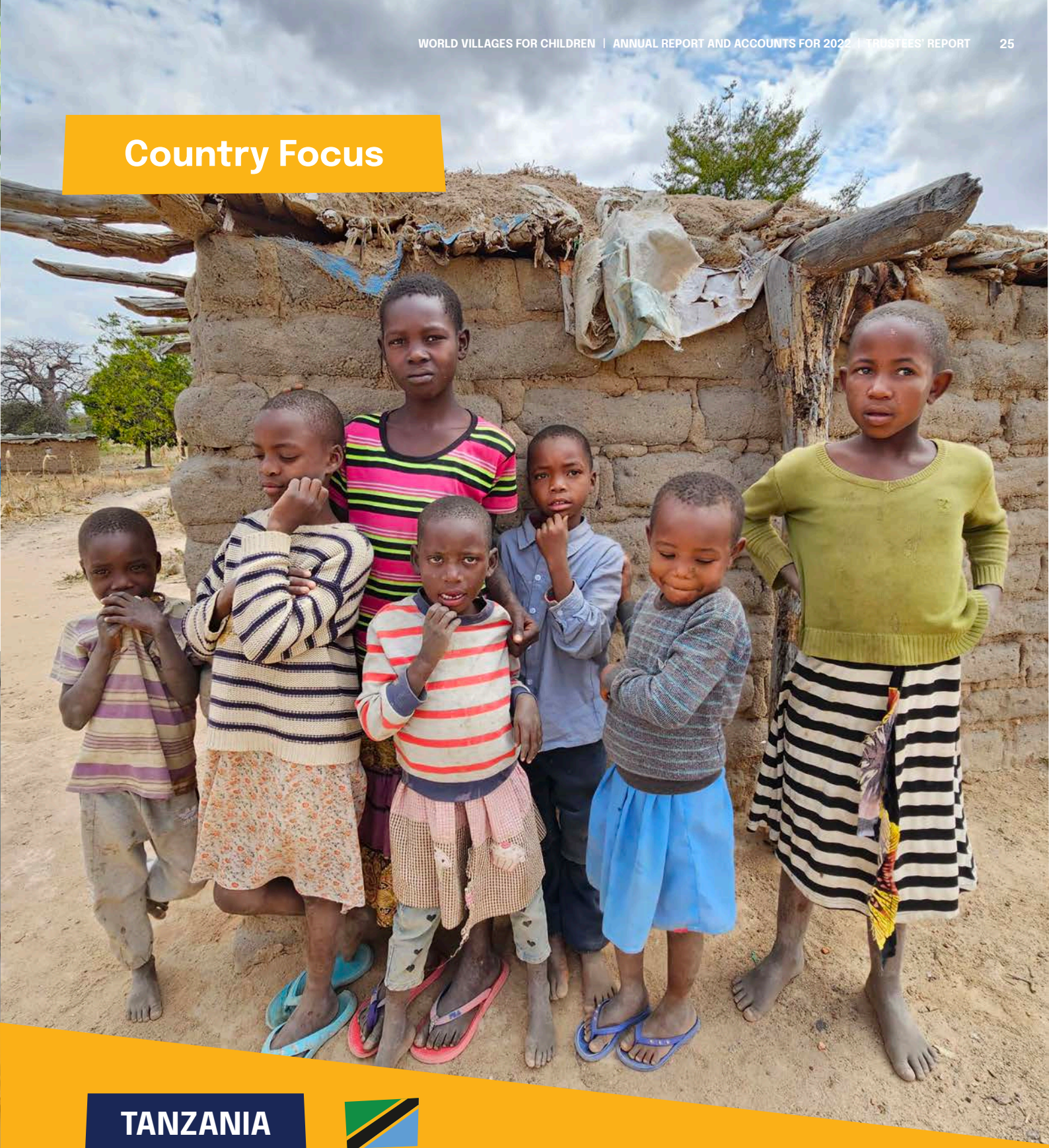
GROWING, LEARNING AND WORKING

For the older students at school there was a renewed focus on vocational training during the year ready for work particularly in bookkeeping, auto mechanics, welding and computer servicing. Work experience was valuable for the final year children leading to job offers and eventual employment. In December, 255 final year children graduated ready for work and some of these are already employed with organisations including Toyota.



18 Including the girls taking first place in the women's soccer competition Torneo Chelato Ucl, Oct 2022

Country Focus



TANZANIA

- Poverty rate in Tanzania remains stubbornly high with 27% of the population[19] deprived of sufficient food, shelter, and access to water for drinking and sanitation. In 2022, the impact of the pandemic continued to affect the poorest families who could not regain the humble but vital jobs lost in 2020-21.
- The effects of the war in Ukraine additionally pushed up food prices denying these poor families the basic supplies they relied on to survive. By late in 2022 some staple food prices had doubled year-on-year.
- Rural families in Tanzania were also affected by climate issues - prolonged dry spells and erratic rains in March–May 2022. This resulted in reduced harvests and poor condition of cattle diminishing their sale value and the family income further contributing to food insecurity and the effects of poverty.
- Impoverished and neglected, the children of these families also missed out on more schooling in 2022 with only 30% of secondary age girls recorded in school[20]. Early marriage contributes to this difficulty and the girls in Tanzania now face some of the highest rates of child marriage in the world.[21]
- The Sisters of Mary programmes in Tanzania are the latest expansion of their humanitarian work and they respond directly to the needs of these most disadvantaged children in this country.

19 2022 Population & Housing census results show a population of 61 million, growing at 3%- the third highest in the world.
20 World Bank Data 2021-22
21 1 in 3 marry before age 18 (World Bank), permanently depriving them of access to education or future learning.



ACCESS TO EDUCATION

- Thanks to the kindness of our loyal supporters in 2022 we were able to provide food, learning and training equipment and tools, text books, furniture, clothing, shoes and medicines to help the Sisters to care for 626 girls at the secondary school in Kisarawe, to equip the new Training and day care centre in Kwa Komba (previously Kiluvya) and welcome 90 young women onto 6 month courses there and 87 toddlers aged 3-5 into the day care facility.
- 2022 was a busy year for these programmes and a joyful time for everyone settling into the new day care and training centre, like Shamin one of the first students in our training centre.

THE STORY OF SHAMIN

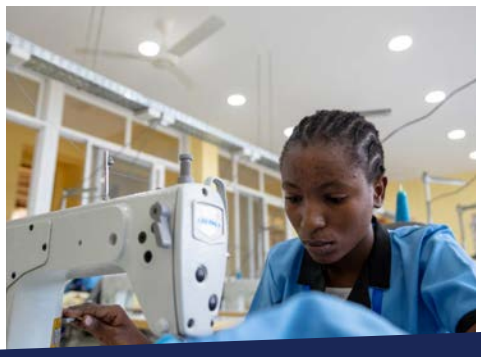
"My name is Shamin. I am 19 years old. I live in Tanga. We are four children in our family. I was 7 years old when I began my primary level and finished when I was 13 yrs old." Shamin was able to progress onto secondary level schooling but after passing form 4 could no longer continue her studies instead needing to help her parents at home. She says **"since I cannot study college I started to train myself in sewing and at the time after hearing about the Sisters of Mary I ask for a chance to be accepted in the Sisters of Mary Vocation Training Center and I was lucky to be accepted."**

Like other students in the training centre, Sharmin had the opportunity to learn tailoring, electrical installation and food production and she says **"I am very happy for this training here at the Sisters of Mary and I know that this will be a step to success and with the skills I am learning here, I can find job and help myself and my family in the near future."**

Now that she is qualified Shamin has found a good job with Bora, a shoe company. She has finally been able to help her mother with her earnings and to restart their little business selling rice cakes[22]. To our supporters who made this possible she just says **"Thank you so much and I will never forget you."**

"I am very happy for this training here at the Sisters of Mary and I know that this will be a step to success with the skills I am learning here."





GROWING, LEARNING AND WORKING

In Kisarawe at the main girls' school, the senior students studied hard. In November 2022 the first students sat (and passed) their crucial Form 4 National exams ready for advanced level. The girls loved school, setting up a choir and netball team which were champions in the District. The children in the day care flourished and grew strong under the nurturing care of the Sisters and then in August, the land title was gifted to the Sisters ready for the construction of the new boys' school in Dodoma.

During the autumn the Sisters travelled again into the remote regions of the country to meet more of the most vulnerable children. They encountered terrible poverty and trauma amongst the girls they met desperate for escape. **"One of them, must hide from her father since after standard 7, the father had told her that she will then already marry, no more schooling for her, she would be exchanged for a certain number of goats."** (Sr Marchery, Arusha, 2022).

They met 2,294 girls and we were able to welcome 192 girls into a place at the school with the Sisters in Jan 2023.





Kisarawe girls loving their sports and Day-care youngster enjoying learning

22 https://www.worldvillages.org.uk/stories/shamins-story/



Thank you

None of this life changing work would be possible without the generosity of our individual donors, regular Guardian Angels, organisations and Trusts and Foundations whose commitment and interest through the year have enabled us to continue caring for the worlds' poorest children.

We thank them all for their donations and grants to us in 2022 including:

- Hall Hunter Foundation
- C & K Sommer Trust
- M D C Jenks Charitable Trust
- The Cork of Ashbourne Trust
- Nadler Charitable Trust
- Forest Hill Charitable Trust
- The Van Mesdag Foundation
- Tula Trust
- Haramead Charitable Trust
- Jean and Leslie Connor Charitable Foundation
- Marsh Charitable Trust
- Souter Charitable Trust
- Grail Society
- William Jerome Charitable Trust
- The Reed Foundation
- UBS UK Donor Advised Foundation







Our Impact

The stories of our graduates, their journey from poverty and the contributions they make in the world convey the transformative power of the Sisters of Mary programmes and the impact of your support.





The Multiplier Effect

Suzana one of our Tanzania students, with her mother

Educating a single child at our schools helps them to escape poverty and has a profound effect not just on their lives but on the lives of generations of their families and communities. We call this our multiplier effect.

Families benefit as soon as the children arrive in our care. Learn more about how our student Suzana is helping her family bit.ly/WVCSuzana

As part of our ongoing initiative to measure this impact, we set up the new advisory committee to our board in 2022, comprised of alumni of all the education programmes worldwide and designed to share with us their experiences and collate case study impact evidence.

This has shown that when children acquire the skills they need to find employment and create an independent future, they are able and motivated to help their families and communities onto a better life. They become a source of practical and financial help as well as inspiration and support– they show that a different kind of life is possible.

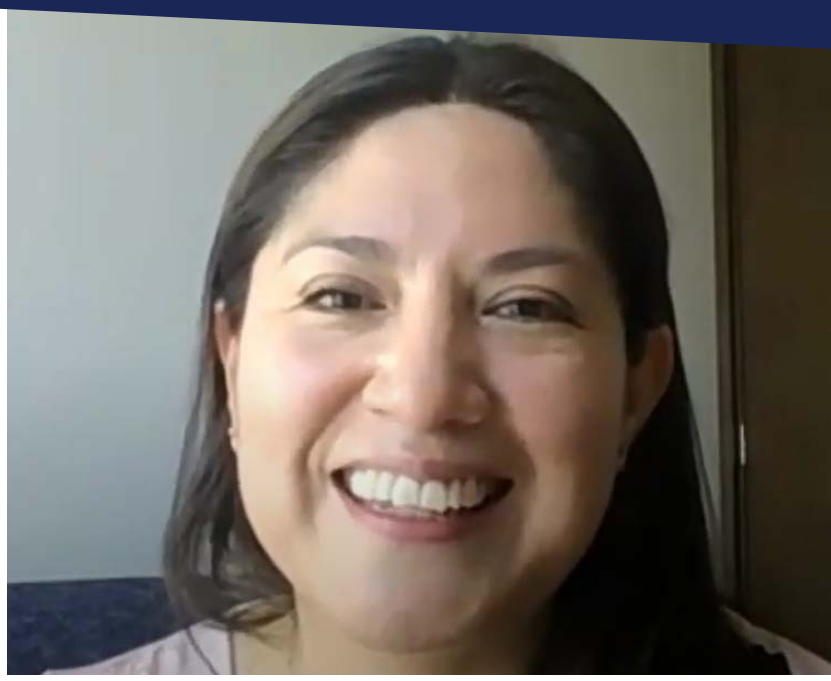
They know that they have been given a rare opportunity, they are instilled with values of community and responsibility and through their alumni groups like Gravini in Mexico, Asevigua in Guatemala and ASMSI in the Philippines they become a huge source of support for the Sisters and graduating children. Many have now become large employers in their own right.



Boys in the Philippines during on the job work experience

Lety's Story







"My name is Lety and I am a former student of the Sisters of Mary in Mexico. My father worked in a bakery, and my mother took care of us. We are 4 brothers and 3 sisters. At the time my family was poor, we had no electricity or any basic service. My life changed completely when I joined the Sisters of Mary in 1992: I no longer had to walk for hours to go to school, my clothes were clean, I had notebooks, books, pens, food.

It is a miracle what the sisters did for us. I met my best friends there, played sports and had birthday or Christmas parties: we felt so much the attention from the donors for us that day."

After school Lety worked in a bank and at age 28 started a university course. "At university, I realized that the level of education I had received from the Sisters of Mary was really high. I got involved in the association of alumni in Mexico (Gravini) to help new girls at the Sisters of Mary school into their first job. Today, when I compare my life to others in my old neighborhood, I see how much better my life is.

It was important for me to support my family back at home. I always tried to give some money to my parents and with my sister both of us helped to build our parents a home, our old home was a very very tiny home, so we began constructing a better house for our parents." You can learn more about the transformation of Lety's life here. bit.ly/WVCLety

MEASURING YOUR IMPACT

In addition to case study evidence, surveys were also conducted between May and July 2022 amongst the graduates and alumni of the schools across the world in the Philippines, Guatemala, Mexico, Honduras and Brazil. This new impact research has resulted in exciting metrics and valuable insights that measure our outcomes and show the fundamental changes that you are making with your gifts.

We learn from the survey that employment rates for our graduates are higher than the national average in each country. That (61%) of the children that leave school in the Philippines have job offers before they leave school or within 6 months of leaving.

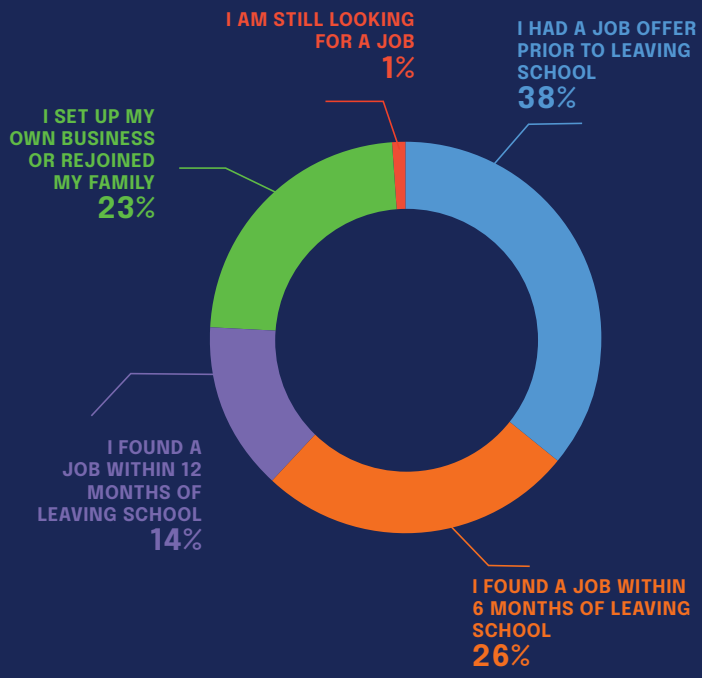
We can now also see that 80% of our survey sample of Philippine graduates go on to support their families when they leave school and find work.

OUR FINDINGS

The biggest response within the survey was from the Philippine programmes, by far the largest number of graduates and so the following short insights are extracted from their data.

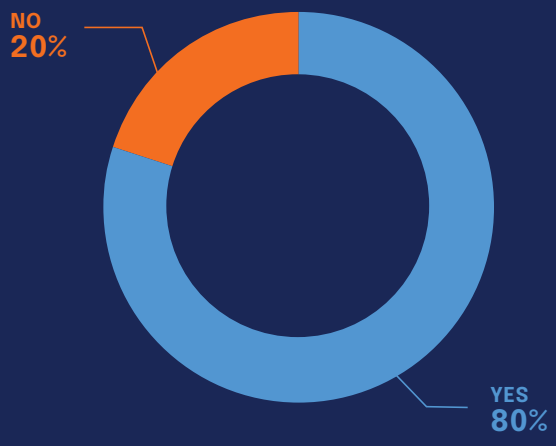
Q: HOW LONG DID IT TAKE YOU TO FIND YOUR FIRST JOB AFTER GRADUATING AT THE SISTERS OF MARY SCHOOL?

76% of graduates surveyed revealed if they were looking for a job they were able to secure one by 12 months after leaving school. Many graduates go on to further education at University or college and those graduates who work go into manufacturing, retail, science, research, IT, business and finance. Many start up their own companies and some also work for NGOs or public sector employers.



Q: SINCE GRADUATION AND FINDING WORK HAVE YOU BEEN ABLE TO, AND ACTIVE IN, HELPING YOUR FAMILY?

The response on this question was overwhelming and indicates that those children who are working and financially self-sufficient are highly motivated to pay forward the benefit of their education by helping their families and do so providing financial support for their families, help with healthcare and medical bills, support on utilities and food provision and access to education for generations of their loved ones.



Ultimately, measuring impact ensures we are moving in the right direction. It shows that our interventions are enabling families and communities blighted by poverty and deprivation to have better lives. When children have the skills necessary for employment and secure good stable jobs it means their families can afford proper shelter, access to education and healthcare and their siblings can find work and ensure their futures are better than their past.

Summary of future aims, objectives and activities



Hoping for a place at our newest school in Dodoma, Tanzania, April 2023



Meeting new families with young boys in need of our help, Arusha, Tanzania, March 2023.

Our Plans for 2023 and beyond

IN 2023 AND ONWARD WE CONTINUE THE MOMENTUM TO BUILD OUR PROFILE AND PROVIDE UNRESTRICTED FUNDING TO SUPPORT THE GROWING PRESENCE OF THE SISTERS HELPING THESE MOST DEPRIVED COMMUNITIES.

REACHING MORE CHILDREN

2023 is a priority to reach more children in all countries including the deprived communities of Tanzania. Following the establishment of the new programme for girls in Kisarawe in 2019, 2023 will see the construction of a new school for the poorest boys in the country. In response to the demand from the communities here a plot of land in Dodoma has been gifted to the Sisters and planning is now ongoing to construct a school here.

With support from our friends we will work to ensure that funding is available for the sisters to complete the construction of the new school and welcome the first 160 boys into a place later in the summer 2023.

READY FOR WORK

The key focus of our activity is ensuring that the children are educated and equipped ready for work so that they can live independent, self-sufficient lives and help their families out of poverty. In 2023 we will continue to prioritise funding to expand, upgrade and improve the vocational teaching facilities at the schools around the world to respond to the needs of local employers and ensure that the children have the right skills for employment straight after school.

SUSTAINABILITY

The rising costs worldwide impact the operation of the Sisters of Mary schools and the support of the children in their care. In 2023 we will continue to use our donors' funds to invest in new equipment and processes to support sustainable practices at the schools, to help them optimise their budgets, ensure they maintain the momentum of the past and prepare themselves for the challenges of the future..







Key Objectives to deliver this strategy

GOOD GOVERNANCE

A proactive board, engaged and knowledgeable about our work and mission in the world is essential to our endeavours and we will continue to regard this as a priority in 2023. We enter the year as a more diversely skilled board with a focus on greater engagement with our supporter and beneficiary audiences and keen to utilise the array of skills and insights available from all these relationships to grow the charity.

In 2023 we will continue to recruit a range of experience at board level and build on the activities of the new board advisory group to get a closer understanding of the alumni of the Sisters of Mary programmes and the impact of our activities. With their help we will learn more about how they progress in the world, how we can work more closely to to support new children into the Sisters' programmes and into employment and a poverty free life.

2023 will also see a change at the head of our board when the Sisters of Mary appoint a new Superior General during their General Chapter meetings. These changes will be necessarily reflected with a new Chair for WVC and a review of the board composition to ensure our governance structure continues to maintain the high standards of oversight and accountability needed to deliver our strategy in line with our mission to end poverty through education.

BRAND AWARENESS AND PROFILE RAISING

The 2022 implementation of the new brand, messaging and website will continue to be embedded in 2023 and used as a key part of our objective to raise the profile of the charity with new audiences. Participation in advertising, events and sponsored activities have all been heightened by the use of the new branding – bringing awareness of WVC and the work of the Sisters of Mary to new cohorts of supporters.

IMPACT MEASUREMENT

2023 will see further investment in the measurement of the impact of our work as we continue to refine the work of prior years, defining and measuring the outcomes of the Sisters of Mary education work.

The new board advisory group supports us in this information gathering but we will also build on last year's alumni survey results and 2023 new data and analysis will help us to quantify for our funders the exponential difference made to poverty relief by our funders' investment in our work.

FUNDRAISING

2023 continues our fundraising strategy to diversify our funding model. WVC maintains consistent performance in direct mail but 2023, like 2022, will see us building new progress (and processes) in applications to companies and Trusts and Foundations encouraging funding from new relationships and repeat gifts from existing partnerships. These new relationships have been an exciting development in 2022 and are vital to our future growth.

Our regular committed supporters and major donors will continue to be closely involved with the Sisters of Mary programmes via events and visits for supporters (including legacy pledgers) planned in 2023 to bring them closer to our beneficiaries, encourage greater engagement and long term giving opportunities.

Digital again forms a part of our fundraising activities for 2023 and for awareness raising. We are building skills and considerable momentum in this activity, the Sponsor a Family appeal was launched in 2022 and this will be extended in 2023 to improve engagement with new audiences and income raising opportunities.



Financial Review for 2022



Sister Elena with the boys at school with us in Honduras

Financial information for the year 2022 is set out in the attached statement of financial activities. Total income for the year was £2,203,474.

2022 was a very difficult year for our fundraising due to the Ukraine conflict and the economic turmoil in the country which significantly affected our donors' ability to give. This affected early and mid year appeals in particular and our income for the year finished behind target by 12% We continued to be efficient in our activities however generating £6.50 for every £1 invested and ensuring that 86% of our funds were spent on our charitable endeavours.

INCOME

32% of our 2022 income was generated by individual gifts via direct mail and digital. We are so blessed to have this support from our donors, many of whom gave repeatedly during the year to support us, and also to those donors who confirmed their eligibility for the gift aid scheme and allowed us to recover £295,148 in gift aid during the year.

As in 2021 we were blessed with the loyalty of our special Guardian Angel donors who gave regularly by direct debit or standing order; they accounted for 43% of our income in the year.

These Guardian Angels are invaluable to the work of the Sisters as they allow us to provide a reliable flow of income to the schools and fund the essential everyday recurring costs of childcare, like food, health and hygiene needs, clothing, shoes and educational supplies. Without these gifts our work would not be possible.

Trusts and Foundation income represented 1% of the year's total, a small but consistent presence in our portfolio and we are grateful for every repeat gift from existing partners and every new relationship made. We were delighted to be supported again by the Reed Foundation as our match funder in the Big Give digital appeal at Christmas and this and other digital appeals were energetically supported in 2022 by existing and new donors worldwide, we are grateful for their interest in our work.

As in all previous years we continue to prioritise fundraising for unrestricted income to ensure that our grants can be used by the schools wherever the need is greatest in the care of the children. 6.8% of 2022 income was sent with restrictions as to use and this was mainly for specific vocational training needs or repairs at the schools. However we continue to seek and attract mostly unrestricted funds and we are grateful to our donors for giving us their gifts in this way.

EXPENDITURE

Expenditure in 2022 was £2,477,905 v £2,734,592 – a 9% reduction. This reflects a small decrease in the grants to the sisters but also greater efficiencies over the year, particularly in operating expenses as we made progress in better utilisation of our existing resources and managing overheads – despite rising costs impacting some of our key suppliers and fundraising activities.

Expenditure levels, managing our essential costs and overheads and ensuring the charity is lean and able to respond to new opportunities as they arise is a key focus for 2023.

During the year we maintained our reserves at the same level as previous years in line with our risk assessment of the fundraising environment. It represents six months expenses (not including grants, to the Sisters of Mary) and we consider it represents an appropriate approach to the level of risk.



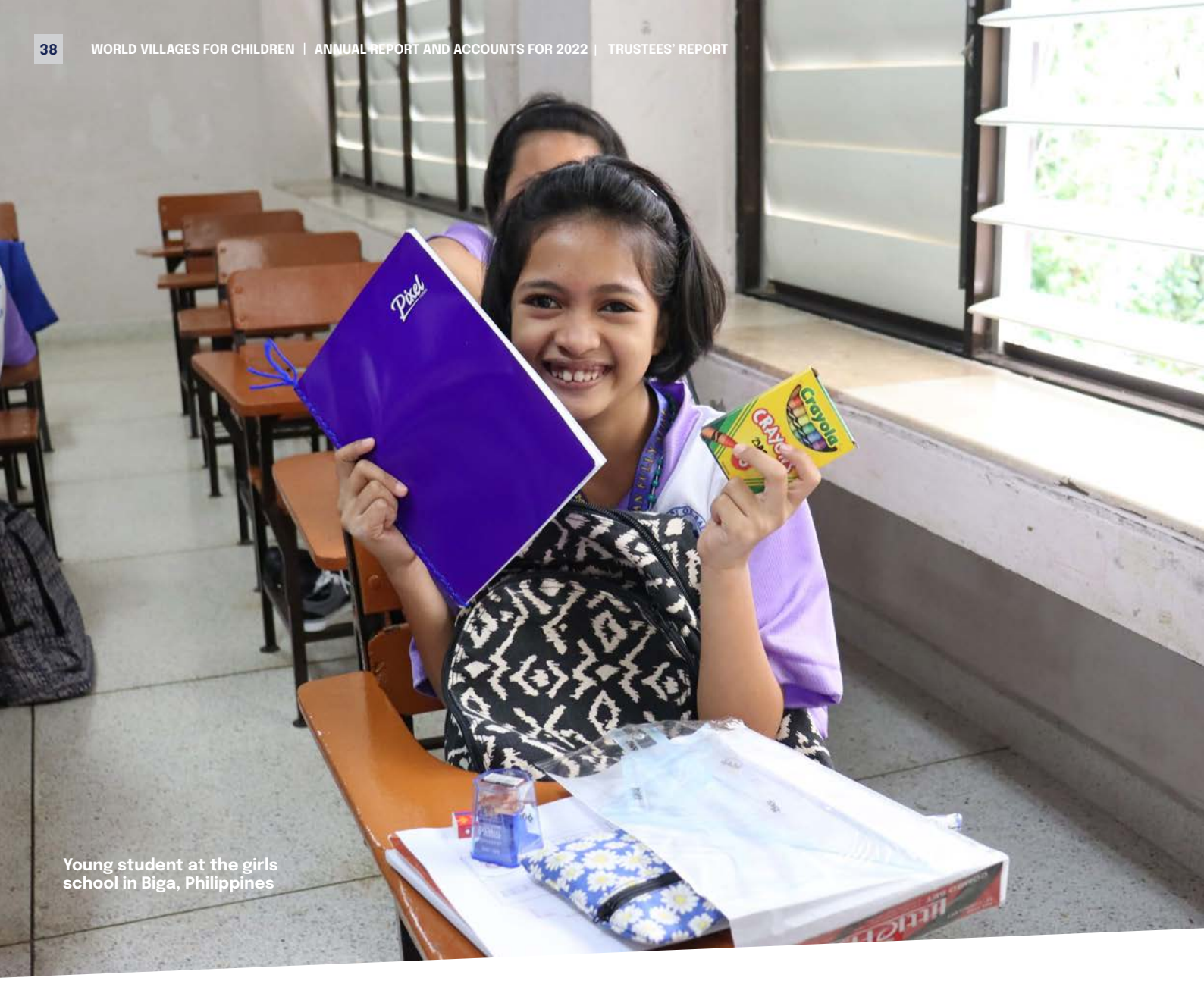
Youngsters who joined our day care in Tanzania in 2022

RISK MANAGEMENT

The board take a proactive approach to the management of risk facing the charity through regular review and scenario evaluation to scan and identify the risks pertinent to our activity and our strategy for response. The Risk register is reviewed at every full board meeting and also raised for discussion during the fortnightly Finance and Ops sub-committee meeting where need arises.

We classify risk into the following categories Government & Management, Environment & External, Finance, Operations & Compliance and within each category we identify specific risks which pertain to our activities and mission. The current risk register identifies 23 risks across these categories five of the major risks are as follows, including our management strategies for each:

RISK	RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY
OPERATIONAL RISK IT Security/ Data Protection Cyber Security	**Considered one of the most significant risks facing the charity and which would impact our donor data and finances. This is where investment has been focused to manage the potential threats as follows:** ■ Fully managed technology network with ISO accredited support company to monitor security of our IT systems. ■ MFA for remote access to network and emails. ■ Backup practices for business continuity. ■ Cyber Essentials accreditation. Cyber insurance, Penetration scanning on network and NCSC early warning system subscription. ■ Training for staff on all risks relating to cyber, IT security and data confidentiality and protection. ■ Charity policies understood and enforced which cover IT security, data protection and best practice in data handling.
OPERATIONAL RISK Absence/ loss of key staff	**Small core team of 5 staff members covering the main functions means absences could affect operations. This risk is minimised by:** ■ Documenting processes and guidelines for essential activities. (particularly those relating to stewardship and income generation). ■ Staff are cross trained to cover key functions. ■ Succession planning ongoing for the senior management role.
FINANCIAL RISK Fundraising - lack of diversity in funding, or decline in income	**WVC fundraising strategy is evolving towards a more diverse portfolio of income streams to minimise risk in one particular area by:** ■ Planning and investing in new fundraising methods, skills and capabilities to expand the range of funding sources. ■ Acquisition activity to engage new distinct audiences to support long term growth. ■ Tailored stewardship to reduce attrition, maintain engagement and grow support for new fundraising methods.
FINANCIAL RISK Fraud	**Due to the volume of small cash and cheque donations which make up the fundraising income of the charity, and the general and growing risk of fraud within the sector, fraud risk receives special attention by WVC and a specific analysis was conducted in 2022 to identify key fraud risks pertaining to WVC and to articulate how we manage our response to them. The variety of processes in place to manage the various elements of this risk include:** ■ Segregation of financial duties relating to income and expenditure. ■ Finance policy procedures on money handling, recording and oversight of cash handling to address the risk of diversion etc. ■ Regular reconciliation and testing on processing and accounting for all finance items and treatment of transactions. ■ Staff training on recognition and reporting of suspected fraud through all routes (eg cyber and physical) including items like supplier invoice fraud etc. ■ Whistleblowing and staff protection policy for concerns regarding fraud.
OPERATIONAL RISK Supplier dependence	**WVC outsources some of its key services to a small number of dedicated suppliers. Supplier failure, rising costs and service level disruption remain a feature post pandemic and this risk is managed as follows::** ■ Testing with new potential suppliers ■ Sharing services with other charities and greater collaboration on certain functions. ■ Testing in house provision for some functions and bringing in where successful and cost effective to do so.



Young student at the girls school in Biga, Philippines

GOING CONCERN

The Trustees have reviewed the income and expenditure figures for 2023 into 2024, one year from the date of signing of these accounts and conclude there are no material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that would cast doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees are of the opinion that the charity will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

In making this assessment the trustees considered the level of unrestricted reserves and the risks facing the charity which are reviewed within the risk register. They also continue to review the risks facing the charity on a regular basis and to scrutinise income raising during their fortnightly Finance and Ops sub-committee meetings. This includes regular liquidity assessment.

The charity's monthly management accounts, cash flow forecasts and planning show sufficient unrestricted funds and liquidity to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing these financial statements.

FUNDING SOURCES

In 2022 we continued to work hard diversifying our fundraising income, appealing to new audiences including Trusts, Corporates and new digitally engaged donors whilst maintaining a consistent performance in direct mail, regular committed giving from our Guardian Angel donors and gifts in Wills.
The early part of the year saw our direct mail responses affected by other needs within the wider world (the Ukraine conflict) and the turbulence within the UK economy. These situations directly affected propensity to donate but we were pleased to see an improved response as the year progressed and our significant appeals like those for the children's birthday in August and for Christmas exceeded our expectations.

Digital fundraising was energetic in the year helped by the new brand, messaging and content from the children at the programmes and digital acquisition activity in July gave us some interesting insights for the future and some new donors. Our Big Give appeal in late 2022 met target and we found this a wholly worthwhile endeavour – meeting more new donors and raising our profile in the digital arena.

Gifts in Wills were lower in 2022 than in many of our previous years but they remain a significant part of our funding portfolio and we continue to be touched by the generosity of our donors who remember our boys and girls in their final wishes and to market towards this source of income.

FUNDRAISING PRACTICE

Trusting relationships with our supporters and transparency in our fundraising are key to our work raising funds for the Sisters of Mary. We remain humbled by the kindness of the supporters who consistently give to our fundraising appeals, remaining interested and active in the programmes of the Sisters of Mary, keen to protect the interests of the children in our care and to welcome new children into the protection of a place at the schools.

It is a priority for us to ensure we fundraise efficiently and effectively, minimising costs and ensuring the maximum distribution to the Sisters programmes, as quickly as possible each month. Thanks to the clear reporting on the grant distributions, we are able to provide transparent accounting on our grant funding, to show our donors how their funds are used and the myriad ways in which they are supporting this poverty relief work.

Every day we are guided by the following specific principles:

- We steward our supporters' gifts carefully and thank quickly and appropriately, demonstrating the difference their donations make.
- We protect our supporters' data ensuring our data protection policies, processes and practices are kept up to date with external advice, training and testing. Our cyber essentials accreditation reinforces our approach to data privacy and our privacy policy shows how we use our donor data, providing opportunities for donors to opt out of contact or make a complaint. We were pleased to note there were no complaints received in 2022 (2021 none).

Enquiries to the charity are actioned within 48 hours and all feedback is appreciated and actioned to help us progress and improve.
www.worldvillages.org.uk/privacy-policy

- We are members of the NCVO, the DMA and the CIoF to utilise training and stay up to date with best practice standards. We maintain registration with the Fundraising Regulator to ensure the Code of Fundraising Practice underpins all our fundraising activities. The board monitor fundraising to ensure compliance with CC20.
- Our fundraising is designed inhouse with content provided and authored by our beneficiaries. We help them to tell their stories and show their lives and the impact made by our donor support. External agencies help us to produce and post the direct mail appeals, to collect and bank responses. We closely manage these relationships and demand high standards of accuracy and quality and test and monitor them for this.
- We take great care to protect the interests of our more vulnerable donors. We follow the guidance issued by the CIoF and feedback direct from our donors in the construction of our fundraising to ensure it is accessible for all. Our vulnerable donors' policy ensures any donor notified to us as vulnerable or who we believe may lack capacity, is not contacted for fundraising purposes.



Girls studying science, Tegucigalpa, Honduras

RESERVES

The charity's reserve policy forms an essential part of our risk management approach. When planning our fundraising activity and subsequent grant giving we consider the level of reserves that need to be held and strike a balance between utilising our funds promptly to support the children in the care of the Sisters, and the need for prudent management of our commitments and providing for contingencies.

The reserves policy agreed annually by the trustees is based on the level of core costs, risks that we face and the quality of income for its contribution to surplus.

In 2022, the majority of our income continued to be unrestricted (93.2%). This is a strategic intent and risk profile for this income remained largely the same as for 2021 and so the level of reserves which is calculated as six months' expenditure (excluding grants to the Sisters of Mary) is maintained and this is £305,525.

The reserves continued to be retained as follows: minimum of £225,000 held in liquid assets which can be accessed within 35 days and the remainder held on the balance sheet as a legacy debtor.

At 31 December 2022 the total reserves figure was £437,391 of which £412,090 is represented by unrestricted reserves and £25,301 is represented by restricted reserves. Free reserves at year end, taking into account assets that are not readily available, were £215,592 – for the purposes of this calculation both fixed assets and accrued legacy income are not deemed readily available.

The board note that the free reserve total at 31 December 2022 is slightly below the level stated by the policy, however post year end several amounts have been realised, increasing the free reserves.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

World Villages for Children was incorporated on 23rd October 1996. Our Governing document is the Memorandum and Articles of Association which was revised in September 2017.

World Villages for Children is governed by our Board of Trustees. The Board meets three to four times a year and is responsible for setting our strategic direction, as well as for our overall governance, including signing the Trustees' Annual Report. The Board oversees WVC's management, with day to day responsibility delegated to Nicola Lawson as UK Manager who, with the authority of the Charity Commission, also serves as a trustee on the board.

The Board of trustees oversee and commit to a high standard of corporate governance and scrutiny. They define the objectives which drive our overall aims. They oversee and manage risk, monitor performance towards our objectives and scrutinise the process of grant making, reporting and compliance with the regulatory standards and legal requirements.

The board maintains a conflict of interest policy which underpins the dealings of the board and trustees. The declarations of interest, related party transactions and conflicts register are all updated annually, reviewed and permanent records kept for inspection as needed.

GRANT MAKING

WVC makes grants to the Sisters of Mary programmes each month based on budgets and the needs of the children in our care. Grant expenditure and the grant making process are governed by an overarching grant making policy. Expenditure and use of the grants at the programmes are monitored closely by the UK Manager and board to ensure they are spent as agreed, in line with our charitable objectives and monthly reports are sent by the Sisters to record expenditure activity with our donor funds.

CHARITY GOVERNANCE CODE

WVC relies on an effective board of trustees. Following the Governance review in 2016 and ongoing governance advice the board continues to assess its performance and composition against sector guidelines and changing legislation. We adopt the Charity Code of Governance in particular to ensure we are building a strong foundation in governance which meets the needs of the charity and serves it well in the delivery of its mission.

Our five year strategy has focused on building our governance function to ensure we are well and transparently run. We have also focused on building a governance body which is sufficiently diverse as to age, race, gender, skill and experience and recruiting to fill experience gaps.

The WVC board are focused on the clear, collective leadership of our charity. They give generously of their time to provide sufficient oversight and attention to their responsibility in governance. They act honestly and with the interests of the charity at the centre of everything they do.

We maintain a sub-committee of the board which monitors Finance and Operations led by the Charity's Treasurer. It continues to closely review risk items relevant to the charity, the financial performance of the organisation and cash flow. It reports directly to the board.

In 2022 we were also pleased to set up the new advisory committee to the board. Comprised of graduate alumni, this group provides us with new skills, deep, insight on all the elements of programme delivery and keeps us outcome focused. We are grateful to all the alumni from across the six countries including Sherlyn Comia, Arturo Guevara and Merlie Esplana, for their generosity in giving their time so freely to represent the alumni groups and share their experiences.

TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT, INDUCTION AND TRAINING

Trustees are recruited for their skills, experience and knowledge as well as their understanding of our work in education and poverty relief and the values upon which our charity is centred.

Following interview and appointment, new Trustees have a period of induction to familiarise themselves with the legal requirements of their role, our governance framework, our charity objects and the detailed work of the Sisters of Mary at the schools. It is mandatory for all trustees, regardless of role to be DBS screened and to be fully UK compliant with our safeguarding policy.

www.worldvillages.org.uk/what-we-do/safeguarding/

All new and existing trustees have the opportunity, and are encouraged, to travel to the programmes and to meet the children and alumni of the programmes. Those not wishing to travel maintain close contact with the programmes through Zoom meetings, in person meetings with alumni and the Sisters when they travel to the UK.

SAFEGUARDING

WVC does not tolerate abuse, maltreatment or neglect of any person. The charity and its trustees are committed to safeguarding, protecting and fulfilling our duty of care to those we work with in the UK and the children in our care overseas.

Our safeguarding policy and processes are designed to keep safe all our staff, volunteers and all those immediately involved in our charity work in the UK.

We train and update to support awareness and capacity in safeguarding. We also monitor the Sisters' safeguarding practices and procedures at the schools as part of our governance duties and safeguarding responsibilities. Together these safeguarding practices ensure a safe and happy environment for our staff, volunteers, stakeholders and all our vulnerable beneficiaries at home and overseas at all times.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH RELATED (CONNECTED) PARTIES

Throughout 2022 WVC continued to work closely with the family of independent affiliated charities based in the EU and US. Income from these charities together sustains the Sisters of Mary programmes and the 18,500 children in school and day care places with them in 2022.

These include Wereld Doorpen voor Kinderen in Belgium and the Netherlands, Villages du Monde pour Enfants in France, Asian Relief (trading as World Villages for Children) in the US and Die Schwestern Maria in Germany. These charities all share similar aims as World Villages for Children for the relief of poverty through education but they are separate, independent legal entities and there is no one controlling party.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR SETTING PAY AND REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

WVC aims to reward employees fairly and ensure sufficient skilled staffing to achieve our objectives, in keeping with our status as a charity.

Pay rates are based on benchmarked sector data and take into account the specifics of job role, responsibility, experience and quality of performance. As with all staff remuneration, WVC reviews and benchmarks management remuneration levels with sector standards and with other staff salaries. Trustees are not remunerated with the exception of the UK Manager, who with the authority of the Charity Commission, was appointed a trustee to support the board in 2016 but continues to receive a salary for her day to day UK Manager role.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

In setting the objectives for the charity and planning its activities, the Board has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on the public benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011.

The humanitarian poverty relief programmes that we fund support those children in greatest need and no charges are made for any care provided, therefore the board considers that the charity meets the following four important principles of the Public Benefit requirements in its work:

- Relief of poverty through the funding of free education for children which enables them to access a vocation and to acquire employment – to break free from the cycle of poverty and assist their families.
- Advancement of education, by ensuring all the children attend one of our schools or day-care facilities
- Advancing health and welfare – ensuring all the children at the schools receive medical support, proactive health care, regular food and nutrition and extra supplements where needed.
- Enabling children in the countries where we operate to access a better, poverty free future.

Providing these children with education helps them leave their lives of poverty for good, but we can't achieve this vision without you. There are many ways you can help us make a real difference, such as supporting our campaigns or appeals, becoming a regular Guardian Angel, giving a grant or leaving a gift in your will. Find out more about our work and how you can help at worldvillages.org.uk



Sister meeting new children in Tanzania 2023

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of World Villages for Children for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards).

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions, disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and the provisions of the charity's constitution.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

AUDITORS

Crowe UK LLP have indicated their willingness to continue in office and are deemed to be reappointed in accordance with section 487 (2) of the Companies Act 2006.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees 7th September 2023



N Lawson
Trustee

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of World Villages for Children



Young girls from our school in Chalco, Mexico

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of World Villages for Children ('the charitable company') for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise Statement of Financial Activities, Balance sheet, Cashflow statement and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

OTHER INFORMATION

The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

OPINIONS ON OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

In our opinion based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 42, the trustees, (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law), are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Details of the extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations are set out below.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

EXTENT TO WHICH THE AUDIT WAS CONSIDERED CAPABLE OF DETECTING IRREGULARITIES, INCLUDING FRAUD

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We identified and assessed the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements from irregularities, whether due to fraud or error, and discussed these between our audit team members. We then designed and performed audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charitable company operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Companies Act 2006 together with the Charities SORP (FRS 102). We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the charitable company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charitable company for fraud. The laws and regulations we considered in this context for the UK operations were General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), Anti-fraud, bribery and corruption legislation, Taxation legislation and Employment legislation.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be within the timing of recognition of income and the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management, and the Board of Trustees about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, reviewing regulatory correspondence with the Charity Commission, and reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it. In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

USE OF OUR REPORT

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed..



Nicola May
Senior Statutory Auditor

For and on behalf of Crowe U.K. LLP
Statutory Auditor
London

Date 12 September 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	**Total Funds 2022 £**	Total Funds 2021 £
INCOME FROM					
Donations and legacies					
Donations and grants	2	1,840,853	153,364	**1,994,217**	2,214,040
Legacies	2	208,091	-	**208,091**	534,648
Interest income		1,166	-	**1,166**	120
Total		**2,050,110**	**153,364**	**2,203,474**	2,748,808
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising Funds	3	339,484	-	**339,484**	373,022
Charitable Activities	3	2,003,463	134,958	**2,138,421**	2,361,570
Total		**2,342,947**	**134,958**	**2,477,905**	2,734,592
Net (Expenditure)/ Income		**(292,837)**	18,406	**(274,431)**	14,216
Net movement in funds		**(292,837)**	**18,406**	**(274,431)**	14,216
Total Funds Brought Forward	16 & 17	704,927	6,895	**711,822**	697,606
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	**16 & 17**	**412,090**	**25,301**	**437,391**	711,822

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing operations.

The notes on the accompanying pages form a part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	£	2022 £	£	2021 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Intangible fixed assets	9		18,067		15,308
Tangible fixed assets	8		50,800		59,298
			68,867		74,606
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock		13,743		10,353	
Debtors	**10**	190,376		448,187	
Cash at bank and in hand		396,070		404,043	
		600,189		862,583	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	**11**	(231,665)		(218,648)	
Net Current Assets			**368,524**		643,935
Creditors: Amounts falling due in more than one year	**12**				(6,719)
Total Net Assets			**437,391**		711,822
The funds of the charity					
Restricted funds	**16 & 17**		25,301		6,895
Unrestricted funds	**16 & 17**		412,090		704,927
Total Funds			**437,391**		711,822

The notes on the accompanying pages form a part of these financial statements.

Approved by and authorised for distribution, the Board of Trustees on 7th September 2023
and signed on their behalf by:

Nicola Lawson.

.....

Nicola Lawson
Trustee
Company Registration No. 3267479

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net (Expenditure)/ income for the year	(274,431)	14,216
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	12,860	15,347
Interest received	(1,166)	(120)
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	257,811	10,788
(Decrease) / increase in creditor due within one year	13,017	142,680
(Decrease) / increase in creditors due within more than one year	(6,719)	(8,616)
Decrease / (increase) in Stock	(3,390)	5,105
Net cash generated by operating activities	**(2,018)**	179,400
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Interest received	1,166	120
Purchase of fixed assets	(7,121)	(15,320)
Net cash from investing activities	**(5,955)**	(15,200)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(7,973)	164,200
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	404,043	239,843
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	**396,070**	404,043

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Status of the charity

World Villages for Children is registered as a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales (company number 03267479) and its registered office is Kings Building, 16 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HQ. World Villages for Children is a Public Benefit Entity registered with the Charity Commission (Charity number 1058973).

Basis of Preparation of the Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Report Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) second edition - effective 1 January 2019.
The functional currency of the charity is Pound Sterling. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Going Concern

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these accounts. The Trustees have made this assessment in respect to a period of one year from the date of approval of these accounts. The Trustees of the Charity have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees are of the opinion that the Charity will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

The Trustees have considered a number of factors when forming their conclusion as to whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate. They take into account the budget forecast up to December 2024, cash flow forecast to December 2024 and the review of risks facing the charity, particularly the ongoing cost of living crisis. Key current risk is the decline in income due to economic slowdown resulting from the pandemic and the ongoing conflict in the Ukraine.

Our fundraising planning addresses this risk and since year end fundraising has continued consistently, overseen fortnightly by the board sub-committee to monitor performance and liquidity. Expenditures and operating efficiency continue to be closely scrutinised by management and the whole board quarterly with forecasts adjusted for different outcomes to assess liquidity and going concern status.

Our forward planning beyond 2024 takes into consideration the changing fundraising context and the economic climate and its potential impact on the various sources of income and planned expenditure.

The Charity's monthly financial statements, along with a cash flow forecast and scenario planning, show that the Charity has sufficient funds and liquidity and having regard to all of the above it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Legacies

Legacies are recognised in the statement of financial activities when there is entitlement, adequate probability and reliability of receipt and their value can be accurately measured. For both pecuniary and residuary legacies this is when probate has been granted and a reasonable estimate calculated for this income.

Donations

Donations are accounted for when conditions for their receipt are met, it is probable that the amounts will be received and the amount receivable can be reliably estimated.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The key sources of uncertainty in our estimations that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are described in the accounting policies and are summarised below:

- *Residuary legacies*
  The charity recognises residuary legacies once probate has been granted, which therefore requires an estimation of the amount receivable.

Pensions

Pension contributions are made for all employees and recorded as they fall due. These are defined contributions paid to approved private pension schemes for each employee.

Taxation

World Villages for Children is a registered charity and all of its income falls within the exemptions under part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.

Gift Aid Repayments

Income from gift aid repayment claims is only included for claims which have been submitted for tax periods ending on or before the year end and when the receipt of this income is certain.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred.

Grant payments are recognised when a constructive obligation arises that results in the payment being required.

Raising funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income.

The costs of appeals are matched where possible with the income generated. The accounting effect of this policy means that, at the balance sheet date, a proportion of the cost of the December mailing is carried forward as a prepayment as part of the response anticipated in January.

Support costs including central functions and costs primarily associated with constitution and statutory requirements have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating staff cost by work done, office costs by floor area, return mail processing and finance costs by work done. The staff costs which relate specifically to fundraising for the charity have been apportioned within support costs on the basis of time calculated as spent on this activity.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Leasehold improvements	over the term of the lease
Plant and equipment	20% on cost

All assets are capitalised at a cost.

Intangible Fixed Assets

Amortisation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Website development and software	20% on cost

All assets are capitalised at cost

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds comprise monies raised for, or their use restricted to, a specific purpose, or donations subject to conditions imposed by donors.

Designated funds comprise funds set aside out of unrestricted funds for a specific purpose.

Leasing Commitments

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Foreign currency transactions

Transactions denominated in a foreign currency are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction or at an average rate for the relevant month where that provides a close approximation.

Stock

The stock held is used for the direct marketing mailings, all the stock is held at the printers and valued at cost price.

Other Financial Instruments

i. **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at banks and in hand and short-term deposits with a maturity date of three months or less. As at 31st December 2022 total cash held was £396,070 (2021: £404,043).

ii. **Debtors and Creditors**

Debtors and creditors receivable or payable within one year of the reporting date are carried at their transaction price. Debtors and creditors that are receivable or payable in more than one year and not subject to a market rate of interest are measured at the present value of the expected future receipts or payment discounted at a market rate of interest. Balances for 2021 and 2022 are set out in notes 10 to 12.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

World Villages for Children

2. VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted 2022 £	Restricted 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Donations received (including recoverable gift aid)	1,840,853	153,364	**1,994,217**	2,214,040
Legacies and bequests	208,091	-	**208,091**	534,648
Total	**2,048,944**	**153,364**	**2,202,308**	2,748,688

3. ANALYSIS OF TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Direct Costs £	Support Costs £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
COST OF GENERATING FUNDS:				
Fundraising and publicity	213,864	125,620	**339,484**	373,022
CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE:				
Grant to the Sisters of Mary	1,708,000	-	**1,708,000**	1,897,710
Other Charitable Expenditure	263,642	166,779	**430,421**	463,860
TOTAL CHARITABLE ACTIVITY	**1,971,642**	**166,779**	**2,138,421**	2,361,570
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	**2,185,506**	**292,399**	**2,477,905**	2,734,592
Year ended 31 December 2021	**2,404,213**	**330,379**	**2,734,592**	

FUNDRAISING AND PUBLICITY EXPENSES HAVE BEEN INCURRED ON THE FOLLOWING:	2022	2021
Direct Mail	213,864	245,020
Support Costs	125,620	128,002
	339,484	**373,022**

Support Costs consist of two main elements: management and staff costs and office costs. These costs have been apportioned across the work of the charity on the basis in Note 1 and allocated to each of the charity's activity as set out in the table below.

	Management & Staff (time) (Note 6) £	Office Costs (Area) £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
BASIS OF APPORTIONMENT				
Fundraising and Publicity	90,554	35,066	**125,620**	128,002
Charitable Activities	116,318	50,461	**166,779**	202,377
Total costs allocated	**206,872**	**85,527**	**292,399**	330,379
Year ended 31 December 2021	242,682	87,697	**330,379**	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

4. NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	2022 £	2021 £
NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS		
Net movement in funds is stated after charging:		
OPERATING LEASE PAYMENTS	48,840	48,840
AUDITORS REMUNERATION:		
- Audit services	20,880	18,000
- Accountancy and other professional services	51,913	34,221

5. LEGACY INCOME

World Villages for Children is aware of legacies of which the charity's share is estimated at £25,000 (2021: £Nil). This has not been included in these financial statements as it does not reach the necessary recognition criteria as laid out by the charity's accounting policy.

6. STAFF COSTS

	2022 £	2021 £
STAFF COSTS COMPRISE:		
Wages and salaries	187,722	220,823
Social security costs	15,813	19,774
Pension costs	3,337	4,627
Total salary costs	**206,872**	**245,224**
Holiday accrual	-	(3,459)
Employee Seminars & Training	-	185
Employee Travel	-	152
Recruitment	-	580
Total management & staff cost	**206,872**	**242,682**
Average number of full time equivalent employees	**5**	**6**

Key management personnel includes the Trustees.
Total remuneration paid to such personnel amounted to £55,502 (2021: £55,243).
There are no higher paid employees earning £60,000 per annum or more (2021: none).

7. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION

A total of £559 (2021: £257) expenses were paid by the charity in the year. This was for one of the trustees and covered the cost of accommodation and travel required to fulfil their duties. Nicola Lawson, who became a trustee in July 2016, received remuneration of £48,500 (2021: £48,500) and pension of £1,268 (2021: £1,268) during the year, in her capacity as an employee of the charity. This has been discussed and agreed with the Charity Commission. No other trustee receives remuneration (2021: £nil).

Total donations from trustees amounted to £4,275 (2021: £3,013) within the year.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

World Villages for Children

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Improvements £	Equipment £	**Total £**
COST			
At 1st January 2022	75,556	19,730	**95,286**
Additions	-	761	**761**
At 31 December 2022	75,556	20,491	**96,047**
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATIONAT			
At 1st January 2022	19,446	16,542	**35,988**
Charge for the year	7,555	1,704	**9,259**
At 31st December 2022	27,001	18,246	**45,247**
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st December 2022	**48,555**	**2,245**	**50,800**
At 31st December 2021	56,110	3,188	59,298

The fixed assets are used wholly for the activities of the charitable company.

9. INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Website development & software costs	**Total £**
COST		
At 1st January 2022	48,632	**48,632**
Addition	6,360	**6,360**
Disposals	(20,544)	**(20,544)**
At 31 December 2022	34,448	**34,448**
ACCUMULATED AMORTISATION		
At 1st January 2022	33,324	**33,324**
Charge for the year	3,601	**3,601**
Disposal	(20,544)	**(20,544)**
At 31st December 2022	16,381	**16,381**
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31st December 2022	**18,067**	**18,067**
At 31st December 2021	15,308	15,308

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

World Villages for Children

10. DEBTORS

	2022 £	2021 £
Legacies receivable	127,271	386,080
Gift aid receivable	29,066	29,019
Prepayments	27,732	26,138
Other debtors	6,307	6,950
	190,376	448,187

11. CREDITORS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	44,704	25,881
Accruals	25,027	23,744
HMRC payable	7,206	4,120
Pension payable	728	537
Grants due to the Sisters of Mary	145,000	155,000
Other	9,000	9,366
	231,665	218,648

12. CREDITORS DUE IN MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
OTHER	-	6,719

13. LEASE COMMITMENTS

	LAND AND BUILDINGS	
	2022 £	2021 £
At 31st December, the charity has total future minimum commitments under operating leases as follows:		
Within one year	48,838	48,838
Between one and five years	15,387	64,225
	64,225	113,063

14. CONNECTED PARTIES

World Villages for Children based in the United Kingdom pays on behalf of, and has had paid on its behalf, various expenses related to the charity as a whole by other affiliates based overseas.

The charity made grants totalling £1,708,000 to The Sisters of Mary in the year (2021: £1,897,710), which while not a strict affiliate is closely aligned to the ideals of the charity.

Balances between other affiliates have been settled before the balance sheet date except for those balances due to, and from, such affiliates as disclosed in Notes 10 and 11 of the financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

14. CONNECTED PARTIES (CONTINUED)

Two trustees of the charity, Sister D.L Cho and Sister Elena Grengia Belarmino also sit on the boards of four other humanitarian entities that all share similar visions and purposes as World Villages for Children; these entities are in France, Netherlands, Belgium and the U.S.A. In addition, one former trustee, Sister Y Cheong, also sits on the board of the U.S entity. However, World Villages for Children does not consolidate these foreign entities in its financial statements, as they are separate legal entities with no one controlling party.

They were no other financial dealings with these entities during the year, apart from those transactions, and year end balances already disclosed below.

15. MEMBERS' LIMITED LIABILITY

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of the same being wound up while they are a member. This contribution, not exceeding £10, covers the payment of debts and liabilities of the company contracted before each individual ceased to be a member and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves.

16. ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS

	Balance @ 01.01.2022 £	**Income £**	**Expenditure £**	**Transfers £**	**Balance @ 31.12.2022 £**
Unrestricted	704,927	2,050,110	(2,342,947)	-	**412,090**
Restricted	6,895	153,364	(134,958)	-	**25,301**
Total	**711,822**	**2,203,474**	**(2,477,905)**	**-**	**437,391**

	Balance @ 01.01.2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	**Balance @ 31.12.2021 £**
Unrestricted	677,708	2,676,101	(2,648,882)	-	**704,927**
Restricted	19,898	72,707	(85,710)	-	**6,895**
Total	697,606	2,748,808	(2,734,592)	-	**711,822**

The restricted funds relate to a number of smaller amounts for programmes in Guatemala, Tanzania, Philippines and Honduras.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

World Villages for Children

17. ANALYSIS OF GROUP NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	**Total 2022 £**
Intangible fixed assets	18,067	-	**18,067**
Tangible fixed assets	50,800	-	**50,800**
Cash at bank and in hand	370,769	25,301	**396,070**
Other net current assets	(27,546)		**(27,546)**
	412,090	**25,301**	**437,391**

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Intangible fixed assets	15,308	-	15,308
Tangible fixed assets	59,298	-	59,298
Cash at bank and in hand	397,148	6,895	404,043
Other net current assets	239,892	-	239,892
Creditors falling due in more than one year	(6,719)	-	(6,719)
	704,927	**6,895**	**711,822**

18. PRIOR YEAR STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted 2021 £	Restricted 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
INCOME FROM			
Donations and legacies			
Donations and grants	2,141,333	72,707	2,214,040
Legacies	534,648	-	534,648
Interest income	120	-	120
Total	**2,676,101**	**72,707**	**2,748,808**
EXPENDITURE ON:			
Raising Funds	373,022	-	373,022
Charitable Activities	2,275,860	85,710	2,361,570
Total	**2,648,882**	**85,710**	**2,734,592**
Net Income/(expenditure)	27,219	(13,003)	14,216
Net movement in funds	27,219	(13,003)	14,216
Total Funds Brought Forward	677,708	19,898	697,606
Total Funds Carried Forward	**704,927**	**6,895**	**711,822**



Playtime for the girls at school in Honduras



“The opportunity to be here at the school of the Sisters of Mary gives me light from my past experience. And I’m so happy that I can study well and to have a better future. For my future I want to be a Mechanic Engineer.

Thank you so much for all those who are in contact with us through your donations. May God continue giving you blessing and to all your family.”

FRANDI, NEW STUDENT, HONDURAS.

Ending poverty through education

World Villages for Children

Kings Buildings, 16 Smith Square
London, SW1P 3HQ

www.worldvillages.org.uk

+44 (0)20 7629 3050
enquiries@worldvillages.org.uk

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WorldVillagesforchildrenuk

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

2022 NCVO MEMBER

Corporate member DMA Data & Marketing Association

UK Registered Charity Number: 1058973

WORLD VILLAGES FOR CHILDREN

England & Wales - Charity number 1058973

Accounts

World Villages for Children

2021 ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS



Ending poverty through education

UK Registered Charity Number: 1058973



ON THE COVER IS MERCEDES

Mercedes is 16. Originally one of 6 children, there are now 5 brothers and sisters after her mother lost a daughter in child birth. She says "The sad death of my sister was caused by a bad health status of my mother and also due to severe poverty". Mercedes' father died of ill health when she was still young and, as the sole provider for the family, his death was a disaster for them, leaving her mother alone to support them. She says "at home we can only eat once a day because most of the time we just depend on the generosity of our neighbours".

When her mother met and married a second time, the whole family were subjected to violent abuse. She says my stepfather **"used to beat the whole family without reason and most of the time we were sleeping outside in destroyed houses owned by other people to escape from his cruelty".** Eventually her step-father was arrested and jailed for three years leaving her mother hospitalised and Mercedes caring for her brothers and sisters alone.

In autumn 2021, Mercedes met the Sisters of Mary and thanks to the support of our donors they were able to offer her a place at their school for girls in Kisarawe. She says **"suddenly there was a miracle in my life. The day I entered the Sisters of Mary school was the day when great changes in my life happened"**.

Safe at school Mercedes is now thriving. She eats regular balanced meals, has new friends, learns new skills and she loves her studies, particularly biology and chemistry and everything else the school has to offer her.

Her chance at school will transform her life and she has big plans for her future. She hopes to be a **"doctor of medicine one day so I can help those women whose children die during birth because of the bad condition of the family and I can help many poor people around".**

Thanks to you Mercedes now looks forward to a brighter future.

worldvillages.org.uk/stories/mercedes-story/

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Company Number: 3267479
UK Registered Charity Number: 1058973



Company Information

Directors and Trustees	Sister Elena Grengia Belarmino Sister D L Cho (Sister Maria), Chair of Trustees Sister Teresita Mendoza Prudente Nicola Lawson John Graham, Treasurer (Appointed 18 April 2019) Clare Bamberger (Appointed 4 July 2019) Sister Y Cheong (Sister Margie) (Resigned 17th September 2019) Jo Ogilvie (appointed 12 April 2022)
Key Management Personnel	UK Manager
Website	www.worldvillages.org.uk
Registered Office and Charity address	Kings Buildings, 16 Smith Square, London SW1P 3HQ
Auditor	Crowe U.K. LLP, 55 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7JW
Solicitor	BDB Pitmans, One Bartholomew Close, London EC1A 7BL



About World Villages for Children

Our Vision is a world where every child grows up free from poverty.

At World Villages for Children (WVC) we believe in a brighter future, created for and by children. A future where the course of a person's life is not dictated by the circumstances of their birth, and where there is genuine equality of opportunity, regardless of race, gender or beliefs.

We know that education is key to ending poverty and achieving sustainable, positive change and children can only learn effectively in a safe, secure and loving environment, where both their physical and emotional needs are met.

Founded in 1998, **Our Mission** is to support the Sisters of Mary to run live-in schools for the most deprived boys and girls across the world. We provide funds, help measure and report impact and engage with the wonderful supporters who make our work possible.

We help children who are orphans or from the very poorest and disadvantaged families in the communities and neighbourhoods of the Philippines, Mexico, Guatemala, Brazil, Honduras and Tanzania.

Young boys and girls who work long hours on the streets and in the slums of these regions to earn money, who risk disease, early marriage or a life of crime. Who lack the basic conditions for survival and access to a good education, without which they have no hope of a better future.

Quality and Equality

EQUALITY IS AT THE HEART OF OUR WORK. TOGETHER, WVC AND THE SISTERS OF MARY PROGRAMMES LIVE THE PRINCIPLES OF THE UNSDG, PROVIDING INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE EDUCATION FOR THE POOREST CHILDREN.



Through our work, the most deprived boys and girls can receive a good education to overcome poverty and their difficult start in life.

Younger children aged 3-5 receive health care, nutrition and learning support to reach early development goals. Secondary age children receive live-in accommodation, health care and good balanced nutrition. They study nationally accredited academic courses delivered by local teachers and learn technical skills relevant to local employment. As qualified child counsellors, the Sisters safeguard the boys and girls, support their wellbeing provide holistic care, and teach them values which help them to grow into happy, responsible and confident individuals.

The children make friends, enjoy celebrations like Christmas, Easter and birthdays, most for the first time. They learn hobbies, play sport, take exams, and at the end of their studies they graduate as well-rounded adults into secure, stable jobs, build productive lives and help their families out of poverty.

As independent members of society, the children have agency and ambition. They ensure the results of our work are multiplied when they nurture their families, support their parents and siblings financially and provide them (and sometimes generations of their children) with access to healthcare and education, breaking their lasting cycle of poverty.

Sustainable and efficient

WORKING FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS, THE SISTERS OF MARY HAVE SO FAR TAKEN CARE OF NEARLY 160,000 CHILDREN IN 13 SCHOOLS IN THE POOREST COUNTRIES.

Every year they travel to the poorest communities to reach the most deprived children and offer them a life-saving education at their schools. Where funding and support permits, the programmes respond to government requests and expand to take more children within country and to new communities in new countries (most recently Tanzania).

The programmes are low cost and sustainable, they generate significant efficiencies and ensure our funds go a very long way. It costs an average of just £1,000 to feed, care for and educate a child for a year at these schools.

Demand continues to be overwhelming, and in 2021 the levels of need were unprecedented. Worldwide, the sisters met almost 40,000 children desperate for a place with them. During the year, with increased capacity in Tanzania and Mexico, we were able to accommodate 10% of these children, 4,922 new children joined during the year and we cared for a total of 19,500 desperate and deprived boys and girls.

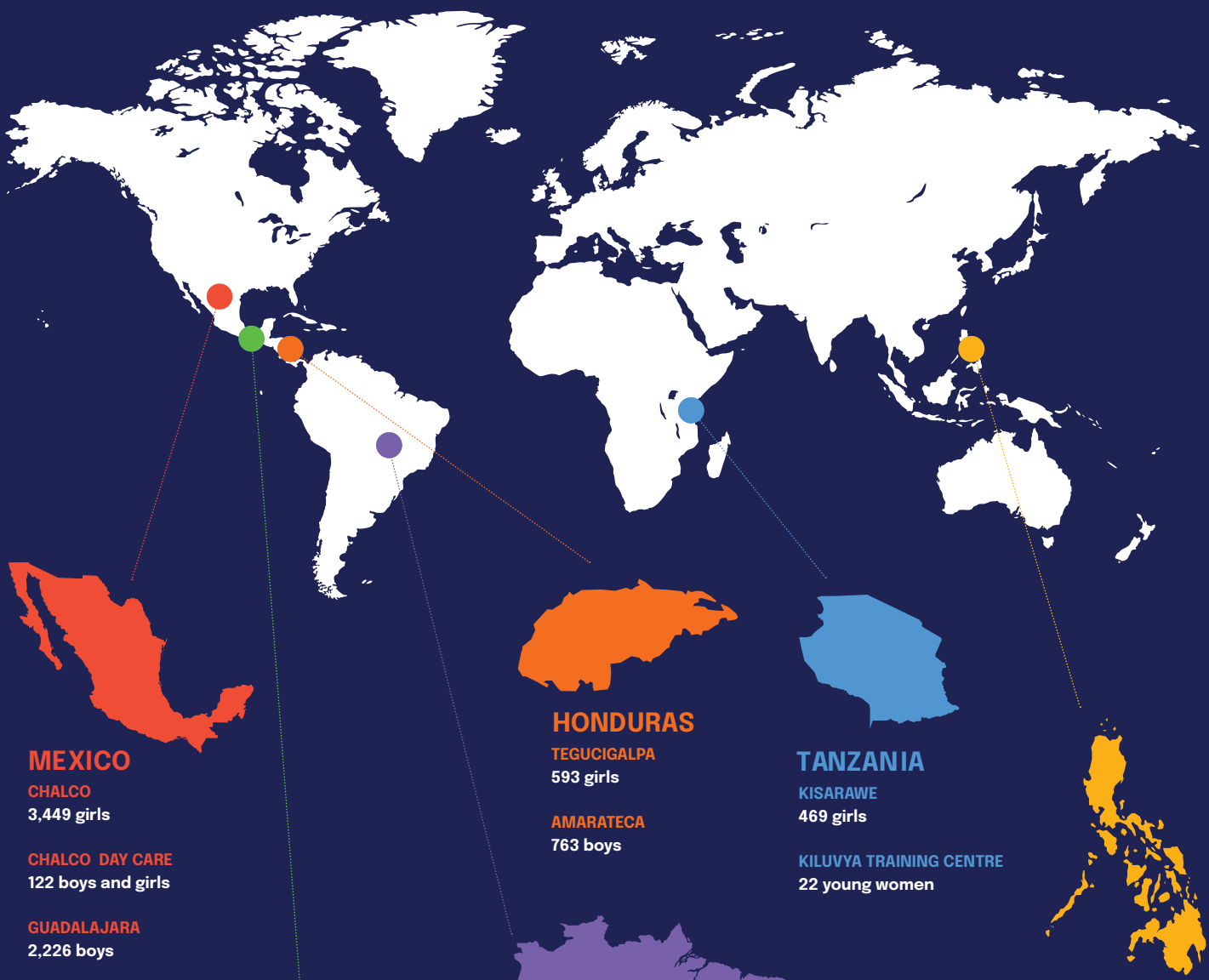
The Sisters use their dedication and compassion for the poor and in country expertise to ensure that in their care these poorest children receive a lifetime of kindness as well as a quality teaching experience.

Together, we deliver a truly life-changing education for the most vulnerable children, at a fraction of the cost.

In 2021 we cared for a total of 19,500 desperate and deprived boys and girls...

Figures based on August 2021 total

Where we work



MEXICO

CHALCO
3,449 girls

CHALCO DAY CARE
122 boys and girls

GUADALAJARA
2,226 boys

HONDURAS

TEGUCIGALPA
593 girls

AMARATECA
763 boys

TANZANIA

KISARAWE
469 girls

KILUVYA TRAINING CENTRE
22 young women

THE PHILIPPINES

BIGA
2,282 girls

ADLAS
1,673 boys

TALISAY
2,315 girls

MINGLANILLA
1,643 boys

GUATEMALA

ZONA 6
867 boys

ZONA 13
780 girls

ZONA 21 DAY-CARE
95 boys and girls

BRAZIL

BRASILIA
813 girls

BRASILIA DAY CARE
57 boys and girls

SAO PAULO ELEMENTARY AND DAY CARE
450 boys and girls



Introduction from the Chair

WITH YOUR CONTINUOUS KINDNESS TOWARDS WORLD VILLAGES FOR CHILDREN AND THE SISTERS OF MARY IN 2021 WE WERE ABLE TO MAINTAIN SUPPORT FOR THE WORLD'S MOST IMPOVERISHED CHILDREN AND TO FUND MORE SCHOOL PLACES FOR THOSE INCREASING NUMBER WHO COME TO US IN DIRE NEED.

During the year, the Covid-19 pandemic continued to challenge our operations. Supplies of food and every day necessities were restricted and prices rose. Thanks to the loyalty of our friends, donors and many of our graduates, we were able to maintain care to the children at our schools and with ingenuity and determination by the staff and Sisters we provided 3 nutritious meals a day, full time care and an accredited education for nearly 19,500* children in our schools in 2021. Our boys and girls continued to thrive, pass exams and graduate into jobs.

During the year we were able to welcome 4,922 new children into our schools worldwide and this included 1,940 young boys and girls in the Philippines. We were particularly relieved to see these youngsters many of whom we met in 2019, who we were not able to accept in 2020 due to lockdown restrictions. Face to face lessons began to resume in most schools although we continued to adapt some classes for virtual learning where pandemic restrictions were limiting, to ensure learning was maintained. Towards the end of the year we were delighted to be included in the Covid-19 vaccination programme for all our staff, sisters and students in our countries of operation.

In 2021 we were thrilled to celebrate the inauguration of new buildings at the girls' school in Tanzania and the boys' school in Mexico which increase capacity there and to complete the construction of the new nursery and training centre in Kiluvya Tanzania, which supports the most disadvantaged young women there.

In many places, like Guatemala, our schools were the only ones to remain open in 2021 as many state schools remained closed and so we have seen unprecedented demand for our care and education. In 2021 we welcomed only 10% of the children who sought and deserved a place in our care. These are difficult decisions and spur us on to maintain the momentum of our work to support more of these children out of this crisis.

This lack of early learning has also had detrimental effects on ability and the new children now joining us need additional teaching support to reach the minimum standard. Many cannot speak their native language or achieve the basic levels of literacy and numeracy. Thanks to the unwavering support of our loyal donors we will be able to address these challenges and put these children on the path to a brighter future. I remain so grateful to these committed friends without whom our work would not be possible. I thank them sincerely for their longstanding kindness and humanitarian interest in the poor children in our care.

I also extend my sincerest thanks to the staff and board of WVC who have dedicated their time and skills to our mission in 2021. Their hard work and untiring commitment to raising funds for the care of the children at our programmes is appreciated by all our boys and girls, staff and Sisters at the programmes but particularly by me.

Sister Maria Cho

Sister Maria Cho
Chair of Trustees

*total at August 2021



Introduction from the UK Manager

AS THE DATA IS GATHERED ON THE EFFECTS OF THE PANDEMIC WORLDWIDE, THE STARK TRUTH OF ITS IMPACT ON THE POOREST MEMBERS OF SOCIETY IS REVEALED. COVID-19 HAS DEVASTATED THE POOREST LIVES AS ECONOMIES LOCKED DOWN AND JOBS PROVIDING THE MOST MENIAL INCOME WERE LOST. THE PANDEMIC WILL REVERSE YEARS OF PROGRESS ON POVERTY RELIEF AND GENDER EQUALITY BUT CHILDREN FROM THE POOREST COMMUNITIES HAVE BORNE THE LARGEST LOSSES.

State schools in our countries of operation have now been closed for nearly two years with an average of 250 days schooling lost over the period. The poorest children have little access to internet for remote learning and have been deprived of vital education together with the protections and care they relied on at school such as school feeding.

This prolonged interruption to education, now known as 'learning poverty' has been ruinous for millions of the poorest children and consequently, demand for places at the Sisters of Mary schools which remained open throughout, has never been higher. It was our challenge in 2021 to maintain vital funding to meet the needs of the children in our care and generate funding for new school places to meet this growing demand.

Thanks to the steadfast dedication of the team at WVC, our unstinting trustees and the generous commitment of our loyal supporters we produced a solid fundraising performance ahead of our targets for the year. In addition to the provision of vital, unrestricted regular income to fund the everyday costs of school places at all the schools, our fundraising focus for 2021 was prioritising projects which supported the teaching of vocational skills relevant to local employment and helping the programmes achieve greater overall sustainability and efficiency.

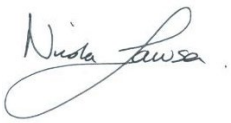
We were thrilled to help with the completion of new projects like the well for the Girlstown in Guatemala to create a more sustainable water supply for the school, the provisioning of the new women's training centre in Tanzania and equipping the new Electronics workshop in Guatemala girlstown to make this vital technical skill an accredited subject for the school.

Maintaining commitment to our ongoing strategic objectives, we continued investment in fundraising and positioning of the charity for the future with a powerful new brand and articulation of our messaging. This key part of our 2021 planning will maximise our ability to fundraise, inform our donors, and support the Sisters of Mary programmes.

Through the year we were also delighted to work more closely with the alumni of the Sisters of Mary, to share their experiences and to be ever more inspired by the journey of their lives and the impact of their success.

We owe this continued progress to your commitment and support. Your generosity and compassion helps us to give these poorest children the chance of a better start, a new life and a brighter future for themselves and their families.

Thank you



Nicola Lawson
UK Manager and Trustee

Trustees' Report



STRATEGY

The Trustees of WVC present their annual report for the year ended 31 December 2021 under the Companies Act 2006, together with the audited accounts for the year. They confirm that the latter complies with the requirements of the Act, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Charities SORP 2015.

The Charity Objects for WVC are to:

- **Provide financial support for the SoM humanitarian programmes**
- **To raise the profile of their poverty relief work through the provision of education**
- **To educate the public and promote understanding of childhood poverty and the work of the programmes to alleviate poverty amongst children, the most vulnerable group.**

Over the last year we have worked hard to increase the impact of our work by focusing on a number of specific objectives for governance, fundraising, impact measurement and quality. As in the past, our income targets align with the needs of the SoM programmes for the care of the existing children and our objectives were to support existing children, places for new children in the existing schools and school expansions within country.

Milestones were reached in the acceptance of new children in 2021 at 4,922. In addition, new buildings in Tanzania, at the existing girls' school and the new nursery and training centre, and the new building constructed in Guadalajara in Mexico, were completed ready to welcome more children. For the future our income objectives will also focus on supporting the Sisters with the proposed construction of a new boys' school in Dodoma, Tanzania which is in planning for 2023/24.



GOVERNANCE

Our strategic objectives for the governance of the charity are directed towards building a robust, diverse and multi-skilled board, representative of our beneficiaries and with the experience to oversee the charity and position it for future growth.

We continued to make good progress on this objective in 2021 starting the analysis of the skills and experience of the existing members and recruiting to build new expertise in certain areas. This activity culminated in a new advisory committee which supports the board and is comprised of graduates of the Sisters of Mary programmes including Arturo Guevara (graduate of the Mexican boys' school) and lead by a new ambassador for WVC.

The committee has a remit to drive the collection of experiental data on the Sisters of Mary programmes and the outcomes of the programmes. Our skills analysis has also resulted in the recruitment of a new trustee, Jo Ogilvie, who joined us on the board this April. Jo brings extensive digital skills and experience to our board and will oversee our digital strategy and advise and support on delivery of new initiatives in digital fundraising.

During the year we kept well informed on the progress and challenges at all the schools via monthly strategy and operational updates with the Sisters of Mary in each country and school. In 2021 this also included a specific update on the safeguarding processes in place at all the schools.

FUNDRAISING

Our strategic fundraising aims in 2021 were to maintain consistency in the areas of direct mail, committed giving and legacy income and to increase focus on developing income in the trust and foundation, major gift and digital income stream. Overall it was a difficult year for fundraising and whilst we exceeded our targets for the year (2.734m v 2.683m) and saw consistency in all income streams, we were behind our prior year performance.

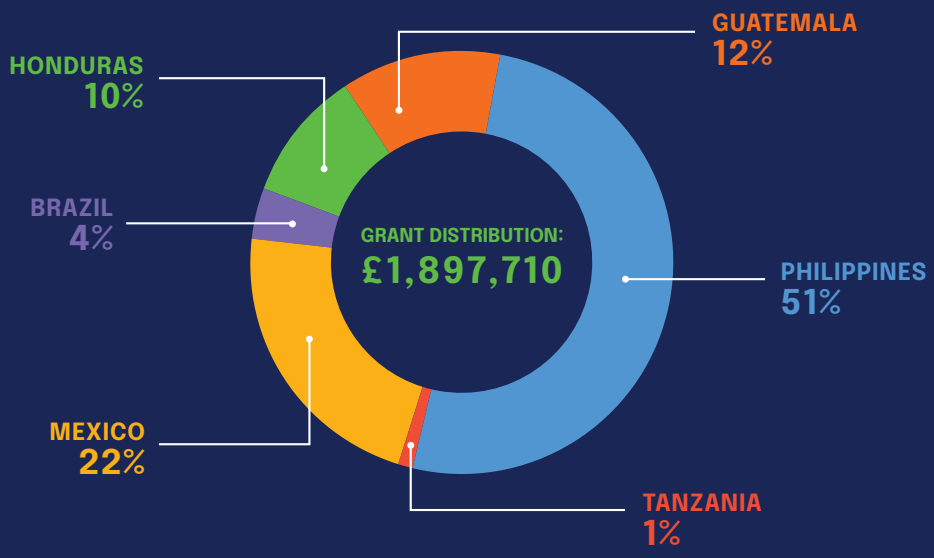
Trust and Foundation work remains at an early stage in its development but this income stream and digital fundraising performance were supported in the latter part of 2021 by investment in the review of our brand and the creation of a new, more modern brand identity which is focused on the children who are the core of our work. This new branding has been well received by donors.

As well as refreshing our visual identity, we have also developed new messaging to build consistency and awareness in our external communications and clarify the role between WVC and the Sisters of Mary and how our work impacts poverty relief. The brand refresh work has culminated in a new website for the charity which informs on our work, the schools, the lives of the children before during and after school and ultimately this will drive greater donor engagement and support across all income streams. This new brand approach and guidelines will be fully implemented in 2022.

Despite the difficulties in the fundraising environment we were pleased to keep a regular monthly flow of unrestricted and restricted funding to the SoM programmes and recorded a total grant figure of £1,897,710. This was again ahead of our forecasts for the year but behind 2020.

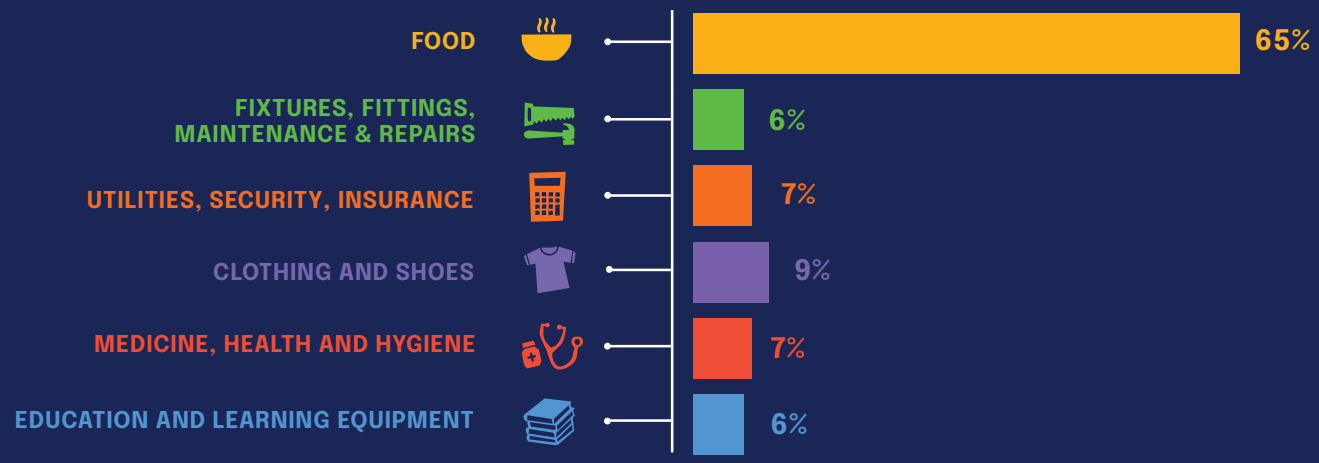
GRANT DISTRIBUTION BY COUNTRY

Income was distributed to the Sisters of Mary programmes as follows:



HOW OUR FUNDS WERE USED IN 2021

The majority of our funds are used to support the everyday needs of keeping the children well fed and healthy but in summary our funds in 2021 were utilised as follows:





OPERATIONS AND QUALITY

Cost effectiveness and efficiency remained a key part of our strategy for 2021 and we were pleased to see operating expenses below the forecast level for the year ensuring that our fundraising activities represented good value for money for our donors.

We maintained a proactive approach to operational resources and investment through the year managing our expenses closely whilst maintaining necessary investments for IT security and financial control throughout 2021. We continued to closely scrutinise the potential risks around cyber security and financial crime and manage these with preventative policies, training and software. Our constant focus remained ensuring our fundraising and stewardship activities were effective and well targeted and that our donor data is optimised for better engagement in fundraising and well protected.

We made greater use in 2021 of sector indicators to benchmark and improve our activity in terms of results and efficiency and instigated some additional consultancy to audit and benchmark our fundraising work to highlight strengths, weaknesses and areas for future development. This work is ongoing through 2022 as we implement our new brand image and focus on utilising all the opportunities offered to our fundraising by digital technology.

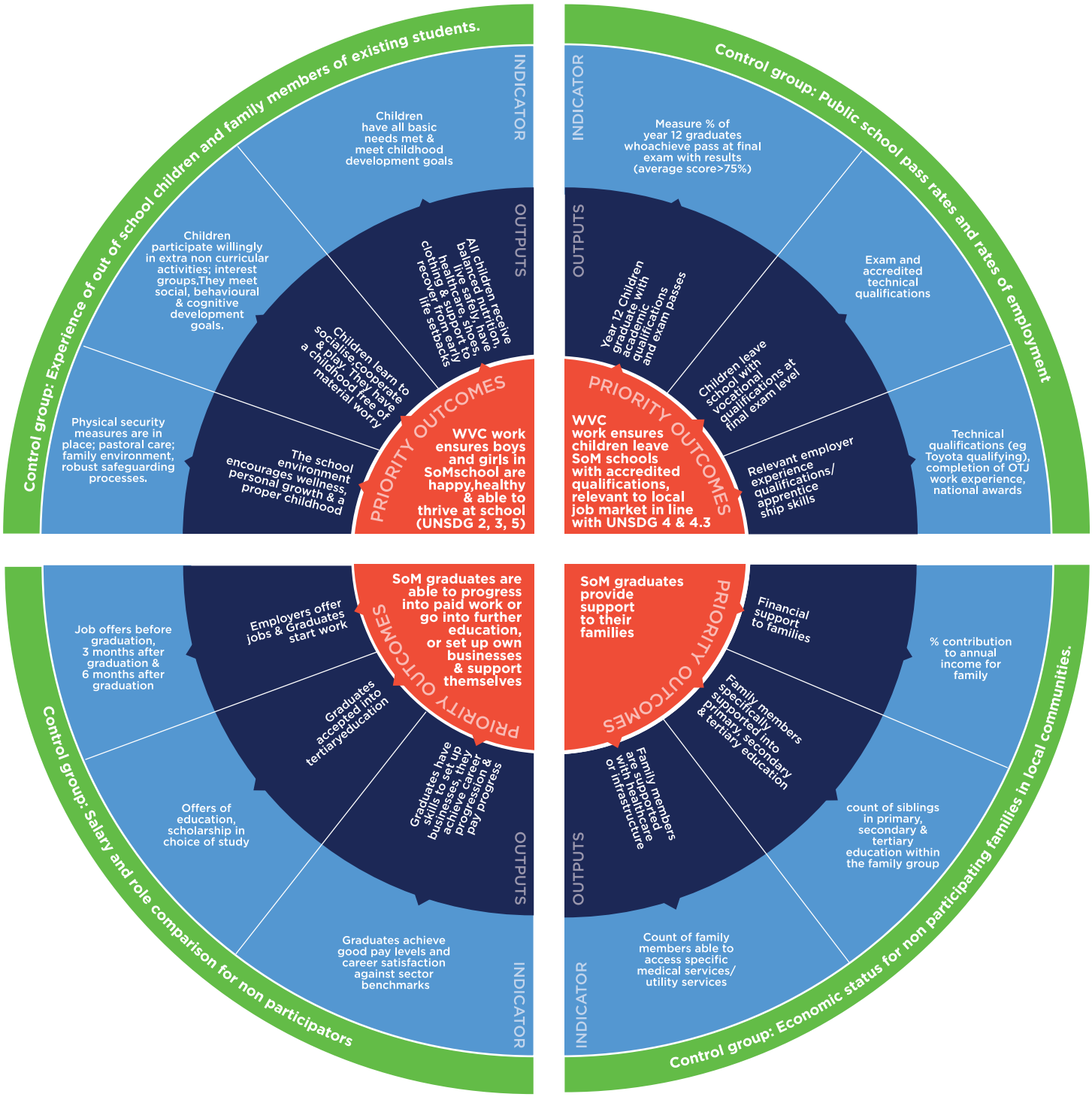
IMPACT MEASUREMENT

Progress continued with our Theory of Change project in 2021. We are extremely grateful to Clare Bamberger, our board member for setting out our pathway on this work. Throughout 2021 into 2022 we had extensive focus group meetings with members of the in-country teams at the SoM programmes and with students and graduates of the programmes to learn of their experience before, during and after school.

These meetings helped us to identify the intermediate and longer-term outcomes and impact of our work on the life of these children and the ultimate relief of their poverty and that of their families and communities.

These meetings also helped us to define the base line information which will identify the change we make with our interventions.

During the year we benefited from some consultancy from the Wageningen University, the Netherlands, on methods to use for evidencing outcome and impact. Work has now started on qualitative surveying amongst the student and graduate audience to measure these outcomes and assess long-term impact.



Good Relations with local employers and HE

The order Functions well with enough sisters

SoM Income allows proper functioning of programmes

The schools have a good reputation

ENABLERS

2021 Highlights from our work with the Sisters of Mary programmes

Despite another year of disruption to education worldwide, our regular funding helped the SoM to care for 19,500 of the poorest children in six countries world-wide.

A staggering 4,922 new children were welcomed in 2021 in response to unprecedented demand for our help.



Through the year, 2,983 children graduated from school into work or further education. In the Philippines where employment has been especially challenging post lockdown, 65% of the children secured employment straight after leaving school.



Capacity was increased at the existing schools with new buildings at the schools in Mexico and Tanzania.


New building, Boys' School, Guadalajara, Mexico



Construction of a brand-new multi-purpose training and nursery in Tanzania was completed.

It offers support for the most vulnerable out of work young mothers and their toddlers, where uneducated girls face the greatest challenge of extreme poverty.



2021 Highlights from our work with the Sisters of Mary programmes



We were pleased to mark the milestone first graduation of the boys in Amarateca.

This school opened in 2017 and in the autumn 2021 134 boys completed their studies and left school for work and independent life.



We funded the construction of a new well at the girls' school in Guatemala to provide cost saving and sustainable access to fresh water.



We were also delighted to celebrate the completion of a new workshop for the teaching of electronics for the girls at school in Guatemala.

Funded by our donors in 2020, this facility which was finished in 2021 will equip the girls with the right skills for good stable jobs in this sector in the country.

COUNTRY PROGRAMMES

In communities around the world where the poorest children have seen no state schooling for nearly two years, the commitment of our generous WVC donors ensured that the Sisters were able to keep their schools open to meet the needs of the most deprived boys and girls around the world.

Together we continued to welcome them into school places, keep them safe, well fed and healthy and give them a vital education. Our 2021 achievements were as follows:

COUNTRY	NUMBER OF CHILDREN	TEACHERS	ANCILLARY STAFF	DOCTORS & NURSES	SISTERS	NEW CHILDREN ACCEPTED IN 2021
PHILIPPINES						
Biga Girlstown	2,282	59	57		40	669
dlas Boystown	1,673	51	54		26	424
Talisay Girlstown	2,315	75	72		24	464
Minglanilla Boystown	1,643	56	71		15	383
Medical Centre Biga	60 Outpatients per day		8	3	2	
Medical Centre Minglanilla	70 Outpatients per day [7]		6	2	1	
MEXICO						
Chalco Girlstown	3,449	111	54	5	50	1016
Guadalajara Boystown	2,226	72	38	3	16	768
Day Care centre, Chalco	122 [7]	7	7		2	
GUATEMALA						
Zona 13 Girlstown	780	27	29		15	202
Zona 6 Boystown	867	35	45	4	11	300
Day Care centre Zona 21 [8]	95	3	4		2	
Medical Clinic Zona 13	43		1	6	1	
BRAZIL						
Brasilia (Girlstown)	813	26	11	2	18	127
Day care centre Brasilia	57	2			1	28
Sao Paulo Elementary	292	12			2	35
Sao Paulo day care	158	8	8		4	53
HONDURAS						
Tegucigalpa (Girlstown)	593	29	26	2	14	183
Amarateca (Boystown)	763	27	24	1	9	194
TANZANIA						
Kisarawe (Girlstown)	469	22	12	2	21	164
Training centre	22	1			4	

These year end totals move significantly during the year due to new arrivals and graduations.



One of our children, Angel, with her father and Sr Molina near Cavite, Philippines, 2021

Angel was welcomed into a place at school in July 2021. She says ...

"I am very grateful for this opportunity and here I learn a lot, I learn how to value my studies, and develop my skills. Someday, I want to become an engineer."

PHILIPPINES

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Poverty incidence in the Philippines rose to 23.7% in the first half of 2021, which translated to 3.9 million more Filipinos living in poverty[1].

The poorest families suffered the most during lockdown as businesses closed, taking with them the menial but vital jobs on which the poorest families relied. As work and income dried up there was no money for food for these families and starvation forced the hungry and desperate urban poor to cope in unthinkable ways, scavenging on the roadside or in markets for scraps or leftover goods.

Access to education, the vital lifeline for the children of these poorest families, was again marred in 2021 by the almost complete closure of state schools during lockdown. Without access to the internet the poorest children have had no learning or the protections provided by school attendance since early 2020 and consequently this 'learning poverty' [2] is an added burden which has deeply affected the development of the most vulnerable children in the poorest communities.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

The four Sisters of Mary schools in the Philippines remained open throughout the pandemic with a total of 7,913 children. In Biga and Adlas (Girlstown and Boystown) near Cavite, and Talisay and Minglanilla (Girlstown and Boystown) in Cebu, the poorest children received full time care, regular nutrition, medical support and an accredited vocational and academic education.

Early in 2021 with the help of graduates and local contact persons, the Sisters redoubled their efforts to locate the thousands of deprived children desperate for a place at school and in July, for the first time since 2019, we were able to begin welcoming new children into the school. These included those children who we had been prevented from accepting in 2020.

1,940 new children were accepted and began a life-saving education including a whopping 669 children at the girlstown in Biga.

As in 2020, strict health protocols continued to be adopted to keep the children safe at school and in November most of the children were able to receive their Covid-19 vaccination.



[1] Reuters, December 2021
[2] www.worldbank.org/en/topic/education/brief/learning-poverty

Overall more normality was possible at the schools during the year and the children benefited from a full range of academic and vocational subjects accredited by the Philippine Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA). The Sisters continued to evolve the timetable to respond to the needs of local employers and additional care giving courses were introduced in 2021 for the children in Adlas and Biga to equip them for local vacancies.

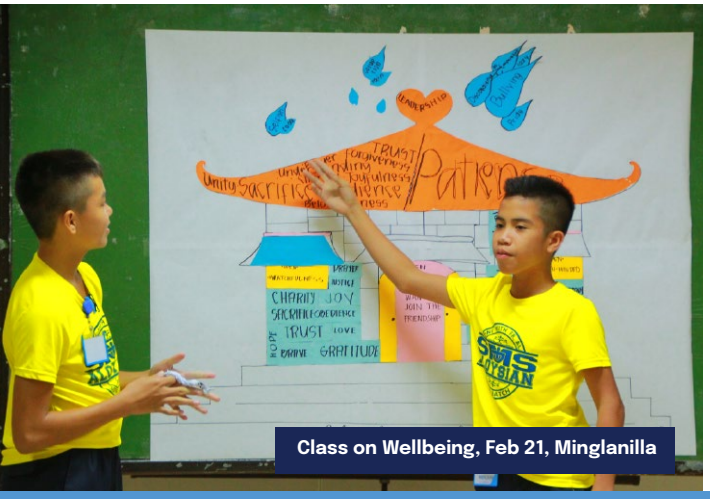
The new children arriving in 2021 have lost nearly two years of learning and consequently remedial support and extra lessons were needed in 2021 to bring them up to the national standard. The emotional support and mental wellbeing of these youngsters and all the children at school was also a special focus in the year, with all the youngsters at the schools benefiting from additional webinars and learning sessions on mental health throughout 2021.

There were again challenges with running the programmes in 2021. Food prices rose during the year, in some cases tripling, and supplies of vital components of the children's diet were difficult to obtain.

However, with our donors' regular support and even more crops grown locally by the Sisters at the schools, we were able to maintain a nutritious diet for the children and ensure they thrived at school.

In December, Typhoon Odette (Rai) ripped through the Philippines and caused extensive damage to the schools in Cebu, with destruction of the windows and roofs of the classrooms, dormitories, workshops and clinics in both schools in Talisay and Minglanilla.

Thanks to our donors we were able to provide the urgent funding to support the Sisters with the repairs required and to make the buildings watertight and safe for the children.Despite these difficulties, the children enjoyed their year at school safe in the care of the Sisters and kept up a busy schedule of sports, hobbies and extra-curricular activities. They were hopeful, ambitious for success and made the most of every opportunity. In late November, with lockdown released, most of the boys and girls were able to return home for a long overdue holiday with their families.



Class on Wellbeing, Feb 21, Minglanilla


Classroom destroyed by Typhoon, December 2021

EXAMS, GRADUATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Throughout the year the children studied hard and focused on a better future for themselves with a job and the ability to help their families. Exams took place on schedule, the Sisters organised careers days and on the job work experience and, in July, 1,488 final year boys and girls graduated from the schools. 962 of these children have already secured good full-time employment with employers,[3] including Regan Industrial, Meraki-Tech and Polaris and other children have gone on to further university education to prepare for work.

WVC FUNDING

During the year, WVC contributed 51% of its funding to support the four Philippine programmes. In 2021, this funding helped to pay for the full range of essentials needed to care for the children day to day. 70% of our grant was spent on food 7% on clothing and 12% on medical, health care and hygiene expenses. In addition, we provided funding for utilities and services for the school as well as learning equipment and supplies, emergency building repairs and long-term maintenance and improvements.

7,913 CHILDREN in school in 2021

1,940 CHILDREN welcomed in July 2021

1,488 CHILDREN graduated

962 GRADUATES already employed

[3] More than 28 companies took Adlas graduates, Sr Maria Cho, Annual report to the board, 2021

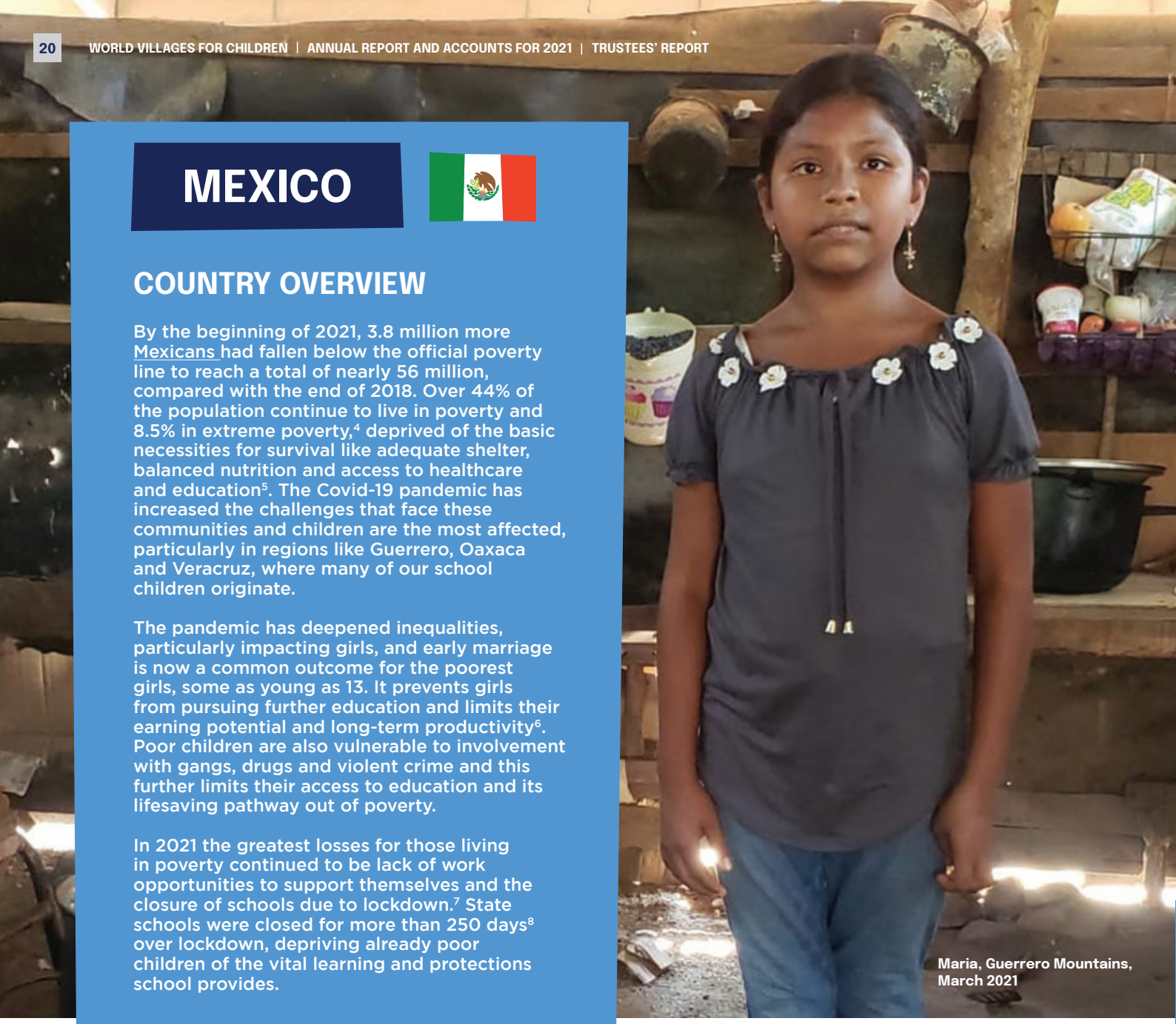
MEXICO

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

By the beginning of 2021, 3.8 million more Mexicans had fallen below the official poverty line to reach a total of nearly 56 million, compared with the end of 2018. Over 44% of the population continue to live in poverty and 8.5% in extreme poverty,[4] deprived of the basic necessities for survival like adequate shelter, balanced nutrition and access to healthcare and education[5]. The Covid-19 pandemic has increased the challenges that face these communities and children are the most affected, particularly in regions like Guerrero, Oaxaca and Veracruz, where many of our school children originate.

The pandemic has deepened inequalities, particularly impacting girls, and early marriage is now a common outcome for the poorest girls, some as young as 13. It prevents girls from pursuing further education and limits their earning potential and long-term productivity[6]. Poor children are also vulnerable to involvement with gangs, drugs and violent crime and this further limits their access to education and its lifesaving pathway out of poverty.

In 2021 the greatest losses for those living in poverty continued to be lack of work opportunities to support themselves and the closure of schools due to lockdown.[7] State schools were closed for more than 250 days[8] over lockdown, depriving already poor children of the vital learning and protections school provides.



Maria, Guerrero Mountains, March 2021

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

The Sisters of Mary schools in Mexico responded to the urgent needs of these communities by remaining open throughout 2021. With the benefit of the newly constructed building at the boys' school, places were increased to welcome more children in need. A total of 5,675 of the country's poorest children aged 11-17 were cared for in Villa de las Niñas, Chalco (Girls) and Villa de los Niños, Guadalajara (Boys) and 122 toddlers aged 3-5 at the day-care centre in Chalco.

Day to day operations continued to be challenging for the Sisters. Maintaining a balanced regular diet for all the children despite rising prices was a constant concern. Robust healthcare and hygiene practices were put in place to ensure Covid-19 protection for the children, staff and sisters at the schools and teaching remained virtual for much of the year until face to face teaching could be restarted in the autumn.

Despite these difficulties, the children flourished in school in 2021. With the help of our donors, the active boys and girls continued to receive a healthy and plentiful diet and teaching standard remained unaltered. The day care children gradually returned to face to face teaching, allowing their mothers to go back to work and at the secondary school, children studied the full range of academic subjects including maths, English, Spanish, biology, physics and chemistry to national level.

Technical subjects helped to prepare the children for employment and in 2021 these included computer programming, car mechanics, jewellery making, sewing and tailoring, accounting and entrepreneurship.

[4] Extreme poverty is defined by the Mexican government as $63 monthly in rural areas and $88 for urban residents.
[5] Reuters and Coneval August 2021
[6] World Bank -Preventing Teenage Pregnancy: A priority for the wellbeing of women in Mexico, April 2022
[7] World Bank Macro Poverty Outlook for Mexico: April 2022
[8] UNICEF Mexico Country Office Annual Report 2021

School life was fulfilling for all the boys and girls who enjoyed sports to keep fit, successfully took part in a number of competitions and enjoyed a variety of hobbies and leisure activities.

In March 2021, the Sisters again conducted their community outreach virtually with the help of graduates in the regions and met thousands of children in need of care. In August 2021, the Sisters welcomed 1,784 of these most deprived children of Mexico into their care - Maria from Guerrero was one of the newest students.

Maria is 11 and comes from the mountains of Guerrero in Mexico. She has a younger sister aged 5 and lives with her mum who cleans for a living. The children's father abandoned them years ago and her mum struggles to support the girls alone. It is a poor existence and almost half of her salary goes to the landlord of the small plot of land on which she has built a basic shelter for her family.

Food is scarce and the cost has become such a burden that they often skip meals completely. The future looked very bleak for Maria until, thanks to your support, we were able to offer her a place at school and she started with us in August 2021.



Maria, fit & healthy, making friends & loving her time at school, October 2021



New girls joining the school, August 2021





1st place for the boys basketball team 2021-22 series

EXAMS, GRADUATION AND EMPLOYMENT

During the school year, exams were held on time in the summer and 737 of the oldest boys and girls graduated from school in July. The focus as always remained future employment for the children and the Sisters tailor the technical courses to the current needs of local employers.

Employment for our graduates continues to be difficult post pandemic but with their relevant skills the boys and girls are prepared for work, energetic in seeking it and ambitious for the future.

Many are now employed in local companies, or are teaching, some have started their own businesses, many go on to further education but all are occupied.

WVC FUNDING

WVC contributed 22% of our overall grants to the Mexican programmes. 87% of those grants were spent on food and vital nutrition in 2021. Hungry children cannot study and food forms an essential part of our care to ensure healthy and thriving children. Our grants helped the Sisters in Mexico to buy the essential foods they needed for the children like chicken, milk, rice and beans and most importantly to buy in bulk to preserve supply. This helped to maximise the food budget in 2021 and manage the rising food costs.

Our grants also helped the sisters with supplies of medicines, clothing, learning supplies and equipment and utilities for the school and day-care centre. As in previous years we also supplied modest Christmas Easter and birthday gifts for the boys and girls.

5,675 CHILDREN in school in 2021

1,784 CHILDREN welcomed in 2021

122 TODDLERS in day care

737 CHILDREN graduate



GUATEMALA

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Guatemala is the largest economy in Central America but the country continues to experience significant poverty and inequality. The Covid-19 pandemic is estimated to have increased the poverty rate from 47% in 2019 to 52% at the beginning of 2021[9]

Children in the poorest communities remain the most vulnerable and poverty causes chronic malnutrition and stunting affecting 47% of all children in Guatemala under the age of 5[10]. This poor start in life affects their long-term health, development and future productivity.

The highest rates of poverty are seen in rural areas where children lack access to adequate nutrition, healthcare and sanitation and are often required to work long hours in rural occupations to earn enough to feed themselves and their families. It is a hard existence and exposed to the additional impact of climate change where extreme weather events cause lost harvests, no work and no food.

The situation for these deprived youngsters deteriorated in 2021 as most primary and secondary state schools remained closed and abandoned, offering no learning or protections to the poorest children. Additionally, medical services were unreachable for the poorest families who couldn't access first line medical support or treatment for chronic conditions. It was a devastating time for many families.[11]

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

In Guatemala City, the Sisters of Mary maintained their focus on these poorest children and in 2021 they cared for 1,647 youngsters in their schools. 780 Girls in Zona 13 (Villa de las Niñas), 867 boys in Zona 6 (Villa de los Niños), and 95 youngsters in day care in Zona 21.

For much of the year the schools remained the only learning facilities open to children in Guatemala and so demand reached an unprecedented level.



Families with children desperately hoping for a place in the schools.

[9] World Bank Review, 2022
[10] World Bank Guatemala Overview October 2021
[11] Sr Lucia Yoo, Guatemala SoM Girlstown January 2022

Despite increased food costs and supply difficulties, regular support from our friends and donors helped the Sisters to maintain a healthy and nutritious diet for the children throughout 2021.

As in prior years, the boys and girls received a quality academic and technical education accredited by the Guatemalan Ministry of Education and enjoyed a full timetable of maths, science, Spanish, English, physics and art; 502 new boys and girls joined the schools at the start of the year in Jan 2021.

The older children received vocational training in carpentry, welding, dressmaking and tailoring, accounting, computer studies and computer hardware maintenance and in 2021 electronics classes were increased for both boys and girls to meet the needs of local employers. They ensure that our children have the right skills and the best chance of a stable job when they leave school.

As at all the schools, the children made the most of their leisure time and enjoyed a variety of hobbies including music, arts, drawing and painting and continued their passion for all games and sports.

Despite lockdown, the boys and girls continued to compete vigorously in all their favourite subjects and achieved numerous successes in competitions with other schools during the year.







EXAMS, GRADUATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Thanks to the dedication of the teachers and Sisters at the schools, exams took place on time in 2021 and 367 children graduated from school in October.

Whilst job opportunities are still difficult to secure, the children from the Sisters of Mary schools have the relevant skills to help them progress. In 2021 many of the children went onto further education with many girls awarded scholarships at the Rafael Landivar University, other children started work as administrators or bookkeepers or used their skills to start small businesses and others secured technical employment with a variety of organisations including Mayeca Machinery.

Through autumn 2021, the Sisters were able to continue their community work and meet more children in need. 460 new children started this January 2022. Without almost two years of primary education, these first year children are struggling with the numeracy and literacy needed to reach the necessary levels. Many speak nothing other than their local dialects and so they are now receiving additional support to help them reach the national standards.

WVC FUNDING

In 2021, 12% of our overall grants were spent on the programmes in Guatemala and 42% of the monthly grants were dedicated to the provision of food, medicines, healthcare and vitamin supplies for the children to keep them healthy and well during the pandemic. Our funds also supported the purchase of clothes and shoes for the children, educational tools and equipment and teacher salaries, utilities and repairs and construction. We were particularly delighted to help with the construction of the new well for the girlstown school. This will provide a sustainable supply of fresh water to the school for drinking and washing and help with the water costs incurred by the programmes.

1,742 CHILDREN in school in 2021

502 NEW CHILDREN welcomed in July 2021

367 CHILDREN graduated in October

NEW WATER WELL constructed for girlstown



Ryana, at home in Maranhão, Brazil, 2021

BRAZIL

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed Brazil to unprecedented health and economic difficulties. Despite additional government assistance for the poor communities in 2021[12], the poor and vulnerable in this already unequal country continued to be disproportionally affected.
The informal job market on which they relied has contracted and unemployment persists at pre-pandemic levels. After some improvement in late 2020, by late 2021 the poverty rate was back at 15%. Families without work cannot feed themselves and without education they cannot find better employment. Their children are malnourished and severely neglected.

The country has also suffered one of the longest spells of state school closures and this has most affected the poorest communities who have no access to internet for virtual learning. These school closures are expected to raise 'learning poverty' from 48% to 70% of the population[13].

Families in the North East of the country have been deeply affected by these problems. Hungry and desperate their children relied on the protections provided by school and they are vulnerable in its absence. Young girls in particular have suffered and instances of abuse inside and outside the family are common[14]. These children are a focus for the work of the Sisters of Mary.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

In 2021, the Sisters of Mary maintained a secondary school in Brasilia for 813 of Brazil's most impoverished girls aged 11-17 and a day care centre for 57 toddlers. In São Paulo the Sisters run an elementary school for 292 primary children aged 6 to 11 and a day care centre for 158 toddlers aged 3-5.

At the day care centres in Brasilia and São Paulo, the face to face classes gradually resumed over the year allowing mothers to search for work.
The toddlers received three healthy meals each day, playtime and early learning opportunities.
At the elementary school, physical teaching also resumed and the school continued its programme offering half-day sessions for local children 7.30 am to 12.30 pm and 1 pm to 5.45 pm with a range of academic studies including maths, Portuguese, history, geography and computing.



[12] Bolsa Familia Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) program and Auxílio Emergencia (emergency social transfers)
[13] Word Bank Brazil Overview Oct 2021
[14] Sr Theresa Shin, Brazil Girlstown, February 202

At the secondary school, despite the chaos within the country, it was business as usual for the girls who received live-in accommodation, medical support, 3 nutritious meals a day, a full timetable of academic subjects and a range of relevant technical skills including nursing, secretarial, dental hygiene, culinary arts and dressmaking. In Brasilia, the Sisters of Mary programme is recognised as a full technical school (similar to the programme in the Philippines) and seen as a model for other schools in the country.

The girls made friends at school, grew in confidence and ability during the year and enjoyed a variety of sports and hobbies including singing, dancing and reading. Due to lockdown restrictions no family visiting days were possible in 2021 but in their spare time the girls kept in regular touch with their families by phone and at the end of the year were able to go home for the Christmas holidays.

Ryana is aged. 12 and from Maranhão in North Eastern Brazil, she comes from a very poor, broken family She has two other siblings. Her parents separated when she was young and her father left. Ryana lives with her mother, who does whatever she can to earn a little money to feed her family including farm labouring or cleaning jobs.

Like so many children, Ryana, has missed nearly 2 years of education during the COVID-19 pandemic and her future looked bleak until she met the Sisters. Her new place at school gives her joy. For the first time she is optimistic for her future and has ambitions for a career as a doctor when she finishes school, able to support her mother, siblings and her community.

"I am so grateful to our friends who care for me in my new home. Thank you so much for giving me the hope to reach my dream and help my family."







EXAMS, GRADUATION AND EMPLOYMENT

The final year girls were able to take part in work experience during the year and in September enjoyed an internship helping at the Covid Vaccine campaign in the local community . Exams took place in the Autumn and in December, 81 final year girls graduated from school. 60% of these are already employed, many as nurses in hospitals and clinics. Many others are working and also studying for further education qualifications determined to become independent and able to help their families

With the relaxation of lockdown restrictions the Sisters were able to make more in person community visits in October 2021 and reach more girls in need. They met hundreds of young girls facing very troubling situations and desperate families in need of care. With the help of our supporters, they were able to offer school places to 183 new girls who joined us this January 2022, Ryana is one of these girls.

WVC FUNDING

In 2021, 4% of our overall grant funding was dedicated to the programmes in Brazil and of these distributions, 56% was spent on food and clothing. As with the other country programmes, food prices increased in 2021 and the sisters experienced challenges with sourcing certain items including vegetables. Our regular funding helped to support the Sisters in managing the food budget and ensuring the children received a plentiful diet of healthy and nutritious food. We were also pleased to support the sisters with the purchase of healthcare and hygiene items to support the girls, provide education supplies, help with utility bills and to fund new furniture items including the purchase of vital beds for the toddlers at the day care centre in São Paulo courtesy of our friends at the Tula Trust.

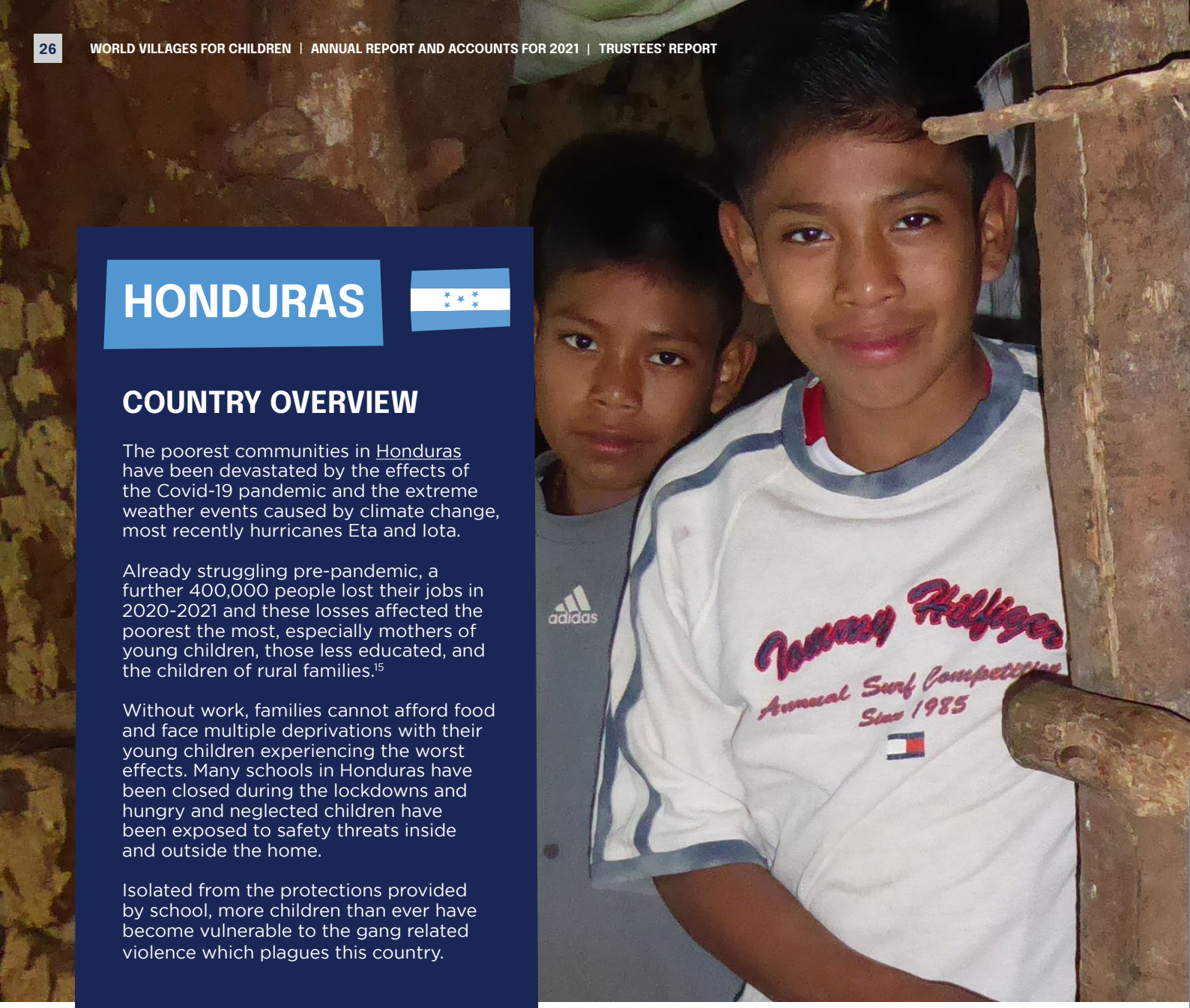


183 NEW GIRLS welcomed in January 2022

813 GIRLS in school in 2021

507 CHILDREN in elementary & day care places

81 GIRLS graduated in December, 60% already employed



HONDURAS

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

The poorest communities in Honduras have been devastated by the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and the extreme weather events caused by climate change, most recently hurricanes Eta and Iota.

Already struggling pre-pandemic, a further 400,000 people lost their jobs in 2020-2021 and these losses affected the poorest the most, especially mothers of young children, those less educated, and the children of rural families.[15]

Without work, families cannot afford food and face multiple deprivations with their young children experiencing the worst effects. Many schools in Honduras have been closed during the lockdowns and hungry and neglected children have been exposed to safety threats inside and outside the home.

Isolated from the protections provided by school, more children than ever have become vulnerable to the gang related violence which plagues this country.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

To address the unprecedented demand for education we support two secondary schools in Honduras and in 2021 numbers were increased for places at the Sisters of Mary school for girls in Tegucigalpa and school for boys in Amarateca with a total of 1,356 children in school. The children aged 11-17 received full time care, medical and dental support and three nutritious meals a day giving them a safe place to thrive and the best possible start in life.

Unlike most other schools in Honduras, all the Sisters of Mary schools remained open in 2021 although, as with the other SoM programmes, there were numerous operational challenges caused by the rising food prices.

The Sisters managed the budget by growing more of their own produce at the schools and, with the commitment of our generous donors, together we were able to maintain funding to support a plentiful and nutritious diet for all the children throughout the year and they continued to flourish.



[15] World Bank Honduras MPO 2022

Teaching mostly returned to face to face classes in 2021 and the children studied a full curriculum of academic subjects which are accredited and overseen by the Honduran Ministry of Education and include maths, Spanish, English, physics, chemistry and computing. The boys and girls continued to be ambitious and hardworking students and particularly loved science and maths.

They also studied technical and vocational subjects including sewing and tailoring, culinary arts, electronics, computing, business bookkeeping and administration, car mechanics and welding.

These subjects are relevant to local job vacancies and will help the children learn the skills they need to find work when they finish school.

Outside of class, the children kept fit. They loved their playtime and hobbies and were highly competitive at all games and sports including football, volleyball and handball.

They kept in touch with their families throughout the year and then were able to return home for the Christmas holidays in late December.





EXAMS, GRADUATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Thanks to the hard work of the teaching staff, exams again took place on time at both schools and in November 2021, 222 final year students graduated from school. This included 134 of our first graduates from the boys' school. Many children have already found jobs and the children are active in seeking employment although many need to wait until they are 18 before securing their desired roles. In the meantime, they work hard in a variety of occupations, pursue further studies and many have started their own small businesses.

The alumni association are helpful in connecting the children with job vacancies and Toyota was a big employer of the boys in 2021.



In October 2021, the Sisters were finally able to resume normal in person community outreach and visit the poorest communities in person.

They met thousands of children in need of their care. Thanks to our generous supporters we were able to offer places to 346 of these children who joined us on 4th January this year.

WVC FUNDING

In 2021 we contributed 10% of our grant funding to support the Honduran schools. Of this, 63% was spent on food and clothing for the children. We also purchased tools and equipment for the welding and mechanics workshops, provided learning supplies for the academic classes, paid for maintenance and plumbing repairs at both schools, the construction of a cold store, supplied medicines and medical/dental equipment for the schools and kitchen equipment.

Small Christmas, Easter and birthday gifts were also provided for the children.

1,356
CHILDREN
in school in 2021

346
NEW CHILDREN
welcomed in January 2022

134
GRADUATES
First ever from Amarateca Boystown



One of our newest students, Justa (in pink), meeting the Sisters for the first time.

TANZANIA

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

More than 27% of the Tanzanian population continue to live in poverty and over half of these in extreme poverty ie below $1.90 per day. They are deprived of the fundamentals for existence including regular nutrition, water for drinking and sanitation, adequate shelter and access to quality education. The Covid-19 pandemic has deeply impacted these people and many livelihoods have been badly affected, particularly the most impoverished who rely on the informal economy for work.

Children in rural areas, particularly girls, are the worst affected. They are vulnerable to abuse in the home, pregnancy and early marriage which robs them of their childhood and makes access to education difficult[16]. More than 120,000 girls drop out of school every year, 6,500 of them because they are pregnant or have young children.[17] In November, the Tanzanian government removed the legal barriers to education for these girls and more is being done to support them but in their community work the Sisters continue to witness terrible hardship amongst young girls in regions like Arusha, Dodoma and Singida and particularly girls within the Maasai communities.

The Sisters' school in Kisarawe, and the new training centre established in Kiluvya, are focused on these girls and giving them the tools they need for an independent, poverty free future.

With the support of our generous donors in 2021 we cared for 469 secondary age girls at the school in Kisarawe. They enjoyed full time care, access to medical and health support, three balanced meals a day and an academic and vocational education accredited by VETA (Vocational Education and Training Authority).

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

The girls studied English, Maths, Kiswahili, geography, biology, chemistry and physics and their vocational studies included dressmaking, contact centre skills, cookery, bread and pastry making and electrical/solar panel installation.

During the year, the girls flourished, studied hard, built their confidence and enjoyed everything school had to offer including all types of games, sports and hobbies.



[16] Child Marriage in Eastern and Southern Africa June 2022, UNICEF
[17] World Bank Country Overview Tanzania April 2022



They had a wonderful time celebrating their birthday in August.


Then in September the girls were thrilled to catch up with their families and enjoyed the visit of parents, brothers and sisters on visiting day.


Justa, now happy at school.

EXAMS, WELCOMING NEW CHILDREN AND NEW PROGRESS

The girls studied hard through the year and passed the year end exams which took place in November. 2022 will be a busy year for the senior students who will be the first to face their Ordinary level national exams. If they pass they will progress to advance level at school or if not they will graduate into work in early 2023. The Sisters spent much of 2021 establishing relationships with future employers for these girls ensuring jobs exist for those with good technical skills.

In July 2021, the Sisters were able to continue their outreach work throughout Tanzania. They met over 3,000 girls in need of a place at the school and were able to offer 160 girls a place at school. These girls joined us this January 2022 taking the total in school to 627.

In late 2021 the Tanzania programme achieved two milestones; the completion and inauguration of the third school building at the girls school in Kisarawe and the construction and completion of the new nursery and training centre in Kiluvya.The training programme offers lessons in tailoring, bread and pastry making and electrical and solar installation to 110 of Tanzania's most impoverished, out of school girls, teaching them skills which will help them find work or set up their own businesses. The nursery school cares for 90 toddlers aged 3-5 allowing their young mothers to work, giving them regular nutrition, opportunities for play and early learning. It is a lifeline for the women of this region.

WVC FUNDING

Our funding for the Tanzanian programmes in 2021 made up 1% of our total grants and was focused on the additional expenses of the new nursery and training centre. This included support for the construction of the training centre building, help with the cost of play and learning equipment for the nursery children and the provision of sewing machines for the ladies in the training centre.
We are most grateful to our supporters for giving specific gifts towards this project and for those who helped us via the Big Give appeal in 2021.





469 GIRLS in school in 2021

new SCHOOL BUILDING and new training & day care centre completed

200 WOMEN & TODDLERS receive learning & care



We couldn't do any of our vital poverty relief work without the support of our donors.

We continue to be blessed and delighted by the generosity of our individual donors, regular Guardian Angels, organisations and Trusts and Foundations who, through their commitment and interest during the year, have enabled us to continue our work. Only with their help are we able to maintain funding to the Sisters of Mary schools to continue the care of the poorest boys and girls and to help them onto an independent life out of poverty.

We thank them all for their donations and grants to us in 2021 including:

- C & K Sommer Trust
- Coles Medlock Foundation (for their support with our Big Give appeal for Tanzania)
- Daughters of the Heart of Mary
- David Fryer Charitable Trust
- Ecton Trust
- Forest Hill Charitable Trust
- Gordillo Coleridge Charitable Trust
- Hall Hunter Foundation
- Help the Poor Trust
- Marsh Charitable Trust
- Nora Smith Charitable Settlement
- Soloway Charitable Trust
- Souter Charitable Trust
- The Carmela & Ronnie Pignatelli Foundation
- The Cork of Ashbourne Trust
- The Haddad Foundation
- The Tula Trust (for the day care beds for our toddlers in Sao Paulo, Brazil)
- The Van Mesdag Fund
- UBS UK Donor Advised Foundation
- William Jerome Charitable Trust





www.worldvillages.org.uk/how-you-can-help/trusts

Our impact



This year, thanks to our supporters we have

WELCOMED A TOTAL OF 19,500

children who learnt the skills they needed to transform their lives

SUPPORTED THE SISTERS OF MARY TO HELP THE POOREST BOYS & GIRLS IN 6

countries worldwide

PROVIDED FUNDING TOWARDS

12 SECONDARY SCHOOLS
1 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
5 DAY-CARE CENTRES
3 MEDICAL CENTRES
1 TRAINING CENTRE

HELPED WITH FOOD FOR 58,500

meals a day so all the children at school could thrive

ENABLED 4,922

new boys and girls to have a new place at school

SUPPORTED 2,983

children to graduate from school into work or further education equipped and able to help their families and generations of their loved ones.

PROVIDED

EDUCATION EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS, MEDICINES, HEALTHCARE & HYGIENE SUPPLIES, CLOTHING & SHOES, UTILITIES, TOOLS, BUILDINGS, REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

to keep the children safe and help them grow and learn.

Our children



GRAZIELA
THE PHILIPPINES

The work of World Villages for Children ensures a brighter future for the most impoverished children. The chance to learn transforms lives and makes a lasting impact not just on the life of the individual child but on the generations of their families they are able to help out of poverty. We call this the multiplier effect and the stories of our children show the generational impact of our work.

Children like Graziela, are now safe in school in the care of the Sisters.

Graziela was just thirteen when she started working on the infamous 'Smokey Mountain', a toxic landfill site in the Philippines where thousands of desperately poor Filipinos struggle to earn money by picking through the rubbish to find items that they can sell.

As the second child of five siblings, the vulnerable young girl was prepared to do anything to help put food on the table but more often than not the food was rotten and the water contaminated. The family would sometimes go without food entirely.

Graziela's home-life was chaotic; her father was prone to drunken, violent outbursts and Graziela would try everything she could to protect her brothers and sisters during these times. One day in a rage her father stabbed her in the shoulder with a knife. Bleeding and in a great deal of pain, Graziela's mother could do nothing to help her daughter as there was no money to pay for hospital treatment.

Graziela slowly recovered and, though terrifying, this episode shaped Graziela and toughened her resolve to ensure the future protection of her mother and siblings.During their community work on Smokey Mountain in 2017, the Sisters of Mary met Graziela. They were concerned at her obvious poverty and neglect. They offered her a place at their school in Biga.

She says "my heart skipped a beat at the opportunity".

On entering the school Graziela was amazed, she says, "this was the first time I had seen a place with a wide area to play and clean air to breathe."

Over the last four years she has flourished at school. She has found the love and attention she needed and new friendships that have given her confidence and helped her to reach her potential. She has worked hard in class, challenged herself and has been rewarded by becoming an honour student.

"Being able to experience this has made a big impact on my life. I am not just focusing on myself but I want to help my family with the best of my might."

Graziela's dream is to be a doctor. "I want to pursue this dream because I believe that I will be able to restore the lives of many people, not only those who are suffering from diseases, but also people who are penniless and poverty-stricken."





YORDIN
HONDURAS

For Yordin, the place we were able to provide for him at school made a lifesaving difference. He comes from a family of seven children in Honduras. His parents work as farmers and Yordin was expected to help out on the farm instead of attending school.

He worked long hours and his family tried hard but the living was poor and they were often hungry.

Thanks to the kindness of our donors we have been able to offer Yordin a place at our school for boys in Amarateca and he is now safe in the care of the Sisters of Mary and receiving a full-time education.

He is thrilled to be able to study and for the first time he has hopes for a brighter future not just for himself but for all his family.

He says "my heart is so happy having a new opportunity to study, I imagine myself as a graduate with a profession helping my family, having my own company. Many thanks to all of you our dear donors for this opportunity, for your kind heart helping each poor child from my country."

With their chance in school these children grow from vulnerable youngsters into grounded, resilient and independent adults. They graduate from our schools with confidence, skills and the maturity to find stable work and develop lasting careers.

He says "Many thanks to all of you our dear donors for this opportunity, for your kind heart helping each poor child from my country."



Our graduates



Ross, running with the Desert Roses

ROSSYLE
THE PHILIPPINES

Demonstrating the transformative power of the Sistersof Mary education programmes, our graduates take the opportunity provided by our donors and use it to profoundly change the lives of their families and communities, lifting them out of poverty permanently.

Graduates like Rossyle (Ross) who is the middle child of five from a poor rural farming family in the Philippines, near Manila.

In 2002, Ross met the Sisters of Mary during their work in her community. They were moved by her difficulties and offered her a place at their Girlstown. She loved her time at the school. For the first time she was free from hunger and her worries at home and she excelled academically and vocationally. She believes that she learnt so many skills from the Sisters that helped prepare her for life beyond Girlstown.

She said of her time there that "from the time management, focus and the energy I learned there. I managed to apply it all in the outside world."

On graduating, Ross joined a dressmaking company in the Philippines for a couple of years before attending La Concordia College on a full scholarship and completing a Bachelor of Science and Commerce, graduating with honours.

After moving to Qatar to specialise in a career in logistics management she was able to support her family back home in the Philippines. She has put her youngest brother through college thanks to her education and the impact is still felt by their whole family today. She believes that "education is really the key to ending poverty and achieving sustainable, positive change in society."

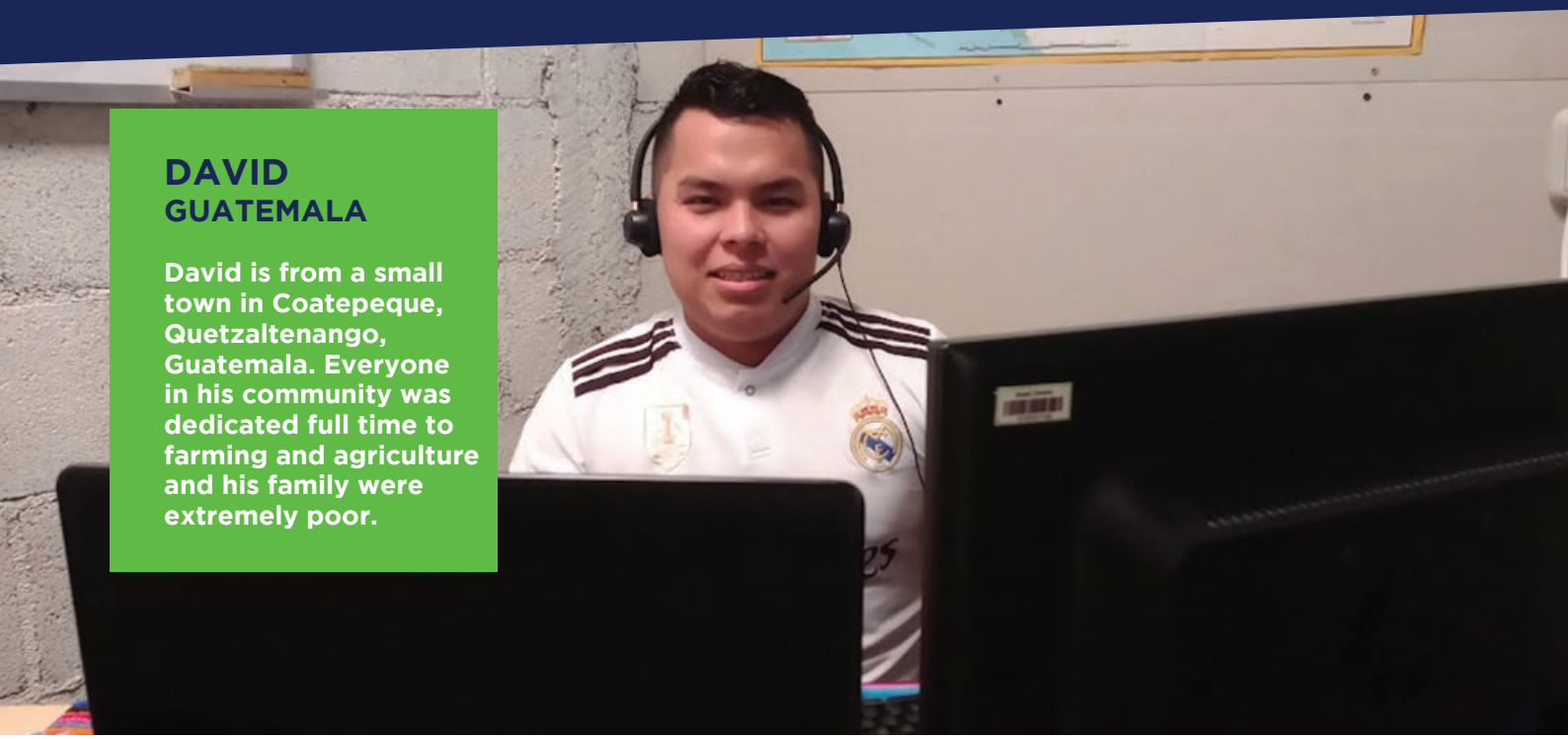
She gained great success with her career however she struggled with the monotony of life as an expat worker, so she took up running. Soon, Ross was entering races and starting to win ultra-marathons. She connected with three other expat women, two from the UK and one from Canada, who formed a group called the Desert Roses. The four women became the first female group to circumnavigate the 500km of Qatar. This coming October, Ross plans to run the virtual London Marathon in support of World Villages for Children, to raise awareness for our programmes around the world and the positive impact they have on the lives of impoverished children.

Knowing how much education has transformed her life and what it can bring to young girls, she is passionate about sharing her experience and encouragement for young women advising them to

"be brave, stand up, be seen and be heard"

and for the girls currently studying at the Sisters of Mary schools she says

"to my younger sisters in the Sisters of Mary Schools, study well because that is the only way that no one can take away from us and from my experience it became my passport to where I am now."



DAVID
GUATEMALA

David is from a small town in Coatepeque, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala. Everyone in his community was dedicated full time to farming and agriculture and his family were extremely poor.

With no education, his parents had no other options for work. David says access to school was difficult for him and his twin sister and "there were many days when I didn't go to class as I had to help my Dad, and instead I worked during the whole day."

"We also didn't have access to electricity, TV or even a radio. If I made it to school and there was an activity which required money, we would not participate as we did not have enough to pay and we felt very bad. When I met the Sisters of Mary (SoM) in 2007 it transformed my life."

The Sisters were moved by David's plight and with sufficient funding they were able to offer him a place at the Boys school in Guatemala. He joined them in late 2007. At the beginning it was a challenge for him because he was not used to being away from his family. However, he developed a passion for English and other languages and also joined the school Taekwondo team.

He grew up at school and learned a lot and suddenly he had hope for the future. He says "I wanted to continue studying, get a job and help my family to change their life as well. At SoM, I learned lots of values such as perseverance, punctuality, accountability, kindness and hard work, and these have helped me outstand everywhere I go, in college and at work as well."

"When I graduated, I found a job very quickly. That gave me the chance to also study for a college degree. As I worked I was able to pay rent, college and provide a certain percentage of my salary for my parents. After a few years, I graduated with a degree as CPA & CA in 2018. Now, I've been working for TELUS International as a Financial Analyst for the past 3 years and I'm in the process of becoming a SOX Internal Auditor in the same company.

So far I've provided support to my parents by helping them economically. They now have access to electricity as I help them pay the bill and they now own a refrigerator. We were able to build our house with bricks and a proper roof. I have also helped my siblings, especially my older brother who was able only to complete elementary school. I've also contributed directly to my community where my parents live, with cash donations. My family, together with my wife & two kids have access to a good life and better opportunities thanks to the SoM.

I want to continue supporting my parents and siblings as much as possible, continuing with my personal projects and helping the new children now at school with the Sisters in the Villa de los Niños. In ASEVIGUA -(the Sisters of Mary Alumni Association in Guatemala)- I have helped and done voluntary work since 2014, as treasurer, inspector, president and legal representative.

I owe my success to the Sisters of Mary, they are a great part of my life and I know that without them I wouldn't be where I am now and I wouldn't be able to help my family and get them out of poverty."



David, on the right, as a very young boy

Summary of future aims, objectives and activities



OUR PLANS FOR 2022 AND BEYOND

Our work underpins the mission of the Sisters of Mary schools to bring education to the poorest children and to rectify the inequalities they experience. In 2022 we will focus on the following:

INTERRUPTED EDUCATION

The interruption to education caused by the Covid-19 pandemic has been disastrous for the poorest children. For many, the impact will be lifelong, not just for them but for their families and communities. Children from the poorest regions had only a tenuous grip on education before the pandemic but with multiple lockdowns many have lost two years of schooling, two years of development opportunity but worse than this they have forgotten what they previously learnt. Without intervention, they will never catch up and girls have been most affected. Consequently, demand for places at the Sisters of Mary schools has never been higher.

In 2022 we will work to ensure that funding is available for the Sisters to meet this demand, and provide extra places at the schools for new children. We will also help with the additional learning needed by these new children to bring them to the national standards needed for success in 2022 and beyond.

INEQUALITIES

Impoverished children experience deep inequality in access to education and future productivity but out of school poor girls are at increased risks. They are exposed to abuse and the prospect of early marriage which puts an end to any possibility of education or a productive future.

The education programmes of the Sisters of Mary directly address this inequality of provision and are focused on a better outcome for all children, especially girls. In 2022 and beyond we will fund the new facilities and new educational programmes needed to equip the poorest children, for work and a poverty free life and it will be our priority to ensure adequate funding for the education of girls.

The newest such programme completed in January 2022 is the multi-purpose training and nursery in Kiluvya, Tanzania which begins 2022 oversubscribed by 50%. It addresses a desperate need in the region for vocational education of girls, particularly those who have dropped out of school, to help them into work, as well as childcare to allow them to go out to work. Planning is also ongoing to support the young uneducated boys in the region with a school in Dodoma and our funding will support the progress on these projects through 2022 - 2024.







SUSTAINABILITY

All the SoM schools remained open throughout the pandemic. However, in 2021 it was an operational challenge to maintain the services in the face of rising costs and supply issues. With the regular funding commitments of our generous donors we were able to provide continuous grants to the sisters to fund the everyday costs incurred in caring for the children and to invest in new equipment and processes to support sustainable practices at the schools like the new water well in Guatemala..

This will be a priority for our work in 2022. At every step we will continue to underpin the work of the Sisters; to provide the income needed for day to day child care and education, to provide new funding for new facilities for boys and girls in existing countries and help with new programmes in new countries to achieve our mission and end poverty through education.

OUR KEY OBJECTIVES TO DELIVER THIS STRATEGY ARE AS FOLLOWS

FUNDRAISING TO MAXIMISE OUR INCOME

In 2022 we will continue to diversify our funding model to maximise our resources. We will maintain our 2021 progress on trusts and foundations building new relationships with funding partners who might want to support our vital work and who share our values on the importance of education to the relief of poverty.

2022 will also see the development of our engagement with our more committed donors and the introduction of a giving circle focused on greater involvement with the Sisters of Mary programme delivery and the change we can create together for the children in our care.

Digital will form a significant part of our fundraising activity for 2022. The major upgrade of our website in 2021, the digital audit undertaken and the brand refresh will all support our fundraising objectives to improve income generated through the website, enhance user experience, inform and engage audiences in our work in 2022.

Our objectives for the year also focus on appeals for awareness raising and acquisition of new supporters via digital. The new family sponsorship programme to be launched in 2022 aims to help youngsters in each country through their school life, and will be delivered digitally. We hope it will reach a new audience that might want to learn more and support our vital work to help the poorest children grow up safe, healthy and productive.

GOVERNANCE

As in the last two years, good robust governance of the charity continues to be a priority into 2022. Our board has been enriched by the addition of new trustee, Jo Ogilvie, who specializes in digital and digital product delivery and who joins to help the charity with embracing new digital skills in fundraising and other areas of its work. In the coming year we will utilize the varied experiences of all our trustees in our strategic development, making use of their vast array of talents to guide us in our engagement with donors, help us innovate the way we work and to maintain good control and oversight in all areas of the charity's activities.

We will continue to reflect on our skills as a trustee group and recruit for further experience and expertise which we feel is missing and which will contribute to making us a dynamic force in driving the charity forward.

2022 will see the formalization of the new board advisory group initiated in 2021 chaired by our new Ambassador. His work is helping to promote our activities and aims and the new advisory group will include donors and alumni of the Sisters of Mary schools. The group will help us to reach new audiences and define and collect the data we need for impact measurement. It will further support us with strategy development and the beneficiary involvement will add great insight on how we grow the charity.



Sister Elena & Sister Gertrude of the Sisters of Mary and our trustees John and Clare, 2022, Outcomes Measurement workshop.

REVITALISED BRAND

In 2022 we will implement our new WVC brand and messaging. Over the last year we have undertaken a refresh of our identify and created a powerful and unifying brand which helps us inform, engage and fundraise. With input and feedback from UK staff and trustees, the Sisters of Mary, our alumni, the children in our care and our supporters, our new look better reflects the children we care for. It is forward looking and focused on their (and our) future and it demonstrates the joy experienced by all the children in our schools. They are at the heart of our activity and therefore our brand.

The updated logo and brand proposition also bring greater clarity on our work, our relationship with the Sisters of Mary and greater impact to our external communications.

It forms a key part of our objective to maximise income and will help build awareness, understanding of WVC and propensity to support us in the year ahead.

MEASURING OUR IMPACT

Our project to measure the impact of our work and the sustainable change we create is ongoing in 2022. The year will see further progress, stakeholder consultations and the first outcomes defined and measured for the Sisters programmes.

The measures will enable us to account for our social performance. They will help our funders and supporters to understand the value of their contribution to our global education and poverty relief work and help us generate further interest from new funders.

Financial Review for 2021



Financial information for the year 2021 is set out in the attached statement of financial activities. Total income for the year was £2,748,808.

2021 continued to be a challenging year for our fundraising due to the operational difficulties presented by the Covid -19 pandemic. Although lower than FY 2020 by 9%, 2021 income was ahead of our forecasts for the year and retained its efficiency generating £7.40 for every £1 invested.

29% of our annual income comes in via direct mail appeals and we are so grateful to every single donor who took the time to respond to our appeals in 2021. Our regular committed givers, the 'Guardian Angels' of our work continued to support us loyally in 2021, making up 37% of our income and we were especially touched to receive their unstinting support and interest during the year. Regular support is vital to the operation of the schools and managing the recurring cost of child care, like food, hygiene and medical supplies.

We are also grateful to our many supporters who helped optimise the tax benefits available to us by completing a gift aid form or notifying us of their eligibility in 2021.We recovered £351,818 in gift aid in 2021.

Progress on the trust and foundation income stream was consistent but still at a low level in 2021 and this remains a focus for 2022. We were however delighted during the year to make new partnerships and receive support and grants from new trusts and foundations, **www.worldvillages.org.uk/how-you-can-help/trusts/**

We were again touched to be supported by the Coles Medlock foundation as our match funder during the Big Give digital appeal through the year. In general our digital income continues to grow. It grew again in 2021 supported by new event fundraising and inclusion in digital only fundraising platforms like Global Giving. This fundraising remains a focus for 2022 and is a key part of our planning for the acquisition of new donors. This work can be progressed now that the brand refresh and new website are complete. The new brand and website have been well received by donors and our new presence positions us well for digital engagement with new audiences.

We continued to be touched by our inclusion in the final gifts of our donors and Gifts in Wills and in memory donations accounted for 19% of our funding in 2021. Any gift left to us in a will is well used by us in the care of the children and we are so grateful for each and every one. In 2021, we saw our highest ever number of legacy notifications but delays in administration throughout the year affected the distribution and the recognition of some legacy gifts and means that some of this income remained to be distributed at our year end.

Where possible we continue to focus our fundraising on unrestricted income so that it can be spent on the variety of needs of the children at the school particularly the day to day requirement for food, clothing, health and hygiene supplies. In 2021, we saw a very slight increase in restricted income to 2.6% of the whole however we continue to attract mostly unrestricted funds and we are so very grateful to our donors for giving us these unrestricted gifts so that the Sisters can apply the funding across the array of needs of the children in our care.

EXPENDITURE

Expenditure in 2021 was £2,734,592 against a 2020 total of £2,875,248, a 4.8% reduction. This lower expenditure reflects a small decrease in the grants sent to the Sisters which despite being ahead of our forecast for the year were £1,897,710 in 2021 v £2,070,024 in 2020.

It also reflects cost reductions and greater efficiencies in some operating expenses and functions. Specific cost of raising funds is increased slightly by 6.5% which reflects our investment in fundraising, oversight and management of the fundraising activity, recruitment of new donors and stewarding the generous gifts received. Note 3 to the accounts illustrates this.

We continue to keep close scrutiny on the costs and efficiency of our operating model to ensure we represent good value for our donors' investment and trust in us and ensure our funds are distributed quickly each month to the point of use for the children in our care.

During 2021 we maintained our reserves at 2020 levels in line with our perception of the pandemic operating risk to which the charity remained exposed for much of the year and challenges in fundraising. The reserves policy was last reviewed in March 2021 and, at six months expenses (not including grants to the Sisters of Mary) we consider it still represents a prudent approach to the level of risk perceived.



RISK MANAGEMENT

Proactive risk management contributes to our strategy development and allows us to anticipate and respond to challenges in our operating environment. Throughout 2022 we continue to scan and identify the risks facing the charity and develop strategies to manage and mitigate them.

The risks we identify are in the following categories:
Environment/External, Finance, Government & Management, Operational and Compliance.

RISK	RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY
OPERATIONAL RISK IT Security/ Cyber Security	**WVC manages donor data closely and monitors the IT Security and cyber risk involved in its processing and management systems but it remains a potential threat. This risk is managed as follows:** ■ IT Security and all technology systems are overseen by full time contract with ISO accredited support company. ■ MFA is in place for remote working and remote access to emails. ■ Cyber Essentials accreditation was renewed for WVC again this year. ■ Cyber Insurance covers key risks and potential losses and also provides guidance on best practice for IT processes and training. ■ Investment continues in business continuity planning for a number of contingencies. ■ Investment continues in IT security via training and software. ■ Investment continues in penetration testing for PCI compliance.
OPERATIONAL RISK Absence/ loss of key staff	**With a core team of 5 staff members any prolonged absence is immediately operationally significant. WVC minimises the impact of this on its activities by:** ■ Documenting processes and guidelines for essential activities. (particularly those relating to stewardship and income generation). ■ Staff are cross trained to supplement and cover key skills. ■ Succession planning is ongoing for the senior management role.
OPERATIONAL RISK Supplier dependence	**WVC outsources some of its key services to a small number of dedicated suppliers. As in 2020 the economic environment remains difficult and risk of supplier failure and service level disruption is increased, particularly around areas like response handling. We manage this risk by:** ■ Making new relationships for certain services ■ Regularly testing with new suppliers. ■ Exploring and testing in house provision of some of the services
FINANCIAL RISK Fundraising - lack of diversity in funding, or decline in income	**WVC is moving from a limited range of income sources to a more diverse portfolio of income and so our ongoing fundraising strategy for addressing this risk continues as follows:** ■ Investment in new fundraising methods, skills and capabilities to build a range of funding sources. ■ New techniques to deliver our fundraising - building the resilience of our funding model. ■ More proactive stewardship of legacy gifts to smooth out potential delays in administration which can impact on cash flow. ■ Acquisition activity to engage new audiences to support long term income growth.
FINANCIAL RISK Fraud	**Stewardship and processing of income is a big part of the work of WVC and the charity is constantly alert to the risk of Fraud. We put in place robust control and oversight processes and manage the risk as follows:** ■ Separate responsibilities and dual oversight for post opening and income and banking procedures. ■ Controls on signing levels and account access with auditable trail of user activity. ■ Comprehensive record of income and expenditure. ■ Reconciliation and testing on processing and accounting for these items. ■ Documented processes on income processing (particularly for cash) which are regularly reviewed, signposted for staff and where training is regularly provided. ■ Staff internal policies and best practice guidance on whistleblowing, understanding how to recognise and prevent fraud, money laundering and gift acceptance.
GOVERNMENT & MANAGEMENT Lack of Board Diversity and skill mix.	**A diverse board with a mix of skill sets is essential for governance. WVC has been growing its governance function but acknowledges a risk around lack of diversity, skill set mix and beneficiary representation. The risk is managed as follows:** ■ Skills audit to identify essential but missing skills and experience ■ Recruitment activities to fill the gaps ■ Recruiting additional experience and representation and involving in governance, not necessarily at board level

GOING CONCERN

In order to make the going concern assessment the Trustees have scrutinised the income and expenditure figures for 2022 and the cash flow projections into 2023 – one year from the date of signing of these accounts and conclude there are no material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that would cast doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees are of the opinion that the Charity will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

In making this assessment the trustees considered a number of factors including the level of unrestricted reserves and the risks facing the charity contained within the risk register, particularly the risks relating to fundraising income in an uncertain economic environment. Our fundraising planning specifically addresses this risk.

Our Finance and Operations sub-committee meets fortnightly to scrutinise performance of fundraising, evaluate efficiency of certain income activities, review operations and monitor overall liquidity. These meetings are in addition to the quarterly full board scrutiny of forecasts and liquidity assessments.

The charity's monthly financial statements, fortnightly cash flow forecasts and planning show sufficient unrestricted funds and liquidity and that it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of accounting preparing these financial statements.



FUNDING SOURCES & FUNDRAISING PRACTICE

FUNDING SOURCES

In 2021 we continued the process of diversifying our fundraising income and engaging with new audiences including Trusts and Foundations and new digital donors whilst maintaining income raising through direct mail appeals, regular committed giving from our Guardian Angel donors and gifts in wills.

We were really touched to see our direct mail donors continue to respond to our appeals and specifically were pleased with the response to the emergency appeal for the new Well at the Girls school in Guatemala and again at the end of the year in response to our Typhoon Rai (Odette) appeal for the two schools in Cebu, the Philippines.

Digital fundraising grew in momentum in 2021 and we were delighted to exceed our target for the Big Give appeal for our Tanzanian Training Centre and Nursery at the end of the year. These appeals grow in ambition and achievement year on year, they appeal to existing and new donors and help us with our understanding of digital engagement. Overall, we are optimistic for this income stream once the new brand and website are established in 2022.

We have been blessed with the support received from new Trusts and Foundations in 2021 and continue to invest in this type of funding, building long term, transparent partnerships with these new supporters and inspiring others to contribute to our cause.

Gifts in wills remained a significant source of funding for WVC in 2021 and we are so touched to be remembered by these donors. Their generosity lives on in the lives of the children who have a brighter future because of their support. Notifications of gifts in wills, both residuary and pecuniary, were again the highest we had ever seen but receipt of income was still unreliable because of probate delays although this improved at the end of the year.

FUNDRAISING PRACTICE

The relationships we form with our supporters and their generous donations are essential to our work. Many of our supporters sacrifice to maintain their support for our work and we are blessed by this and driven to ensure we achieve the highest standards in all our fundraising and communications.

We aim to inspire people to support us and be transparent with how we have used their funds. We ensure that our fundraising operations are modest and efficient, that fundraising costs are minimised and return on investment maximised. That our work is clear for our supporters so they can see we use the majority of our funds for our charitable endeavours and represent excellent value for our supporters' funds. Our fundraising is guided by the following specific principles

- We steward our supporters' gifts carefully and thank quickly and appropriately, demonstrating the difference their donations make.
- We keep supporters' data secure, do not sell or share it for marketing purposes and protection of our supporters' data is integral to all our fundraising planning. Our cyber essentials accreditation reinforces our dedication to privacy. Our published privacy policy covers how we use our donor data and provides opportunities for all donors to opt out of contact or make a complaint.

  www.worldvillages.org.uk/privacy-policy/
- We maintain membership of the NCVO, the DMA and the CIoF to stay current with accreditation and training on the best practice standards required for fundraising and marketing.
- We are proudly registered with the Fundraising Regulator and the Code of Fundraising Practice underpins all our fundraising activities. The board of trustees monitor the activity closely to ensure compliance with the code and with CC20.
- Our fundraising is designed in house with content received directly from the Sisters of Mary programmes. External agencies produce our direct mail appeals, collect and bank responses. We manage these relationships closely and demand high standards of them to ensure accuracy and quality of fundraising output and efficiency of processing through banking, thanking and reconciliation. We continue to make regular visits and mystery shop these suppliers to ensure this standard is maintained.
- We take great care to protect the interests of our more vulnerable donors. We follow the guidance issued by CIoF. Our vulnerable donors' policy which is part of our overall privacy policy, ensures that any donor notified to us as vulnerable, or who we believe may lack capacity, is not contacted for fundraising purposes.
- The charity has a complaints policy which is available within the privacy policy on our website. Hard copy is available if required. We were pleased to note there were no complaints received in 2021 (2020 none). Enquiries to the charity are actioned within 48 hours and all feedback good or bad is appreciated to help us progress and improve.



RESERVES

The charity's reserve policy forms an essential part of our risk management approach. When planning our fundraising activity and grant giving we consider the level of reserves held so we can strike a balance between utilising our funds promptly in support for the Sisters of Mary programmes and nearly 20,000 children in our care each year and the need for prudent management of our commitments, as well as providing for contingencies.

The reserves policy agreed annually by the trustees is based on level of core costs, specific risk around each element of income and the quality of income for its contribution to surplus.

In 2021 the majority of our income (97.4%) remained unrestricted and risk profile to this income remained largely the same as for 2020 and so a level of reserves which is determined as six months' expenditure, excluding the grants to the Sisters of Mary. This total is £305,525.

The reserves continued to be retained as follows: minimum of £225,000 held in liquid assets which can be accessed within 95 days and the remainder held on the balance sheet as a legacy debtor.

At 31 December 2021, the total reserves figure was £711,822 of which £704,927 is represented by unrestricted reserves and £6,895 is represented by restricted reserves. Free reserves at year end, taking into account assets that are not readily available, were £244,241 – for the purposes of this calculation both fixed assets and accrued legacy income are not deemed readily available.

The board note that the free reserve total at 31 December 2021 is slightly below the level stated by the policy, however post year end several significant amounts within the accrued legacies have now been realised, increasing the free reserves.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

World Villages for Children was incorporated on 23rd October 1996. Our Governing document is the Memorandum and Articles of Association which was revised in September 2017.

World Villages for Children is governed by our Board of Trustees. The Board meets regularly and is responsible for setting our strategic direction, as well as for our overall governance, including signing the Trustees' Annual Report. The Board oversees WVC's management, with day-to-day responsibility delegated to Nicola Lawson as UK Manager who, with the authority of the Charity Commission, also serves as a trustee on the board.

The trustees commit to maintaining a high standard of corporate governance and scrutiny. They define overarching objectives for mission delivery, manage risk, oversee performance to objectives and manage grant making and compliance with the regulatory standards and requirements.

Potential conflicts relating to the board activities or in regard to the appointment of the UK Manager as a trustee are managed in accordance with the conflicts of interest policy. Declarations of interest, related party transactions and conflicts register are updated annually and reviewed regularly.

GRANT MAKING

WVC funds are granted to the Sisters of Mary programmes and grants are made monthly based on WVC agreed budgets and the need of the children in our care. Grant expenditure and the grant making process are governed by an overarching grant making policy. Expenditure and performance at the SoM programmes is monitored closely by the UK Manager and board to ensure grants are spent appropriately, in line with our charitable objectives.

CHARITY GOVERNANCE CODE

WVC is well placed to fulfil its vision with the engagement and presence of a dedicated and effective board. We have adopted the Charity Code of Governance and together with our governance review of 2016, continue to assess ourselves against these benchmarks to build a solid foundation in governance which effectively oversees and serves the charity in the delivery of its mission.

We have one sub-committee of the board which monitors Finance and Operations. Set up in 2020 to manage risk during the pandemic, the committee will be formally constituted in 2022 and it closely monitors the financial performance of our charity, potential risk items to operations and cash flow position. It reports directly to the board.

The WVC board provide good collective leadership of our charity, clear direction on strategy and give generously of their time to ensure sufficient oversight and attention to this responsibility. They act with integrity, with the special interests of the charity and our beneficiaries at the heart of everything they do for WVC.

As a governing group, we continue to strive for greater diversity of skill and experience. Recent recruitment brings the board to 7 members with a mixture of expertise, age, race, gender and experience. In 2022, the introduction of a new advisory group will provide even more diversity and variation in our governance skill set. The inclusion of graduates from the schools within this group gives them a clearer voice in our work and brings the board real insight and growth in knowledge.

TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT, INDUCTION AND TRAINING

Trustees are recruited based on consideration of their skills, experience and knowledge as well as their interest and understanding of the work and values of the charity and our obligations towards good governance in achieving our aims.

New Trustees have an induction to familiarise themselves with their statutory responsibilities, their role within the board, the governance framework, our charity objects and work and the detailed work of the Sisters of Mary. It is mandatory for all trustees, regardless of role, to be DBS screened and to be fully compliant with our safeguarding policy.

www.worldvillages.org.uk/what-we-do/safeguarding/

New trustees have the opportunity to travel to view the implementation of the programmes and to meet with the children and alumni of the programmes.
Those not wishing to travel maintain close contact with the SoM programmes and the destination of our funding through zoom meetings and physical meetings with alumni based in the UK or the Sisters when they visit the UK.

SAFEGUARDING

WVC does not tolerate abuse, maltreatment or neglect of any kind. The charity and its trustees are committed to safeguarding, protecting and fulfilling our duty of care to those we work with in the UK and the children in our care overseas.

In line with best practice, our WVC safeguarding policy is designed to keep safe all our staff, volunteers and all those immediately involved in our charity work in the UK. Our Safeguarding Officer maintains conduct guides and reporting procedures which cover staff and volunteers in the UK and where they work directly with the children overseas.

We train and update to support awareness and capacity in safeguarding. We also monitor the Sisters' safeguarding practices and procedures at the schools as part of our governance duties and safeguarding responsibilities. Together these safeguarding practices ensure a safe environment for our staff, volunteers, stakeholders and all our vulnerable beneficiaries at home and overseas at all times.

Throughout 2021, we continued to sharpen our focus on best practices in safeguarding within our UK operation and within the Sisters of Mary programmes worldwide, holding reviews with the Sisters on their detailed processes, procedures and training for all schools worldwide. There are no incidents to report.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH RELATED (CONNECTED) PARTIES

Throughout 2021 WVC continued to work closely with the family of independent affiliated charities based in the EU and US. Income from these charities together sustains the Sisters of Mary programmes and the 19,500 children in school and day care places with them in 2021.

These include Wereld Doorpen voor Kinderen in Belgium and the Netherlands, Villages du Monde pour Enfants in France, Asian Relief (trading as World Villages for Children) in the US and Die Schwestern Maria in Germany. These charities all share similar aims as World Villages for Children for the relief of poverty through education but they are separate, independent legal entities and there is no one controlling party.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR SETTING PAY AND REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

Our aim is to reward employees fairly and enable WVC to recruit and retain staff in order to achieve our objectives, in keeping with our status as a charity.

Pay rates are aligned to the median market rate for the role using benchmarking data and taking into account factors such as job role, responsibility and experience.

As with all staff remuneration, WVC reviews and benchmarks management remuneration levels with sector standards. Trustees are not remunerated with the exception of the UK Manager, who with the authority of the Charity Commission, became a trustee in 2016 and continues to receive a salary for her day to day management role.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

In setting the objectives for the charity and planning its activities, the Board has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on the public benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011.

The humanitarian poverty relief programmes that we fund support those children in greatest need and no charges are made for any care provided, therefore the board considers that the charity meets the following four important principles of the Public Benefit requirements in its work:

- Relief of poverty through the funding of free education for children which enables them to access a vocation and to acquire employment – to break free from the cycle of poverty and assist their family
- Advancement of education, by ensuring all the children attend one of our schools or day-care facilities
- Advancing health and welfare – ensuring all the children at the schools receive medical support, proactive health care, regular food and nutrition and extra supplements where needed.
- Enabling children in the countries where we operate to access a better, poverty free future.



We can't achieve our vision without you, and there are many ways you can help us make a real difference, such as supporting our campaigns or appeals, becoming a regular Guardian Angel, giving a grant or leaving a gift in your will. Find out more about our work and how you can help at worldvillages.org.uk

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities'

The Trustees (who are also directors of World Villages for Children for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions, disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and the provisions of the charity's constitution.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

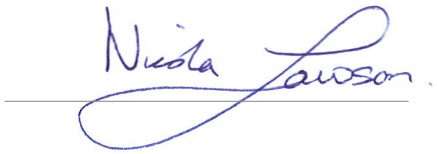
In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

AUDITORS

Crowe UK LLP have indicated their willingness to continue in office and are deemed to be reappointed in accordance with section 487 (2) of the Companies Act 2006.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees 16th August 2022.



N Lawson
Trustee

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of World Villages for Children



OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of World Villages for Children ('the charitable company') for the year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise Statement of Financial Activities, Balance sheet, Cashflow statement and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2021 and of its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

OTHER INFORMATION

The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

OPINIONS ON OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

In our opinion based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 50, the trustees, (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law), are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Details of the extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations are set out below.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

EXTENT TO WHICH THE AUDIT WAS CONSIDERED CAPABLE OF DETECTING IRREGULARITIES, INCLUDING FRAUD

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We identified and assessed the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements from irregularities, whether due to fraud or error, and discussed these between our audit team members. We then designed and performed audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charitable company operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Companies Act 2006 together with the Charities SORP (FRS 102). We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the charitable company's] ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charitable company for fraud. The laws and regulations we considered in this context for the UK operations were General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), Anti-fraud, bribery and corruption legislation, Taxation legislation and Employment legislation.

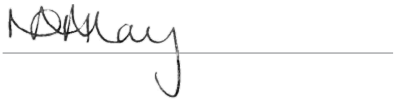
Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be within the timing of recognition of income and the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management, and the Board of Trustees about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, reviewing regulatory correspondence with the Charity Commission, and reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it. In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

USE OF OUR REPORT

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Nicola May
Senior Statutory Auditor

For and on behalf of Crowe U.K. LLP
Statutory Auditor
London

Date 22 August 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted 2021 £	Restricted 2021 £	**Total Funds 2021 £**	Total Funds 2020 £
INCOME FROM					
Donations and legacies					
Donations and grants	**2**	2,141,333	72,707	**2,214,040**	2,397,175
Legacies	**2**	534,648	-	**534,648**	621,382
Interest income		120	-	**120**	627
Total		**2,676,101**	**72,707**	**2,748,808**	**3,019,184**
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising Funds		373,022	-	**373,022**	350,015
Charitable Activities		2,275,860	85,710	**2,361,570**	2,525,233
Total	**3**	**2,648,882**	**85,710**	**2,734,592**	**2,875,248**
Net (Expenditure)/ Income		27,219	(13,003)	**14,216**	143,936
Net movement in funds		27,219	(13,003)	**14,216**	**143,936**
Total Funds Brought Forward		677,708	19,898	**697,606**	553,670
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	**16,17**	**704,927**	**6,895**	**711,822**	697,606

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing operations.

The notes on the accompanying pages form a part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	£	2021 £	£	2020 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Intangible fixed assets	**9**		15,308		6,546
Tangible fixed assets	**8**		59,298		68,087
			74,606		**74,633**
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock		10,353		15,458	
Debtors	**10**	448,187		458,975	
Cash at bank and in hand		404,043		239,843	
		862,583		**714,276**	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	**11**	(218,648)		(75,968)	
Net Current Assets			643,935		638,308
Creditors: Amounts falling due in more than one year	**12**	(6,719)		(15,335)	
Total Net Assets			**711,822**		**697,606**
The funds of the charity					
Restricted funds			6,895		19,898
Unrestricted funds			704,927		677,708
Total Funds			**711,822**		**697,606**

Approved by and authorised for distribution, the Board of Trustees on 16th August 2022 **and signed on their behalf by:**

Nicola Lawson

Nicola Lawson
Trustee
Company Registration No. 3267479

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net (Expenditure)/ income for the year	14,216	143,936
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	15,347	16,798
Interest received	(120)	(627)
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	10,788	135,407
(Decrease) / increase in creditors	142,680	(361,368)
(Decrease) / increase in creditors	(8,616)	(17,903)
Decrease / (increase) in Stock	5,105	6,309
Net cash generated by operating activities	**179,400**	**(77,448)**
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Interest received	120	627
Purchase of fixed assets	(15,320)	(783)
Net cash from investing activities	**(15,200)**	**(156)**
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**164,200**	**(77,604)**
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	239,843	317,447
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	**404,043**	**239,843**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

World Villages for Children

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Status of the charity

World Villages for Children is registered as a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales (company number 03267479) and its registered office is Kings Building, 16 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HQ. World Villages for Children is a Public Benefit Entity registered with the Charity Commission (Charity number 1058973).

Basis of Preparation of the Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Report Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) second edition - effective 1 January 2019.

The functional currency of the charity is Pound Sterling. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Going Concern

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these accounts. The Trustees have made this assessment in respect to a period of one year from the date of approval of these accounts. The Trustees of the Charity have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees are of the opinion that the Charity will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

The Trustees have considered a number of factors when forming their conclusion as to whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate. They take into account the budget forecast for up to December 2023, cash flow forecast to December 2023 and the review of risks facing the charity, particularly the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic for the period to the end of 2023 and beyond, as well as the ongoing cost of living crisis. Key current risk is the decline in income due to economic slowdown resulting from the pandemic and the ongoing conflict in the Ukraine.

Our fundraising planning addresses this risk and since year end fundraising has continued consistently, overseen fortnightly by the board sub-committee to monitor performance and liquidity. Expenditures and operating efficiency continue to be closely scrutinised by management and the whole board quarterly with forecasts adjusted for different outcomes to assess liquidity and going concern status.

Our forward planning beyond 2023 takes into consideration the changing fundraising context and the economic climate and its potential impact on the various sources of income and planned expenditure.

The Charity's monthly financial statements, along with a cash flow forecast and scenario planning, show that the Charity has sufficient funds and liquidity and having regard to all of the above it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Legacies

Legacies are recognised in the statement of financial activities when there is entitlement, adequate probability and reliability of receipt and their value can be accurately measured. For both pecuniary and residuary legacies this is when probate has been granted and a reasonable estimate calculated for this income.

Donations

Donations are accounted for when conditions for their receipt are met, it is probable that the amounts will be received and the amount receivable can be reliably estimated.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The key sources of uncertainty in our estimations that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are described in the accounting policies and are summarised below:

- *Residuary legacies*
  The charity recognises residuary legacies once probate has been granted, which therefore requires an estimation of the amount receivable.

Pensions

Pension contributions are made for all employees and recorded as they fall due. These are defined contributions paid to approved private pension schemes for each employee.

Taxation

World Villages for Children is a registered charity and all of its income falls within the exemptions under part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.

Gift Aid Repayments

Income from gift aid repayment claims is only included for claims which have been submitted for tax periods ending on or before the year end and when the receipt of this income is certain.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred. Grant payments are recognised when a constructive obligation arises that results in the payment being required.

Raising funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income.

The costs of appeals are matched where possible with the income generated. The accounting effect of this policy means that, at the balance sheet date, a proportion of the cost of the December mailing is carried forward as a prepayment as part of the response anticipated in January.

Support costs including central functions and costs primarily associated with constitution and statutory requirements have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating staff cost by work done, office costs by floor area, return mail processing and finance costs by work done. The staff costs which relate specifically to fundraising for the charity have been apportioned within support costs on the basis of time calculated as spent on this activity.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Leasehold improvements	over the term of the lease
Plant and equipment	20% on cost

All assets are capitalised at a cost.

Intangible Fixed Assets

Amortisation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Website development and software	20% on cost

All assets are capitalised at cost

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds comprise monies raised for, or their use restricted to, a specific purpose, or donations subject to conditions imposed by donors.

Designated funds comprise funds set aside out of unrestricted funds for a specific purpose**.**

Leasing Commitments

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Foreign currency transactions

Transactions denominated in a foreign currency are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction or at an average rate for the relevant month where that provides a close approximation.

Stock

The stock held is used for the direct marketing appeals, all the stock is held at the printers and valued at cost price.

Other Financial Instruments

i. **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at banks and in hand and short-term deposits with a maturity date of three months or less. As at 31st December 2021, total cash held was £404,042 (2020: £239,843).

ii. **Debtors and Creditors**

Debtors and creditors receivable or payable within one year of the reporting date are carried at their transaction price. Debtors and creditors that are receivable or payable in more than one year and not subject to a market rate of interest, are measured at the present value of the expected future receipts or payment discounted at a market rate of interest. Balances for 2019 and 2020 are set out in notes 10 to 12.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

World Villages for Children

2. VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted 2021 £	Restricted 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Donations received (including recoverable gift aid)	2,141,333	72,707	**2,214,040**	2,397,175
Legacies and bequests	534,648	-	**534,648**	621,382
Total	**2,675,981**	**72,707**	**2,748,688**	**3,018,557**

3. ANALYSIS OF TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Direct Costs £	Support Costs £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
COST OF GENERATING FUNDS:				
Fund raising and publicity	245,020	128,002	**373,022**	350,015
CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE:				
Grant to the Sisters of Mary	1,897,710	-	**1,897,710**	2,070,024
Other Charitable Expenditure	261,483	202,377	**463,860**	455,209
TOTAL CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE	2,159,193	202,377	**2,361,570**	2,525,233
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	**2,404,213**	**330,379**	**2,734,592**	
31 December 2020	**2,533,653**	**341,595**		**2,875,248**

FUNDRAISING AND PUBLICITY EXPENSES HAVE BEEN INCURRED ON THE FOLLOWING:	2021	2020
Direct Mail	245,020	229,743
Support Costs	128,002	120,272
	373,022	**350,015**

Support Costs consist of two main elements: management and staff costs and office costs. These costs have been apportioned across the work of the charity on the basis in Note 1 and allocated to each of the charity's activity as set out in the table below.

	Management & Staff (Staff) (Note 4) £	Office Costs (Area) £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
BASIS OF APPORTIONMENT				
Fund raising and Publicity	91,916	36,086	128,002	120,272
Charitable Activities	150,766	51,611	202,377	220,029
Total costs allocated	**242,682**	**87,697**	**330,379**	
31 December 2020	253,899	86,402		340,301

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

4. NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	2021 £	2020 £
NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS		
Net movement in funds is stated after charging:		
OPERATING LEASE PAYMENTS	48,840	48,840
AUDITORS REMUNERATION:		
- Audit services	18,000	18,000
- Accountancy and other professional services	34,221	4,959

5. LEGACY INCOME

World Villages for Children is aware of legacies of which the charity's share is estimated at £nil (2020: £62,000). This has not been included in these financial statements as it does not reach the necessary recognition criteria as laid out by the charity's accounting policy.

6. STAFF COSTS

	2021 £	2020 £
STAFF COSTS COMPRISE:		
Wages and salaries	220,823	224,555
Social security costs	19,774	20,146
Pension costs	4,627	4,472
Total salary costs	**245,224**	**249,173**
Holiday accrual	(3,459)	3,459
Employee Seminars & Training	185	299
Employee Travel	152	388
Recruitment	580	580
Total management & staff cost	**242,682**	**253,899**
Average number of full time equivalent employees	**6**	**6**

Key management personnel includes the Trustees.
Total remuneration paid to such personnel amounted to £55,243 (2020: £56,713).
There are no higher paid employees earning £60,000 per annum or more (2020: none).

7. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION

A total of £257 (2020: £1,293) expenses were paid by the charity in the year. This was for one of the trustees and covered the cost of accommodation and travel required to fulfil their duties. Nicola Lawson, who became a trustee in July 2016, received remuneration of £48,500 (2020: £49,750) and pension of £1,268 (2020: £1,306) during the year, in her capacity as an employee of the charity. This has been discussed and agreed with the Charity Commission. No other trustee receives remuneration (2020: £nil).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

World Villages for Children

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Improvements £	Equipment £	Total £
COST			
At 1st January 2021	**75,556**	**19,730**	**95,286**
Additions	0	0	0
Disposals	0	0	0
At 31 December 2021	**75,556**	**19,730**	**95,286**
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st January 2021	11,953	15,246	27,199
Charge for the year	7,493	1,296	8,789
Accum Depreciation on Disposals	0	0	0
At 31st December 2021	**19,446**	**16,542**	**35,988**
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st December 2021	**56,110**	**3,188**	**59,298**
At 31st December 2020	63,603	4,484	68,087

The fixed assets are used wholly for the activities of the charitable company.

9. INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Website development & software costs	Total £
COST		
At 1st January 2021	33,311	**33,311**
Additions	15,320	15,320
At 31 December 2021	**48,631**	**48,631**
AMORTISATION		
At 1st January 2021	26,765	26,765
Charge for the year	6,558	6,558
Disposal	-	-
At 31st December 2021	**33,323**	**33,323**
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31st December 2021	**15,308**	**15,308**
At 31st December 2020	6,546	**6,546**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

10. DEBTORS

	2021 £	2020 £
Legacies receivable	386,080	370,699
Gift aid receivable	29,019	27,304
Prepayments	26,138	41,553
Other debtors	6,950	19,419
	448,187	**458,975**

11. CREDITORS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	59,528	68,983
HMRC payable	4,120	6,985
Grants due to the Sisters of Mary	155,000	-
	218,648	**75,968**

12. CREDITORS DUE IN MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2021 £	2020 £
OTHER CREDITORS	6,719	15,335

13. LEASE COMMITMENTS

	LAND AND BUILDINGS	
	2021 £	2020 £
At 31st December, the charity has total future minimum commitments under operating leases as follows:		
Within one year	48,838	48,838
Between one and five years	64,225	113,062
	113,063	**161,900**

14. CONNECTED PARTIES

World Villages for Children based in the United Kingdom pays on behalf of, and has had paid on its behalf, various expenses related to the charity as a whole by other affiliates based overseas.

The charity made grants totalling £1,897,710 to The Sisters of Mary in the year (2020: £2,070,024), which while not a strict affiliate is closely aligned to the ideals of the charity.

Balances between other affiliates have been settled before the balance sheet date except for those balances due to, and from, such affiliates as disclosed in Notes 10 and 11 of the financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

14. CONNECTED PARTIES (CONTINUED)

Two trustees of the charity, Sister D.L Cho and Sister Elena Grengia Belarmino also sit on the boards of four other humanitarian entities that all share similar visions and purposes as World Villages for Children; these entities are in France, Netherlands, Belgium and the U.S.A. In addition, one former trustee, Sister Y Cheong, also sits on the board of the U.S entity. However, World Villages for Children does not consolidate these foreign entities in its financial statements, as they are separate legal entities with no one controlling party. They were no other financial dealings with these entities during the year, apart from those transactions, and year end balances already disclosed below (and as shown within Notes 8 and 9 of the financial statements).

Of the foreign entities mentioned above, the following transactions occurred:

	Country	2021 Balance	2020 Payments (to)/from	2020 Balance
DEBTORS / (CREDITORS)				
Asian Relief, Inc.	USA		(151,636)	

15. MEMBERS' LIMITED LIABILITY

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of the same being wound up while they are a member. This contribution, not exceeding £10, covers the payment of debts and liabilities of the company contracted before each individual ceased to be a member and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves.

16. ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS

	Balance @ 01.01.2021 £	**Income** £	**Expenditure** £	**Transfers** £	**Balance @ 31.12.2021** £
Unrestricted	677,708	2,676,101	(2,648,882)	0	**704,927**
Restricted	19,898	72,707	(85,710)	0	**6,895**
Total	**697,606**	**2,748,808**	**(2,734,592)**	**0**	**711,822**

	Balance @ 01.01.2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance @ 31.12.2020 £
Unrestricted	536,943	2,951,389	(2,810,624)	0	677,708
Restricted	16,727	67,795	(64,624)	0	19,898
Total	**553,670**	**3,019,184**	**(2,875,248)**	**0**	**697,606**

The restricted funds relate to a number of smaller amounts for programmes in Guatemala, Tanzania, Philippines and Honduras.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

17. ANALYSIS OF GROUP NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Intangible fixed assets	15,308	-	**15,308**
Tangible fixed assets	59,298	-	**59,298**
Cash at bank and in hand	397,148	6,895	**404,043**
Other net current assets	239,892	-	**239,892**
Creditors falling due in more than one year	(6,719)	-	**(6,719)**
	704,927	**6,895**	**711,822**

	Unrestricted Funds 2020	Restricted Funds 2020	Total 2020
Intangible fixed assets	6,546	-	6,546
Tangible fixed assets	68,087	-	68,087
Cash at bank and in hand	219,945	19,898	239,843
Other net current assets	398,465	-	398,465
Creditors falling due in more than one year	(15,335)	-	(15,335)
	677,708	**19,898**	**697,606**

18. PRIOR YEAR STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Notes	Unrestricted 2020 £	Restricted 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £
INCOME FROM				
Donations and legacies				
Donations and grants	**2**	2,329,380	67,795	2,397,175
Legacies	**2**	621,382	0	**621,382**
Interest income		627	0	627
Total		**2,951,389**	**67,795**	**3,019,184**
EXPENDITURE ON:				
Raising Funds		350,015	0	350,015
Charitable Activities		2,460,609	64,624	2,525,233
Total	**3**	**2,810,624**	**64,624**	**2,875,248**
Net (Expenditure)/ Income		140,765	3,171	143,936
Net movement in funds		**140,765**	**3,171**	**143,936**
Total Funds Brought Forward		536,943	16,727	553,670
Total Funds Carried Forward	**16, 17**	**677,708**	**19,898**	**697,606**







"I would like to say thank you very much to our dear donors and benefactors for their generous heart especially to the poorest of the poor like me because without God in them and through our beloved Sisters I could not be here.

May God bless all our donors and have longer life because as it is said "In giving we receive". I promise that I will do my best in my studies to reach my future goals and help my family"

www.worldvillages.org.uk/stories/mercedes-story/

Ending poverty through education

World Villages for Children

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Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

2022 NCVO MEMBER

Corporate member DMA Data & Marketing Association

UK Registered Charity Number: 1058973

WORLD VILLAGES FOR CHILDREN

England & Wales - Charity number 1058973

Accounts

World Villages for Children



ENDING POVERTY THROUGH EDUCATION

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2020

UK Registered Charity Number: 1058973

On the cover is Reinery



Reinery is from San Francisco de Opalaca, Intibuca, in North Western Honduras.

He is the ninth child in a family of twelve. His parents are uneducated and make a simple living as farmers. They don't enjoy good health and all the members of the family, right down to the youngest, work hard in the fields to help their parents make a living to feed them. Despite their efforts, there is never enough to eat and all the children are desperately hungry and malnourished. Reinery is twelve years old but like so many impoverished children in Honduras, his growth has been stunted by poor diet and he is severely under-developed for his age.

Last year during the pandemic, Reinery and his brothers and sisters struggled to sell the produce from their farming. They had no access to any form of education and then in November 2020 amidst the crisis, the family home was hit by Hurricane Eta. It destroyed their home and their entire livelihood.

The family appealed to the Sisters as Reinery's older brother is already at school with them, and with the kindness of our donors, we were able to fund an additional place at the school for Reinery. He joined the Sister's school in Honduras in Amarateca this January.[1]



Devastation caused by Hurricane Eta.



"With the help of good hearted people I am here in Grade 7. I have in mind to have a good future. I want to be an electrician and here with my new learnings in my new home and school I can make that dream come true".

Reinery
NEW STUDENT OF THE SISTERS OF MARY PROGRAMME

[1] Reinery's brother is in his last year at school with the Sisters.

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Company Number: 3267479
UK Registered Charity Number: 1058973

COMPANY INFORMATION

Directors and Trustees'	Sister Elena Grengia Belarmino Sister D L Cho (Sister Maria), Chair of Trustees Nicola Lawson John Graham, Treasurer (Appointed 18 April 2019) Clare Bamberger (Appointed 4 July 2019) Sister Teresita Mendoza Prudente (Appointed 17 September 2019) Sister Y Cheong (Sister Margie) (Resigned 17th September 2019)
Key Management Personnel	UK Manager
Website	www.worldvillages.org.uk
Registered Office and Charity address	Kings Buildings, 16 Smith Square, London SW1P 3HQ
Auditor	Crowe U.K. LLP, 55 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7JW
Solicitor	BDB Pitmans, One Bartholomew Close, London EC1A 7BL



OUR VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

AT WORLD VILLAGES FOR CHILDREN OUR VISION IS A WORLD WHERE EVERY CHILD GROWS UP FREE FROM POVERTY.

OUR MISSION is to fund the education and the care provided by the Sisters of Mary programmes to transform the lives of the world's most impoverished children.

EDUCATION that helps children to become self-sufficient and productive adults able, in turn, to help their families and communities out of poverty.

OUR WORK is guided by our values of dedication, compassion and integrity.

COMPASSION – we passionately care about the world's most vulnerable children who live on the very edges of society, in the most appalling poverty and living conditions. Our work is driven by their needs.

DEDICATION – we know that the route out of abject poverty and despair is having access to a quality education so all our work is about making this happen through raising funds for the Sisters of Mary.

INTEGRITY - we are trustworthy. We are indebted to our supporters and greatly value all the donations given to us. We invest to ensure robust governance and that the funds entrusted to us are carefully spent on providing the best possible future for the world's most vulnerable children.





WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

EDUCATION IS THE ROUTE OUT OF POVERTY FOR THE WORLD'S POOREST CHILDREN. WORLD VILLAGES FOR CHILDREN (WVC) WORKS TO SUPPORT EXTREMELY VULNERABLE BOYS AND GIRLS BY FUNDING EDUCATION PLACES PROVIDED BY THE HUMANITARIAN PROGRAMMES OF OUR PARTNERS THE SISTERS OF MARY (SOM).

Founded in 1964 by Father Aloysius Schwartz, the SoM run schools and kindergartens for the most impoverished children from the poorest regions of the Philippines, Guatemala, Mexico, Brazil, Honduras and Tanzania. The programmes now consist of twelve secondary schools, three medical centres, four day-care and elementary facilities and one training centre.

Established in each country at the request of governments and local authorities, these practical programmes provide holistic care for almost 20,000 impoverished children each year.

With a robust approach to safeguarding in place at the schools, these most vulnerable boys and girls receive full-time accommodation, access to healthcare, an accredited academic education and relevant vocational studies. The children are prepared for future local employment and an independent life. The opportunity of an education transforms their lives and those of their families and communities.

Working in partnership with the Sisters, the funding by WVC and our other affiliated charities in the EU and US, underpins the day-to-day delivery of the programmes, ensuring that the most vulnerable children receive a proper start in life and a future with employment that will lift them out of poverty.





REINFORCING THE UN'S SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

THE UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

THE WORK OF THE SISTERS OF MARY ARTICULATES MANY OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS) – A UNITED NATIONS INITIATIVE WHICH SETS A TARGET FOR ALL COUNTRIES TO OFFER ALL CHILDREN FREE, EQUITABLE, AND QUALITY PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION BY 2030.



150,000 CHILDREN
IN TOTAL, HAVE GRADUATED FROM THE PROGRAMMES

The programmes focus on providing full-time care, balanced nutrition, healthcare (including dental and eye-care), education and the chance of a proper childhood for the most impoverished children in the developing world.

The children cared for each year learn the skills they need to find stable local employment, leave their lives of poverty and go on to support their families and communities with access to healthcare and education.

IN 2020
THE SISTERS CARED FOR
18,294
CHILDREN
IN SCHOOL PLACES & DAY-CARE CENTRES

At the schools in each country, the children develop life-skills and values, They learn agency and take responsibility for their place in society. They have compassion, make friends become stronger and more resilient individuals. They learn self-worth, self-discipline and a sense of belongingness, helping them believe that in the family they have a role to play[2]. They learn how to live sustainably and how to bring about positive change in the world.

The programme cares for approximately 20,000 boys and girls each year and they are educated by teachers and staff employed from the local community. In 2020, the Sisters cared for 18,294[3] children in school places and day-care centres.

So far, over 150,000 of the world's poorest children have graduated from the Sisters of Mary schools but many more lives have been changed by the impact of this work as the graduates become productive members of society and support their families and communities.

[2] Sister Elena Belarmino, SoM, Theory of Change March 2021.
[3] This figure does not include day care and elementary children as these programmes were partly closed in 2020 due to lockdown.

WHERE WE WORK

WE WORK IN SOME OF THE POOREST REGIONS IN THE WORLD WHERE CHILDREN HAVE LITTLE OR NO ACCESS TO EDUCATION, LEAVING THEM TRAPPED IN AN ONGOING CYCLE OF POVERTY.









The children who come into our care have the most impoverished start in life.

INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

THIS YEAR HAS BEEN A VERY NEW EXPERIENCE FOR US ALL AT WORLD VILLAGES FOR CHILDREN AND THE SISTERS OF MARY PROGRAMMES. THE UNEXPECTED CHALLENGES PRESENTED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC MADE US MORE FOCUSED THAN EVER ON IMPROVING THE EDUCATION AND HEALTH NEEDS OF THE WORLD'S POOREST CHILDREN.

At the programmes, food and other essential supplies were scarce during the year and prices increased, but thanks to the enduring generosity and commitment of our WVC friends and supporters we were able to maintain our programmes, locate vital supplies and keep all our children safe at school, properly fed and learning.

With the help of technology, our children continued their studies throughout the strict lockdowns, exams took place on schedule and graduations were held virtually. Our boys and girls are now skilled and equipped to find good local jobs when the economies reopen as the crisis abates.

All the children stayed healthy and well at our schools and many Sisters in our countries were able to maintain our community work (virtually!) and reach out to new children in need of our care. We have witnessed the terrible impact of the pandemic on the poverty of families and communities in the countries where we serve and it was essential we maintained the momentum of our work during this crisis.

We were relieved to be able to welcome new children into our care in Tanzania, Brazil, Honduras, Mexico and Guatemala, 2,698 children started their lives at school with us in 2020.

During this most difficult year, I was touched by the renewed support of our generous donors. Their commitment and kindness allowed us to continue our work. In such a difficult and challenging fundraising environment, our donors continued with their generous support of our mission, many of them embracing digital routes of giving to ensure their gifts arrived. I remain so grateful to every single one of them for their kindness and confidence in us.

I also want to extend my sincere thanks to the staff and board of WVC for their dedication during 2020. It was a difficult year for us all and their commitment to the work of WVC in raising funds for the care of the children at our programmes was untiring and greatly appreciated.

Sister Maria Cho

Sister Maria Cho
Chair of Trustees



Sister Maria with new school girls, Tanzania, 2020

INTRODUCTION FROM THE UK MANAGER AND TRUSTEE

BY HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE AN ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION, CHILDREN CAN OVERCOME POVERTY AND THEIR DIFFICULT START IN LIFE. EQUIPPED WITH THE RIGHT SKILLS, CHILDREN FROM THE SOM PROGRAMMES ARE ABLE TO SECURE RELIABLE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT, BECOME PRODUCTIVE AND INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF SOCIETY AND LIFT THEIR FAMILIES AND FELLOW COMMUNITY MEMBERS OUT OF POVERTY. EDUCATION IS THE KEY TO ECONOMIC PROGRESS AND A BETTER FUTURE FOR THESE FAMILIES. IT IS OUR RESOLUTE MISSION TO SUPPORT THIS WORK.

In 2020, we faced our most challenging year in raising funds to support these life-saving programmes. The Covid-19 pandemic presented us with operational and financial hurdles to overcome in delivering our objectives, the most pressing of which, was to ensure regular monthly grant funding to support the basic needs of the children in the dedicated care of the SoM.

Thanks to the hard work of the WVC staff and trustees, who epitomised the values of our organisation, and the unstinting commitment and generosity of our loyal supporters, we produced a strong fundraising performance. We exceeded 2019 results and maintained vital food, healthcare and educational supplies to the schools.

This ensured that in 2020 almost 19,000 vulnerable children remained safe, educated, well fed and protected from the virus. Whilst no new children were able to join the Philippine schools this year, in Guatemala, Mexico, Brazil, Honduras and Tanzania the Sisters were able to welcome new children into the schools and to progress plans to expand further the programmes in Honduras and Tanzania.

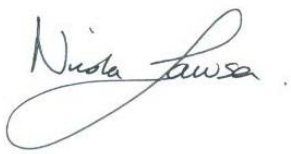


With on the job training students from Talisay, Philippines.

Whilst so many schools around the world were forced to close, with vital learning lost, thanks to our supporters in 2020, we were also able to provide essential technical equipment to help the Sisters with the logistics of moving learning online. Throughout the year, classes were maintained for the children, the exam and graduation timetables were achieved, and the children were kept happy and active whilst the pandemic paralysed their local economies and wider communities.

During the year, we maintained our commitment to the sustainable growth of our charity and continued with planned investments in new fundraising capacity for improved income generation. This investment will position the charity for future success as a funding partner to the SoM. The Sisters' on the ground experience tells us that the Covid-19 pandemic has had the greatest impact on already poor and vulnerable communities. The worst effects lie ahead for these families. Help for these children remains a priority for the Sisters' programmes and for our fundraising work.

Thank you for your continued kindness to us. Your commitment and support helps us to transform the lives of the world's poorest children.



Nicola Lawson
UK Manager and Trustee



Communities living on the rubbish dumps of the Philippines

THE CHILDREN WE SUPPORT & THE IMPACT OF THE COVID 19-PANDEMIC

THE CHILDREN WHO COME INTO THE CARE OF THE SISTERS ARE THE MOST DEPRIVED ORPHANS AND ARE FROM THE VERY POOREST DISADVANTAGED FAMILIES IN THE WORLD.

With few skills, families find little reliable work. They support themselves by working long hours in low-paid rural occupations, precarious jobs in cities, begging on the roadside or scavenging on landfill sites.

These families lack the basic conditions for survival like adequate shelter, regular nutrition, healthcare, water for drinking and sanitation. Their children lack access to education. It is often far from their homes and of poor quality. Children are expected to work from a young age to support their family and the youngsters are vulnerable to involvement in local crime, drugs and exploitation by gangs. Rural households are particularly vulnerable to climatic extremes and severe weather events which destroy households, crops and livelihoods.

In all the countries where we work, the Covid-19 crisis has had a devastating effect on the most vulnerable families. Their low-paid, menial jobs [4] have been quickly eliminated when businesses and restaurants closed down and supply chains dried up. The stories of the children, their families and the experience of the graduates and Sisters in each country, tell of the devastating impact of the pandemic on the lives of the most vulnerable with increases in child labour, child abuse, poor health and malnutrition.



Sister Elena visiting poor communities near Inayawan, Cebu, Philippines

In the midst of the pandemic, the poorest have been the most exposed to the virus. Without the basic means for survival, families cannot follow preventative measures such as hand-washing and social distancing for virus prevention. Without education and technical skills and with little access to infrastructure like electricity and internet, poor families are less likely to be able to find new work or study remotely. What physical schooling was available has closed, leading to even less hours of learning for their children. They have no buffer of savings and receive no state support and the worst economic impact may be yet to come as without the early hope of a vaccine programme in these countries, companies remain closed.

Education as a route out of poverty for these children is even more critical to survival in a post-pandemic world. We are more committed than ever to help the SoM provide the most impoverished children with a place at school, so they can acquire the tools they need to deal with the economic impact of Covid-19 and transform their lives.

[4] In the Philippines 62% of Filipinos were working in the informal economy as street peddlers and manual labourers. As businesses ceased due to lockdown, this work and source of earnings has ceased (Ibon Foundation 2020).

TRUSTEES' REPORT



Happy girls learning in class, Talisay, Philippines, 2020

STRATEGY

The Trustees of WVC present their annual report for the year ended 31 December 2020 under the Companies Act 2006, together with the audited accounts for the year. They confirm that the latter complies with the requirements of the Act, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Charities SORP 2015.

The charity objects for WVC are to:

- provide financial support for the SoM humanitarian programmes;
- to raise the profile of their poverty relief work through the provision of education;
- to educate the public and promote understanding of childhood poverty and the work of the programmes to alleviate poverty amongst children, the most vulnerable group.

Our charity strategic plan for 2020 covered specific objectives to drive forward our aims in supporting the SoM programmes. Specific goals for Governance, Operations, Fundraising, Impact Measurement and Communications were set to maximise both efficiency and returns for the charity, to ensure transparency and good governance, a well-balanced and growing portfolio of income and sustainability for the future.

Our income targets for 2020 supported the growth needs of the SoM programmes both in terms of increased numbers of children needing places at existing schools and for programme expansion in different areas of the existing countries and in new countries. Examples of this are Honduras and Tanzania where capacity was increased in the year. Our future plans will focus on supporting growth of the programmes in Tanzania both for increased capacity at the current school, new needs for a training centre for ladies, a day-care centre for younger children and a facility for the most impoverished boys in this country.







Children enjoying sports and culinary arts activities 2020

GOVERNANCE

Our governance objectives for 2020 were to develop and consolidate our board in the oversight of the charity. By wholly integrating the new board members we have built a robust governance function with appropriate and responsive oversight to support the work of WVC, whilst ensuring that the decision-making remains dynamic, helping the organisation to stay agile and alert. We made good progress on this objective in 2020. UK domiciled trustees newly recruited in 2019 (John Graham and Clare Bamberger), both visited the SoM programmes in early 2020 to complete their induction and support their understanding of the work, but also to fulfil their monitoring obligations.

Both new UK trustees contribute specific skill sets for the charity; John Graham as Treasurer and Clare Bamberger with expertise in data and insight. In 2020, Clare was responsible for driving forward our Theory of Change exercise. The first phase of this work is now complete and work has moved on to the construction of our framework for impact measurement.

Throughout 2020, the UK trustees were busy and engaged with oversight of the charity during the pandemic. They gave their time generously throughout the year to monitor the progress of the charity within this crisis period, manage risk, oversee activities at the SoM programmes and to advise and support the WVC management as required.

Our 2020 objectives also included, a skills audit and further recruitment to build board expertise and greater diversity at board level. These objectives were reviewed again in 2020 but will be steadily progressed in 2021 in line with the original governance review done in 2016. This review highlighted our longer term governance needs and our responsibilities as a charity in the international development sector.

FUNDRAISING

2020 was our most challenging year for fundraising but our funding model positioned us well for a resilient performance during the pandemic. Individual giving, particularly around direct mail and committed giving, progressed as planned and held up well.

We were really touched by the support and engagement of our donors throughout and although we ended the year behind our original pre-Covid forecast we were well ahead of our mid-year reforecast and ahead of our performance in 2019.

The key driver for the sustainability in our fundraising during the year was the dedication of the WVC team in delivering the campaigns during this very difficult period and we remain touched and indebted to them for their dedication during this crisis. We also continued planned investment in fundraising capacity in the year with the appointment of a new Fundraising and Communications Manager who joined us in May 2020 to diversify and grow our income portfolio. We further increased our emphasis on digital activity to encourage online giving.

As we emerge from 2020, these improvements in capacity, together with a fundraising strategy based on review of the WVC brand, a new website and acquisition of new donors (including via digital channels), will better position us to achieve our income targets set for the charity in support of the SoM and the growth of their programmes.

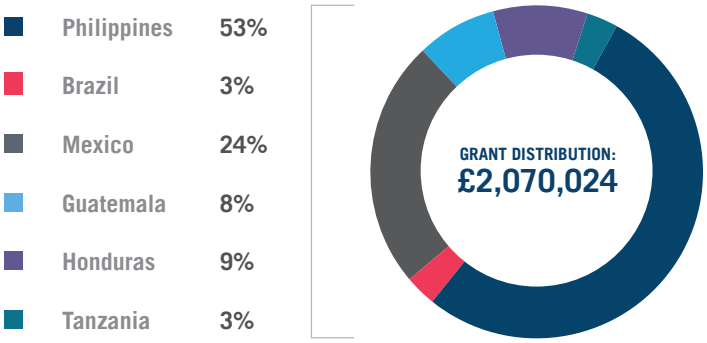
OPERATIONS AND FINANCE

Operational continuity was a focus for 2020 ensuring we maintained the necessary systems to continue our fundraising and financial control in the midst of the pandemic. Investment in IT and business continuity in late 2019 supported us well during the crisis particularly with our need for enhanced security during remote working as a response to the pandemic.

Throughout 2020, we renewed our focus with accompanying investment in systems and processes to enhance our cyber security protocols and protect against data breach and financial crime. To this end we put in place new policies, employee handbook provisions, IT security applications and training, and most recently, Cyber Essentials accreditation which was achieved this year.

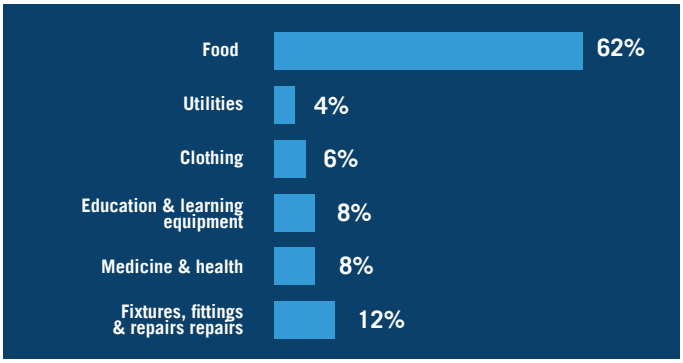
We were pleased to meet our objectives to keep a regular flow of funding to the SoM programmes and recorded a total grant figure of £2,070,024[5] distributed as follows:

WVC DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTS TO THE SISTERS OF MARY PROGRAMMES IN 2020



WVC GRANT DISTIBUTION: BY USE

These funds were utilised at the programmes as follows:



Overall control of finances and scrutiny of costs continued throughout 2020 to ensure that the strategic choices we made represented the best value for our donors' investment in us as a charity. We focused on quality and efficiency of our operations with careful management of expenditure in all areas, particularly direct mail fundraising, together with better use of data to improve engagement, response and return on investment. We were pleased to see operating costs reduced against the pre-Covid forecast and 2019.

Benchmarking our activities to evaluate performance was helpful in 2020, not just for fundraising performance, but to assess our overall operational, financial and management standards. Further use of these sector standards for quality assessment and assurance will be a feature of 2021.

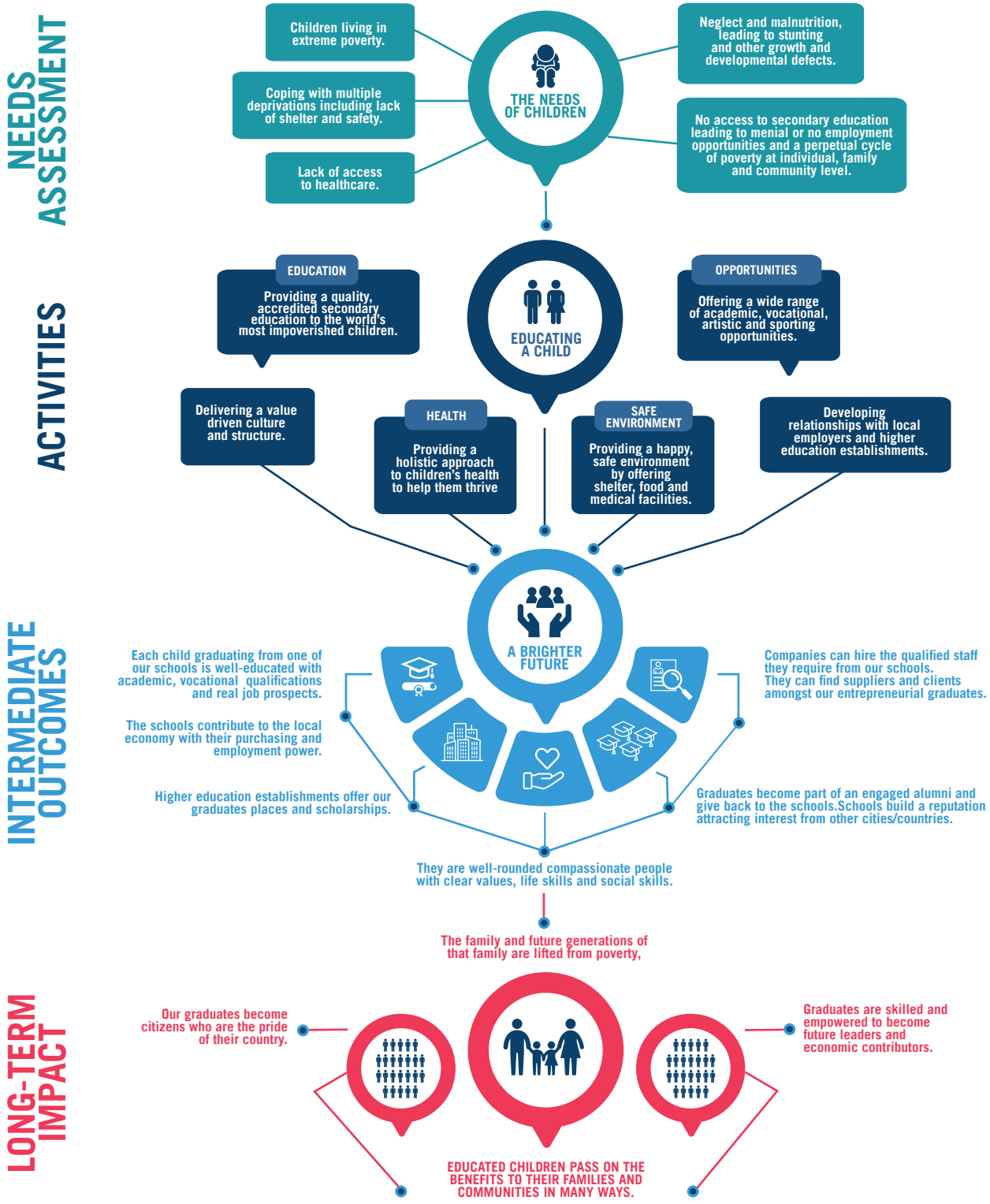
[5] £2,174,024 was the total grant sent by the charity to the SoM programmes which included an additional grant of £104,000 representing final payment of the liability due to the US charity.

IMPACT AND MEASUREMENT

Our Theory of Change exercise made great progress in 2020. Following a visit to the SoM programmes in the Philippines in early March 2020, Clare Bamberger was able to complete an extensive series of of workshops with the Sisters, WVC staff and our affiliated charities in the US and Europe. These workshops covered the detailed rationale of the Sisters' programmes, our work as funder and enabler, the context and various needs being met, outputs and the wider outcomes and impact. The development process involving all stakeholders has been comprehensive and detailed.

Completion of this first phase now positions us for the next stage development of the evaluation framework to support specific impact measurement. Underlying this, good deliberate progress continues to be made in data gathering with the SoM. The processes for this data collection improved again in 2020. WVC now consolidates data which spans all schools and all countries and supports the shorter-term programme monitoring. It also begins to contribute to the body of evidence needed for evaluating post-programme outcomes and the alternative base line data essential for credible impact measurement.

OUR THEORY OF CHANGE




New boys arriving for school, Guadalajara, Mexico, 2020

IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON WVC

MUCH OF 2020 WAS OVERSHADOWED BY THE OPERATING CHALLENGE PRESENTED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

Technology enabled us to make the adjustments needed for successful remote working for some of the staff during the year and this continues to be a factor into 2021. Our suppliers remained committed and worked hard to maintain their services for us during this period.

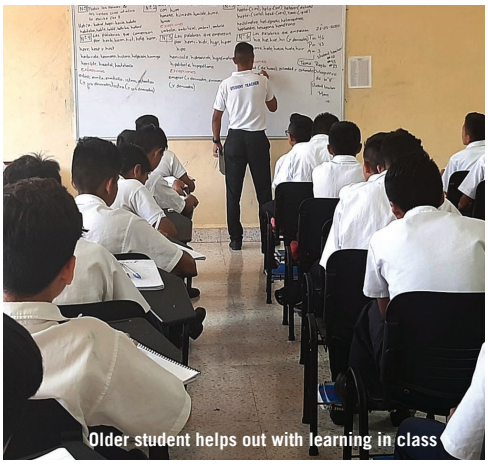
Although the fundraising environment and the effects of the pandemic on our donors remained a concern throughout the year, our funding model provided a degree of resilience for the charity, fundraising activity was able to continue.

We were blessed by the continued generosity of our supporters through this crisis, many of whom made the transition to online giving during this period.

Monitoring and control processes were tightened to oversee performance, liquidity and risk to the charity. The sub-committee of the board met (and continue to meet) weekly to review these items.

Regular grant payments to the Sisters were able to continue during the year and reserves were increased. The board and board sub-committee continue to take an active role in monitoring the resilience of the charity and its status as a going concern.


Girls in sewing class Guatemala Zona 13, making facemasks for their local community


Older student helps out with learning in class


Sister supervising class exam, Guadalajara, Mexico 2020



Happy new students in Tegucigalpa Girlstown, Honduras

2020 HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PROGRAMMES

It was a year of unprecedented disruption to education worldwide but despite the challenges, the Sisters' twelve schools in six countries stayed open.

Thanks to our supporters, the Sisters of Mary ensured that all our children in school were safe and protected from the virus, had the technology to keep on learning remotely and took their exams on schedule.

Despite the pandemic, with lots of precautions, new children were welcomed into school in Tanzania, Brazil, Honduras, Mexico and Guatemala during the year.



New school building, Amarateca, Honduras



John Graham, WVC UK Trustee in Honduras

In January, we witnessed the inauguration of the new school building for the boys in Amarateca, Honduras, which increased capacity for boys in need there. The inauguration was attended by the President's wife, local dignitaries and our trustee, John Graham.



Schoolgirls performing at the official inauguration ceremony in Tanzania, December 2020



Learning moved online in 2020 here is one of the virtual classes



2,672 Girls and boys graduated on schedule this year, qualified and ready for work



Ensuring all new students were checked for Covid-19 on arrival



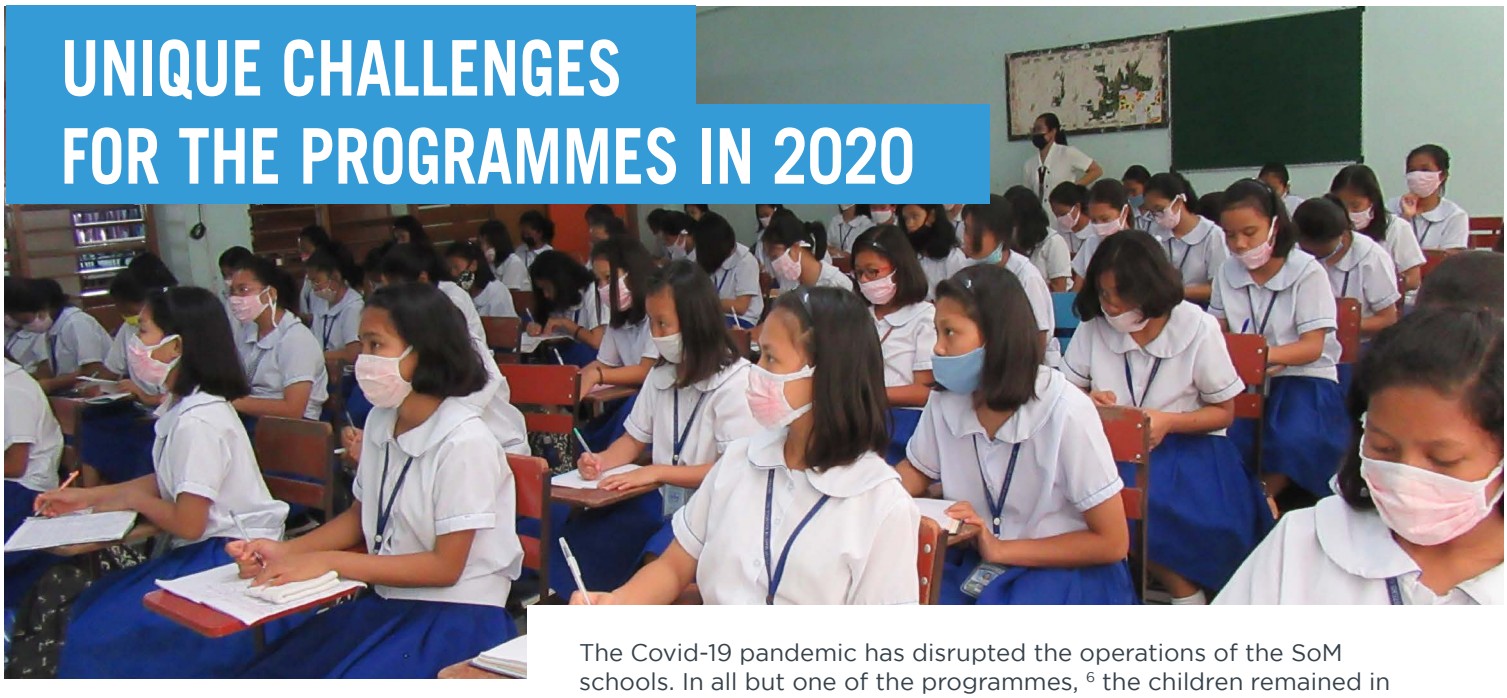
Students from Adlas Boystown, Philippines, make PPE gowns for local hospital



Karoene, Graduate from SOM in Brasilia nursing on the front line during 2020 with colleagues

The children at all schools across the world contributed to the fight against Covid-19 by making much needed PPE for local hospitals. Previous students of the programmes cared for patients with the virus on the frontline in Brazil.

UNIQUE CHALLENGES FOR THE PROGRAMMES IN 2020




Online learning, Boystown, Honduras


Staying in touch with the family, Philippines


New arrivals during the pandemic, Honduras

The Covid-19 pandemic has disrupted the operations of the SoM schools. In all but one of the programmes, [6] the children remained in the schools. New protocols were developed to ensure protection from the virus and all the boys and girls stayed healthy and well. There were, however, many challenges for the Sisters with maintaining regular food supply for the children as they experienced food shortages, rationing and rising prices. Teaching was particularly difficult, as most teaching and auxiliary staff were required to return to their homes.

Thanks to the support of our donors and the hard work and dedication of the Sisters, the programmes continued. Funds were raised to provide equipment needed for online teaching and the children continued to study hard and were able to take exams on time. Graduates of the programme and contacts on the ground helped the Sisters to identify supplies of staple foodstuffs like rice and beans. In many cases they donated products or used contacts to provide access for the Sisters. Our loyal donors in the UK maintained their support in this time of renewed need and ensured we were able to maintain regular grants to the programmes. Clever meal planning by the Sisters and help from the children ensured that the donations went even further than usual in maintaining a balanced and sufficient diet for almost 19,000 hungry, growing, boys and girls.

Although the children were advised not to return home for their holidays, they maintained contact with their families throughout the year. Physical community work by the Sisters was also not possible (except for Tanzania) and so this was conducted virtually with the help of community contacts and local graduates.

The desperate and growing need in these communities made it essential that the Sisters maintain the momentum of the programmes and we were delighted to see that despite the pandemic, the schools in Honduras, Mexico, Guatemala, Brazil and Tanzania were able to welcome a total of 2,698 new children in 2020.

BUSINESS AS USUAL
LEARNING CONTINUED
ONLINE

NEW COVID SECURE PROTOCOLS
VIRTUAL
CONTACT WITH FAMILIES
+
VIRTUAL
COMMUNITY WORK

IN 2020
2,698
new children were welcomed

[6] The local authorities requested that the Sisters keep the children in school to ensure their safety. In Tanzania, the authorities initially requested that the children return to their homes but without the most basic services in their homes they could not study and so in June the children returned to school.

OUR SCHOOLS IN NUMBERS

	NUMBER OF CHILDREN	TEACHERS	ANCILLARY STAFF	DOCTORS & NURSES	SISTERS	NEW CHILDREN ACCEPTED IN 2020
PHILIPPINES						
Biga Girlstown	2580	64	67		39	
Adlas Boystown	1828	57	60		26	
Talisay Girlstown	2686	81	60		26	
Minglanilla Boystown	1798	59	53		16	
Medical Centre Biga	36 Outpatients per day		9	5	2	
Medical Centre Minglanilla	37 Outpatients per day [7]		5	2	2	
MEXICO						
Chalco Girlstown	3079	99	59	7	51	755
Guadalajara Boystown	1811	76	40	4	17	512
Day Care centre, Chalco	123 [7]	7	9		2	
GUATEMALA						
Zona 13 Girlstown	871	26	25		15	252
Zona 6 Boystown	1036	30	32	4	13	250
Day Care centre [8]	144	4	5		2	
Medical Clinic Zona 13	68 Outpatients per day	5		4	1	
BRAZIL						
Brasilia (Girlstown)	850	32	13		14	269
Day care centre Brasilia	84	1			1	28
Sao Paulo Elementary	276	12	4		4	
Sao Paulo day care – Toddlers	156	8	4		4[9]	
HONDURAS						
Tegucigalpa (Girlstown)	657	30	28	2	15	172
Amarateca (Boystown)	791	26	37		8	300
TANZANIA						
Kisarawe (Girlstown)	307	14	9		17	160
Training centre	16					

[7] Following lockdown in each country the clinics were closed to outpatients from the general public and used only for the children at school. These figures are for the period just prior to lockdown.

[8] Kindergarten and day care in all countries was not able to continue during lockdown but care packs of educational supplies and food were provided by the Sisters to sustain the families.

[9] In Brazil, the medical clinic discontinued providing medical consultation services to outpatients and now serves the needs of the students only.

PHILIPPINES



Living conditions for families in the slums, Philippines



COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Covid-19 is causing extreme poverty to rise for the first time in over 20 years. The strict community lockdown measures have forced businesses to close and menial jobs, often the sole source of a meagre income to sustain impoverished families, to dry up.[10]

Without employment, the poorest families, particularly the urban poor, are existing on the edge of survival, deprived of shelter, healthcare and food. Schools are closed and lack of education for the population is a major concern. Rural families had their livelihoods further devastated by Typhoon Goni in October. With no prospect of skill acquisition for family members or adequate state aid, many in these poor Philippine communities are facing a greater fear than Covid-19 and that is the real prospect of starvation.

IMPACT OF COVID-19

At the request of the local government, the four schools in the Philippines: Biga, Adlas (Girlstown and Boystown) near Cavite, and Talisay and Minglanilla (Girlstown and Boystown) in Cebu, remained open throughout the pandemic to care for the total of 8,892 children at the schools, although the majority of all teaching and auxiliary staff were sent home. Strict health protocols maintained at all schools kept all the children safe through the year.



Boys in class, Minglanilla, Philippines

Teaching adapted to a new online format; studies of the more practical and technical subjects on the curriculum were overseen by senior students with online support and lesson plans supplied by teachers. Food for the programmes was a particular challenge in 2020 with supplies heavily curtailed and prices raised. Many of the graduates came to the assistance of the Sisters during this period locating and delivering supplies of rationed and vital food. The school medical centres stayed open for the children but after March were closed to community outpatients due to the pandemic.



Donation of liquid soap sourced by graduates for the children at school, Philippines

Despite the challenges, the children kept up their hobbies and sports interests and developed new ways of keeping busy and helping out during the year. In sewing classes, they used their skills to make PPE (face masks and gowns) for the local community nursing staff and they continued their energetic focus on any form of learning, competing in numerous virtual competitions including, essay writing, cartooning and youth journalism.

[10] The poorest families here rely on menial jobs in these sectors, as jeepney drivers, restaurant waiters and cleaners to support themselves


Boys having fun in the Philippines


Girls practising song & dance, Talisay

WVC CONTRIBUTIONS

During the year, WVC contributed 53% of its funding to support the children in these programmes. This funding helped pay for vital supplies of rice, flour and milk for the children as well as health and hygiene essentials and educational supplies to support their learning. We also funded the provision of Easter, birthday and Christmas gifts to mark these special celebrations.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

The children studied the full range of subjects in the curriculum accredited by the Philippine Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)[11] and the school continued to be award-winning in its standard of education. Roselyn, 18 year old student of Girlstown in Talisay, won an academic award for excellence in Electronics at the World Skills Competition in late 2019. She was also requested to represent the Philippines in the World Skill Competition in Thailand in October 2020. This is a significant achievement for Roselyn who came from the most abject poverty imaginable and lived a lonely and troubled life until 2014 when she joined the girls school in Talisay.

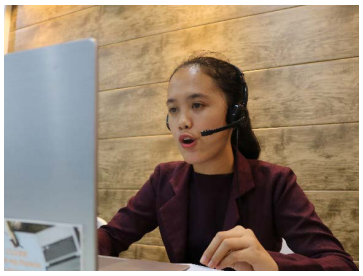
> **"The Sisters of Mary school is seen by people merely as a school, I see it as a home of broken hearts… I am grateful to the bottom of my soul for being part of this living miracle"** Roselyn

On the job training was not possible at all companies, this year due to many of them temporarily closing but was instead undertaken in school.

GRADUATION, COMMUNITY WORK & WELCOMING NEW CHILDREN

Although there was no travel and no new children could be welcomed in 2020, exams and graduation took place as planned in August. 1,515 children were delighted to celebrate the success of their studies and the value of their opportunity.

Despite a difficult job market, graduates from the schools secured permanent employment at a number of employers including, Epson Precision, Regan Industrial, Department of Agriculture, Polaris, Well Tech and Meraki-Tech. Longer-term, graduates from the schools are well qualified and placed for employment once companies reopen in 2021.


Competing in the Asian English Olympics, 2020


Graduating girls, Biga




In 2020, despite economic difficulties, these boys graduated into full time employment with Polaris and Meraki Co in the Philippines


New 2020 graduate, Ella, is so grateful for her education with the Sisters of Mary and proud of her achievement

[11] The full range of academic subjects and vocational subjects includes electronics, computer hardware servicing, bookkeeping, fashion design, bread and pastry making; skills which are tailored to job opportunities with local employers.

MEXICO


Sisters of Mary student and her family, 2020

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Despite some progress, 43% of the Mexican population were still classified as poor[12] in one or more dimension in 2019. Unequal distribution of wealth means for many a vicious cycle of food deprivation, poor living standards and low-quality education affecting the youngest and most vulnerable.

Children raised in rural areas, particularly indigenous children, suffer the most. They experience extreme deprivation with particularly low levels of schooling and high instances of neglect, abuse, child labour, vulnerability to crime and gang involvement.[13] They have a poor start in life and the Covid-19 pandemic has further diminished their long-term outlook.

The prevalence of the virus, the lockdown curfews and the economic impact, have affected jobs and family households in Mexico. It threatens to wipe out decades of progress on poverty-reduction and increase global inequality dramatically[14]. In the poorer communities, the Sisters witness that children in the Guerrero Mountains, Oaxaca and Veracruz are particularly affected. These are the children who come into the care of the Sisters of Mary programmes.


Poverty in Mexico 2019

IMPACT OF COVID-19

The day-care centre for youngsters was closed for much of the year due to the lockdown and the children remained at home with their families. However, the students aged 12-18 were requested to remain at school with the Sisters throughout the pandemic. So unlike most other children in Mexico, in 2020 our boys and girls continued to receive the full benefit of their secondary level education accredited by the Mexican Education Authority (Secretaria de Educacation Publica). They studied their usual subjects, kept up their hobbies and also received full medical and dental care throughout the year.

As with the other Sisters of Mary programmes, the cost of basic food stuffs increased considerably in 2020 due to rationing and interruption of supplies. The Sisters planned carefully, bought many non-perishable items in bulk, but relied on the generous support of our donors and friends to help them through the crisis – particularly with fresh food.


Boys enjoying their learning, Guadalajara, Mexico, 2020


Excited new girls arriving for their first term, Chalco, Mexico

[12] World Bank Group, April 2019
[13] Interview with Arturo Guevara, Graduate of the Sisters of Mary, Mexico – August 2020
[14] Inequality in a Rapidly Changing World, World Social Report 2020, UN



Boys celebrating second place in the International SOLACYT (Latin American Society of Science and Technology) competition in March


Sewing class, Chalco, Mexico

WVC CONTRIBUTIONS

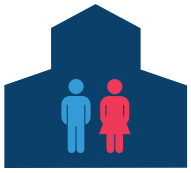
WVC contributed 24% of our 2020 grants to maintain the children at the Sisters' programmes in Mexico. We funded supplies of food and medicines, educational supplies and equipment for remote learning, teaching salaries and utilities for the school. As in previous years we also supplied modest Christmas, birthday and Easter gifts for the children.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

In 2020, the Sisters cared for 4,890 of the country's poorest boys and girls at their schools in Villa de las Niñas, Chalco (Girls) and Villa de los Niños, Guadalajara (Boys) and 125 toddlers at the day-care centre in Chalco.

It was a difficult time for the Sisters but with the support of our donors, the children continued to flourish. Even in the midst of lockdown, the boys and girls enjoyed all their sports and extra-curricular activities and delighted in healthy competition with other organisations in Mexico (albeit virtual). The boys in Guadalajara celebrated second place (out of 300) in the international SOLACYT (Latin American Society of Science and Technology) competition in March.

The academic and vocational teaching timetable remained unchanged during the year although delivered virtually. Exams were completed on schedule and graduation of 660 boys and girls took place in July as expected.



1,267 NEW CHILDREN JOINED THE SCHOOLS

4,890 BOYS & GIRLS
WERE CARED FOR BY THE SISTERS AT THE SCHOOLS

125 TODDLERS
WERE CARED FOR AT DAY-CARE

GRADUATION, COMMUNITY WORK & WELCOMING NEW CHILDREN

Due to the pandemic, new job opportunities are scarce in Mexico. However, many of the children now leaving school are taking up places at university and when companies reopen in 2021, the children will be well placed for the available jobs. They remain ambitious and optimistic. Most now have relevant technical skills and trades to use so that even in the midst of the current crisis they can set themselves up to earn a living to help their families when they are back at home. With the Sisters of Mary in Mexico "there are no children who do nothing after school" [15].

In September, with strict new health protocols in place, the schools were able to welcome an additional 1,267 malnourished and vulnerable new boys and girls - children desperately in need of the Sisters' care and the chance of an education.

Earlier this year with a break in lockdown, the Sisters were able to recommence outreach in the local communities and meet new children urgently in need of their care and a place at school.


Boys helping with much needed food preparation, Guadalajara, Mexico


Meeting new children in need of our care, Sisters at work in the Guerrero Mountains, Mexico

[15] Update with the Sisters of Mary, Mexico Girlstown, October 2020

GUATEMALA



Poverty in Guatemala most affects the youngest, particularly girls.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Guatemala has persistently high rates of poverty and inequality. Only 40% of families enjoy food security[16] and a lack of nutrition leads to severe malnutrition and stunting which affects 47% of all children under 5.[17]

The Sisters witness this in their outreach work within the country's poorest communities. Parents are not well educated and achieve only menial low-paid occupations which provide just enough income to feed their large families once a day. Parents often abandon their children altogether and the youngest are left in even more precarious situations with distant relatives.[18]

There is no chance of an education for these children and what work is available is usually farming. The families cultivate corn and beans to sell but this way of life is also vulnerable to adverse weather which regularly affects crops. Most recently, Hurricane Eta which swept through Central America, devastated livelihoods and took many lives.

The Covid-19 pandemic is expected to shrink the Guatemalan economy. It will worsen these existing vulnerabilities as supply chains for farming produce are disrupted and firms providing vital jobs have closed during lockdowns. It is anticipated that an additional one million people will be forced into poverty, raising the country's poverty rate by as much as 6%. [19]



Girls learning culinary skills and helping out

IMPACT OF COVID-19

All the boys and girls remained safely at school in the care of the Sisters throughout the pandemic As in the UK, teachers in Guatemala sent lesson plans through and classes were held via Zoom and Google Meet. In class, the older students continued to help the younger ones with their studies. Although on the job training was not possible, the older students (Grade 12) completed research projects and theses on finance and accountancy at school.

As with all the Sisters of Mary schools, in 2020 it was a practical challenge to deliver this programme with so few Sisters and very few staff. Supplies of basic foods for the children like meat, eggs and milk were also affected and prices rose. The Sisters received support from Colgate and Caritas in December with vital supplies for the Girlstown.

Supply of water to the girls' school during the dry season remained a critical problem this year as the mains supply ceased for around four months and water needed to be brought in for drinking, washing and cleaning. The plan for a new well, to ensure a sustainable water source within the grounds of the school, is a priority for 2021.



English Class, Girlstown, 2020



Boystown students learning construction techniques

[16] World Bank country overview, 2019
[17] Rising to 58 % of indigenous children, and 66 % of children in the lowest income families. World Bank Briefing Sept 2020
[18] Update, Sisters of Mary, Guatemala, January 2021
[19] www.worldbank.org/en/country/guatemala/overview 2020


Boys studying hard, Zona 6


Girls in Zona 13 receive their practical Christmas presents courtesy of our generous donors

WVC CONTRIBUTIONS

8% of WVC grant monies was spent on helping the children in both schools. Thanks to our donors, we were able to provide funding for vital food supplies, catering and educational equipment, healthcare supplies, medicines, clothing and shoes for school and contribute to some utility bills for the schools. Small Easter, birthday and Christmas gifts were provided for the children as usual. We were also delighted to raise the funds to equip the new electronics teaching workshop for the girls' school and this project will complete in 2021.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

The Sisters of Mary schools cared for 1,907 of Guatemala's poorest children in 2020. 871 at Zona 13 (Villa de los Niños, Girlstown) and 1,036 at Zona 6 (Villa de las Niñas, Boystown). The Kindergarten facility, which normally cares for over 100 children, was closed during the country's lockdown but care packages were provided to help the mothers to provide for their children.

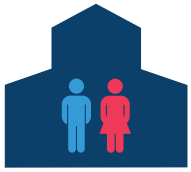
With many of the staff having to return to their homes, all the children helped out with the tasks at the school and using their skills to help the community, making PPE for local healthcare services.

There was little change in the curriculum in 2020 and a steady focus on quality technical training for jobs in the local industries continued. At the end of the year and following the easing of the lockdown, the children were able to return home for the holidays. Many were shocked to see the outcome of the pandemic on their families. They have returned to school with renewed energy to succeed; very conscious of their precious and valuable opportunity at school and the need to graduate with skills to help their loved ones.[20]


Using their skills to help the community, making PPE



125 girls graduated from Girlstown, Zona 13, August 2020



502 NEW CHILDREN
WELCOMED INTO THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS

1,907 CHILDREN
CHILDREN CARED FOR IN 2020

GRADUATION, COMMUNITY WORK & WELCOMING NEW CHILDREN

Thanks to the care of the Sisters and the dedication of the teachers, lessons continued and end of year exams took place as normal. 301 boys and girls graduated in August.

Late in 2020, the Sisters were able to conduct some virtual community outreach work with the help of local contacts, and graduates (and Zoom!). As a result of this, 502 new children were welcomed into school in January (2021).

These are the first youngsters who have lived a year of the pandemic and without access to any early education, their primary learning has suffered. They lack basic language skills and will require remedial support from the Sisters to help them catch up.


176 boys graduated from Boystown, Zona 6, August 2020

[20] Sisters of Mary, Guatemala, Update January 2021

BRAZIL



An extended family in Brazil

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Brazil has one of the most unequal economies in the world[21] with extreme poverty experienced, particularly in the rural communities of the North East.

Families are large and fragmented. Manual labour from a very young age is common for children, who need to earn enough to support themselves and their families. The children who come to the attention of the Sisters routinely suffer from the effects of malnutrition, disease, neglect and the long-term effects of abuse.[22]

The Covid-19 pandemic has exposed Brazil to an unprecedented health and economic crisis and it is projected to fall into its deepest recession on record with a steep drop in jobs and employment. This will increase the likelihood of the most vulnerable groups, who rely on lowly paid and informal work, falling further into poverty.[23]


Sisters in their community work with the poorest families

IMPACT OF COVID-19

During the lockdown, the Sisters of Mary girls' school in Brasilia was able to stay open and maintain full time care and education to the most vulnerable young girls. However the day-care and elementary facilities for younger children in Sao Paulo, Brazil were forced to close. Some classes were offered online to elementary children who had the ability to receive them whilst care packages, offline lesson plans and activities were provided for other families, their children and toddlers to help them during this difficult time.

Some face-to-face teaching has resumed for these programmes but they continue to experience disruption as the government works through phases of lockdown and release. At the girls' school, much of the teaching was done virtually in 2020, with support from senior students for the practical classes and the curriculum remained much the same as in previous years.

Socially distanced face to face teaching resumes, Brazil Elementary, 2020



However, the pandemic presented the Sisters with a major challenge in food provision for the children. Food prices for the key staples used to feed the children doubled and in some cases tripled. There was also a shortage of key products like soya beans, meat and oil leading to severe rationing. Thanks to our supporters and to the local contacts of graduates, the Sisters were able to access and purchase enough vital food to maintain a regular and nutritious diet for the girls.



They stayed healthy and well throughout the year and were thankful for the chance to be at school. Many turned down the opportunity to return to their family choosing to stay in the care of the Sisters during this difficult period.

The children were thankful for the chance to remain at school in the care of the sisters and continued to thrive.

[21] Poverty & Equity Brief, Brazil, April 2020, World Bank Group
[22] Sisters of Mary programme update January 2021.
[23] www.worldbank.org/en/country/brazil/overview November 2020


New girlstown students waiting for their health checks

WVC CONTRIBUTIONS

In 2020, WVC contributed 3% of its grant funding to care for the Brazil programmes, purchasing essential food stuffs, clothing and healthcare items, educational equipment to support remote learning, Easter, birthday and Christmas gifts, and settling water and electricity bills at the programmes.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

In Brazil, the Sisters operate a Girlstown in Brasilia for secondary level girls aged 12-18, as well as day-care centres for toddlers in Brasilia and Sao Paulo and an Elementary day school for 276 boys, also in Sao Paulo. In 2020, the Sisters cared for 850 girls at their Girlstown.

In class at the Girlstown it was business as usual and the children studied the full range of academic subjects in 2020, as well as technical specialisms in nursing, secretarial, dental hygiene, culinary arts and dressmaking. These lessons will prepare the girls for further professional studies and job vacancies.


Graduate nursing on the front line

Qualified graduates of the programme used their skills and proved their worth supporting the local community on the front line of Brazil's Covid-19 response.

The children remained at school all year. They were energetic, keen to help the Sisters and learn new skills. There was also plenty of time for fun activities, competitions, hobbies and sports.


Girls keeping fit, 2020

GRADUATION, COMMUNITY WORK & WELCOMING NEW CHILDREN

269 new girls were welcomed to the Brasilia Girlstown in January 2020 and thanks to the support of the graduates and local community representatives, the Sisters were able to reach out (virtually) and offer places to 127 new girls in need at the end of 2020. They joined the school, with special testing and isolation protocols, in January this year.

269 NEW GIRLS
WERE WELCOMED IN JANUARY 2020

A FURTHER 127
AT THE BEGINNING OF 2021


Girls protected against Covid-19 study with masks in class.

HONDURAS



Honduras, 2020

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Honduras continues to be one of the most unequal economies in the world and its people face high levels of poverty, particularly in rural regions where 60% of the population live in extreme poverty.[24]

These families are deprived of regular nutrition, access to water for drinking and sanitation, education, healthcare and hygiene facilities. The country also suffers high levels of violence, with over 38 murders per 100,000 inhabitants. [25] Honduras is a very dangerous place for children, with gang violence a common part of everyday life.[26]

The country is also exposed to adverse natural events and climate change, especially heavy rainfall and drought. The 2020 hurricane season was one of the worst in history. Hurricanes Eta and Iota affected thousands of families, destroyed homes and critical infrastructure including schools, hospitals, roads, water and sanitation services.[27]

In regions where children were already disproportionately hit by poverty and inequalities, the Covid-19 pandemic has further undermined their fate. School closures have deprived the children of potential life-saving interventions, such as school feeding. Lockdowns and curfews have increased safety threats in the home and local area, particularly for women and girls.[28] The forecast unemployment and income losses are expected to greatly impact the large informal job sector upon which poor Honduran families rely for their menial income.

IMPACT OF COVID-19

As with their other schools, the Sisters were requested to keep the children in their care at their schools throughout the pandemic. The boys and girls studied the normal curriculum of academic and technical classes much of which were conducted via Zoom with teachers emailing class plans, exercises and homework to be completed.

The children continued to thrive and keep busy with their hobbies and helping the Sisters. They competed against each other within the school at drawing and painting, sports and dancing. Children who joined the school in 2019 have settled into school well and despite the pandemic are making the most of their opportunity.

It was a challenging year for the Sisters to maintain the programme. Food supplies were constrained and prices rose in many cases by as much as 30-40% for key staples like rice, beans and meat. The Sisters made the most of generous donations and sourced much of their produce direct from farmers and local companies to keep the children fed and healthy and able to continue their learning.

> **"In a very special way I would like to thank our donors and benefactors for helping us. Without your generous hearts, the Sisters would not be able to give us what we need."** Ana



Ana who arrived at school last year is thriving and now in grade 8

[24] The World Bank GINI coefficient measurement of inequality, deprivation and poverty was 52.1 for Honduras in 2018, amongst the highest in Central America and the world.
[25] World Bank Honduras Overview Oct 2020
[26] Sister Liliana Martinez, SoM, Jan 2020
[27] One enormous crisis, multiple little faces, Unicef, December 2020
[28] Amnesty International Report 2021


Grade 7 new boys in class, Amarateca.

WVC CONTRIBUTIONS

WVC was able to contribute 9% of its 2020 grants to help the programmes in Honduras during the year, focusing particularly on support with food, educational supplies and equipment to help with remote learning, medicines, clothing and health, hygiene supplies and repairs.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

The Sisters were able to care for 1,448 children aged 11-18 within their humanitarian programmes - 657 girls in Tegucigalpa and 791 boys in Amarateca.

In January we were delighted to celebrate the inauguration of the new school building for the boys in Amarateca which increased capacity to 900.

Academically the children continued to work hard and excel. Cinthia in grade 9 represented Honduras in the III Mesoamerican Physics Olympiad held virtually this year. From 53 students representing nine countries, Cinthia came in the top five and won a scholarship for a physics course in the International Centre for Theoretical Physics – a great achievement.

In the boys' school new vocational classes in mechanics and welding were introduced for the Grade 10 boys and these are taught by a live-in graduate of the Guatemalan programme. In 2021 we will have the first graduates from the Boystown programme and so relevant vocational skills are essential to equip them for local vacancies. Local companies like Toyota continued to provide vocational and careers guidance for the school and direct help in preparing the boys for future job opportunities with their company.

GRADUATION, COMMUNITY WORK & WELCOMING NEW CHILDREN

In the autumn, the Sisters were able to keep up with their community outreach work (virtually) and meet new children in need of their care.

They saw hundreds of children desperate for a place at school and in January were able to welcome an additional 377 children.

1448 CHILDREN
WERE CARED FOR IN 2020



Our June grant for the programmes in Honduras helped particularly with the basic but essential infrastructure needed to put the learning online.


Cinthia in grade 9 represented Honduras in the III Mesoamerican Physics Olympiad


Training in automechanics, Boystown, Amarateca


Girlstown students singing and dancing in the gym, Girlstown

TANZANIA



Community visit, rural Tanzania

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

The Tanzanian economy has made some progress towards growth in recent years and their new President, Samia Suluhu Hassan, has a vision for the country based on a well educated and learning society.

Despite this, the rapid population growth has caused the number of people living below the poverty line of $1.35 per day to steadily increase and in 2020, the pandemic-induced economic slowdown caused the poverty rate to rise further beyond 27%.

Although there was no lockdown in Tanzania, the impact of this crisis has been especially acute among households that rely on self-employment and informal work available in urban areas. Data suggests about 140,000 jobs were lost in June 2020, and another 2.2 million informal workers suffered income losses.[29] The crisis could push an additional 600,000 people below the national poverty line.

The experience of the Sisters of Mary visiting the poorest areas confirms this. Within some of the most impoverished areas near Arusha, Mwana, Singida and Lake Victoria, women and girls in particular, experience terrible poverty and hardship.

Without intervention, young girls in families face particular problems, not least of which, is the prospect of very early marriage (sometimes from as young as twelve). Government policies specifically discriminate against girls, enabling schools to expel pregnant and married girls from school, robbing them of an education. The Sisters of Mary now have 470 young girls at the school in Pwani Region, Kisarawe.

IMPACT OF COVID-19

In late March at the request of the government and with the impending pandemic, the girls were requested to return to their families at home and during this time the Sisters maintained close contact with them. This was a difficult time for the girls as their situations at home are complex so they were thrilled and relieved to return to school in June to resume their studies.



Temperature checking to protect against Covid-19 for returning children



New children hoping for a place at the Sisters school

[29] www.worldbank.org/en/country/tanzania/overview March 2021



Excited students receive their new books from generous UK donors, 2020

WVC CONTRIBUTIONS

In 2020, WVC spent 3% of its annual grant on the programme in Tanzania. This year, whilst some of the funds were spent on food and healthcare items, most went on educational supplies and equipment and furniture for the new school library. Good quality textbooks are difficult to obtain in Tanzania and our funds were spent on titles needed by the girls to progress their lessons and on the purchase of computers and library furniture (desks and chairs) to help their studies.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS



In November 2020, the first intake of students who arrived in 2019, took and passed their national exams – a huge milestone for us all, a major step forward for them and a cause for great celebration.

In December, work was completed on the second school building to increase capacity at the school to 900 and the Sisters celebrated the official inauguration of the programme. The ceremony was attended by national and local government representatives, the Archbishop and local dignitaries. It also made national television news.

During the year, the children studied the full curriculum of subjects including English, maths, Kiswahili, geography, history, biology, physics and vocational skills in tailoring, dressmaking, bread and pastry making, computing and bookkeeping. Additional vocational options will be offered this year including electrical and solar installations to boost vocational training for the girls as the best jobs available locally are for girls with strong vocational skills.

As with last year, it wasn't all work and the girls loved their playtime, extra-curricular hobbies and excelled at sports.


New children competing in the local 5K Kisarawe community challenge - they won!

Grace is 15 from the Utaho District, Singida Region of Tanzania and is the sixth of nine children. Her mother farms to earn a living to support the family but there is rarely enough food for them all and a good harvest is reliant on rain. Their humble home affords little protection for them all and lacks basic infrastructure like electricity or water supply for drinking or sanitation.

Desperate to learn, Grace rises at 4.30 am every day to walk to the nearest school 10 km away. At 5pm she walks back home arriving at 7 pm to help her mother.

Now thanks to the generosity and kindness of our donors, we have been able to fund a place at the school in Tanzania for Grace and she joined the Sisters of Mary school in Kisarawe in January 2021. Now she is enjoying the chance to make new friends and learn new skills, ready for a better life for herself and her family.


Grace (circled) with her family and Sister Maria

GRADUATION, COMMUNITY WORK & WELCOMING NEW CHILDREN

During the year, the Sisters were able to do some additional outreach and meet thousands of young children throughout the country.

This year they encountered many young boys too, desperate for their help and a place at school and mothers unable to earn their living and feed families because of their many young and vulnerable toddlers. Planning is in place for future projects to provide day care and training facilities to meet these needs and provide education for the boys in this country.

160 of the most impoverished girls joined the school in January this year. Children like Grace (see left).

SUPPORT AND THANKS



We would like to say THANK YOU to our generous individual donors and Guardian Angels who, through their unstinting support during the year, have enabled the Sisters of Mary to continue their life-saving humanitarian work in very challenging times.









WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK:

The Big Give
The Coles-Medlock Foundation
The Grail Society
Souter Charitable Trust
The Haramead Trust
Chalk Cliff Trust
Myristrica Trust
Carmela & Ronnie Pignatelli Foundation
March Christian Trust
Bryan Guinness Charitable Trust
Forest Hill Charitable Trust
The staff at Smith & Williamson
GlobalGiving

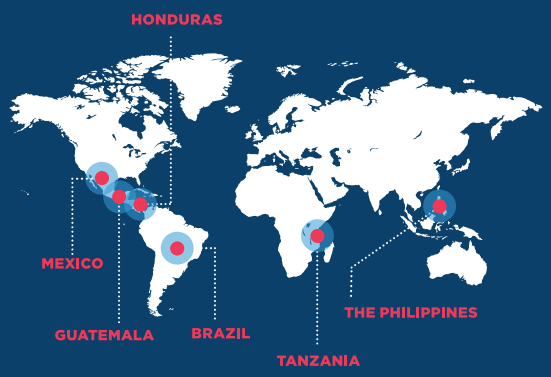
OUR IMPACT



New students arriving Amarateca, Honduras, 2020

WVC IN 2020

£3,019,184 TOTAL INCOME RAISED



6 COUNTRIES

150K TOTAL NUMBER OF GRADUATES TO DATE

2,672 graduates IN 2020

IN 2020 2,698 new children were welcomed

20K TOTAL STUDENTS IN PROGRAMMES

A BED FOR EVERY CHILD

3X MEALS A DAY

- 12 SECONDARY SCHOOLS
- 3 DAYCARE CENTRES
- 1 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- 3 TRAINING CENTRES

3 MEDICAL CENTRES

OUR FUNDING PROVIDES

- FOOD & WATER
- EDUCATION
- KITCHEN EQUIPMENT
- CLOTHING & SHOES
- UTILITIES
- FURNITURE
- CONSUMABLES
- REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

THE STORIES OF OUR GRADUATES

The stories of our graduates demonstrate the transformative power of the Sisters of Mary programmes and the impact of our work.





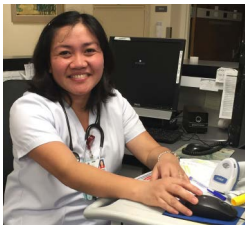




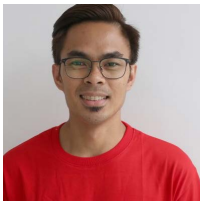




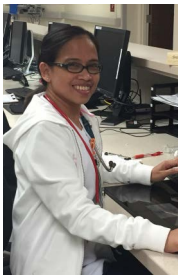








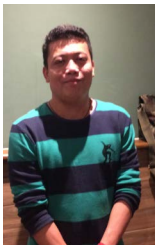















LUIS'S STORY

GUATEMALA

> "Honestly, without the excellent education I received thanks to the Sisters and World Villages for Children, I would not be where I am now with my job and my ability to help my family live a better life."

EARLY LIFE

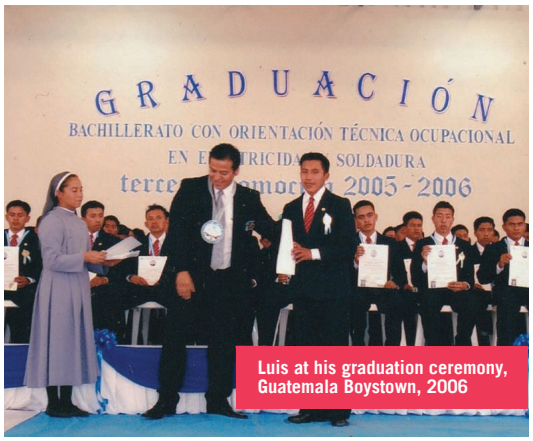
Born into a family of eight siblings in rural Guatemala, Luis was facing a bleak future farming corn and beans in his impoverished rural community. He often worked seven days a week without a break, labouring on the farm and doing odd jobs to raise enough money for his family to eat.

There was no time for school and the family often went hungry: "Ever since I was a child I always dreamt of being able to study so I could have a better life".

In 2002, his dream came true when the Sisters were able to offer Luis a place at the Sisters of Mary boys' school in Zona 6.

Luis graduated from the school in 2006 and says that it 'literally changed my life'.

He says: "Honestly, without the excellent education I received thanks to the Sisters and World Villages for Children, I would not be where I am now with my job and my ability to help my family live a better life."



Luis at his graduation ceremony, Guatemala Boystown, 2006

AFTER GRADUATION

Now employed as a senior manager at the headquarters of a leading car maintenance firm in Guatemala, Luis holds down a steady job and in 2019, he studied for his first degree in Business Administration and from there, started a master's degree in Formulation and Evaluation. He now leads a team of fifteen employees, four of whom are graduates from the Sisters of Mary programmes.

"When I entered the school everything for me took a different direction. My life changed completely. It prepared me to move forward in life and be able to compete on a level playing field." Luis reflects.

Luis is now married with a son and they have their own house. Through his career, he has been able to support all his family out of poverty which includes financially supporting his youngest sister's education and inspiring his brothers to become entrepreneurs.



Evelyn with two students of the SoM programmes during on the job training.

EVELYN'S STORY

PHILIPPINES

> "I am grateful and thankful that the Sisters of Mary helped me and nurtured me not only in advance vocational training but also with good attitudes and values."



Evelyn and Sister Ame at the offices of Regan Industrial, 2017

EARLY LIFE

Evelyn was born in Lipit Manaoag Pangasinan in the Philippines, the eldest of five children from a very poor family.

Life was hard for Evelyn until she was introduced to the Sisters in 1991 by her Parish Priest and was offered a place at their school in Cavite.

She thrived at school in the care of the Sisters and made the most of her opportunity. She excelled in the academic studies and the vocational training. She says "I am grateful and thankful that the Sisters of Mary helped me and nurtured me not only in advance vocational training but also with good attitudes and values".

Her parents were thankful for the chance for their eldest daughter and so extremely grateful for the education she received from the Sisters and the values they shared with her.

AFTER GRADUATION

On leaving school she was offered full time employment in Customer services at Regan Industrial Sales. Through her time with the company she has progressed and is now HR Manager for Regan and their sister companies. They have over 1000 employees and she regularly recruits graduates from the Sisters of Mary programmes because they are regarded as "smart, reliable and efficient". She also provides on the job training opportunities for the final year children from the SoM.

Evelyn is now happily married, and has dedicated herself to sharing her success and caring for her extended family. She has paid for schooling and university for her brother and sisters to lift them out of poverty. They are now qualified and in successful careers working around the world. She continues to help her parents and now her nephews and nieces.



FELIPE'S STORY

MEXICO

EARLY LIFE

Felipe is the youngest son of a family of seven raised in Cardenas Tabasco, Mexico. They were a poor but hardworking family surviving on earnings from the farming of cocoa and sugar cane. All the children laboured hard to help with the work but income was meagre and not enough to sustain the family. There was never enough to eat and Felipe was malnourished and severely under-developed.

The Sisters met Felipe on a number of occasions during their community work but finally in 2003 they were able to offer him a place at the Boystown school in Guadalajara. He says it was "without a doubt, the best stage in my life".

He worked incredibly hard at school, absorbed everything he was taught. He says "I learned the value of hard work, self-discipline and honesty".

> **"I express my infinite gratitude and admiration to the people who have selflessly placed their trust in my academic training. I can tell you with complete frankness that every penny they invested in me was made the most of, forming a productive citizen, full, with values and virtues. "**



Felipe aged 11 at the Sisters of Mary school with Sister Michaela

AFTER GRADUATION

In 2008 he graduated from School and secured a place at technical college. In 2012, he transferred to Veracruz State to study for a Medical degree at Cristobal University. In 2018 he graduated into an internship at General Hospital No 71 Lic Benito Coquet Lagunes which he finished in 2019. Today he is Director of the Health Department in Tecolutla, Veracruz, coordinating health care for the most disadvantaged citizens of remote villages. 2020 has been a challenging year for him on the front line of care in this country during the pandemic.

In the future he wants to specialise in paediatrics and continue his work serving those most in need. He says "I express my infinite gratitude and admiration to the people who have selflessly placed their trust in my academic training. I can tell you with complete frankness that every penny they invested in me was made the most of, forming a productive citizen, full, with values and virtues. Thank you for transforming the lives of the most vulnerable in our country."


Young Manuel at school with the Sisters of Mary in Mexico


Manuel today

MULTIPLYING IMPACT OUR GRADUATES AT WORK IN THE WORLD

MEET MANUEL, MEXICO GRADUATE AND LEADER OF GRAVINI

THE IMPACT OF OUR WORK IS INCREASED WHEN THE CHILDREN GRADUATE FROM THE PROGRAMMES. THEY ARE KEEN AND MOTIVATED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE OPPORTUNITIES THEY RECEIVED AND ENSURE THEY SHARE THEIR GOOD FORTUNE TO HELP THE FUTURE GENERATIONS AT THE SCHOOL ONTO GREATER PRODUCTIVITY.

They support boys and girls currently at the schools and graduates in need of help. They also help the Sisters with programme delivery, teaching, extra-curricular support and with their outreach work in the community to reach new children in need.

Their support is inspirational for the children at school, a lifeline for the Sisters and for graduating children and has been invaluable during the current pandemic.

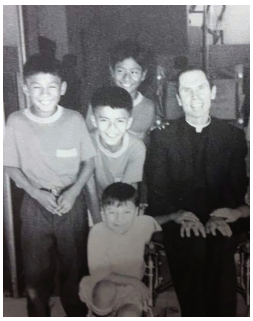
Alumni associations have been developed by these graduates in many of the countries, particularly the Philippines and Mexico, to provide more structured support for graduates and for the Sisters. In the Philippines the alumni organisation is ASMSI and in Mexico, Gravini.



Manuel entered the Sisters of Mary school for boys in Mexico as a deprived and vulnerable young boy in 2002.

He thrived under the kindness and care of the Sisters and graduated from the school in 2006. He is now a qualified lawyer, having graduated from the Law School at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM). He has practiced Law for 14 years in Mexico City and the Metropolitan Area, specialising in Registry, Real Estate and Family Law. Happily married with a family of his own, he serves as Registrar within the Public Registry of Property and Commerce of Mexico City.

He never forgot the kindness he received from the Sisters and he now provides free legal support and advice to graduates of the Sisters of Mary programmes and since 2016, Manuel has led the administration and organisation of Gravini, the alumni association for children graduating from the schools in Mexico. Supported by a dedicated group of volunteer graduates from the programmes, Gravini helps new graduates to progress, find scholarships for higher education and job vacancies that meet their skills and will help them feed their families.


Young Manuel at school and with Father Al


Manuel with his young family

The team at Gravini actively support the Sisters in seeking new relationships with organisations and companies that will provide vacancies and also with the practical processes of outreach community work to reach children with the greatest need.

These graduates and their actions embody the spirit of the Sisters of Mary programmes and facilitate the wide ranging impact on poverty relief generated by our funding.

SUMMARY OF FUTURE AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES


Busy at school. Philippines, 2020

OUR PLANS FOR 2021 AND BEYOND

Every year the number of children in need of a place at school with the Sisters of Mary far exceeds the places available. In 2021, WVC will support the Sisters of Mary in their drive to welcome the most vulnerable children into the existing schools and help fund new facilities to address the growing demand for their services.

Whilst the Sisters are not yet able to accommodate boys in Tanzania, at the request of the authorities and with the gift of the land now in place, plans for a new school in Dodoma to help the boys are in discussion and planning for a new day-care and training centre in Kiluvya are in progress.

The new centre will be a multi-purpose facility built on land offered to the SoM in Kiluvya Area, Ubungo Municipal, near Dar es Salaam.

The centre will have a dual function, offering vocational training certificates for young, impoverished women, whilst their young children are being cared for in kindergarten. WVC will support the Sisters with funding for both these projects.

The Covid-19 pandemic has amplified the misfortune of the poorest families in all the countries where the Sisters work. For the children of these families, the pre-covid 'normal' was never good enough to begin with and the economic and welfare fallout may now face them further in the future as they deal with the brunt of the crisis.

Their need has increased the demand for new places at the Sisters of Mary programmes and the urgency of our fundraising work.

OUR SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES FOR 2021 TO ADDRESS THIS INCLUDE:

FUNDRAISING – We will maintain the momentum built in 2020 on diversifying our income and grow our revenues particularly in the trusts & foundations, major gifts and digital income streams. As we invest in new methods and evolve our fundraising towards our growth targets for these income streams, we will build overall income and increase our contribution to the goals of the Sisters of Mary. Specific aims in 2021 will be to support the SoM programmes in welcoming more children in need of education worldwide and particularly at the new programmes in Tanzania.

QUALITY – in our fundraising practice remains a focus. In 2021 we will continue to make use of new learning opportunities and testing as well as external indicators to benchmark against others in the sector and develop our performance. Efficiency in income generation remains essential but understanding of our work and that of the SoM, our supporters and long term engagement strategies which are tailored to their philanthropic needs, are a priority.

GOVERNANCE – Objectives on governance and the development of the WVC board which were part of the 2016 Governance Review and were set for 2020 will be moved forward in 2021.

In line with the direction of the Charity Governance Code we will carry out a skills audit and recruit new trustees who supplement the skill sets and experience currently in place.

Recruiting additional board members who live the values of the charity of compassion, dedication and integrity will bring new specialisms to the charity and give us needed capacity and diversity and support us in our oversight function. Evaluation of the board composition and recruitment to provide a diverse membership will more accurately reflect our beneficiary audience and ensure we stay relevant to those we support.

IMPACT MEASUREMENT – Through 2021 the charity will continue to progress its theory of change project. Gathering and consolidating high quality tracking and monitoring data on the Sisters of Mary programmes, their humanitarian work and the outcomes for the children will continue to be vital. In 2021 the priority for us will be to develop a system for this data collection and narrow the focus from the enormous amount of data available to that relevant data. That which supports evaluation and impact measurement and provides us with the base line counterfactual evidence required to give the impact measurements credibility.



FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR 2020

New fundraising appeals to support new SoM programmes including a daycare and training centre in Tanzania

FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR 2020 IS SET OUT IN THE ATTACHED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES. TOTAL INCOME FOR THE YEAR WAS £3,019,184, AN INCREASE ON 2019 OF 2.5%.

It was our most challenging year for fundraising due to the operational constraints presented by the Covid 19 pandemic. However, our funding model provided us with some resilience and final results exceeded our recast budgets, exceeded 2019 income and redress some of the decline in direct mail revenue seen in 2019. Legacy income continues to be volatile however. Overall legacy income was up slightly on 2019 but whilst notifications were increased in 2020, delays in administration and completion of estates affected distribution of income during the year meaning much of this income arrived towards the end of the year and remained to be distributed at year end.

In 2020, despite the pandemic, we were particularly pleased to see increases in Trust and Foundation and digital income as our portfolio of revenue streams diversified and fundraising activity increased in these areas.

This growth results from investment in capacity in this function and is a continuing focus for 2021. Donor attrition continues to be a feature however and so acquisition of donors and particularly engagement with new donor audiences is a 2021 priority. The brand review, new website and digital acquisition plans will support this engagement strategy through 2021.

We were pleased to maintain our fundraising efficiency in 2020, with ROI combined remaining a very healthy £10 raised for every £1 invested.

As in previous years the majority of our income is unrestricted although in 2020 there was a slight increase in restricted income to 2% of the whole. We are most grateful to our supporters for not restricting the majority of their donations as it allows the Sisters of Mary to distribute our funds where they are most needed. In 2020 much of this was for vital food, healthcare and educational supplies which were an urgent need to protect and educate the children during the Covid 19 pandemic. This remains an ongoing priority in 2021.

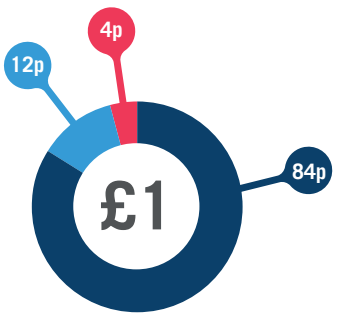
EXPENDITURE

In 2020 expenditure was £2,875,248 against £2,896,305 in 2019, a 1% reduction. These lower total expenditures reflect a slight decrease in our grants sent to the Sisters of Mary (£2,070,024 in 2020 v £2,084,259 in 2019 - 0.6% reduction) and cost reductions in operating expenses but include an increase in cost of raising funds (from £256,481 in 2019 to £350,015 in 2020); this reflects the increased investment in fundraising. The net reduction in operating costs continues the downward trend in this cost centre and in 2020 they were lower than the original forecast, the recast made during the year and 2019.

At the end of the year we were delighted to settle the outstanding liability to our US Charity affiliate and this settlement was distributed as additional grant funding to the Sisters of Mary. Our total grant distribution to the Sisters for the year was therefore £2,174,421.84.

The investments made in fundraising continue our strategy to build a diverse funding model to maintain resilience for the charity in a dynamic fundraising environment and manage risk around income raising.

Reserves were increased in 2020 in line with the increased operating risk of the Covid 19 pandemic. However, by maintaining a lean operating model we continue to ensure an efficient operation and that all the gifts we receive from our donors are expeditiously and efficiently handled and distributed to the Sisters of Mary programmes where they will benefit the children.



In 2020 for every £ donated we spent 84 pence on our charitable activities, 12 pence generating funds and retained 4 pence for the future.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Throughout 2020 and the Covid 19 pandemic, analysis and management of the risks facing the charity was a priority. The risk register was routinely updated to reflect the changing nature of the risks during the period and the trustees met regularly to review this.

We identify risk in the following categories: Environmental/External, Finance, Government & Management, Operational and Compliance.

The risk register and heatmap of risks allows the board high level analysis of risk on the basis of likelihood of occurrence and severity of impact.

They put in place appropriate controls and strategies to mitigate, manage or avoid the key risks. Low- level risks are managed by the UK Manager but high level risks are evaluated at quarterly full board meetings or at the weekly sub-committee of the trustees.

THE CHARITY CLASSIFIES THE FOLLOWING AS ITS MOST SIGNIFICANT CURRENT RISKS:

RISK	RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY
OPERATIONAL RISK **IT Security/ Cyber Security**	**Breaches in IT Security and general cyber risk is regarded as a potential threat to WVC especially during remote working. The risk is managed as follows:** ■ IT infrastructure and security is overseen full time by ISO accredited IT support company. ■ Best practice processes and updated software are in place to test, monitor and protect network and devices ■ Cyber Essentials accreditation was achieved this year. ■ Cyber insurance covers the key risks and potential losses. ■ Training, agreed policies and employment conditions are in place to encourage staff in secure IT working practices. ■ Business continuity/data loss plan/disaster recovery plan in place and tested
OPERATIONAL RISK **Absence/ loss of key staff**	**WVC operates with a small team of 6. Absence of staff members or permanent loss of a member is immediately operationally significant. WVC minimises the impact of this on its activities by:** ■ Documenting essential processes. ■ Cross training staff to supplement and cover key skills. ■ Succession planning for senior management roles.
FINANCIAL RISK **Reliance on limited income streams/ decline in income**	**WVC manages the risk to income as follows:** ■ Regular testing and ongoing analysis of direct mail fundraising to manage fundraising efficiency and avoid the risk of decline in the income stream. ■ Delays in administration of legacy income are being managed by more proactive stewardship and new fundraising activity. ■ Analysis and new investment in new fundraising methods and resourcing to develop new income streams. ■ Acquisition activity to engage new audiences to support long term income growth.
OPERATIONAL RISK **Supplier dependence**	**To carry out its work WVC is dependent on relationships with a small number of dedicated suppliers. The post pandemic environment is difficult and risk of supplier failure is increased. WVC are managing this risk by:** ■ Enlarging network of relationships for certain services. ■ Testing with new suppliers.
FINANCIAL RISK **Fraud**	**Robust control and oversight of income processing is a priority for WVC. Fraud is a risk and is managed as follows:** ■ Separation of responsibilities for activities and control on signing levels and account access. ■ Comprehensive and auditable record of income and expenditure. ■ Regular reconciliation of income and expenditure and spot checking of income recording activity ■ Documented processes on income processing (particularly for cash) and good financial management which are updated, signposted for staff and for which training is provided. ■ Staff policies on whistleblowing, fraud and money laundering and gift acceptance.
OPERATIONAL RISK - STAFF HEALTH AND WELFARE	**Managing the risk to staff health and welfare during the pandemic was a priority in 2020** ■ IT facilitated remote working to allow staff to work from home. effectively where this was necessary. ■ Employee assistance and additional HSE and NHS support and medical resources were provided to aid staff wellbeing and also to support their safe return to office work.



Sisters in their recent community work, Guerrero mountains, Mexico

RESPONSE TO COVID-19 AND ASSESSMENT OF GOING CONCERN

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these accounts. The Trustees have made this assessment in respect to a period of one year from the date of approval of these accounts. The Trustees of the Charity have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees are of the opinion that the Charity will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

The Trustees have considered a number of factors when forming their conclusion as to whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate. They take into account the budget forecast for 2021 up to December 2022, cash flow forecast to December 2022 and the review of risks facing the charity, particularly the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic for the period to the end of 2022 and beyond. Key current risk is the decline in income due to economic slowdown resulting from the pandemic.

Our fundraising planning addresses this risk and since year end fundraising has continued consistently, overseen weekly by the board sub-committee to monitor performance and liquidity. Expenditures and operating efficiency continue to be closely scrutinised by management and the whole board quarterly, with forecasts adjusted for different outcomes to assess liquidity and going concern status.

Our planning beyond 2022 takes into consideration the changing fundraising context and the economic climate and its potential impact on the various sources of income and planned expenditure.

The Charity's monthly financial statements, along with a cash flow forecast and scenario planning, show that the Charity has sufficient funds and liquidity and having regard to all of the above it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.







FUNDING SOURCES AND FUNDRAISING PRACTICE

2020 was perhaps our most challenging year for fundraising for the charity but we were touched by the engagement of our committed donors who continued to support us by responding to our direct mail appeals, many transitioning their giving to online to support us. As in previous years, in 2020 we raised our income through direct mail appeals, regular committed giving from our Guardian Angel donors and residuary and pecuniary gifts from legacies.

In 2020 we were delighted to receive some major gifts from individual donors and funding from new relationships with trusts and foundations and to see an increase in income from our digital fundraising which grew in 2020. We were pleased to build our digital presence and audience of donors and delighted to exceed our targets for two specific digital appeals – the Big Give appeal for Guatemala and Global Giving appeal for Honduras.

Despite the operating obstacles presented by the Covid 19 pandemic we were able to continue with our original fundraising plan for 2020. Direct mail appeals focused on informing our donor audience about the needs of the children in the care of the Sisters, their early lives of poverty and providing funding for school places for new children. In the Spring we ran a specific campaign aimed at the need for food and supporting the Sisters with their food budget and donors responded well. Even whilst locked down and without access to the post, our donors responded online or by phone and all campaign results in 2020 exceeded 2019 and our forecasts. The Christmas appeals again did particularly well utilising artwork from the Sisters and children at the SoM schools.

Legacy income exceeded our forecast for 2020. Our notifications of residuary and pecuniary legacy gifts were the highest ever but gifts were difficult to administer in 2020 due to lockdown and existing delays around probate and so receipt of this income was sporadic only picking up at year end. In 2021 fundraising towards this income stream is a priority and the forecast for the year is in line with 2020.

The relationships we have with our supporters and their generous donations are vital to the work we do with our beneficiaries. Their support and feedback drives the design of our fundraising and we aim to be transparent in everything we do in managing our fundraising, particularly in regard to the costs associated with this activity. In 2020 we continued to closely scrutinise fundraising costs and return on investment to ensure efficient use of our donors' funds. We made good use of data insight in 2020 and tailored our approaches so that they reflected the engagement needs of our donors.

Into 2021 new capacity in fundraising and new investment in this activity will focus on diversifying our income, reaching new donor audiences and ensuring sustainability for the future.

Our fundraising is designed in house. Content and information about activities at the programmes and the needs and situation of the children in our care is provided by the Sisters of Mary. The board of trustees monitor the content closely to ensure compliance with CC20 and we rely on external partners to support us with producing our direct mail appeals, managing responses and much of our banking of donations. The partnerships we enter into are closely scrutinised at procurement and ongoing with regular site and account review visits (done remotely in 2020). We continue to mystery shop to ensure the accuracy and quality of all fundraising output, the donor experience of the appeal, efficiency of processing through to banking, thanking and reconciliation.

World Villages for Children is a member of the Fundraising Regulator, the NCVO and the Direct Marketing Association. The fundraising team and senior management maintain membership of the Chartered Institute of Fundraising (one member is certified) and closely uphold the ethics and principles of the Fundraising Regulator in their day-to-day work with donors. Staff receive regular updates and training to stay current on the standards required for fundraising from FR, NCVO and CIoF briefings.

The charity has a complaints policy which is readily available on the website or by hard copy if required. We were pleased to note there were no complaints received in 2020 compared to one complaint in 2019. Enquiries to the charity are actioned within 48 hours and all feedback good or bad is appreciated to help us progress and improve. We take great care to protect the interests of our more vulnerable donors. We follow the guidance issued by the CIoF on treating donors fairly. Our vulnerable donors' policy ensures that any donor notified to us as vulnerable, or who we believe may lack capacity, is not contacted for fundraising purposes.

In 2020 we maintained our mechanisms for protecting donor data and supporting the rights of all data subjects. We continue to receive very few right to erasure requests but those received are actioned promptly in line with our rights of the individual policy. Similarly, specific communication requests are actioned as received.

Data protection by design is integral to all our fundraising and operational activities and is a priority consideration for all new fundraising activities. Our privacy policy covers how we use our donors' data and provides opportunities for all donors to opt out of contact with us or make a complaint. www.worldvillages.org.uk/privacy_policy



Young boy working on the rubbish dumps of the Philippines

RESERVES

WVC reserves policy forms a major part of our risk management and resilience planning. WVC reserves are intended to manage the risk of downturn in income, to provide continuity and cover for unforeseen risks.

In designing its reserves approach, WVC assess the level of core costs, the specific risk around each element of income and the quality of the income received for its contribution to surplus. The policy is reviewed regularly against performance, the changing nature of the external fundraising environment and the changing risks to the income of the charity, particularly in the current post Covid 19 context.

It is a balanced approach to provide sufficient reserves for financial confidence but also to ensure our donor funds are utilised promptly and sufficiently for our charitable purpose.

The majority of our income (98%) is currently unrestricted and contributes to a level of reserves which is determined as six months' expenditure, excluding the grants to the Sisters of Mary. This total is £305,525.

The board have agreed that these reserves can be retained in the following manner – a minimum of £225,218 to be held in liquid assets which can be accessed within 95 days and the remainder to be held on the balance sheet as legacy debtor.

At 31 December 2020, the total reserves figure was £667,606 of which £647,708 is represented by unrestricted reserves and £19,898 by restricted reserves. Free reserves at year end, taking into account assets that are not readily available, were £577,515.

The board note that the free reserve total at 31 December 2020 is in excess of the policy and this is due to delays in legacy distributions and a large legacy balance received late in the year and included in debtors (prior to distribution to our charitable programmes).



New boys excited to receive brand new uniforms and learning materials

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

World Villages for Children was incorporated on 23rd October 1996. Our Governing document is the Memorandum and Articles of Association which was revised in September 2017.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Day to day management of the Charity is delegated to the UK Manager, Nicola Lawson, who is also authorised by the Charity Commission to serve as a trustee on the board.

The board of trustees are the central governance function for the charity and they are committed to maintaining a high standard of corporate governance. They are responsible for overarching scrutiny of the charity and decisions relating to strategic direction, objective setting for mission delivery, risk management, performance management, grant making and compliance with all regulatory standards and requirements.

Grant expenditure processes with the overseas beneficiaries (the Sisters of Mary) are covered by an overarching grant making policy with reporting on expenditure tracked and monitored by the UK Manager and the Board.

Potential conflicts relating to the board activities or in regard to the appointment of the UK Manager as trustee are managed in accordance with the conflicts of interest policy. Declaration of interest, related party transactions and risk register are maintained and updated annually.

CHARITY GOVERNANCE CODE

In 2020 WVC was well supported by the steady presence and engagement of its dedicated and effective board. WVC is best placed to fulfil its vision, mission and strategic goals if it has good, effective and responsive governance in place. Through the recommendations of our governance review which was completed in 2016, we are building a solid foundation in governance with Trustees who are clear about their roles and legal responsibilities and are committed to supporting the Charity.

The principles of the Charity Governance Code are used by the board to provide direction on development. The board demonstrate the principle of integrity, give generously of their time and are experienced in the charity management sector, ethical in their approach and robust in scrutiny. They adopt the principle of organisational purpose and leadership, driving strategy development, reporting on objectives and providing clear direction and support in the leadership of the charity.

As a governing group the board strive for greater capacity and effectiveness with a board of trustees of sufficient size with a wide range of experience. The board is currently 6 members. Into 2021 we also aspire to greater diversity on the board and this principle is a key objective for the year in board recruitment.

TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT, INDUCTION AND TRAINING

Trustees are recruited based on consideration of their skills, experience and knowledge as well as their interest and understanding of the work and values of the charity and our obligations towards good governance in achieving our aims.

New Trustees have an induction to familiarise themselves with their statutory responsibilities, their role within the board, the governance framework, our charity objects and work and the detailed work of the Sisters of Mary. It is mandatory for all trustees to be DBS screened and to be fully compliant with our safeguarding policy.

As part of their induction new trustees receive the opportunity to travel internationally to view the implementation of the programmes and to meet with the children and alumni of the programmes and local SoM staff and to see the outreach work of the Sisters within the communities. This supports board members to understand and fulfil their oversight responsibilities. Trustee engagement with programmes is ongoing both remote and with regular visits to the schools throughout their tenure.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH RELATED (CONNECTED) PARTIES

Through 2020 and beyond the charity continued to work closely with the family of independent affiliated charities based in the EU and US. Income from these charities sustains the Sisters of Mary programmes and the nearly 20,000 children in full time education and day care places with them each year.

These include Wereld Doorpen voor Kinderen in Belgium and the Netherlands, Villages du Monde pour Enfants in France, Asian Relief (trading as World Villages for Children (in the US) Die Schwestern Maria in Germany. These charities all share similar aims as World Villages for Children for the relief of poverty but they are separate independent, legal entities and there is no one controlling party.







ARRANGEMENTS FOR SETTING PAY AND REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

As with all staff remuneration, WVC reviews management remuneration levels to ensure that they are competitive with those of other charities of similar size and activity. Regular consultation with professional recruiters and salary survey review also keeps WVC in touch with market trends in the setting of salary levels.

Trustees are not remunerated with the exception of the UK Manager who with the authority of the Charity Commission became a trustee in 2016 and who continues to receive a salary for her daily management role.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

In setting the objectives for the charity and planning its activities, the Board has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on the public benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011. The humanitarian, poverty relief programmes we fund support those in greatest need and no charges are made for any care provided, therefore the Board considers that the charity meets the following four important principles of the Public Benefit requirements in its work:

- Relief of poverty through the funding of free education for children which enables them to access a vocation and to acquire employment – to break free from the cycle of poverty and assist their family.
- Advancement of education, by ensuring all the children attend one of our schools or daycare facilities.
- Advancing health and welfare – ensuring all the children at the schools receive medical support, proactive health care, regular food and nutrition and extra supplements where needed.
- Enabling children in the countries where we operate to access a better, poverty free future.



STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also directors of World Villages for Children for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions, disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and the provisions of the charity's constitution.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

AUDITORS

Crowe UK LLP have indicated their willingness to continue in office and are deemed to be reappointed in accordance with section 487 (2) of the Companies Act 2006.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees 7 August 2021



N Lawson
Trustee

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of World Villages for Children ('the charitable company') for the year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise Statement of Financial Activities, Balance sheet, Cashflow statement and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2020 and of its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

OTHER INFORMATION

The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

OPINIONS ON OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

In our opinion based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 50, the trustees, (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law), are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Details of the extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations are set out below. A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

EXTENT TO WHICH THE AUDIT WAS CONSIDERED CAPABLE OF DETECTING IRREGULARITIES, INCLUDING FRAUD

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We identified and assessed the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements from irregularities, whether due to fraud or error, and discussed these between our audit team members. We then designed and performed audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charitable company operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Companies Act 2006 together with the Charities SORP (FRS 102). We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the charitable company's] ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charitable company for fraud. The laws and regulations we considered in this context for the UK operations were General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), Anti-fraud, bribery and corruption legislation, Taxation legislation and Employment legislation.

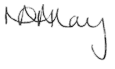
Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be within the timing of recognition of income and the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management, and the Board of Trustees about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, reviewing regulatory correspondence with the Charity Commission, and reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it. In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

USE OF OUR REPORT

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Nicola May
Senior Statutory Auditor

For and on behalf of Crowe U.K. LLP
Statutory Auditor
London

Date 9th August 2021

WORLD VILLAGES FOR CHILDREN
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted 2020 £	Restricted 2020 £	**Total Funds 2020 £**	Total Funds 2019 £
INCOME FROM					
Donations and legacies					
Donations and grants	2	2,329,380	67,795	**2,397,175**	2,330,411
Legacies	2	621,382	-	**621,382**	615,241
Interest income		627	-	**627**	639
Total		**2,951,389**	**67,795**	**3,019,184**	**2,946,291**
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising Funds		350,015	-	**350,015**	256,481
Charitable Activities		2,460,609	64,624	**2,525,233**	2,639,824
Total	3	**2,810,624**	**64,624**	**2,875,248**	**2,896,305**
Net (Expenditure)/ Income		140,765	3,171	**143,936**	49,986
Net movement in funds		140,765	3,171	**143,936**	49,986
Total Funds Brought Forward		536,943	16,727	**553,670**	503,684
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	16,17	677,708	19,898	**697,606**	553,670

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing operations.
The notes on the accompanying pages form a part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	£	2020 £	£	2019 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Intangible fixed assets	9		6,546		13,669
Tangible fixed assets	8		68,087		76,979
			74,633		**90,648**
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock		15,458		21,767	
Debtors	10	458,975		594,382	
Cash at bank and in hand		239,843		317,447	
		714,276		**933,596**	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	(75,968)		(437,336)	
Net Current Assets			638,308		496,260
Creditors: Amounts falling due in more than one year	12	(15,335)		(33,238)	
Total Net Assets			**697,606**		**553,670**
The funds of the charity					
Restricted funds			19,898		16,727
Unrestricted funds			677,708		536,943
Total Funds			**697,606**		**553,670**

The notes on the accompanying pages form a part of these financial statements.

Approved by and authorised for distribution, the Board of Trustees on 7/8/21
and signed on their behalf by:

Nicola Lawson

Nicola Lawson
Trustee
Company Registration No. 3267479

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net (Expenditure)/ income for the year	143,936	(37,530)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	16,798	36,490
Interest received	(627)	(639)
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	135,407	62,502
(Decrease) / increase in creditors	(361,368)	121,757
(Decrease) / increase in creditors	(17,903)	33,238
Decrease / (increase) in Stock	6,309	14,916
Net cash generated by operating activities	**(77,448)**	**230,734**
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Interest received	627	639
Intangible fixed assets reclassified and expensed	-	-
Purchase of fixed assets	(783)	(79,396)
Net cash from investing activities	**(156)**	**(78,756)**
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(77,604)	151,977
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	317,447	165,470
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	**239,843**	**317,447**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Status of the charity

World Villages for Children is registered as a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales (company number 03267479) and its registered office is Kings Buildings, 16 Smith Square, London SW1P 3HQ. World Villages for Children is a Public Benefit Entity registered with the Charity Commission (Charity number 1058973).

Basis of Preparation of the Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Report Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) - effective 1 January 2015.

The functional currency of the charity is Pound Sterling. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

Going Concern

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these accounts. The Trustees have made this assessment in respect to a period of one year from the date of approval of these accounts. The Trustees of the Charity have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees are of the opinion that the Charity will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

The Trustees have considered a number of factors when forming their conclusion as to whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate. They take into account the budget forecast for 2021 up to December 2022, cash flow forecast to December 2022 and the review of risks facing the charity, particularly the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic for the period to the end of 2022 and beyond. Key current risk is the decline in income due to economic slowdown resulting from the pandemic.

Our fundraising planning addresses this risk and since year end fundraising has continued consistently, overseen weekly by the board sub-committee to monitor performance and liquidity. Expenditures and operating efficiency continue to be closely scrutinised by management and the whole board quarterly with forecasts adjusted for different outcomes to assess liquidity and going concern status.

Our forward planning beyond 2022 takes into consideration the changing fundraising context and the economic climate and its potential impact on the various sources of income and planned expenditure.

The Charity's monthly financial statements, along with a cash flow forecast and scenario planning, show that the Charity has sufficient funds and liquidity and having regard to all of the above it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Legacies

Legacies are recognised in the statement of financial activities when there is entitlement, and receipt is probable. For both pecuniary and residuary legacies this is when Probate has been granted and a reasonable estimate calculated for this income.

Donations

Donations are accounted for when conditions for their receipt are met, it is probable that the amounts will be received and the amount receivable can be reliably estimated.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The key sources of uncertainty in our estimations that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are described in the accounting policies and are summarised below:

Residuary legacies

The charity recognises residuary legacies once probate has been granted, which therefore requires an estimation of the amount receivable.

Pensions

Pension contributions are made for all employees and recorded as they fall due. These are defined contributions paid to approved private pension schemes for each employee.

Taxation

World Villages for Children is a registered charity and all of its income falls within the exemptions under part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.

Gift Aid Repayments

Income from gift aid repayment claims is only included for claims which have been submitted for tax periods ending on or before the year end and when the receipt of this income is certain.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred.

Grant payments are recognised when a constructive obligation arises that results in the payment being required.

Raising funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income.

The costs of appeals are matched where possible with the income generated. The accounting effect of this policy means that, at the balance sheet date, a proportion of the cost of the December mailing is carried forward as a prepayment as part of the response anticipated in January.

Support costs including central functions and costs primarily associated with constitution and statutory requirements have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating staff cost by work done, office costs by floor area, return mail processing and finance costs by work done. The staff costs which relate specifically to fundraising for the charity have been apportioned within support costs on the basis of time calculated as spent on this activity.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Leasehold improvements	over the term of the lease
Plant and equipment	20% on cost

All assets are capitalised at a cost.

Intangible Fixed Assets

Amortisation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Website development and software	20% on cost

All assets are capitalised at cost

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds comprise monies raised for, or their use restricted to, a specific purpose, or donations subject to conditions imposed by donors.

Designated funds comprise funds set aside out of unrestricted funds for a specific purpose.

Leasing Commitments

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Foreign currency transactions

Transactions denominated in a foreign currency are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction or at an average rate for the relevant month where that provides a close approximation.

Stock

The stock held if used for the direct marketing mailings, all the stock is held at the printers and valued at cost price

Other Financial Instruments

i. ***Cash and cash equivalents***

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at banks and in hand and short-term deposits with a maturity date of three months or less. As at 31st December 2020 total cash held was £239,843 (2019: £317,447)

ii. ***Debtors and Creditors***

Debtors and creditors receivable or payable within one year of the reporting date are carried at their transaction price. Debtors and creditors that are receivable or payable in more than one year and not subject to a market rate of interest are measured at the present value of the expected future receipts or payment discounted at a market rate of interest. Balances for 2019 and 2020 are set out in notes 10 to 12.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

2. VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted 2020 £	Restricted 2020 £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Donations received (including recoverable gift aid)	2,329,380	67,795	2,397,175	2,330,411
Legacies and bequests	621,382	-	621,382	615,241
Total	**2,950,762**	**67,795**	**3,018,557**	**2,945,652**

3 ANALYSIS OF TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Direct Costs £	Support Costs £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
COST OF GENERATING FUNDS:				
Fund raising and publicity	229,743	120,272	350,015	256,481
CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE:				
Grant to the Sisters of Mary	2,070,024	-	2,070,024	2,084,259
Other Charitable Expenditure	233,886	221,323	455,209	555,565
TOTAL CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE	2,303,910	221,323	2,525,233	2,639,824
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	2,533,653	341,595	2,875,248	
31 December 2019	**2,571,911**	**324,394**		**2,896,305**

FUND RAISING AND PUBLICITY EXPENSES HAVE BEEN INCURRED ON THE FOLLOWING:	2020	2019
Direct Mail	229,743	175,175
Support Costs	120,272	81,306
	350,015	**256,481**

Support Costs consist of three main elements: management and staff costs, office costs and return mail processing and finance costs. These costs have been apportioned across the work of the charity on the basis in Note 1 and allocated to each of the charity's activity as set out in the table below.

	Management & Staff (Staff) (Note 4) £	Office Costs (Area) £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
BASIS OF APPORTIONMENT				
Fund raising and Publicity	84,614	35,658	120,272	81,306
Charitable Activities	142,116	32,915	175,031	193,507
Other Costs	27,169	17,829	44,998	49,581
Total costs allocated	**253,899**	**86,402**	**340,301**	
31 December 2019	**217,834**	**106,560**		**324,394**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

4. NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	2020 £	2019 £
NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS		
Net movement in funds is stated after charging:		
OPERATING LEASE PAYMENTS	**48,840**	**72,979**
AUDITORS REMUNERATION:		
- Audit services	18,000	18,000
- Amount due to prior year auditors	-	8,635
- Accountancy and other professional services	4,959	19,011

5. LEGACY INCOME

World Villages for Children is aware of legacies of which the charity's share is estimated at £62,000 (2019: £3,000). This has not been included in these financial statements as it does not reach the necessary recognition criteria as laid out by the charity's accounting policy.

6. STAFF COSTS

	2020 £	2019 £
STAFF COSTS COMPRISE:		
Wages and salaries	224,555	190,539
Social security costs	20,146	17,098
Pension costs	4,472	3,591
	249,173	**211,228**
Employee Seminars & Training	299	1,271
	249,472	212,499
Headcount	**6**	**5**

Key management personnel includes the Trustees. Total remuneration paid to such personnel amounted to £56,713 (2019: £56,903)

There are no higher paid employees earning £60,000 per annum or more (2019: none).

7. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION

A total of £1,293 (2019; £2,111) expenses were paid by the charity in the year. This was for two of the trustees and covered the cost of accommodation and travel required to fulfil their duties. Nicola Lawson, who became a trustee in July 2016, received remuneration of £49,750 and pension of £1,306 during the year, in her capacity as an employee of the charity. This has been discussed and agreed with the Charity Commission. No other trustee receives remuneration (2019: £nil).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Improvements £	Equipment £	Total £
COST			
At 1st January 2020	75,556	18,947	94,503
Additions	-	783	783
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2020	75,556	19,730	95,286
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st January 2020	4,397	13,127	17,524
Charge for the year	7,556	2,119	9,675
Accum Depreciation on Disposals	-	-	-
At 31st December 2020	11,953	15,246	27,199
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st December 2020	63,603	4,484	68,087
At 31st December 2019	71,159	5,820	76,979

The fixed assets are used wholly for the activities of the charitable company.

9. INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Website development & software costs	Total £
COST		
At 1st January 2020	33,311	33,311
Disposal	-	-
At 31 December 2020	33,311	33,311
AMORTISATION		
At 1st January 2020	19,642	19,642
Charge for the year	7,123	7,123
Disposal	-	-
At 31st December 2020	26,765	26,765
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31st December 2020	6,546	6,546
At 31st December 2019	13,669	13,669

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

10. DEBTORS

	2020 £	2019 £
Legacies receivable	370,699	481,771
Gift aid receivable	27,304	29,864
Prepayments	41,553	52,322
Other debtors	19,419	30,425
	458,975	594,382

11. CREDITORS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2020 £	2019 £
Trade creditors	75,968	285,700
Amounts due to affiliates of World Villages for Children	-	151,636
	75,968	437,336

12. CREDITORS DUE IN MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2020 £	2019 £
OTHER CREDITORS	15,335	33,238

13. LEASE COMMITMENTS

	LAND AND BUILDINGS	
	2020 £	2019 £
At 31st December, the charity has total future minimum commitments under operating leases as follows:		
Within one year	57,456	57,456
Between one and five years	190,471	229,824
Over five years	-	18,103
	247,927	305,383

14. CONNECTED PARTIES

World Villages for Children based in the United Kingdom pays on behalf of, and has had paid on its behalf, various expenses related to the charity as a whole by other affiliates based overseas.

The charity made grants totalling £2,070,024 to The Sisters of Mary in the year (2019: £2,084,259), which while not a strict affiliate is closely aligned to the ideals of the charity.

Balances between other affiliates have been settled before the balance sheet date except for those balances due to, and from, such affiliates as disclosed in Notes 10 and 11 of the financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

14. CONNECTED PARTIES (CONTINUED)

Two trustees of the charity, Sister D.L Cho and Sister Elena Grengia Belarmino also sit on the boards of four other humanitarian entities that all share similar vision and purpose as World Villages for Children; these entities are in France, Netherlands, Belgium and the US. In addition, one former trustee, Sister Y Cheong, also sits on the board of the U.S entity. However, World Villages for Children does not consolidate these foreign entities in its financial statements, as they are separate legal entities with no one controlling party.

They were no other financial dealings with these entities during the year, apart from those transactions, and year end balances already disclosed below (and as shown within Notes 8 and 9 of the financial statements).

Of the foreign entities mentioned above, the following transactions occurred:

	Country	2020 Payments (to)/from £	2020 Balance	2019
DEBTORS / (CREDITORS)				
Asian Relief, Inc.	US	(151,636)	-	(151,636)

There was an agreement by the boards of both the US and UK charity, formalised with a Memorandum of Understanding signed in December 2020. This agreed that the balance owing to the US World Villages for Children would be directly remitted to The Sisters of Mary to support their charitable works. This payment was made on 29th December 2020 and is seen as a full settlement of the debt.

15. MEMBERS' LIMITED LIABILITY

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of the same being wound up while they are a member. This contribution, not exceeding £10, covers the payment of debts and liabilities of the company contracted before each individual ceased to be a member and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves.

16. ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS

	Balance @ 01.01.2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance @ 31.12.2020 £
Unrestricted	536,943	2,951,389	(2,810,624)	-	677,708
Restricted	16,727	67,795	(64,624)	-	19,898
Total	553,670	3,019,184	(2,875,248)	-	697,606

The restricted funds relate to an appeal that raised funds for the school in Guatemala.

	Balance @ 01.01.2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance @ 31.12.2019 £
Unrestricted	493,490	2,926,499	(2,893,046)	10,000	536,943
Restricted	10,194	19,792	(3,259)	(10,000)	16,727
Total	503,684	2,946,291	(2,896,305)	-	553,670

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

17. ANALYSIS OF GROUP NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Intangible fixed assets	6,546	-	6,546
Tangible fixed assets	68,087	-	68,087
Cash at bank and in hand	219,945	19,898	239,843
Other net current assets	398,465	-	398,465
Creditors falling due in more than one year	(15,335)	-	(15,335)
	677,708	19,898	697,606

	Unrestricted Funds 2019	Restricted Funds 2019	Total 2019
Intangible fixed assets	13,669	-	13,669
Tangible fixed assets	76,979	-	76,979
Cash at bank and in hand	300,720	16,727	317,447
Other net current assets	178,813	-	178,813
Creditors falling due in more than one year	(33,238)	-	(33,238)
	536,943	16,727	553,670

18. PRIOR YEAR STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted 2019 £	Restricted 2019 £	Total Funds £
INCOME FROM			
Donations and legacies			
Donations and grants	2,310,619	19,792	**2,330,411**
Legacies	615,241	-	**615,241**
Interest income	639	-	**639**
Total	**2,926,499**	**19,792**	**2,946,291**
EXPENDITURE ON:			
Raising Funds	256,481	-	**256,481**
Charitable Activities	2,636,565	3,259	**2,639,824**
Total	**2,893,046**	**3,259**	**2,896,305**
Net Income	33,453	16,533	**49,986**
Transfer between funds	10,000	(10,000)	-
Net movement in funds	43,453	6,533	**49,986**
Total Funds Brought Forward	493,490	10,194	**503,684**
Total Funds Carried Forward	536,943	16,727	**553,670**



School poster making competition, 2020

"EDUCATION HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY AFFECTED BY THE PANDEMIC. MOST OF THE WORLD'S COUNTRIES HAVE SHUT THEIR SCHOOLS IN AN EFFORT TO SLOW THE TRANSMISSION OF THE VIRUS. BUT WE CONTINUE TO HAVE ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION. ALL THESE ARE MADE POSSIBLE BY THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE HELPED US EVERY STEP OF THE WAY."

Shiela, Philippines Graduate, 2020.

World Villages for Children

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