



# The Bethany Children's Trust

Annual Report to 31 August 2021

# Charity information

## Trustees of The Bethany Children's Trust (BCT)

Mrs Gill Bradley  
Mrs Ruth Ejvet  
Ms Rose Ndolo (from January 2022)  
Mr Jonathan Smith (until April 2021)  
Mr Geoff Walls  
Mrs Hazel Whiting

## Operations Manager

Lyn Edwards

## Governing Document

Trust Deed dated 23 December 1998, as amended 5 December 2003  
Charity Registration Number 1073817

## Registered Office

Office 214, Hill House, 210 Upper Richmond Road, London SW15 6NP

## Website

[www.bethanychildrenstrust.org.uk](http://www.bethanychildrenstrust.org.uk)

## Independent Examiner

Archie McDowall, BA, CA, Stewardship, 1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB

## Bankers

The Co-operative Bank plc	Natwest
Head Office	Wokingham Branch
PO Box 101	5 Broad Street
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Manchester	Berkshire
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### **BCT is dedicated to mobilising Christians to respond to the needs of children at risk.**

Our vision is to see the Christian church leading the way in building a local and global society where every child is loved, safe, valued, nurtured and free to reach their God-given potential. Through teaching, training, advice, networking and financial support, BCT equips project partners to help restore the lives of marginalised and vulnerable children and to bring about changes in the attitudes, practices and situations that harm them. These marginalised children include those affected by abuse, exploitation, HIV, homelessness, disability and poverty.

# The Bethany Children's Trust

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## Letter from the Chair of Trustees

As Chair of BCT's trustees, I am proud of what we and our overseas partners have accomplished this year. I am all the more proud because of what we have overcome together in order to make this positive impact in the lives of children and their communities. COVID has continued to make it more difficult for our partners to carry out their planned activities, and has also created food supply problems, exacerbated by the effects of climate change. We have even seen a volcanic eruption, devastating an area of Goma where our local partner operates. The needs of marginalised children have never been more acute, nor the context of our work more challenging.

And yet, I also look back on this year with gratitude. I am grateful to our partners, who persevere in doing extraordinary work in the hardest of circumstances. I am grateful to our supporters who play such a crucial role within BCT by praying, encouraging us and giving financially. And I am profoundly grateful to God, who has guided us, sustained us and provided for us. Through his faithfulness, lives are being changed. God's promise in Isaiah 43:2-3 says: 'When you pass through the waters, I will be with you... When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned... For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.' We have certainly been through trials this year, but God has indeed been faithful.

The very fact that huge and complex issues exist reminds me that we are exactly where God wants us, doing exactly what he would have us do. So, we are determined to continue unthwarted, depending on God for strength, wisdom and provision, and to persevere in serving the most marginalised of children. This is what we are called to do: to see what the Lord is doing and to follow where he leads.

Gill Bradley

BCT Chair of Trustees

## BCT's Approach to Fundraising

BCT is just as committed to 'friend-raising' as to fundraising. We see building relationships with supporters and potential supporters as an integral part of raising funds to resource our own and our partners' work. Therefore, we take a no-pressure approach to fundraising. Our focus is on sharing stories of transformation, highlighting how we are making a difference to individual children and entire communities, then presenting opportunities for members of the public to support this work, if they wish to. We use printed communications, social media channels and presentations at events in order to share these stories, and leave it to the public to decide what their response may be, if any. If an existing supporter wishes to cease receiving communications from BCT, they can contact either our own office or the Fundraising Preference Service and we will ensure that they no longer receive such communications.

Our policy means that we value the supporter and their wellbeing as an individual as much as any support they may be able to offer BCT. It means that we offer a range of opportunities to engage with BCT's work beyond financial support and take time and care to nurture positive relationships with them.

A small number of supporters choose to go beyond giving funds to BCT's work and become BCT Ambassadors. These Ambassadors give of their time, expertise and resources to promote BCT's work in their churches and communities, mobilising prayer and even organising their own fundraising events. We maintain close relationships with our Ambassadors, ensuring they are equipped for their efforts, up to date with good practice in fundraising, and fully aware of how grateful we are for their efforts on our behalf.

We also write fundraising applications to grant-making trusts that exist to disburse grants as they see fit.

### Currently, funding is provided from a variety of sources:

**Grant-making Trusts** – We have a small but committed group of grant-making trusts who support us on a regular basis. Other grant-making trusts support us with occasional one-off gifts.

**Supporters** – We receive ongoing monthly support from many supporters, usually by standing order and direct debit, and also one-off donations. We also have long-standing relationships with many churches and some schools, which include their supporting us financially.

**Events** – As a small charity that lacks the capacity to organise its own fundraising events, BCT encourages our supporters to join us in taking part in fundraising events which meet our ethical standards and faith values, and are arranged by other organisations (such as sponsored walks and runs). We receive funding from supporters who have raised sponsorship by taking part in these types of events.

**Legacy Funding** – We receive occasional funding by legacy donations.

**Media** – BCT also encourages fundraising through the promotion of its charitable activities via its communications media: print publications, online presence and social media.

## BCT's vision and mission

### Commitment to Public Benefit

BCT's trustees confirm that they have paid due attention to public benefit in their role of overseeing the work of BCT and are satisfied that all BCT activities meet public benefit requirements as defined by the Charity Commission's general guidelines. Everything BCT has done in the period covered by this report has been to bring benefit to the lives of our key beneficiaries – children at risk – by influencing, equipping and enabling churches, Christian projects and individuals to respond to their needs and to address root issues, beliefs and practices that harm them.

### Summary of BCT's objects, as set out in its Declaration of Trust

- a) To relieve persons, particularly children who are in conditions of need or hardship or who are sick, and to relieve the distress caused thereby in such parts of the world as the Trustees may from time to time decide.
- b) To advance the Christian faith in accordance with BCT's Statement of Beliefs in such parts of the world as the Trustees may from time to time decide.
- c) To advance education in accordance with Christian principles by such means as the Trustees may consider appropriate.

### BCT's Vision...

...is to see the Christian Church leading the way in building a local and global society where every child is loved, valued, safe, nurtured and free to reach their God-given potential.

### BCT's Mission...

...is to mobilise a Christian response to the needs of the most marginalised children. We work wherever God leads us, strengthening the capacity of churches to lead their communities in caring for children and addressing the roots of beliefs, practices and circumstances that harm them. We work with churches directly, through local project partners and by networking and collaborating with other organisations.

# How BCT has benefited marginalised children

## We assisted churches and Christian organisations to develop initiatives to bring about holistic transformation in the lives of vulnerable children

BCT exists to transform the lives of vulnerable children. We believe wholeheartedly that every child is created in God's image and therefore inherently precious. And we believe that every child should be loved, cared for and enabled to fulfil their God-given potential. Therefore, we actively seek out the most marginalised of children – the ones who slip through the net, who are neglected by their communities and whose suffering goes unnoticed because they are hidden away or overlooked – and we act to see their lives changed, practically, socially, emotionally and spiritually.

We believe in the Church. We believe churches are uniquely placed to influence change on a local basis, and that they understand their communities, their children and the most important local issues far better than we do. So, local churches are our focus. We seek to equip churches to reach their own communities, rather than doing it for them, so that they will continue to influence godly transformation even many years into the future. We connect with and equip churches directly through our *Transformation Resources*, and indirectly through our project partners.

**Note:** It is our longstanding habit to visit each project partner every two years. Unfortunately, our ability to carry out overseas visits has been severely hampered by COVID-19. However, since the beginning of the pandemic, we have redoubled our efforts to support our partners by phone, email, Zoom and WhatsApp, while in-person contact has been impossible. Our partners have continued to provide quarterly narrative and financial reports throughout this period, so we have a firm understanding of the work they have been carrying out.

## Enabling projects to develop strategically and according to good practice

Our partners do amazing things with scant resources and, often, in incredibly difficult circumstances. But we believe their already excellent work can always be strengthened. So, drawing on over 20 years' experience, we work alongside our partners to help them in formulating strategies which will enable them to meet their communities' most acute needs. We help them to make the most of the resources and personnel available to them, and to operate in line with best practice in safeguarding and project management, in order to maximise their impact on marginalised children.

## Enabling projects to monitor and evaluate their work and to be accountable

Monitoring and evaluation are vital in ensuring our partners' work is as effective as possible. So we equip our partners with tools to help them record the measurable outcomes from each of their activities, and we work with them to refine their annual plans so as to emphasise the most effective areas of their work. These steps also enable our UK team to better understand the contexts in which our partners are operating.

## Creating resources to challenge harmful attitudes and beliefs

The abuse and neglect of children is very often underpinned by misguided beliefs. For example, the belief that death, sickness and financial loss are the results of witchcraft often leads to children being called 'witches' and subjected to extreme physical and emotional abuse.

Our *Transformation Resources* address child abuse by unpacking the attitudes and beliefs which cause it. 'Transform Disability' addresses misconceptions about disability and disabled children, 'Transform Families' encourages positive parenting by discussing common views on family life, and 'Let's Grow!' tackles food insecurity through addressing lack of knowledge about nutrition and agriculture.

All of the completed *Transformation Resources* material is available for download, absolutely free, through our website. And each element of the resources is piloted through trusted churches and Christian agencies – including our project partners – before being released for general use. The latest developments on *Transformation Resources* are outlined on page 17 of this report.

## Provision of training

We love what our partners do, and we marvel at what they achieve in bringing God-inspired transformation into children's lives. But we always aim to strengthen our partners' work further and to help them become even more effective.

Under normal circumstances, we help our partners to identify areas in which they would benefit from training, and we then enable them to access training which meets their needs. This either involves delivering the training ourselves or, where the training requires a specialism we do not have within the organisation, helping our partners to access training from an alternative provider.

This year, COVID has made face-to-face training very difficult, and overseas travel has been all but impossible. However, we have still been able to provide our partners with standalone training materials which we have created (most notably on COVID, health and healing, and mental health issues). We have also provided forums to share expertise and good practice through the two SCWA online forums, and have connected EPAM with LVLE (who operate in the same city) for training on addressing witchcraft accusations.

### Enabling networking

There is often valuable wisdom to be gained from other organisations and individuals. So we are always on the look out for other people doing good work to serve marginalised children, either in the same geographical areas as our partners or focusing on the same issues. When we identify groups like these, we encourage our partners to connect with them. Sharing ideas and experience can often be beneficial for both sides.

This also applies to new sources of funding: we help our partners to identify potential new financial backers, so that they will be better resourced. In the end, we aim for all of

our partners to reach a stage where they no longer need BCT's support and are able to operate independently.

### Enabling projects to access information resources

Our UK team often has access to professional networks and information which our project partners do not. Therefore, we ensure that our partners can access important and useful resources by emailing them electronic documents or links to websites where such documents are available.

### Provision of finances, encouragement and prayer support

Reliable regular income is clearly essential to enable our partners to continue and extend their work. We provide targeted financial support for each of our partners, resourcing the most strategically significant areas of their work. We indicate at the start of the year which activities we hope to fund and at what level, to enable our partners to plan. Although this funding is subject to fundraising, we are invariably able to meet our commitments in this way.

Alongside the provision of funds, we also support our partners in regular prayer and in ongoing encouragement, guidance and advice through email and WhatsApp contact.

### BCT supports and partners with projects that are:

- Community-based, church-led or parachurch, if working significantly with churches.
- Working with the most marginalised children, who are significantly at risk in the context within which they live, due to abuse and prevailing circumstances.
- Addressing roots of harmful beliefs, attitudes and practices.
- Equipping local people to meet their own needs.
- Working with replicable and sustainable models or who desire to.
- Working with locally appropriate solutions to local problems.
- Focussing on Child Protection and Children's Rights.
- Emphasising the empowerment and support of parents/guardians and young people.
- Willing to collaborate and network with others.
- Willing to be accountable through monitoring and evaluation and impact measurement of their work; good financial reporting and good, open communication.
- Actively raising awareness within churches and communities of issues or an issue that is harmful to children, or desire to do so.
- Willing to progress and develop.
- Willing to be a voice on behalf of marginalised children or those at risk of abuse and/or to enable the children's voices to be heard directly.
- In under-resourced, neglected or isolated areas where marginalised children are exceptionally vulnerable and where there is little service provision.





## Case study: Deborah

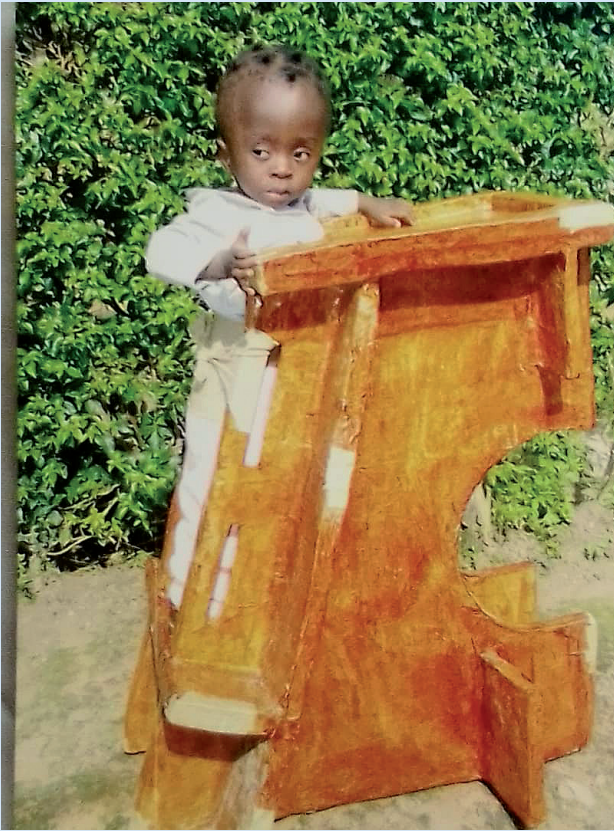


Photo: Deborah is thriving through Wukwashi's support and the grace of God.

Born with hydrocephalus, Deborah had been unable to sit or crawl and, at four, she was far off her development targets – even after corrective surgery. When Deborah met the team at Wukwashi wa Nzambi (our Zambian partner), they knew they could make a difference for her. The team arranged transport so she could have hospital treatment, then enabled her to receive physiotherapy and mobility aids through one of its support groups.

Consequently, Deborah is now able to speak, feed herself and walk with support. Her mother, who has also come to Christ through Wukwashi, is using her newfound physiotherapy skills to encourage other families.

‘The help I have received from Wukwashi wa Nzambi has helped me to know a lot of things and I have learnt skills which I am able to help other parents who have children in similar situations as my child,’ she says. ‘I used to be ashamed of my child, but now I am a happy mother through interaction with other mothers and children, and encouragements from Wukwashi. I am very thankful.’

Deborah is one of 26 children whom Wukwashi helped to access hospital services between April and June this year. Zambia's weak health system means that children born with a disability generally have limited prospects, but Wukwashi are determined to help disabled children fulfil their potential.



## BCT by numbers

**8** volunteers from churches in Gatsibo (Rwanda) are reaching out to disabled children in their community.



**30** marginalised teenage girls have been provided with mentoring and life skills training.



**2,000** pounds were raised in an emergency appeal in response to a volcanic eruption in DR Congo.



**48** more church leaders in Goma (DR Congo) have been trained to address and prevent child abuse.



**6** street-living children per quarter have been enabled to return to their families.



**400** children with disabilities attend support groups in Zambia, every quarter.



**90** phone calls from listeners during and after each radio programme on COVID, hosted by LVLE.



**3** physiotherapists attended support groups to assess children with disabilities and devise bespoke physiotherapy programmes for parents to carry out at home.



**15** modules of 'Transform Families' have been created and are now ready for formatting.



**600** Zambian families received soap and bleach to help protect themselves against COVID.



## APRECOM (AIDS Prevention Care and Outreach Ministry)

Based in:	Kigali, Rwanda
Run by:	Youth With A Mission (YWAM) Rwanda
Partnered with BCT since:	2002
Supports:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children affected by HIV/AIDS</li> <li>• Children living with disabilities</li> </ul>

### Context

APRECOM's work has two distinct strands: support for children and families affected by HIV, and equipping churches to reach and serve disabled children in their communities. At APRECOM's inception, there was an acute need for advice and support relating to HIV, in the wake of a huge and sudden increase in infection rates. APRECOM was established to meet this need and continues in this vital work, supporting children, teenagers and parents affected by the virus. In recent years, it has also become increasingly clear that many of Rwanda's children have disabilities and that many of these are without any meaningful support or therapeutic interventions. Realising the extent of this issue, APRECOM has responded by training church leaders in disability advocacy, and equipping them to provide the support and services families with disabled children most need.

APRECOM has previously worked extensively in Kigali, but the initiatives there are now self-sustaining, allowing the team to focus its resources in other areas of the country, especially Bukora and Bugesera.

### Key activities

- **Changing attitudes towards children** – Church leaders who have attended APRECOM's training are advocating for children's rights, ensuring their churches have child protection policies and challenging attitudes which lead to children being abused.
- **Releasing churches to find and support children with disabilities** – Inspired by APRECOM, churches in the Gahanga area of Kigali have connected with 11 children who had previously been hidden at home. 8 volunteers from churches in Gatsibo are continuing to work together to the same end, and the same thing is happening in Bugesera.
- **Equipping children to report abuse** – 10 churches in Bugesera and 6 churches in Kajera have been provided with copies of 'Touch Talk', which empowers children to recognise and report abuse. These churches have trained children and parents, using this resource.
- **Mentoring teenagers affected by HIV** – APRECOM's Inshuti Nziza Troop offers encouragement, life advice and access to vocational training to 25 teenagers in Bugesera and 40 in Bukora.
- **Supporting children affected by HIV or poverty** – COVID has made it impossible for APRECOM's Inshuti Nziza children's clubs to meet this year, but the club leaders have carried out regular visits to the children and their parents, to maintain relationships and encourage positive parenting.
- **Support groups for adults affected by HIV** – The support groups in Bukora and Kajera have not been able to meet, due to COVID, but group members have still received encouragement from the group leaders and from one another.
- **Provision of food supplies and sanitary products** – APRECOM has provided the most vulnerable families in their network with essential supplies, in response to the shortages brought about by COVID. 35 families have been supported in this way, in Bukora alone.
- **Support and advice for marginalised teenage girls** – APRECOM's Queens group has welcomed 30 teenage girls and provided them with mentoring, advice and access to vocational skills. 11 of the girls will attend the sewing school in Bukora, when it opens next.
- **Equipping families to address child malnutrition** – APRECOM's community gardens in Bukora and Kajera have modelled the principles of effective gardening and good nutrition. Along with training in 'Let's Grow!', these gardens have helped 47 people to provide their children with balanced diets.

## Impact

- **Direct support for disabled children** – Sixteen disabled children are out of isolation and developing, physically, mentally and socially, through their support group. Church volunteers are also providing food supplements and helping to source wheelchairs and mobility aids, which transform the children's independence.



Photo: With food supplies affected by the pandemic, APRECOM's distribution program has been a lifeline for many families.

- **Children out of isolation** – It is very common for disabled children to be hidden away at home and to receive no support with their conditions. APRECOM are connecting with children just like these, helping them to access mobility aids and therapeutic interventions, and equipping their parents to meet their needs.
- **Child abuse challenged** – We have seen several examples of children reporting abuse against them, and this abuse being directly addressed. These reports have arisen from children who have learned about how to handle abuse from 'Touch Talk'.
- **Hopeful teenagers** – Young people who attend the Inshuti Nziza Troop have a clearer sense of purpose and self-esteem. 19 have returned to school and 6 will attend vocational training next year. 'Let's Grow!' training has equipped them with good principles for gardening and nutrition.
- **Stronger families** – The visits to members of the Inshuti Nziza clubs have resulted in parents caring for their children more effectively, and developing closer relationships within their families.
- **Practical support for vulnerable adults** – Members of APRECOM's support groups accessed vital food supplies and medical treatments, despite the support groups not meeting formally.

- **Brighter prospects for teenage girls** – The girls who attend the Queens group would otherwise have been vulnerable to abuse, exploitation and unwanted pregnancies. Instead, they have increased in their confidence and self-esteem, gained wisdom to make positive life choices, and have access to vocational skills. Despite high teenage pregnancy rates in the community during extended lockdowns, not one of the Queens group have become pregnant.
- **Improved child nutrition** – Families who have received training in gardening are better equipped to ensure their children eat healthily. Those on regular medication (including HIV treatment) have reliable food supplies to enable them to take this medication safely and effectively.

## Figures

In any given quarter, APRECOM offers support to around 225 children and 190 adults.

## How BCT has benefited APRECOM this year

- Ongoing support and advice, by email and WhatsApp.
- Detailed guidance on formulating annual plans and evaluating and developing the work.
- Information resources.
- Funding for:
  - Quarterly training seminars in 11 churches in Bugesera, on child protection and disability awareness.
  - Training for 20 pastors in Nyamata.
  - Review visits to church leaders in Kajera and Bukora (who have previously received training).
  - Training 50 church leaders in Gahanga in how to identify and support children with disabilities, and how to set up a support group.
  - Quarterly life skills seminars for 25 young people in Bugesera (Inshuti Nziza Troop).
  - Quarterly training for 6 churches in Kajera (37 leaders) on care for children with disabilities and how to set up a support group.
  - Provision of the 'Touch Talk' resource to churches in Kajera, and use of the resource to equip children in those churches.



- Running the Queens Group for 30 teenage girls in Bukora, including providing soap and sanitary pads.
- Emergency food and hygiene products for vulnerable families.
- Gardening projects in Bukora and Kajera.
- Staff training, administration and travel expenses.
- Networking with other organisations, including Peace Plan and Bible Society of Rwanda.



Photo: Church leaders like Pastor Emmanuel are integral to APRECOM's work.

### Bridgette's story

Pastor Sophone has learnt to see beyond disability. He is one of the church leaders in Nyamata, Bugesera, who now understands the value and potential of children living with disabilities and HIV, thanks to APRECOM's training. And he is passionate about the role of the Church in helping them thrive.

Ten-year-old Bridgette is testament to this transformation in people's attitudes. Her mental and physical disabilities used to mean she was hidden away in the house, unable to walk and struggling to eat. She was fading away.

Sophone alerted APRECOM. They provided food for Bridgette and trained her parents to feed and care for her, even giving the family a goat. With APRECOM and Sophone's loving support, Bridgette is now a healthy child, enjoying friendships like any other girl.

'Before, churches in Bugesera were so blind and thought it was the government or NGOs' responsibility to care for vulnerable children,' says Odeth, APRECOM's Coordinator. 'No one encouraged or prayed for their parents. Now the whole community is benefiting!'

BCT  
donated  
£9,258.64 to  
**APRECOM**  
this year



*TheGame*



## LVLE (Laissez Vivre Les Enfants)

Based in:	Goma, eastern DRC
Run by:	A church pastor and members of other local churches
Partnered with BCT since:	January 2017
Supports:	Children living in poverty, on the streets and/or accused of witchcraft

### Context

Goma is an incredibly difficult place to grow up. Poverty is endemic, violence and civil unrest are common, and child abuse is so widespread that it is often simply ignored. What's more, there is a widespread belief in and around Goma that sickness, death and misfortune can be attributed to witchcraft, and that children are often responsible for this witchcraft. So, abuse arising from witchcraft accusations is disturbingly common too.

LVLE are determined that Goma's children should be allowed to thrive, despite the many challenges that stand in their way. The team reach out to the most marginalised of the local children. They spend time befriending children and young people who live on the streets of Goma, helping them, advising them and, whenever possible, reconciling them to their families so they can return home. And they train pastors and school leaders to recognise and prevent child abuse, and to address attitudes which lead to witchcraft accusations against children.

### Key activities

- Child protection training** – 48 church leaders in Goma have received training on the prevention of child abuse, using 'Touch Talk'. These leaders have also been encouraged to pass on 'Touch Talk' teaching to children in their congregations, to empower them to report abuse against them.
- Follow up** – Each of the church leaders who had received training was visited later, to ensure they understood what they had been taught and were able to take steps to put their learning into practice.
- Building networks to address accusations of witchcraft** – LVLE's two 'Synergies' are networks of church leaders, police officers and civic authorities, based in Masisi and Monigi. The members of the Synergies work together to address accusations of witchcraft against children and to intervene on behalf of children at risk of abuse.
- Training around the issue of witchcraft accusations** – Members of the Synergies receive thorough training to address witchcraft accusations and related abuse, using the SCWA\* resource 'The Heart of the Matter'. And they are then encouraged to pass on their understanding to other local leaders, especially church pastors.
- Addressing nutrition and food scarcity** – Malnutrition and food scarcity are significant problems, especially in the Monigi and Nyiragongo areas, and these problems have been exacerbated by COVID-19. 59 pastors and civic leaders have attended 'Let's Grow!' training and learned principles and techniques to grow nutritious plants. They have been released to pass on their learning to their communities.
- Outreach to street-living children** – LVLE's outreach to street-living children continues, seeking to develop significant relationships. This work focuses on 'listening points' in two areas of Goma where there are the highest concentrations of street-living children. LVLE's goal is to eventually help the children to return home; they contact the parents of any children who express the desire to go home, and begin a process of mediation to prepare both the child and the parents to be reunited.
- Handwashing project** – In response to COVID-19, LVLE have formed a ground-breaking collaboration between their own team, local residents, civic authorities and street-living children, setting up 10 handwashing stations around Goma. These stations have been crucial in enabling local people to protect themselves against COVID, and have also made a dramatic difference in building trusting relationships between LVLE and street-living children.
- Provision of masks** – The team have provided face masks which have helped the children limit the spread of COVID, and prevented them from being arrested and often abused at the hands of police officers.

- **Radio and TV broadcasts** – Rev Jean-Paul appears weekly on local radio and once a month on local television, to share insight on child protection and positive parenting. This year, his broadcasts have been particularly focused on COVID-19: answering important questions and countering common myths around the virus.

(\*Stop Child Witch Accusations – see ‘Connecting with others’ section, p21.)

## Impact

- **Prevention of abuse** – Through their church leaders’ use of ‘Touch Talk’, children have been enabled to report abuse whenever they see it or experience it. Children who might have been vulnerable to being accused of witchcraft (and abused as a result) are now better protected because of the improved understanding of the issue among their church and school leaders.
- **Leaders mobilised** – Through the Synergies, local leaders have committed to addressing abuse carried out against children accused of witchcraft. They have drawn up an action plan, which has included mapping 32 ‘prayer rooms’ in Goma, in order to contact the leaders and offer them advice and training.
- **Children leaving the streets** – LVLE has engaged with between 60 and 100 street-living children per quarter, specifically to discuss the possibility of returning home. On average, 6 or 7 children per quarter are successfully reunited with their families, following LVLE’s mediation between the children and their parents.
- **Limiting the spread of COVID** – In the midst of the COVID crisis, LVLE’s handwashing stations have helped to meet the acute need for cleanliness. These stations may have literally saved lives, especially for street-living children who would otherwise have had no adequate washing facilities. And Rev Jean-Paul’s radio and TV broadcasts have met a pressing need for reliable information about COVID and how to limit its spread.
- **Changing attitudes** – Rev Jean-Paul’s weekly radio shows frequently lead to lively discussions with listeners on how best to care for children. The programme content gently challenges any negative attitudes towards children among the audience.

- **Understanding of agriculture** – The 20 local leaders who attended ‘Let’s Grow!’ training have gained a new understanding of nutrition and of agriculture, which will enable them to ensure that families in their communities have better diets. And these leaders are committed to passing on their learning: 56 people have already benefitted from this training.



Photo: A LVLE listening post at Briere, Goma.

## Figures

The numbers of adults LVLE reaches vary from quarter to quarter. The team provide training for several cohorts of 50 pastors and 40 school leaders during the year, and also conduct follow-up visits to cohorts who have already received training.

In an average quarter, LVLE directly supports around 150 street-living children. Many more will have benefited from the handwashing stations in Goma.

**NB:** Several members of the LVLE team were subjected to a violent robbery in October 2020, in which their laptop, phones, passports and training materials were stolen. In response to this, we arranged an emergency appeal and sent the team a gift of £2,405.03 to help them replace the stolen equipment. This figure is in addition to the regular project funding.

Also, May 2021 saw a huge volcanic eruption in Nyiragongo, near Goma. The eruption had a catastrophic effect on the local community. We therefore arranged another emergency appeal, to fund essential food supplies and disaster relief, with donations totalling £2,000. We shared these funds equally between LVLE and EPAM (with whom we sometimes collaborate in Goma), specifically to enable them to respond to the most vulnerable children and families affected by the eruption. Once again, this figure is separate from LVLE’s regular project funding.

## How BCT has benefited LVLE this year

- Ongoing support, advice and encouragement from BCT staff, through email and WhatsApp.
- Guidance on developing strategic plans and measuring the impact of their work.
- Information resources, including:
  - 'The Heart of the Matter', which helps train church and community leaders to address child witch accusations.
  - 'Touch Talk', which empowers children to recognise and report abuse.
  - 'Let's Grow!', which addresses nutrition and food security.
- Funding for:
  - Two listening posts to connect with street-living children: six sessions per quarter.
  - Raising awareness among street-living children of COVID-19 and how to protect themselves from the virus.
  - Installation of hand-washing stations in Sake, to limit the spread of COVID-19.
  - Mediation visits to the families of street-living children who wish to return home.
  - 'Let's Grow!' training:
    - Piloting 'Let's Grow!' in three areas of Masisi.
    - Training 50 key leaders in Masisi and providing copies of the resource to enable them to train their congregations.
  - 'Touch Talk' training:
    - One-day training of 50 pastors in Birere.
    - Follow-up training with the same 50 pastors, six months later.



Photo: Training church and community leaders is a key component of LVLE's work.

- Refresher day with 30 pastors in Goma, already trained in 'Touch Talk'.
- One-day training of 50 school leaders in Goma.
- Evaluation of 'Touch Talk' training with pastors and school leaders.
- Training for members of the Synergies:
  - Five-day refresher training in 'The Heart of the Matter' for the Synergies in Masisi and Monigi.
  - Five-day 'Heart of the Matter' training for 40 new pastors in Masisi.
- Weekly radio shows to raise awareness of child protection issues and witchcraft-related abuse.
- Monthly TV broadcasts to address the same issues.
- Staff training, administration and travel expenses.
- Emergency funding to replace equipment lost in a robbery.

**BCT**  
donated  
£10,015.07 to  
**LVLE**  
this year

## Mathieu's story

Mathieu is ten and has lived on the streets of Sake for two years. After his father died, his mother re-married and her new husband took an instant dislike to Mathieu. He regularly beat Mathieu and things came to a head when he tried to burn his hands in the fire. A friend persuaded Mathieu that taking his chances on the streets would be preferable to enduring more abuse at home. But life on the streets is a fight for survival, and Mathieu has had to resort to theft to keep body and soul together. The scars on his face are testament to the occasions when he has been caught and punished.

Despite his struggles to get by, Mathieu claims to be happy on the streets and has no desire to go home. LVLE's outreach workers are getting to know Mathieu and they've found he is a friendly and gentle soul. He seems to enjoy spending time with them too, especially when they have a film he can watch on one of their phones. Mathieu's future is uncertain, but LVLE have begun the tricky process of contacting his mother and trying to reconcile her to her son. And in the meantime, they are supporting him with advice and practical help.

## Transformation Resources

Run by:	BCT's UK-based team, with advice and input from our overseas partners
A project since:	August 2017
Addresses:	Harmful attitudes and beliefs

BCT  
donated  
£10,460.16 to  
**Transformation  
Resources**  
this year

*Transformation Resources* are a vital strand of BCT's work. Through this material, we aim to enable leaders in remote and deprived communities to address harmful beliefs and attitudes which lead to children being abused, neglected and exploited. Each of the individual resources is Bible-based, contextualised to ensure it is relevant to the communities we seek to reach, and rigorously tested by our project partners and other Christian workers on the ground. By producing and disseminating the *Transformation Resources*, we serve communities we would otherwise never reach, and increase our impact exponentially.

Our suite of resources includes material which addresses: issues around family relationships and parenting; disability inclusion; hunger, nutrition and food scarcity, and preventing the spread of COVID-19. As a member organisation of the Stop Child Witch Accusations coalition, BCT has also taken the lead in creating resources which offer biblical perspectives on sickness and on mental health: issues which are important in themselves and which often underpin accusations of witchcraft.

### Key activities

- **Writing and creation** – 'Let's Grow!' our resource to address hunger and food scarcity, has been completed and circulated to our partners and selected other contacts. This year, we also created 'Sickness, Health & Healing' and 'Mental Health Matters', which were released with SCWA branding and address issues which are relevant to accusations of witchcraft. However, questions around physical and mental health are clearly extremely important in their own right, and both titles work well as standalone resources.
- **Piloting** – 'Let's Grow!' has been piloted by our partners in Rwanda and Zambia, as well as contacts in Zimbabwe and Burundi.
- **Translation** – 'Let's Grow!' and the SCWA health resources have been translated into French. Our

COVID-19 resources are now available in French and Swahili. These measures make the resource material more widely accessible.

- **Feedback and editing** – 'Let's Grow!' is now widely available through our website, after being formatted. The first 15 modules of 'Transform Families' have been reviewed internally and are ready for formatting.
- **Building relationships with collaborators** – We have connected with organisations in Kenya and DR Congo, both of which are using 'Transform Disability' to train leaders within their networks. EPAM, our contact in DR Congo, is also using 'Let's Grow!' with local church and community leaders.
- **Refining the web platform** – The content of the website has been tweaked to make it easier for visitors to find the resource material they need.

### Impact

- **Healthier children** – Through 'Let's Grow!', churches and communities have gained a better understanding of agriculture and nutrition, and have learned ways of improving their children's diet.
- **Improved support for disabled children** – Through 'Transform Disability', churches have increased their knowledge of disability and been equipped to support disabled children and adults. As a result, children (and adults) with disabilities are better supported and more empowered to play an active part in their communities.
- **Protection from COVID-19** – Our COVID-19 resources have been available for over a year now and have helped numerous communities to protect themselves against the virus.
- **Increased reach** – Translating the resource material into additional languages and refining the website to make the material more easily accessible have made the material available to new audiences and increased its reach.



## Wukwashi wa Nzambi

Based in:	Copperbelt region, Zambia
Run by:	Local volunteers
Partnered with BCT since:	2005
Supports:	Children living with disabilities

### Context

Wukwashi wa Nzambi ('God's help') does extraordinary work in supporting children with disabilities and advocating for their needs and rights. Zambian children who live with disabilities must frequently overcome prejudice, stigma and institutional barriers to education and services, as well as their own physical or mental challenges. Wukwashi are determined that this situation should change.

Through their network of support groups – run by teams of volunteers from local churches – Wukwashi offers physiotherapy and play therapy to disabled children, helping them to become stronger and develop social and motor skills. They also provide access to mobility aids, artificial limbs and medical interventions, not to mention advice and encouragement for parents, and refer children to specialist schools when appropriate. Stigma against disability is still a common problem, but the Wukwashi team address this through their programme of training for church leaders, and through their presence in local media.

### Key activities

- Support groups** – Wukwashi runs 16 support groups for children with disabilities, and their parents. These groups are the backbone of Wukwashi's work. They provide disabled children with physiotherapy, play therapy, assessment for mobility aids and medical treatment, and moreover a sense of acceptance and belonging.
- Mentoring** – For several months of this year, the support groups have not convened because of COVID restrictions. At these times, volunteers from Wukwashi and local churches have stayed in contact with parents of disabled children, through phone calls and home visits. In this way, they have mentored these parents, encouraging them and giving them specific advice on caring for their children.
- Physiotherapy** – Three physiotherapists visit Wukwashi's support groups. Their treatments improve the children's strength, muscle tone and range of movement, and they teach parents simple exercises to perform with their children at home.
- Providing mobility aids** – The team source and provide wheelchairs, walking frames and support shoes for children with mobility problems. As many as 8 children per quarter receive wheelchairs. Wukwashi also has a workshop to build supportive chairs, which help children sit upright and improve their posture.
- Referrals to hospital** – Children who need medical or surgical intervention are referred on to local hospitals for treatment. Wukwashi covers the costs of travel to hospital for families who cannot afford it. Around 25 children are supported in this way, in most quarters.
- Transport to school** – Children with limited mobility often struggle to make the journey to school. Wukwashi helps by simply providing transport, and by providing school fees for children attending Mambilima Special School.
- Training workshops for church leaders** – Wukwashi addresses negative attitudes towards disability by training church leaders on the biblical mandate and important principles for caring for people with disabilities. 89 church leaders have complete 'Transform Disability' training this year.
- Review meetings** – The team regularly meet with church leaders who have previously taken part in training, to build relationships with them and monitor their progress in including children with disabilities. COVID has made these meetings difficult this year, but 8 church leaders have still been visited.
- Wider advocacy** – Joyce and Henry regularly visit other churches and appear on TV and radio broadcasts, to advocate for children with disabilities and share insights on how best to meet their needs.



## Impact

- **Dramatic improvements in children's conditions** – Typically, over 400 children per quarter attend Wukwashi's support groups. The majority of them make great improvements, both in their physical conditions and in their capacity for social interactions. Their parents also benefit from increased confidence in supporting their children and in a renewed appreciation for them. These benefits were made possible by Wukwashi's mentoring programme, while the support groups were unable to meet.
- **Improved movement** – Around 200 children receive physiotherapy in an average quarter. Those who receive this therapy almost all show dramatic improvements in their abilities to sit, stand or walk. These are vital steps towards independence.
- **Independence and integration** – Children with mobility problems are often stranded at home, unable to attend school or interact with their peers. Wheelchairs and standing frames transform their ability to move, and therefore offer them opportunities to attend school, play with friends and play a full part in their communities.
- **Life-saving treatment** – Access to medical treatments always makes a tangible difference to a child with a disability and is, in some cases, literally life-saving.
- **Prospects for the future** – Education is essential in improving children's life prospects. Enabling children with mobility issues to access education is hugely significant in helping them build a bright future for themselves.
- **Church leaders inspired** – Wukwashi's training for church leaders has not just challenged common attitudes which lead to disabled children being overlooked and abused, but also inspired these leaders to actively seek out and welcome children with disabilities. 14 new volunteers for support groups have come forward as a result of this training. Review meetings and ongoing relationships spur on the church leaders to take tangible steps to make their churches accessible to disabled people.
- **Influencing societal beliefs** – Wukwashi's advocacy for children with disabilities is changing attitudes towards them. Gradually, children with disabilities are being seen and treated differently, within individual communities and wider Zambian society.



Photo: Wukwashi's Co-Director, Joyce Mutembu, speaks at a conference for over 3,000 women.

## Figures

Wukwashi typically engages over 500 children per quarter, with many families benefiting from more than one aspect of their work. The team also reaches between 200 and 300 adults per quarter, through its training, support groups and advocacy initiatives.

## How BCT has benefited Wukwashi this year

- Ongoing support, advice and guidance from BCT staff, by email, phone, Zoom and WhatsApp.
- Focused guidance in formulating strategy and annual plans.
- Provision of resource material, including 'Transform Disability' and 'Let's Grow!'.
- Funding for:
  - 16 weekly support groups for children with disabilities and their families.
  - 'Transform Disability' workshops in Mpika, Kabompo and Kitwe.
  - Review of 'Transform Disability' training with groups from Solwezi and Copperbelt.
  - Home visits and phone calls to families connected with Wukwashi, as part of the mentoring programme.
  - Organising quarterly visits from medical professionals, to assess children at support groups for medical and surgical treatment needs.



Photo: A Wukwashi support group in Kapombo.

- Medical and transport costs for children to receive necessary treatment (including operations and artificial limbs) at nearby hospitals.
- Three physiotherapists to visit four support groups each, per month, to treat children and give instruction to parents and volunteers.
- Assessing children's mobility needs and distributing mobility aids as needed.
- Providing therapy toys for support groups.
- The provision of soap and bleach to 600 families and 110 volunteers.
- Provision of food supplies for families who have lost income in lockdown.
- Supporting 30 children with disabilities to attend Mambilima Special School.
- Week-long residential training for 60 parents (and their children), to teach physiotherapy and play therapy activities, and principles for supporting children with disabilities.
- Training workshops and review meetings for 60 church leaders, based on 'Transform Disability'.
- Advocacy on behalf of disabled children in churches and schools, and through local radio.
- Recruitment of 30 new volunteers for support groups, from local churches.
- Training new volunteers to assess needs of children with disabilities.
- Volunteers to visit children in their homes, following operations.
- Transport for staff to visit distant support groups, to deliver training and monitor activities.
- Staff training, administration and travel expenses.

BCT  
donated  
£21,815.35 to  
**Wukwashi**  
this year

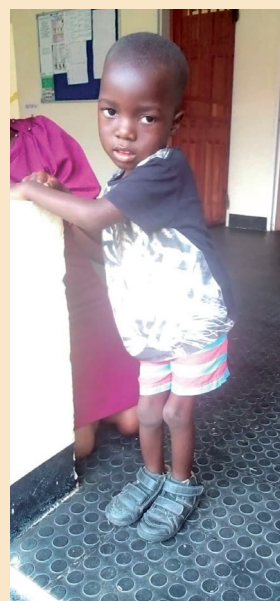
## Julian's story

Until recently, Julian spent much of the day alone and looking at the ceiling. Our partner project in Zambia has given him wheels and opened up a world of opportunity for him.

The seven-year-old who has cerebral palsy could not even sit unaided, let alone walk. The older he became, the harder it was for his mother to carry him. So he became trapped, unable to socialise or go to school.

After intensive physiotherapy at the support group set up by Wukwashi in Kitwe, he can now not only stand but also walk. The new wheelchair he's been given means he can get to church, to school, even go on the bus.

Julian is one of about 100 children whom Wukwashi's physiotherapist, Emmanuel, has seen at some of the 13 support groups which have been able to meet more recently. Emmanuel trains parents to replicate the exercises he demonstrates for them, and those who have done physio at home have seen real improvement in their children. Wukwashi is exploring the possibility of a parent-to-parent mentoring scheme to encourage those who are more reluctant or less confident to have a go.



## Connecting with others

### Connecting with others around the issue of children accused of witchcraft

Witchcraft accusations against children are still a huge issue, leading to the abuse and neglect of thousands of children worldwide. So BCT is proud to continue its commitment to the Stop Child Witch Accusations coalition. Carolyn Gent has assumed the role of Chair of the coalition and Lyn Edwards joined the steering group this year, and BCT as an organisation is integral to SCWA's activities.

The past year has seen several important milestones for SCWA. In July, the UN published a resolution on Harmful Practices: Accusations of Witchcraft and Ritual Attacks. This is a hugely significant step as it adds international weight to national legislation against witchcraft accusations and holds governments accountable for taking action against witchcraft-related abuse. The resolution marks the culmination of four years of work on the part of SCWA and numerous other organisations and individuals, since the issue of witchcraft-related abuse was first raised with the UN at a workshop in September 2017. We are now looking forward to seeing meaningful change in nations where witchcraft-related abuse has, until now, been commonplace.

We are also delighted to report that a 'Heart of the Matter' training-of-trainers event took place in Calabar, Nigeria in August. (COVID restrictions made travel to Nigeria impossible, but UK-based members of SCWA were able to help facilitate the training through Zoom.) Nigeria is a hotbed of witchcraft accusations against children, and SCWA has been making plans for several years to work with local church leaders to address the

issue. At last, SCWA has connected with quality people on the ground and is supporting them to provide clear, authoritative training. The delegates at the August training have since gone on to deliver a training workshop for 30 local church leaders, described by one pastor as 'mind-blowing'. These church leaders will now pass on what they have learned to their churches and develop action plans to address witchcraft accusations in their communities. It is so encouraging to see such progress.

As Chair of SCWA, Carolyn was given the opportunity to present at a virtual conference hosted in Papua New Guinea in June. The theme of the conference was 'Sorcery Accusations and Related Violence', and Carolyn spoke about issues around handling confessions from perpetrators of abuse, given in the context of training events. The importance of collaboration between agencies was mentioned repeatedly, throughout the conference, and Carolyn was able to highlight LVLE's Synergies as an example of how fruitful this kind of collaboration can be.

SCWA has also hosted two multi-agency Forums – in October 2020 and May 2021 – to provide an opportunity to connect for organisations and individuals who are working with the issues of child abuse linked to faith and belief, specifically that of accusations of witchcraft made against children. Hosted on Zoom, the Forums have attracted delegates from a range of Christian agencies and organisations from the statutory sector, and from nations including Nigeria, DR Congo, Canada and the UK.

**The impact of witchcraft accusations against children – and of SCWA's work – can be illustrated by these brief case studies:**

#### Sandrine

Sandrine is 14 years old. She lost both her parents and her two brothers in an armed attack on her village. Left alone to fend for herself, she had no choice but to move to a larger town and look for work. Abused and accused of witchcraft by her new boss, she faced even harsher punishment until our local partner stepped in to help her.

#### Odeth

Little Odeth was accused of witchcraft by her parents, because of her tendency to scream in her sleep, brought on by night terrors. Facing the prospect of appalling abuse, Odeth ran away to the streets. There, our Congolese partner is supporting and advising her, but she is adamant that nothing could make her return home.

#### Katarina

After Katarina's father died, her mother remarried. Her stepfather had little time for her and, because she was mute and sometimes wet the bed, accused her of being a witch. His abuse of Katarina went as far as burning her face so, not surprisingly, she chose to run away. Katarina's story ends more happily than the others, as she is now safe and being fostered by a trustworthy church leader.

## Connecting with others around the issue of disability

This year, we have built on our working relationship with EPAM in Goma, DR Congo, focusing on care for children with disabilities. Using a collaboration model (rather than a formal partnership), we have provided EPAM with training resources and with funding to deliver training to local church leaders. EPAM's 'Transform Disability' training has reached 50 local church leaders, and has resulted in practical help for disabled people, including providing a wheelchair and a sewing machine for two individuals.

This year, EPAM have also used 'The Heart of the Matter' to train church leaders to address witchcraft accusations against children – especially because it is so common for these accusations to be targeted at children with

disabilities. EPAM also plan to use 'Sickness, Health & Healing' and 'Mental Health Matters' in the coming year. (These new SCWA resources are valuable because of the frequent connection between health issues and accusations of witchcraft.)

We have also begun collaborating with Hub of Hope in Kenya, who have used 'Transform Disability' to mobilise church leaders in supporting disabled children and their families. We are excited to see how Hub of Hope are influencing the thinking in local communities and look forward to seeing how the prospects improve for children with disabilities as a result.

## Mobilising resources

Our project partners are nothing short of heroic in the lengths they go to meet the needs of marginalised children, and they are incredibly shrewd in how they make the most of the limited financial resources available to them. However, our partners do still need financial investment in order to continue and expand their work. So, we provide our partners with funding for specific activities, focusing on the areas on work which are most strategically important and make the greatest impact. Each of our partners completes an annual plan and budget, and the funding we provide is in line with the costs and likely impact outlined in these documents.

BCT must, in turn, raise funding from a variety of sources. This funding comes from individuals, from churches and from a few grant-making trusts. We also welcome income from fundraising events, as and when they occur. This year, we were amazed with the efforts of BCT Ambassador Phil Edwards, who walked the length of the South West Coast Path (643 miles), raising £6,635.94 for BCT in the process!

Effective communication is essential in encouraging members of the public to give to BCT – and to support us through prayer and advocacy. Our website, print publications and social media channels all enable us to showcase BCT's work, engage a wider audience and encourage new supporters to get involved.

BCT's approach to fundraising is outlined in detail on p5 of this report.

### Prayer support

Prayer is integral to everything we and our partners do. So, we always prioritise prayer within our team meetings, and we conclude any phone conversations with our partners by praying with them. We also rely on the prayers of our supporters to undergird our work. To enable this, we produce a quarterly prayer diary (circulated electronically and by post) and we maintain a network of prayer partners, to whom we send particularly urgent and important prayer requests, as and when they arise. 277 of our supporters pray for us regularly, using our prayer diary, and we have 107 prayer partners.

### Ambassadors

Our Ambassadors are an elite band of BCT supporters. They represent us and raise awareness of the issues affecting marginalised children, in their churches and communities. Many of them also organise and undertake ambitious fundraising events on our behalf. (For example, one of our Ambassadors completed a huge sponsored walk this summer. See 'Mobilising resources' above.)

## 2020/21 Income and Expenditure

### General

Each year, BCT endeavours to set a realistic income and expenditure budget, in line with its goals and objectives. BCT is prudent with its financial management and knows that it cannot achieve its goals and objectives in supporting projects, raising awareness and networking with churches and other agencies, without the generosity and loyal commitment of its supporters in their various forms: trusts and foundations, businesses, churches and individuals.

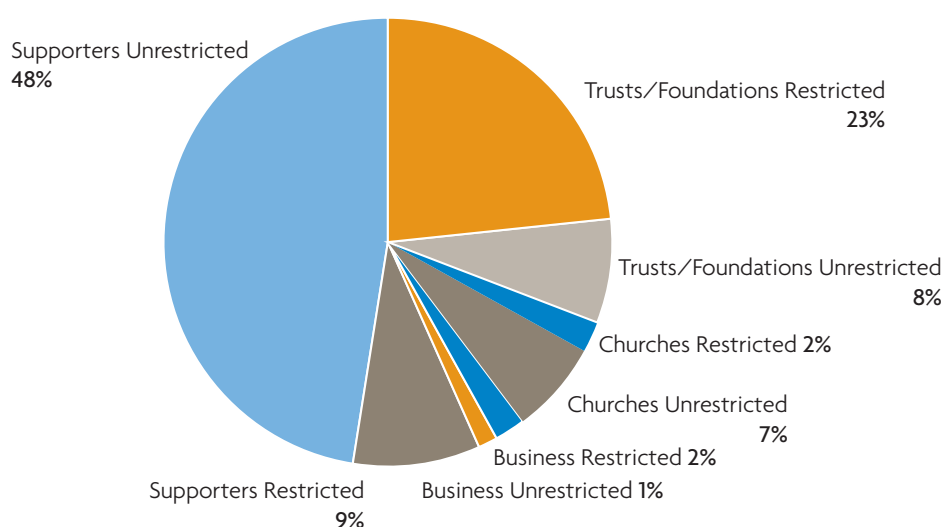
### Income

BCT's total income in 2020/21 was £168,098, its highest level for 7 years and a year-on-year increase of £33,030 (24.45%). Of that increase, £23,840 was unrestricted and £9,190 restricted. After last year's dip in total income and despite the ongoing Covid pandemic, to say this year's increase in receipts of over 24% has been unexpected would be quite an understatement. However, it should be noted that while this is extremely welcome this year's level is high largely due to significantly increased one-off receipts, including a sum left to us in the will of a long-time supporter. As a consequence, while we are obviously happy that our funds levels have improved as much as they have, we cannot realistically expect to benefit from one-offs to the same extent next year. Therefore we have allowed for this in our budget for 2021/22.

With regard to the primary sources of income in 2020/21, donations from Trusts and Foundations rose from £40,745 to £51,860, an increase of 27.28%, and those from supporters increased from £69,282 to £94,996, a rise of 37.11%. Conversely, donations from businesses fell from £8,842 to £6,277, a reduction of 29.01% and those from churches fell from £16,199 to £14,965, a drop of 7.62%.

An analysis of income by primary source and fund is given below:

	Trusts/ Foundations Restricted	Trusts/ Foundations Unrestricted	Churches Restricted	Churches Unrestricted	Business Restricted	Business Unrestricted	Supporters Restricted	Supporters Unrestricted	Total
<b>2020/21</b>	£39,250	£12,610	£3,822	£11,143	£3,952	£2,325	£15,181	£79,815	£168,098
<b>2019/20</b>	£32,385	£8,360	£4,646	£11,553	£4,952	£3,890	£11,032	£58,250	£135,068



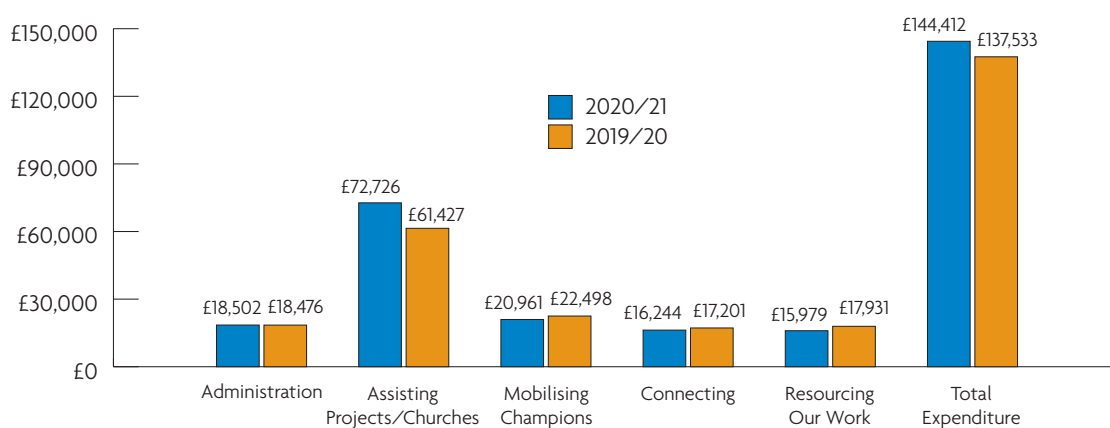


## Expenditure

Total expenditure in 2020/21 was £144,412, an increase of £6,879 (5.00%) from 2019/20. Year-on-year spending from restricted funds rose by £16,497, while that from unrestricted funds dropped by £9,618. The former reflects an increase in disbursements to all our projects but also includes some emergency funding following our appeal in the immediate aftermath of the Mount Nyiragongo eruption in DRC in May 2021. Additionally, an element of the increased funding to the projects this year was a response to emergency needs resulting from the impact of Covid. With regard to unrestricted spend, we have continued to benefit from certain Covid-related cost savings. The primary saving is on UK travel cost as the team continues to keep its meetings online rather than face-to-face, but others include travel insurance and events and fundraising activities. Other savings achieved against budget were in respect of depreciation charges, the production and circulation of our quarterly publications, and printing and stationery costs.

We take very careful consideration of our fund levels when making decisions on disbursements and spending on core costs. We continue our direct participation in, and giving financial support towards vital work for the ultimate benefit of some of the most marginalised children. Our biggest expenditure area continues to be the assisting and training of BCT's partner projects and churches to meet the needs of children at risk in their communities. Spend on this in 2020/21 reached £72,726, i.e. 50.36% of the overall total. Across the other expenditure categories there was a net year-on-year decrease of £4,420.

	Administration	Assisting Projects/ Churches	Mobilising Champions	Connecting	Resourcing Our Work	Total Expenditure
<b>2020/21</b>	£18,502	£72,726	£20,961	£16,244	£15,979	£144,412
<b>2019/20</b>	£18,476	£61,427	£22,498	£17,201	£17,931	£137,533



## Looking forwards

Over the last year, even in incredibly tough circumstances, good things have happened. By the grace of God, the lives of marginalised children have been changed for the better, through the dedication, skill and ingenuity of our project partners, and because of those who give BCT their time, skills, prayers and financial support. So, we have faith that God will continue to prosper our work and transform children and even whole communities. We look forward to the coming year with expectation. The circumstances in which our partners work are hard and might get even harder, but we are ready to meet the challenges ahead. We press on into the next year, not expecting an easier job, but in full assurance of God's faithfulness and of the vital importance of the work we are doing. The task is hard, the resources few, the risks many. But we do not lose heart. Far from it: we are full of hope. And we remember, along with the Apostle Paul, that 'our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all' (2 Corinthians 4:17).

The report of the trustees was approved by the trustees on 25th June 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Gill Bradley  
Chair of Trustees

# **The Bethany Children's Trust**

## **Report and Accounts**

year ended 31 August 2021

### **Stewardship**

1 Lamb's Passage, LONDON, EC1Y 8AB

t: 0208 502 5600

e: [enquiries@stewardship.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@stewardship.org.uk)

w: [www.stewardship.org.uk](http://www.stewardship.org.uk)

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE BETHANY CHILDREN'S TRUST**

I have examined the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 on pages 28 to 37 following which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 30 and 31.

### **Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

The trustees of the charity are responsible for the preparation of accounts; they consider that the audit requirements under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 do not apply and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- (1) examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011;
- (2) follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011;
- (3) state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of Examiner's Statement**

This report is in respect of an examination carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011, and in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity, and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes a review of the accounts and making such enquiries as are necessary for the purpose of this report. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Examiner's Statement**

Based on my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect, accounting records have not been kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011, or that the accounts presented do not accord with those records, or comply with the accounting requirement of the Charities Act 2011. No matter has come to my notice in connection with my examination to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts.

Archie McDowall BA, CA

Stewardship  
1 Lamb's Passage  
LONDON  
EC1Y 8AB

27 June 2022

# The Bethany Children's Trust

## Statement of Financial Activities

year ended 31 August 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	105,876	62,205	168,081	135,030
Investments	3	17	0	17	38
Total income and endowments		105,893	62,205	168,098	135,068
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
Charitable activities	4	68,487	59,946	128,433	119,602
Raising funds	5	15,979	0	15,979	17,931
Total expenditure		84,466	59,946	144,412	137,533
Net gains/(losses) on investments		0	0	0	0
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		21,427	2,259	23,686	(2,465)
Transfers between funds		0	0	0	0
		21,427	2,259	23,686	(2,465)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		21,427	2,259	23,686	(2,465)
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		47,885	48,569	96,454	98,919
Total funds carried forward		69,312	50,828	120,140	96,454

Movements on reserves and all recognised gains and losses are shown above.

The notes on pages 30 to 36 form part of these accounts.



# The Bethany Children's Trust

## Balance Sheet

as at 31 August 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Intangible assets	7	2,872	0	2,872	4,787
Tangible assets	7	1,826	0	1,826	1,315
		<u>4,698</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,698</u>	<u>6,102</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	8	13,454	0	13,454	26,860
Cash at bank	9	54,783	50,828	105,611	72,673
		<u>68,237</u>	<u>50,828</u>	<u>119,065</u>	<u>99,533</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
Liabilities falling due within one year	10	3,623	0	3,623	9,181
		<u>3,623</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,623</u>	<u>9,181</u>
Net Current Assets		64,614	50,828	115,442	90,352
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>69,312</u>	<u>50,828</u>	<u>120,140</u>	<u>96,454</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>					
Unrestricted funds	12				
General Funds		69,312	–	69,312	47,885
Restricted Funds	12	–	50,828	50,828	48,569
		<u>69,312</u>	<u>50,828</u>	<u>120,140</u>	<u>96,454</u>

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on 25th June 2022 by:

Gill Bradley

The notes on pages 30 to 36 form part of these accounts.

# The Bethany Children's Trust

## Notes to the Accounts

### for the year ended 31 August 2021

#### 1 Statutory Information

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales. The charity's registered number and principal address can be found on the Charity Information page of the trustees' annual report.

#### 2 Accounting Policies

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the "Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" ("the Charities SORP"), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (the '2008 Regulations') requires charities to prepare their accounts in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005' but this accounting standard has since been withdrawn and has been replaced by the Charities SORP mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The charity has prepared these financial statements in accordance with the new Charities SORP; this departure from the 2008 Regulations is believed to be necessary for these financial statements to give a 'true and fair view'.

The principles adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

##### a) Going concern

The trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the trustees have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income and / or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The trustees have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements. In making this assessment the trustees have considered how Covid-19 might affect projections.

##### b) Income

Income including investment income is recognised in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receipt, the amount receivable can be measured with reasonable certainty, and receipt is probable. For the most part, income is generally recognised when it is received. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income from donations and legacies includes:

- i) Recoverable gift aid. This is recognised when the related donation is received. Gift aid that has not been recovered by the balance sheet date is included as a debtor.
- ii) The charity relies on volunteers to carry out many of its activities, particularly those involving connection with our project partners, connection with other organisations and individuals in the furtherance of our aims, and the writing and provision of training resources. However, in accordance with the SORP, the value of these services has not been included in these financial statements as they cannot be reliably measured.
- iii) Legacies. Income from legacies is recognised when a distribution is received from the estate or, if earlier, when the charity has been notified that a distribution will be made and the amount receivable can be reliably measured.

**c) Expenditure**

Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is recognised when it is incurred or, if earlier, when a legal or constructive obligation for a payment arises provided that it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

The charity makes grants to other institutions to further its charitable objectives. Grants payable are recognised as constructive obligations arise, which is generally when the charity expresses a commitment to the recipient that can be measured reliably and then only to the extent that any conditions associated with the grant are outside of the control of the charity.

Governance costs, which are included in expenditure on charitable activities but are identified separately in the notes to the accounts, includes costs associated with the independent examination of the financial statements, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any other expenditure incurred on the strategic management of the charity.

**d) Fund accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects. Endowment funds are donations that are retained as capital in accordance with the donor's wishes. The nature of the restriction determines whether the endowments represent permanent endowments or expendable endowments.

**e) Intangible fixed assets**

The cost of software is capitalised and amortised on a straight line basis over its expected useful life, which is expected to be 3 years.

**f) Tangible fixed assets**

Items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £100 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life. To achieve this objective the following rates of depreciation are charged:

Equipment Over 2 to 3 years

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment in periods when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

**g) Pension scheme arrangements**

The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes for its employees. Obligations for contributions to these schemes are recognised as an expense when the liability arises. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

**h) Taxation**

The charity has taken advantage of the various reliefs from taxation available to charities and no tax is payable on the charity's income.

**i) Financial instruments**

The charity's financial assets and financial liabilities all qualify as basic financial instruments, as defined by FRS102. Except for loans, creditors and debtors are measured at their expected settlement value (normally the amount of cash that the charity expects to pay or receive). The charity recognises liabilities for the principal of those loans that remains outstanding at the year end (i.e. the liabilities exclude any interest chargeable on the loans in future years).

**j) Exemption from preparing a cashflow statement**

The charity has taken advantage of an exemption conferred by the Charities SORP and has not prepared a cash flow statement.

**k) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement**

The trustees do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

<b>3 Voluntary income</b>		<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>Total 2020</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
General donations and legacies		101,330	61,187	162,517	129,322
Tax recoverable		4,546	1,018	5,564	5,708
		<u>105,876</u>	<u>62,205</u>	<u>168,081</u>	<u>135,030</u>
Other income					
Bank interest		17	–	17	38
		<u>105,893</u>	<u>62,205</u>	<u>168,098</u>	<u>135,068</u>
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>					
		<u>105,893</u>	<u>62,205</u>	<u>168,098</u>	<u>135,068</u>
<b>4 Charitable activity</b>		<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>Total 2020</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>a Direct Charitable Costs</b>					
Assisting Churches	<i>Note 4c</i>	12,997	59,729	72,726	61,427
Connecting		16,244		16,244	17,201
Mobilising Champions		20,961		20,961	22,498
		<u>50,202</u>	<u>59,729</u>	<u>109,931</u>	<u>101,126</u>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>b Support &amp; Administration</b>					
Governance costs		1,785		1,785	1,680
GDPR compliance		40		40	40
Salaries and pension costs		10,661		10,661	10,562
Office rent & services		124		124	187
I.T., telephone and postage		1,506		1,506	1,937
Office supplies		41		41	116
Travel costs		132		132	433
Equipment not capitalised		0		0	0
Insurance		133		133	501
Professional Fees		500		500	520
Recruitment		0		0	47
Depreciation		3,133	217	3,350	2,018
Sundry		230		230	436
		<u>18,285</u>	<u>217</u>	<u>18,502</u>	<u>18,477</u>
Combined charitable activity cost		<u>68,487</u>	<u>59,946</u>	<u>128,433</u>	<u>119,602</u>

The fee payable to the independent examiner for examining the accounts was £1,714 (2020: £1,680); in addition the charity paid £628 (2020: £623) to Stewardship for payroll bureau services.

<b>c Grants</b>		<b>Institutions</b>	<b>Individuals</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Analysis by receiving project</b>					
APRECOM		9,259		9,259	8,291
Transformation Resources		10,460		10,460	5,545
Stop Child Witch Accusation		6,194		6,194	3,844
Wukwashi		21,815		21,815	18,176
LVLE		10,015		10,015	7,602
Nyiragongo appeal		2,000		2,000	0
		<u>59,743</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>59,743</u>	<u>43,458</u>

**4 Charitable activity (continued)**

	<b>Institutions</b>	<b>Individuals</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Analysis by key purpose</b>				
Awareness raising	1,732		1,732	1,253
Training	19,323		19,323	10,947
Medical	6,079		6,079	4,753
Covid response	6,631		6,631	5,895
Transport	498		498	401
Parent/Family support	3,996		3,996	1,648
Child/Young person support & empowerment	5,860		5,860	7,723
Enterprise	991		991	2,400
School Fees	3,653		3,653	1,384
Administration	10,980		10,980	7,054
	<u>59,743</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>59,743</u>	<u>43,458</u>

Within 'Assisting Churches' are grants made to projects. The main features of the grants made were to provide practical support and finance to children's projects in Africa in three locations with the key purposes being as allocated above.

**5 Fundraising costs**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>Total 2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Salaries and pension costs	13,855		13,855	13,756
Events	0		0	1,021
Travel costs	132		132	549
Printing and stationery	41		41	116
IT Costs	1,252		1,252	1,575
Telephone	217		217	298
Office rent	0		0	44
Storage	52		52	71
Insurance	133		133	132
Room Hire	0		0	0
Training, Conferences & meetings	70		70	45
Postage & mailbox hire	109		109	137
Professional Fees	0		0	50
Governance	21		21	0
Miscellaneous	97		97	137
	<u>15,979</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>15,979</u>	<u>17,931</u>

**6 Staff & Trustees**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Gross wages, salaries & benefits in kind	51,138	50,658
Employer's National Insurance costs	3,418	3,392
Employer's Allowance	(3,418)	(3,106)
Employer's Pension Contributions	1,534	1,242
Total staff costs	<u>52,672</u>	<u>52,186</u>

During the year the charity had 3 full time equivalent employed staff (2020: 3). No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum (2020: none).

Remuneration payable to key management (excluding trustees) amounted to £37,756 in the year (2020: £50,658).

Currently, key management is considered to comprise the Operations Manager, Finance Manager and Training and Project Development Coordinator.



**6 Staff & Trustees (continued)**

No remuneration was paid to any trustee during the year. Mrs G Bradley received no reimbursement for travel fares incurred on BCT's behalf (2020: £48). Simeon Whiting, the son of trustee Hazel Whiting, invoiced BCT a total of £9,797 during the year for communication services provided to the charity (2020: £10,340).

The total amount of donations funded by trustees [and connected parties] and key management was £422 (2020: £816).

**7 Fixed Assets****Intangible Fixed Assets**

	<b>Website</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Cost		
At 1st September 2020	5,744	5,744
Additions	0	0
Disposals	0	0
At 31st August 2021	5,744	5,744
Accumulated Depreciation		
At 1st September 2020	957	957
Charge for the year	1,915	1,915
Disposals	0	0
At 31st August 2021	2,872	2,872
Net book value		
At 31st August 2021	2,872	2,872
At 1st September 2020	4,787	4,787

**Tangible Fixed Assets**

	<b>Computer &amp; Software</b>	<b>Furniture &amp; Equipment</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Cost			
At 1st September 2020	2,996	120	3,116
Additions	1,947	0	1,947
Disposals	0	0	0
At 31st August 2021	4,943	120	5,063
Accumulated Depreciation			
At 1st September 2020	1,788	13	1,801
Charge for the year	1,396	40	1,436
Disposals	0	0	0
At 31st August 2021	3,184	53	3,237
Net book value			
At 31st August 2021	1,759	67	1,826
At 1st September 2020	1,208	107	1,315

**8 Debtors and Prepayments**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Income tax receivable	8,014	8,395
Sundry Debtors	1,675	14,674
Prepayments	3,765	3,791
	<u>13,454</u>	<u>26,860</u>

**9 Cash at Bank and in Hand**

Co-operative Bank	90,029	56,743
NatWest Bank	15,433	14,917
Petty cash	149	1,013
	<u>105,611</u>	<u>72,673</u>

**10 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year**

Trade Creditors	717	1,016
Accruals	2,906	2,733
Deferred Income	0	5,432
	<u>3,623</u>	<u>9,181</u>

**11 Multi-year contract commitments**

The charity has a five year contract with Academia Ltd to provide cloud services that commenced on 1 May 2020. The charity has an option to terminate the contract after three years. The charity paid £5,027 in the year in respect of this contract (2020: £5,027)

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Payments falling due:		
Within one year	5,027	5,027
Between one and five years	10,054	15,081
After five years	—	—
	<u>15,081</u>	<u>20,108</u>

**12 Funds**

a. The restricted funds represent amounts received for specific purposes and the movements in the year are as follows:

	<b>Opening balance</b>	<b>Incoming resources</b>	<b>Outgoing resources</b>	<b>Transfers in the year</b>	<b>Closing balance</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Administration	1,762	0	(217)		1,545
APRECOM	7,328	9,806	(9,256)		7,878
LVLE	6,574	13,958	(10,004)		10,528
Stop Child Witch Accusation	3,980	8,160	(6,194)		5,946
Transformation Resources	11,644	10,009	(10,460)		11,193
Wukwashi (Zambia)	17,282	18,019	(21,815)		13,486
Nyiragongo appeal	0	2,253	(2,000)		253
	<u>48,569</u>	<u>62,205</u>	<u>(59,946)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>50,828</u>

**12 Funds (continued)**

With the exception of Administration, the movement on each of the above funds reflects donations received and disbursements and expenditures made in the financial year in respect of activities carried out by the named project or in accordance with the named appeal. Funds unused at the end of the year are carried forward. A description of the purpose of the other funds and the nature of the restriction can be found in the Trustees Annual Report.

The Administration fund is solely in respect of donations received for non project-related and non appeal-related purposes. The movement on this fund in the year concerned one item: in financial year 2019/20 a donation of £650 was received towards the cost of incorporating a specific facility in our website. The website is being depreciated over a period of 3 years and £217 is this year's depreciation charge for the facility in question. £1,220 of the Administration fund's opening and closing balances are unused funds carried forward from previous years and are specifically restricted to cover the cost of BCT staff team social activities as and when incurred. The closing balance is again carried forward.

For comparison, movements in restricted funds in the year to 31st August 2020 are reproduced below:

	<b>Opening balance £</b>	<b>Incoming resources £</b>	<b>Outgoing resources £</b>	<b>Transfers in the year £</b>	<b>Closing balance £</b>
Administration	1,220	650	(108)		1,762
APRECOM	7,232	8,293	(8,197)		7,328
LVLE	6,277	6,872	(7,589)	1,014	6,574
Stop Child Witch Accusation	5,397	3,441	(3,844)	(1,014)	3,980
Transformation Resources	4,859	12,319	(5,534)		11,644
Wukwashi (Zambia)	14,018	21,440	(18,176)		17,282
	<u>39,003</u>	<u>53,015</u>	<u>(43,449)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>48,569</u>

b. The assets and liabilities represented by the various funds are as follows:

	<b>Fixed assets £</b>	<b>Bank &amp; cash balances £</b>	<b>Other net assets £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
Restricted funds	0	50,828	—	50,828
Unrestricted funds	4,698	54,783	9,831	69,312
	<u>4,698</u>	<u>105,611</u>	<u>9,831</u>	<u>120,140</u>

For comparison, the assets and liabilities represented by the various funds as at 31st August 2020 are reproduced below:

	<b>Fixed assets £</b>	<b>Bank &amp; cash balances £</b>	<b>Other net assets £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
Restricted funds	0	48,569	—	48,569
Unrestricted funds	6,102	24,104	17,679	47,885
	<u>6,102</u>	<u>72,673</u>	<u>17,679</u>	<u>96,454</u>

**13 Events since the year end**

Ms Rose Ndolo joined BCT as a trustee on 15th January 2022.

# The Bethany Children's Trust

## Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

year ended 31 August 2021

		Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Total Funds	Total Funds
	Note	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
		£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>							
Donations and legacies	3	105,876	82,015	62,205	53,015	168,081	135,030
Investments	3	17	38	0	0	17	38
Total income and endowments		105,893	82,053	62,205	53,015	168,098	135,068
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>							
Charitable activities	4	68,487	76,153	59,946	43,449	128,433	119,602
Raising funds	5	15,979	17,931	0	0	15,979	17,931
Total expenditure		84,466	94,084	59,946	43,449	144,412	137,533
Net gains/(losses) on investments		0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		21,427	(12,031)	2,259	9,566	23,686	(2,465)
Transfers between funds		0	0	0	0	0	0
		21,427	(12,031)	2,259	9,566	23,686	(2,465)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		21,427	(12,031)	2,259	9,566	23,686	(2,465)
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>							
Total funds brought forward		47,885	59,916	48,569	39,003	96,454	98,919
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		69,312	47,885	50,828	48,569	120,140	96,454

Movements on reserves and all recognised gains and losses are shown above.  
The notes on page 30 to 36 form part of these accounts.

## APPENDIX 1

### Structure, Governance and Management

#### Organisational Structure

The Operations Manager is responsible for the day-to-day running of BCT. In collaboration with her team, the Operations Manager draws up BCT's annual goals and objectives, taking into account the charity commission's Public Benefit Requirement and BCT's vision and mission, and annual budget. These are then passed to BCT's trustees for discussion, revision and final approval. The Operations Manager makes recommendations to the trustees at their quarterly meetings, in respect of BCT's policies, procedures, disbursement of monies to BCT's project partners and selection of new project partners.

The trustees are responsible for final decision-making in respect of the above. In all aspects of decisions related to BCT's objectives and activities, they take into account the Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit.

BCT's Administrator, Finance Manager and Communications Coordinator are accountable to the Operations Manager, as are the members of staff responsible for training, project development and resources.

#### Appointment of BCT Trustees

Potential candidates for BCT trusteeship are given a job description and are required to complete and submit an application form and two references. Suitable candidates are then invited for an initial interview. At least two BCT trustees, one of whom must be the BCT Chair, are present at this interview. A proposal is then made to the board of trustees to appoint the successful candidate. This appointment must be ratified at a meeting of the board of trustees, according to Article 14 of the Declaration of Trust.

Successful candidates are given a full set of all BCT's policies, procedures and foundational documents, as well as a copy of the governing Deed of Trust document. They are also given the minutes of the four previous meetings of the board of trustees, a copy of the Charity Commission's guide, 'The Essential Trustee: What You Need to Know' and a copy of the 'Charities and Public Benefit' document. All trustees are required to read BCT's Safeguarding Policy and sign a commitment to upholding it. All new trustees are required to spend an induction day, meeting all members of staff and discussing their roles, and are also required to enhance their knowledge and understanding of issues pertaining to children at risk through the reading materials provided to them, and by attending study days or conferences from time to time. Pertinent reports and best practice papers are forwarded to BCT trustees, so that they maintain an awareness of issues that may affect their decision-making.

#### Appraisal of BCT Trustees

All trustees are required to fulfil a six-month probationary period followed by a review.

Upon successful completion of the probationary period, the term of office is for three years, followed by an appraisal. Trustees can then stand for a further term of office if the appraisal is satisfactory. BCT trustees are also required to undergo an appraisal after 18 months in office. The reviews are facilitated by the Chair and one other trustee. The term of office for the Chair of Trustees is 3 years, with an appraisal at 18 months.

None of BCT's trustees receive remuneration or other benefits for their work with BCT.

#### Risk Management

BCT recognises the need, as well as responsibility, to assess all of its activities against risk, in line with the Charity Commission's 'Statement Of Recommended Practice 2005' (SORP 2005). BCT's Risk Management Policy demonstrates potential risks, the steps taken to mitigate or remove them, and BCT's commitment to on-going monitoring and assessment. BCT has also drawn up a Business Continuity Plan as part of its Risk Management Policy. The greatest current risk is economic sustainability in light of the global economic climate, but BCT's trustees confirm that they have reviewed BCT's accounts on a monthly basis and put in place a strategy for on-going fundraising and increasing income for sustainability.



## Responsibilities of trustees under charity law

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

1. select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
2. observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
3. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
4. state whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
5. prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## APPENDIX 2

### Reserves Policy

**(Based on Article 19 of a meeting of BCT trustees, dated 2nd March 2002. Latest amendment by agreement of BCT trustees, 24th May 2021.)**

At any one time, BCT will, as a minimum, maintain an unrestricted fund reserve of at least £40,624. Funds pertaining to any reserve may be retained in one or more BCT accounts. The purpose of the unrestricted fund reserve is to:

- Maintain an adequate level of unrestricted funds to provide security against unforeseen liabilities and funding changes, and;
- For a period of at least three months, meet BCT's running costs if it experiences unforeseen financial difficulties or is in a position where it will soon cease to operate as a charity.

BCT will endeavour to have appropriately disbursed restricted donations no later than six months after the end of the previous financial year.

### Grant-making Policy

**(Based on Article 18 of the minutes of a meeting of the BCT trustees on 2nd March 2002).**

BCT has a Grant Making Policy that outlines criteria for issuing grants to projects and/or individuals, the procedure for issuing grants and the review of grants. This policy is reviewed at set intervals, as are all BCT's policies.



**Registered Office:**

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London SW15 6NP  
[www.bethanychildrenstrust.org.uk](http://www.bethanychildrenstrust.org.uk)

Charity Registration Number 1073817