

FOSTER CARE ORGANISATION INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

England & Wales · Charity number 1081324

Details

Other names INTERNATIONAL FOSTER CARE ORGANISATION

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [02751755](#)

Registered 2000-06-29

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address The Circle
33 Rockingham Lane
Sheffield City Centre
Sheffield

Phone +61482863561

Email ifco@ifco.info

Website www.ifco.info

Activities

Objects: TO RELIEVE BY SUCH MEANS AS ARE CHARITABLE CHILDREN, THE AGED AND PERSONS SUFFERING FROM MENTAL OR PHYSICAL DISABILITY WHO BY REASON OF THEIR CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE NEED OF FOSTER CARE OR SUBSTITUTE CARE; AND 2. TO PROMOTE AND ORGANISE CO-OPERATION IN ACHIEVING THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE QUALITY OF SERVICE GIVEN TO CHILDREN AND OTHERS IN CARE AND TO THAT END BRING TOGETHER ASSOCIATIONS OF FOSTER PARENTS, REPRESENTATIVES OF AUTHORITIES AND ORGANISATIONS ENGAGED IN ADVANCING FOSTER CARE AND RELIEVING DISTRESS OF CHILDREN AND OTHERS IN CARE AND TO ASSIST THEIR WORK.

Activities: The principal activities of the charity are to promote and organise co-operation in achieving the improvement of the quality of service given to children and others in care and to that end bring together associations of foster parents, representatives of authorities and organisations engaged in advancing foster care and relieving distress of children and others in care to assist their work

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Overseas Aid/famine Relief
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£1,302	£9,212	-	-
2024-03-31	£3,470	£4,004	-	-
2023-03-31	£480,396	£441,063	-	-
2022-03-31	£19,492	£29,238	-	-
2021-03-31	£37,023	£16,316	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Emily Hikaiti Paul		2023-11-20
Ian Anand Forber-Pratt		2025-12-13
Lanto Robivelo		2019-11-16
Myrna McNitt		2023-11-20
Rachael Trihey		2025-12-13
Vasundhra Om Prem		2025-12-13

FOSTER CARE ORGANISATION INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1081324

Accounts

Company number: 02751755
Charity number: 1081324

FOSTER CARE ORGANISATION INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Foster Care Organisation International Limited

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Foster Care Organisation International Limited
Legal and administrative information
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Trustees

Joanne Derrick	UK	
John Role	Malta	Resigned 20/11/2023
Vasundhra Sharma	India	Resigned 20/11/2023
Carrie Tineke Harrop	UK	Resigned 20/11/2023
Billie-Jo Mcdowell	Northern Ireland	Resigned 27/08/2022
Stacy Blythe	Australia	
Lanto Robivelo	Madagascar	
Veronica Buchumi	Germany	
Mark Harrop	UK	Appointed 20/11/2023
Myrna McNitt	USA	Appointed 20/11/2023
Nicola Peel	Australia	Appointed 20/11/2023
Tia Peramaa	Finland	Appointed 20/11/2023
Lauren Smith	USA	Appointed 20/11/2023

Charity number

1081324

Company number

02751755

Registered office

The Circle
33 Rockingham Lane
Sheffield
S1 4FW

Independent examiner (and Accountants)

Susan Cochrane, FCA, DChA
Seven Hills Accountants Limited
57 Burton Street
Sheffield
S6 2HH

Foster Care Organisation International Limited
Directors' report (incorporating the Trustees' annual report)
For the year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees are pleased to present their annual directors' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 March 2023 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the charities Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland; FRS 102) issued in October 2019.

Objects of the charity

Structure, governance, and management

IFCO is governed by a Board of Trustees, elected from and by the members of Foster Care Organisation International Limited or co-opted subject to election. The Board holds at least six governance meetings online and holds physical meetings during IFCO regional / international conferences to provide strategic guidance, discuss and agree on policy issues, review expenditure, approve budgets and review overall progress in implementing strategic goals and objectives. The Board under its traditional model had established several committees, including a Youth Committee, Training and Consultancy Projects Committee, Communication and Marketing Committee, Membership Committee, Conference Committee, Fundraising Committee, Research and Publications Committee. IFCO retains the right to appoint committees from time to time to facilitate its work.

All the executive decisions are administratively supported by the IFCO Secretariat. By providing administrative, financial, and logistic functions, the Secretariat contributes towards the improvement of IFCO's operational capacity. It does this through implementation of the organisational strategy, transparency, and accountability (including communications, reporting and financial management). The President is responsible for management of the Secretariat. For the duration up until the end of December 2022 IFCO had a paid part-time Operations and Project Manager in the role of Secretariat. Since then, the IFCO Board have taken on these duties along with a volunteer Secretariat supporting the communication strategy.

The Board is comprised of up to eleven members made up of:

- President, Vice President, Administrative Secretary, Treasurer (Management Committee)
- Board members (who may be chairs of the above-mentioned committees and/or working groups).

The Trustees constitute Directors for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006 and Trustees for the purposes of the Charities Act 2011.

All Directors must be aged 18 or over, and be either an individual member, a life member, a youth member, or an employee or a member of the governing body of an organisational member. All the membership categories are defined within the Company's Articles of Association.

Trustees are recruited from the membership aged 18 and over after advertising via email communication with members and supporters. Elections are held at the AGM every two years. Members who are present at the meeting may vote and other members may appoint proxies to vote for them. Trustees may serve for a maximum of 8 consecutive years. The Management Committee is responsible for new Board members induction. Induction is performed in the period of 2 months after appointment of new trustees.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The principal objective of the charity is to promote and organise co-operation in achieving the improvement of the quality of service given to children and others in care and to that end bring together associations of foster parents, representatives of authorities and organisations engaged in advancing foster care and relieving distress of children and others in care to assist their work.

The strategic goals for this financial period have remained largely unchanged from previous years, in part due to the impact of COVID-19, where some of IFCO's activities went on hold, and as Trustees believed in their long-term sustainability, quality and impact.

Strategic Goal 1. IFCO will promote and support the development of evidence-based policy on alternative family-based care for children internationally.

Strategic Goal 2. IFCO will promote good practice and improve existing practice in the delivery of family-based child care.

Strategic Goal 3. IFCO will capitalise upon the vast experience and expertise of all its members to create opportunities to inform and increase the international research base to support family-based child care policy and practice.

To achieve these strategic objectives, IFCO's operational priorities have been grouped around three overarching pillars:

1) Networking

Main areas covered:

- Regional and international conferences
- One-day seminars with pre-approved experts
- Specific tasks and theme-related activities
- Sharing and exchange of policies, good practices, experiences, procedures, and resources
- Strategic partnerships (i.e. Memorandum of Understandings with national organisations, educational institutions etc) and advocacy
- Integrated communications (website, social media, links, library, and resources)
- International representative voice for children and other stakeholders in foster care

2) Publishing and research

Main areas covered:

- Publishing including position papers, discussion papers, books of proceedings
- Research, including data gathering, link with research networks and groups, research at conferences and sharing of research from stakeholders
- Volunteer and member engagement with research
- Online surveys
- Task force and Thematic Working Groups (Kinship Care and Aftercare)

3) Training and consultancy

Main areas covered:

- Sub-contracted consultancy services for international NGOs
- Training, facilitation and capacity building programmes for partners and service providers including government structures, NGOs and individuals
- Training materials and tools

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the finances of the charity and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks, although it is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable, not absolute, assurance. The Trustees aim to have diversified sources of funding for the company through improving internal capacity for fundraising and self-sustainability of the core organisational functions, drafting grant proposals, proposals for training and funded consultancy services.

The Directors/trustees and oversight team have assessed the potential risks and have developed policies and codes of practice which cover child protection, Disability Discrimination Act issues, health and safety, insurance, and employment law. Where appropriate, action has been taken to mitigate the relevant risks.

Covid-19 and its impact on international travel and attendance at conferences has continued to be an element of risk assessment and risk management. IFCO suspended its most recent strategic plan to respond to Covid-19 pandemic both for the benefit of our members and the public but also to be sustainable. Our 2021 International Conference planned for Darwin, Australia was deferred for a year and was successfully delivered in September 2022. We continued to address the significant decrease in income in the first part of the financial year (ahead of the conference) while also delivering quality webinars, projects, and activities.

IFCO benefitted from fundraising activities facilitated during the conference in Darwin whilst also delivering training which marked the beginning of an approach to diversification of income strands that had also been impacted by the pandemic. The Board are committed to further developing a diversified portfolio of income generation in the coming years.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the Charity.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Directors and Trustees

- IFCO began this reporting year with 8 trustees on the board.
- Billie-Jo McDowell resigned in August 2022 having successfully supported the IFCO Youth Committee to deliver on Care leaver led projects.
- The executive remains the same: Jo Derrick (UK) as Interim President and Vice President, and Carrie Harrop as Treasurer.

Operations

The commissioned Secretariat resigned in December 2022 having successfully supported IFCO to deliver (with Partners) on our first in person international conference since 2017. We continued to further develop and deliver on the Communication Strategy with the support of our volunteer secretariat for whom we are most appreciative of their time and skills.

Membership

There is a continued base of renewed members every year. We are working on increasing the membership through our strategy. We have members in over 18 countries and organisational members (7) in four countries. As a membership organisation we are committed to ensuring our members feel the value of IFCO membership and this continues to be of strategic importance to IFCO in this and forthcoming years.

Conferences and events



IFCO 2021, to be hosted in Darwin, Australia was deferred to 2022. At the start of 2021, IFCO and partners made the decision to defer IFCO2021 International Foster and Kinship Care Conference hosted in Darwin to 2022. This was based on the global pandemic and wanting to keep all participants safe while also being able to host as many people as possible. After another wave of the pandemic in 2022, we moved the dates to

September 2022 and have been promoting the 40th Anniversary Conference (also the 10th Anniversary Conference of our national partner, FKANT).

We are delighted at the success of the conference in Darwin. With over 600 delegates attending and a 3-day programme of learning IFCO asserted itself as an organisation at the forefront of shared learning and networking on all aspects of alternative family-based care. The delivery of such a successful conference was largely dependent on the drive and commitment of IFCO Board members and particular thanks are expressed to the IFCO Conference Liaison Officer, Management Committee and Secretariat for all their hard work and dedication to see this through.

Dare to Lead certified training: As part of our commitment to quality care and professional development, IFCO, in collaboration with Lacy Dicharry (Former IFCO President, current member) continued to offer Dare to Lead certified training. "As a Dare to Lead Facilitator™, my goal is to help you become a Daring and Courageous Leader and learn one or several of the four skill sets of courageous leadership. Dare to Lead is a research-driven process that will help you build skills that are tactical and actionable allowing you to put language, skills, and tools into practice." Lacy Dicharry.



Dare to Lead™ is designed for anyone who is ready to embrace brave leadership, shed their armor, and show up with their whole heart in their work and life. This program benefits those who manage, inspire, and train teams, and those who want to live and lead from an inspired authentic grounding. IFCO and Lacy have committed to delivering this training twice in 2021 and is planning an in-person training in 2022, linked to our conference in Australia. All registration fees are a 100% donation to IFCO as a fundraising activity. The February 2021 training was our largest fundraiser of the financial year and 21 participants benefited from the training.

Care Leaver Led Projects – PiCK Europe & Building Bridges



In 2021, IFCO was successful in leading an Erasmus project bid to amplify the voice of Care Leavers at a European level. Our project partnered with a small new care leaver organisation in Netherlands, Care leavers Connected as well as the National Foster Care Association, Malta (NFCAM). The aim of

this project was to connect Care leavers from the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, and Malta; promote their active citizenship; and empower them by creating opportunities for interactions and skills development, sharing their voices to influence positive change with youth, professionals, and policymakers. The project was heavily impacted by firstly the pandemic and post pandemic the busyness of people's lives, however we were able to bring people together in the Netherlands, UK, and Malta across the duration of the project and develop resources that were co-designed and co-produced with care leavers to support the skills development of policy makers seeking to engage with young people/care experienced adults. in 2021 and 2022.

Using the same principles as those of the Erasmus funded project, IFCO partnered with 2 UK based organisations - Staf (Scotland) and Care Leaver's Association (England/UK) with the aim of hosting an event with care leavers. The main objective of '**Building Bridges: Connective Voices**' was to promote young people's active citizenship, establishing partnership relations between youth from different parts of the country (England and Scotland, who have different legislation and different politicians), empowerment and social inclusion by creating opportunities for interaction and communication between youth, professionals, and policymakers. The event saw policy/decision-makers and care leavers from both England and Scotland culminating at an in-person event to develop pledges to change the policy landscape beyond the life of this initiative and we hope to continue to support this work through the work of the IFCO Youth Committee.

Foster Care Organisation International Limited
Directors' report (incorporating the Trustees' annual report) (continued)
For the year ended 31 March 2023

We are proud to have been able to support these projects through some really challenging times and really appreciate the care leavers who participated in the projects and the organisations and individuals who supported them. Thanks also to the IFCO Board members who invested so much time, energy, and commitment to seeing these projects through to conclusion and for the memories created for those involved.

Training & Development



IFCO was commissioned to deliver capacity building training by Partnership for Every Child Moldova. Members of the workforce across Moldova undertook a 3 day 'train the trainer' programme to develop a trauma informed foster carer community across the country. IFCO is thankful for the hospitality of Partnership for Every Child Moldova and for the prospect of ongoing collaborations to enhance the skills of carers and improved life outcomes for children/young people in alternative

family-based care.

IFCO Partnerships

- CWLC
- FKANT
- CLA
- Staf
- NFCA
- Care leavers Connected
- P4EC Moldova
- Mission Ukraine
- Eurochild

IFCOs presence in the world

- In response to the war in Ukraine we signed up to be a promoting partner for Mission Ukraine, aiming to engage with 1,400 children and families (foster parents and relatives) in Ukraine and provide support in Moldova and Bulgaria for Ukrainian refugees (trauma counselling, humanitarian, and practical support). In June 2022 **we co-hosted a webinar with and on behalf of Mission Ukraine**. During this webinar we brought expertise from a range of international speakers to support foster carer practice and members of the Bulgarian workforce and policymakers to have a better understanding of the support needs of carers and unaccompanied children/young people in their care.
- We continue to be active members of Eurochild, the largest European network for children's rights advocacy. We have **increased our representation in the Children in Alternative Care group** as well as centrally including the general assembly and other events. We were invited to speak at a capacity building webinar on the topic of Social Housing for Care leavers, in recognition of our international breadth of knowledge. We also participated in the Ensuring Child Guarantee Helps End Child Poverty development and campaign. <https://eurochild.org/news/ensuring-the-european-child-guarantee-helps-end-child-poverty/>
- We continue to be members of the CRC (Child Rights Connect).

Future developments: April 2023 - March 2024

IFCO will build on the successful re-introduction of in-person international conferences and strategically prepare for future conferences having undertaken analysis on the changing landscape on event management and demands of prospective conference delegates.

Foster Care Organisation International Limited
Directors' report (incorporating the Trustees' annual report) (continued)
For the year ended 31 March 2023

IFCO will continue to partner with Lacy Dicharry in delivering Dare to Lead Training opportunities. This is aimed at encouraging brave leaders in the various roles around foster care. It is also a vital fundraiser for IFCO as unrestricted funds.

We will increase our influence through **collaborative networking** with other organisations in the sector and campaign for policy change that is informed by those with lived experience. IFCO will further aim to amplify the voice of care leavers through increased engagement with other youth platforms and through engagement with our organisational members.

IFCO is fully committed to **retaining current members and increasing the breadth and depth of membership** in line with our memorandum. We will continue our online presence, providing webinars and exchange opportunities for our members and the public.

We will **strengthen our Board membership** in recognition of the end of tenure of some of our Board members in the coming year, and to enable IFCO to draw on the skills and experience it needs as a strategically forward-facing working board.

Reserves

The trustees are keenly aware of the necessity to maintain an adequate level of reserves. At present free reserves of £10,000 are considered to be the minimum level at which the charity can productively function. Because we do not own office space, nor have employees using PAYE, our overheads are minimal, which is why we consider the minimum of £10,000 as appropriate. This compares to free reserves at 31 March 2023 of £93,067 (2022: £8,478).

Fundraising statement

IFCO is a member-based organisation, and its funding comes from membership fees, providing training and IFCO conferences. We do not solicit funds via phone, email, direct mail or by using third party commercial fundraisers. We do fundraise via a general call for support on our website, social media and in our conference material.

IFCO is committed to being accountable and responsible and if its fundraising approach changes in the future IFCO will register with the UK fundraising regulator.

IFCO did not receive any complaints about fundraising activity during 2022-2023.

Small companies' exemption

In preparing this report, the trustees have taken advantage of the small companies' exemptions provided by Section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 07/02/2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Name: Mark Harrop
Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the directors of Foster Care Organisation International Limited ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 19/02/2024
Susan Cochrane FCA, DhA
Seven Hills Accountants Limited
57 Burton Street
Sheffield
S6 2HH

Date: Susan Cochrane

Foster Care Organisation International Limited

Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an income and expenditure statement)

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Income from:							
Grants and Donations	2	269	-	269	1,633	12,888	14,521
Charitable activities	3	458,997	-	458,997	2,509	-	2,509
Fundraising activities		-	1,638	1,638	-	-	-
Investment income		-	-	-	2	-	2
Other income		-	-	-	2,460	-	2,460
Total income		459,266	1,638	460,904	6,604	12,888	19,492
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	4	372,677	39,148	411,825	24,465	4,773	29,238
Total expenditure		372,677	39,148	411,825	24,465	4,773	29,238
Net income/(expenditure)		86,589	(37,510)	49,079	(17,861)	8,115	(9,746)
Transfer between funds	9	(2,000)	2,000	-	-	-	-
Net movement on funds		84,589	(35,510)	49,079	(17,861)	8,115	(9,746)
Total fund brought forward		8,478	42,952	51,430	26,339	34,837	61,176
Total funds carried forward	7	93,067	7,442	100,509	8,478	42,952	51,430

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

Foster Care Organisation International Limited

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Current assets			
Debtors	7	878	-
Cash at bank and in hand		139,831	52,402
Total current assets		140,709	52,402
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(40,200)	(972)
Net current assets		100,509	51,430
Total assets less current liabilities		100,509	51,430
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		-	-
Total net assets		100,509	51,430
Funds of the Charity			
Unrestricted funds		93,067	8,478
Restricted funds	10	7,442	42,952
Total funds	11	100,509	51,430

For the year ending 31 March 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The director's acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to small companies' regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 07/02/2024
and signed on their behalf by:



Mark Harrop
Trustee

FOSTER CARE ORGANISATION INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

(a) General

Foster Care Organisation International Limited is a charitable company in the United Kingdom limited by guarantee. In the event that the charity is wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 (as updated through Update Bulletin1 published on 2 February 2016), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. The financial statements have adopted Charities SORP (FRS102) Bulletin 1 and taken advantage of the exemption to the prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

Foster Care Organisation International Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and are rounded to the nearest £.

(b) Going concern

The Board of Trustees is of the opinion that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existences for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties regarding the Charity's ability to do so.

(c) Income

Income represents the amount derived from the provision of goods and services falling within the charity's activities, membership subscriptions, donations and interest.

Income from government or other grants is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Subscriptions are accounted for in the year they are due. Investment income is included when receivable.

(d) Expenditure

Expenditure including irrecoverable VAT is charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis. Costs of raising funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

(e) Realised gains and losses

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(f) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are donations and other income receivable or generated for the objects of the organisation without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Restricted funds are either donations which the donor has specified are to be used solely for particular areas of the charity's work or grant income sought for specific activities.

(g) Creditors and provisions

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the company does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Notes to the Accounts - continued
For the year ended 31 March 2023

(h) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

(i) Estimates and judgements

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Although these estimates are based on the trustee's best knowledge of the amount, events or actions, actual results ultimately differ from these estimates. The trustees do not consider there to be any estimates or judgements.

(j) Foreign currencies

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at the operating result.

(k) Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments, including trade and other debtors and creditors are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

2 Income from grants and donations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Grants	-	-	-	-	12,888	12,888
Donations	269	-	269	1,633	-	1,633
	269	-	269	1,633	12,888	14,521

Grants	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Erasmus grant	-	-	-	-	12,888	12,888
	-	-	-	-	12,888	12,888

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Conference seminar and training income	452,322	-	452,322	80	-	80
Consultancy services	5,542	-	5,542	1,942	-	1,942
Subscriptions	1,133	-	1,133	487	-	487
	458,997	-	458,997	2,509	-	2,509

Notes to the Accounts - continued
For the year ended 31 March 2023

4 Expenditure on Charitable Activities

Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total £
Conference/meetings	361,344	185	361,529	16,955	-	16,955
Project expenses	1,807	3,562	5,369	-	4,607	4,607
Management and administration						
- Independent examiners fees	6	2,280	2,280	-	-	-
- Bank and other charges		115	115	121	-	121
- Officer expenses and representation		6,958	6,958	5,157	166	5,323
- Legal and Professional		109	109	559	-	559
- Office and sundry		1,225	1,225	1,098	-	1,098
- Repayment of grant income		-	35,401	-	-	-
- Difference on exchange		(1,161)	(1,161)	575	-	575
	372,677	39,148	411,825	24,465	4,773	29,238

5 Trustee and related party transactions

None of the trustees received any remuneration (2022: £nil); reimbursed expenses and recharged costs totalled £Nil during the year (2022: £Nil).

There were no other related party transactions during the year.

6 Independent examination fees

	2023 £
Independent Examination fee	2,280

No other fees were paid to the independent examiner's organisation.

7 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments and accrued income	878	-
	878	-

8 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Creditors	-	630
Accruals and deferred income	40,200	342
	40,200	972

9 Movement in funds

	Balance at 1-Apr-22 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer	Balance at 31-Mar-23 £
Restricted funds - see note 8	42,952	1,638	(39,148)	2,000	7,442
Unrestricted funds	8,478	459,266	(372,677)	(2,000)	93,067
	51,430	460,904	(411,825)	-	100,509
<i>Prior year</i>	<i>Balance at 31-Mar-21 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfer</i>	<i>Balance at 31-Mar-22 £</i>
<i>Restricted funds</i>	<i>34,837</i>	<i>12,888</i>	<i>(4,773)</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>42,952</i>
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>	<i>26,339</i>	<i>6,604</i>	<i>(24,465)</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>8,478</i>
	61,176	19,492	(29,238)	-	51,430

FOSTER CARE ORGANISATION INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2023

10 Restricted funds

	Balance at 1-Apr-22 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer £	Balance at 31-Mar-23 £
Pat Whelan Fund	5,804	1,638	-	-	7,442
Building Bridges: Connecting Voices	28,867	-	(29,218)	351	-
Pride in Care leavers Konnected: Europe	8,281	-	(9,930)	1,649	-
	42,952	1,638	(39,148)	2,000	7,442

Pat Whelan Fund

This fund is utilised to allow younger people to attend conferences.

Building Bridges: Connecting Voices

Grant awarded by Erasmus for the main objective of promoting young people's active citizenship, establishing partnership relations between youth from different parts of the country, empowerment & social inclusion by creating opportunities for interaction and communication between youth, professionals and policymakers. After the year end date the funders advised that they would be requiring repayment of the outstanding grant, an accrual has been made to reflect this.

Pride in Care leavers Konnected: Europe

The PiCK Project aims to bring together Care Leavers and policy makers from the UK, Malta and the Netherlands to discuss issues impacting care leavers, and co-produce solutions with policy makers. The project has hosted three in person events in each of the host countries, and online events due to covid, bringing together the multiple stakeholders. After the year end date the funders advised that they would be requiring repayment of the grant underspend, an accrual has been made to reflect this.

	Balance at 31-Mar-21 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer £	Balance at 31-Mar-22 £
<i>Prior year</i>					
Pat Whelan Fund	5,804	-	-	-	5,804
Building Bridges: Connecting Voices	29,033	-	(166)	-	28,867
Pride in Care leavers Konnected: Europe	-	12,888	(4,607)	-	8,281
	34,837	12,888	(4,773)	-	42,952

11 Net assets by fund

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Net current assets	93,067	7,442	100,509
	93,067	7,442	100,509

Net assets by fund - Prior year

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Net current assets	8,478	42,952	51,430
	8,478	42,952	51,430

12 Taxation

Foster Care Organisation International Limited is a registered charity and therefore is not liable to income tax or corporation tax on income or gains derived from its charitable activities, as they fall within the various exemptions available to registered charities.

FOSTER CARE ORGANISATION INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 1081324

Accounts

Company number: 02751755
Charity number: 1081324

FOSTER CARE ORGANISATION INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Foster Care Organisation International Limited

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Foster Care Organisation International Limited
Legal and administrative information
for the year ended 31 March 2021

Trustees

April Curtis	USA	Resigned on August 1, 2020
Joanna Derrick	UK	
Lacy Dicharry	USA	Resigned 30 April 2021
Danielle Douglas	Ireland	Resigned April 4 2020
John Role	Malta	
Vasundhra Sharma	India	
Carrie Tineke –Harrop	UK	
Stacy Blythe	Australia	
Lanto Robivelo	Madagascar	
Veronica Buchumi	Germany	
Billie-Jo Mcdowell	Northern Ireland	Appointed 4 April 2020

Charity number

1081324

Company number

02751755

Registered office

The Circle
33 Rockingham Lane
Sheffield
S1 4FW

Independent Examiner

Susan Cochrane FCA
Employee of:
VAS Community Accountancy
The Circle
33 Rockingham Lane
Sheffield
S1 4FW

Foster Care Organisation International Limited
Directors' report (incorporating the Trustees' annual report)
For the year ended 31 March 2021

The trustees are pleased to present their annual directors' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 March 2021 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the charities Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland; FRS 102) issued in October 2019.

Objects of the charity

Structure, governance and management

Foster Care Organisation International Limited (IFCO) is governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association incorporated 30 September 1992. New Articles of Association were put before the members at the last AGM (November 16th 2019) and are currently going through the formal process with Charity Commission and Companies House to be legally implemented. These have been presented to the Charity Commission and we are currently waiting for Companies House to register them before the Charity Commission will formally recognise and register the new Articles of Association.

IFCO is governed by a Board of Trustees, elected from and by the members of Foster Care Organisation International Limited or co-opted subject to election. The Board holds at least six governance meetings online and holds physical meetings during IFCO regional / international conferences to provide strategic guidance, discuss and agree on policy issues, review expenditure, approve budgets and review overall progress in implementing strategic goals and objectives. The Board under its traditional model had established a number of committees, including a Youth Committee, Training and Consultancy Projects Committee, Communication and Marketing Committee, Membership Committee, Conference Committee, Fundraising Committee, Research and Publications Committee. IFCO retains the right to appoint committees from time to time in order to facilitate its work. Please see Trustees Report below for further information on the new structure.

All of the executive decisions are administratively supported by the IFCO Secretariat. By providing administrative, financial and logistic functions, the Secretariat contributes towards the improvement of IFCO's operational capacity. It does this through implementation of the organisational strategy, transparency and accountability (including communications, reporting and financial management). The President is responsible for management of the Secretariat.

The Board is comprised of up to eleven members made up of:

- President, Vice President, Administrative Secretary, Treasurer (Management Committee)
- Board members (who may be chairs of the above-mentioned committees and/or working groups).

The Trustees constitute Directors for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006 and Trustees for the purposes of the Charities Act 2011.

All Directors must be aged 18 or over, and be either an individual member, a life member, a youth member, or an employee or a member of the governing body of an organisational member. All the membership categories are defined within the Company's Articles of Association.

Trustees are recruited from the membership aged 18 and over after advertising via email communication with members and supporters. Elections are held at the AGM every two years. Members who are present at the meeting may vote and other members may appoint proxies to vote for them. Trustees may serve for a maximum of 8 consecutive years. The Management Committee is responsible for new Board members induction. Induction is performed in the period of 2 months after appointment of new trustees.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The principal objective of the charity is to promote and organise co-operation in achieving the improvement of the quality of service given to children and others in care and to that end bring together associations of foster parents, representatives of authorities and organisations engaged in advancing foster care and relieving distress of children and others in care to assist their work.

The strategic goals for 2019-2022 have remained largely unchanged from 2013-2014 as Trustees believed in their long-term sustainability, quality and impact.

Strategic Goal 1. IFCO will promote and support the development of evidence-based policy on alternative family-based care for children internationally.

Strategic Goal 2. IFCO will promote good practice and improve existing practice in the delivery of family-based child care.

Strategic Goal 3. IFCO will capitalise upon the vast experience and expertise of all its members to create opportunities to inform and increase the international research base to support family-based child care policy and practice.

To achieve these strategic objectives, IFCO's operational priorities have been grouped around three overarching pillars:

1) Networking

Main areas covered:

- Regional and international conferences
- One-day seminars with pre-approved experts
- Specific tasks and theme-related activities
- Sharing and exchange of policies, good practices, experiences, procedures and resources
- Strategic partnerships (i.e. Memorandum of Understandings with national organisations, educational institutions etc) and advocacy
- Integrated communications (website, social media, links, library and resources)
- International representative voice for children and other stakeholders in foster care

2) Publishing and research

Main areas covered:

- Publishing including position papers, discussion papers, books of proceedings
- Research, including data gathering, link with research networks and groups, research at conferences and sharing of research from stakeholders
- Volunteer and member engagement with research
- Online surveys
- Task force and Thematic Working Groups (Kinship Care and Aftercare)

3) Training and consultancy

Main areas covered:

- Sub-contracted consultancy services for international NGOs
- Training, facilitation and capacity building programmes for partners and service providers including government structures, NGOs and individuals
- Training materials and tools

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the finances of the charity, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks, although it is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable, not absolute, assurance. The Trustees aim to have diversified sources of funding for the company through improving internal capacity for fundraising and self-sustainability of the core organisational functions, drafting grant proposals, proposals for training and funded consultancy services.

The Directors/trustees and oversight team have assessed the potential risks and have developed policies and codes of practice which cover child protection, Disability Discrimination Act issues, health and safety, insurance and employment law. Where appropriate, action has been taken to mitigate the relevant risks.

Covid-19 has continued to be an element of risk assessment and risk management. IFCO suspended its current strategic plan in order to respond to Covid-19 pandemic both for the benefit of our members and the public but also in order to be sustainable. Our 2021 International Conference planned for Darwin, Australia has been deferred for a year and will be in September 2022. We continued to address the significant decrease in income while also delivering quality webinars, projects, and activities. IFCO2020 conference was cancelled and instead, a webinar series and submission for journal publication was undertaken. This represented a loss of projected income from the physical conference. IFCO Board oversaw the increased fundraising activities, including many Facebook fundraisers as well as a Dare to Lead training where all registration income was donated as fundraising for IFCO. We have made a plan for the coming year (April 2021 - March 2022) to hold IFCO2021, fundraising events, activities and training events as ways to diversify our income strands as well as decrease our outgoing costs. We also aim to create more free-to-access online events and seminars for members and the general public as the pandemic continues.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the Charity.

Achievements and performance

Directors and Trustees

- IFCO began this reporting year with 10 trustees on the board.
- Danielle Douglas (Ireland) (the President) resigned on April 4, 2020. Lacy Dicharry became President and Jo Derrick became Vice-President.
- April Curtis (USA) resigned on August 1, 2020

Operations

The team remained stable for the reporting year. Over the year, we have three longer term volunteers that also joined the secretariat for more than a few weeks each time: Francesca Daniels: Social Media Consultant, Ginny Engholm: Communications and Development Expert, Ryan Daniels: Design Development. Their time and effort has meant that we updated the IFCO logo for the first time in 40 years; we reconfigured the website for ease of use for members and the public; and we implemented the Communication Strategy. Thanks also to all volunteers, especially those who volunteered during the pandemic.

Membership

There is a continued base of renewed members every year. There has been a slight decrease in individual membership since last year (8%) but membership retention is high. We now have members in over 27 countries and organisational members (9) in four countries.

Considering the impact of Covid and not being able to physically host IFCO2020 or IFCO2021 as planned, we are delighted to have such a loyal member base when annual memberships are not necessarily a priority at the moment. We hope to see this pick up again with the implementation of IFCO2022. We are also able to demonstrate membership engagement through webinars, discussion groups and newsletters/surveys.

Membership (continued)

We also conducted a consultation with current and former IFCO Youth Members in Autumn 2020. The outcome of this is that IFCO is valued for its youth conferences, for being a place to connect to other youth and for its webinars and events as well as access to the IFCO PAT Whelan Youth Fund.

IFCO's strategic goals:

IFCO's "A plan for revitalisation and sustainability: Strategic Plan 2020-2022" in August 2020.

IFCO's vision is driven by the belief that, if they so wish, all children in alternative care across the world should live in family-based care because this form of care offers children the best opportunity to grow and prosper.

GOAL 1: IFCO will advocate on behalf of children in alternative care so that all those children who need and want it, will have the opportunity to avail of family-based foster or kinship care.

GOAL 2: IFCO will promote the rights of children in alternative care to ensure the inclusion of their views on all matters affecting them as set out in Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

GOAL 3: IFCO is committed to supporting foster and kinship carers to achieve and maintain the highest standard of care to ensure best outcomes for children in their care.

While our goals remain the same, some of our strategic plan was paused because of COVID-19 pandemic. IFCO changed the focus of this year to continue providing online support and content to members and the public. We prioritised member engagement, introducing themed member sessions every 4-6 weeks as well as delivering a Dare to Lead™ leadership training to members and the public and getting the charity back to financial stability, diversifying income and decreasing costs with the aim of ensuring financial viability for 2021.

Conferences and events

IFCO2020 was cancelled and in order to offer the potential content to as many people as possible, **IFCO and Child Welfare League Canada launched a multiple webinar Learning Programme** for September 2020 - April 2021. The theme was Close ties: Relations at the heart of child and family wellness and a journal publication from the abstracts submitted to be published in 2021.



IFCO 2021, to be hosted in Darwin, Australia was deferred to 2022. At the start of 2021, IFCO and partners made the decision to defer IFCO2021 International Foster and Kinship Care Conference hosted in Darwin to 2022. This was based on the global pandemic and wanting to keep all participants safe while also being able to host as many people as possible.

Dare to Lead certified training: As part of our commitment to quality care and professional development,



IFCO, in collaboration with Lacy Dicharry (Former IFCO President, current member) started to offer Dare to Lead certified training. "As a Dare to Lead Facilitator™, my goal is to help you become a Daring and Courageous Leader and learn one or several of the four skill sets of courageous leadership. Dare to Lead is a research-driven process that will help you build skills that are tactical and actionable allowing you to put language, skills, and tools into practice." Lacy Dicharry.

Dare to Lead™ is designed for anyone who is ready to embrace brave leadership, shed their armor, and show up with their whole heart in their work and life. This program benefits those who manage, inspire, and train teams, and those who want to live and lead from an inspired authentic grounding. IFCO and Lacy have committed to delivering this training twice in 2021 and twice in 2022. All registration fees are a 100% donation to IFCO as a fundraising activity. The February 2021 training was our largest fundraiser of the financial year and 21 participants benefited from the training.

Conferences and events (continued)

IFCO Coffee Conversations: In response to Covid, IFCO held "Coffee Conversations" where different emerging topics were discussed over the Spring and Summer 2020 as everyone responded to children protection, leaving care, how to do social work and provide care during a pandemic. These were extremely well received by both members and the public. Some of these recordings are now available on our Youtube.channel.



PiCK Europe & Building Bridges (Erasmus projects)



In 2021, IFCO was successful in leading 2 Erasmus project bids, one at national level in the UK and one at European level.

Our UK partners are Staf (Scotland) and Care Leaver's Association (England/UK) with the aim of delivering a project with careleavers. The main objective of 'Building Bridges: Connective Voices' is promoting young people's active citizenship, establishing partnership relations between youth from different parts of the country (England and Scotland, who have different legislation and different politicians), empowerment and social inclusion by creating opportunities for interaction and communication between youth, professionals and policymakers. A secondary objective is to invest in these young people's skills and confidence that are transferable and useful beyond this project.

Our European project is partnering with a small new careleaver organisation in Netherlands, Careleavers Connected as well as the National Foster Care Association, Malta (NFCAM). The aim of this project is to connect Careleavers from the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, and Malta; promote their active citizenship; and empower them by creating opportunities for interactions and skills development, sharing their voices to influence positive change with youth, professionals and policymakers. This will have activities in Netherlands, UK and Malta in 2021 and 2022.

IFCO@40 - IFCO's 40th Anniversary: We continue to develop plans to celebrate IFCO's 40th Anniversary including having a logo attached to this year's events and activities. This includes setting up a new former and current members group on Facebook to promote discussion and interaction as well as posting some 'flashback' photos and previous conference reminders as part of reminiscing about IFCO and our legacy.



IFCO Partnerships

- CWLC
- FKANT
- CLA
- Staf
- NFCA
- Careleavers Connected

IFCOs presence in the world

- We focused our efforts on our online activities, continuing to implement the IFCO Communications Strategy so that IFCO remains professional, consistent, and communicates effectively with all internal and external stakeholders. This was particularly guided by the pandemic so we could provide information and advocacy for our members and the public.
 - IFCO's website use and views continued to be busy in 2020-2021. Half of users are returning users and half are finding the website via organic searches.
 - IFCO was also active on social media and engaged 41,518 people on Facebook during the year. This is an increase from 18,500 and evidence of our move to engage people more online due to the pandemic. IFCO is also more active on Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram.

Conferences and events (continued)

- IFCO created the IFCO Coffee Conversations as an online thematic activity that would provide education and a listening platform for IFCO members and the public. Topics included trauma and the impact of the pandemic on children and careleavers, the importance of life-story work and how to implement it, a careleaver exchange meeting, as well as other topics.
- We sent out twenty-five e-newsletters announcements to members between April 2020 and March 2021, an increase from sixteen the previous year. This again reflects our commitment in 2020/2021 to supporting members as much as possible and creating events and activities to support them.
- In 2020, we created themed member webinars. This was started as an exchange platform for members based on their profiles, ie. special workers and professionals, foster and kinship carers, and careleavers. These meetings were every 6 weeks. Some of them were support meetings and some of them discussed a theme relevant for everyone e.g. the importance of pets in a foster home.
- JAK presented at the “Moving towards independent living and community-based care – EU funding instruments for children under protection” in Hungary in November, 2020 – published paper [[paper linked here](#)]. Event and other publications: <https://ec.europa.eu/esf/main.jsp?catId=68&langId=en&eventId=1568>
- We continue to be active members of Eurochild, the largest European network for children’s rights advocacy. We have increased our representation in the Children in Alternative Care group as well as centrally including the general assembly and other events.
- We continue to be members of the CRC (Child Rights Connect).
- Jo Derrick, IFCO Vice-president facilitated a Foster Care familiarisation visit in the UK (March 2020) for a delegation from Sri Lanka, in conjunction with one of our organisation members, sharing knowledge and experience of setting up a foster care system and recruiting and supporting foster carers.

COVID-19 impact

On the 30th of January 2020, the WHO announced the Coronavirus as a “public health emergency of international concern”. As an international organisation, registered in the UK, this impacts how we operate. No one could have foreseen the impact it would have globally. IFCO has taken an innovative and creative approach to supporting our members and therefore vulnerable families who are more exposed due to this pandemic and we continue to operate with a focus on empowering family-based care for every child around the world. The impact of Covid has meant that our role has become more distanced, advisory and informational but we look forward to being able to participate in more projects and partnerships delivering more on-the-ground contributions to promoting foster care and quality alternative care in the future.

The last few weeks of the financial year, and most of the time up to the signing of the accounts, the UK has experienced a period of social distancing and self-isolation in response to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Operational effect on the charity

The impact of the pandemic touches everything IFCO does. It has impacted our ability to host gatherings, challenged us to be creative with online events and resources as well as creating new innovations as well as issues for children in alternative care and their families because of Covid-19.

In the immediacy, IFCO’s core ability to operate has not been adversely affected by the global pandemic as we operate a home-based model of operations currently for our secretariat and board members using virtual tools and platforms. However, what we do and how we generate income was significantly impacted and continues to be. Our IFCO2020 conference partnership with Child Welfare League Canada (CWLC) was cancelled in 2020 and

COVID-19 impact (continued)

IFCO had to defer our next international conference, originally planned for June 2021 twice. It is now planned for Darwin, Australia, partnership with Foster and Kinship Carers Northern Territories (FKANT) in September 2022. Given the significant progress with vaccines and decrease in the pandemic, we are looking forward to a successful in-person conference in Darwin and we will have a huge celebration for our 40th Anniversary then.

In recognition of sharing and best practice, we have been able to adapt and run a series of online seminars and webinars. In 2021, we continued the online delivery of discussion groups, webinars and members' discussion groups.

Financial impact on the charity

IFCO is an international charity and as yet does not receive any core funding. Our focus therefore in 2020 and beyond has to be to generate unrestricted income. With the cancellation of our biggest event and fund generator (our international IFCO 2020 conference), IFCO will be exploring alternative routes to fundraising and income generation to support the sustainability of the charity. In response to the Covid -19 pandemic, the charity had to make financial decisions to ensure that we were able to be financially viable moving forward. We moved forward with diversifying our income streams.

As reported in our last Annual report, we continue to focus on generating restricted income but have had to lower the staff requirements in 2020 in order to also lower the outgoings as part of our sustainability planning. We now have one part-time person working for IFCO and all other activities are delivered by volunteers (our sincere thank you again to those who have donated hundreds of hours each year).

Other income streams have include simple income generating activities such as Facebook fundraising and passive funding raising through 'Amazon Smile' and 'Give as you Live' app. The most successful of these are the Facebook "donate to my favourite organisation on my birthday" offerings that board members and ordinary members host. Hosting Dare to Lead™ training has also been very successful and we will continue these into the future. We are also continuing to undertake more projects and directly applying for funding these projects.

Future developments: April 2021 - March 2022

We will hold IFCO2021 as an online conference, hosted in 2 time zones to facilitate as many participants as possible. The theme and focus will be on 40 years of IFCO and 40 years of changes in alternative care and foster care.

IFCO2022 will be hosted in Darwin, Australia. This year will focus on raising awareness of the conference, welcoming presentation submissions and networking with Australian organisations as we build more partnerships.

IFCO will continue to partner with Lacy Dicharry in delivering Dare to Lead Training opportunities in 2021 and 2022. This is aimed at encouraging brave leaders in the various roles around foster care. It is also a vital fundraiser for IFCO as unrestricted funds.

The Erasmus projects in the UK and in Europe, PiCK and Building Bridges, will engage with careleavers, and policy makers in various roles such as politicians, advocates in the NGO sector, academics, foster carers and others. The aim will be to hold at least 3 events this year; depending on Covid, this may be in person or online.

We will increase our influence through **collaborative networking** with other organisations in the sector and campaign for policy change that is informed by those with lived experience. IFCO will further aim to amplify the voice of Care Leavers through increased engagement with other youth platforms and through engagement with our organisational members.

IFCO is fully committed to **retaining current members and increasing the breadth and depth of membership** in line with our memorandum. We will continue our online presence, providing webinars and exchange opportunities for our members and the public.

Foster Care Organisation International Limited
Directors' report (incorporating the Trustees' annual report) (continued)
For the year ended 31 March 2021

Future developments: April 2021 - March 2022 (continued)

As an international charity that is registered in the UK, **the departure of the UK from the European Union (Brexit)** has not had a significant direct impact on IFCO's operational and strategic commitments; however this will remain under review as the process unfolds.

Reserves

The trustees are keenly aware of the necessity to maintain an adequate level of reserves. At present free reserves of £10,000 are considered to be the minimum level at which the charity can productively function. Because we do not own office space, nor have employees using PAYE, our overheads are minimal, which is why we consider the minimum of £10,000 as appropriate. This compares to free reserves at 31 March 2021 of £26,339 (2020: £34,665).

Fundraising statement

IFCO is a member based organisation and its funding comes from membership fees, providing training and IFCO conferences. We do not solicit funds via phone, email, direct mail or by using third party commercial fundraisers. We do fundraise via a general call for support on our website, social media and in our conference material.

IFCO is committed to being accountable and responsible and if its fundraising approach changes in the future IFCO will register with the UK fundraising regulator.

IFCO did not receive any complaints about fundraising activity during 2020-2021.

Small companies exemption

In preparing this report, the trustees have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided by Section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 31.01.2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Name: Carrie Harrop
Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the directors of Foster Care Organisation International Limited ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

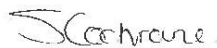
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Signed:

Susan Cochrane FCA
Employee of
VAS Community Accountancy
The Circle
33, Rockingham Lane
Sheffield
S1 4FW

Date: 31 January 2022

Foster Care Organisation International Limited

Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an income and expenditure statement) For the year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £
Income from:							
Grants and Donations	2	3,521	29,033	32,554	4,575	0	4,575
Charitable activities	3	4,439	-	4,439	4,387	-	4,387
Investment income		30	-	30	152	-	152
Total income		7,990	29,033	37,023	9,114	-	9,114
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	4	16,316	-	16,316	32,267	0	32,267
Total expenditure		16,316	-	16,316	32,267	-	32,267
Net income/(expenditure)		(8,326)	29,033	20,707	(23,153)	-	(23,153)
Transfer between funds	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement on funds		(8,326)	29,033	20,707	(23,153)	-	(23,153)
Total fund brought forward		34,665	5,804	40,469	57,818	5,804	63,622
Total funds carried forward	7	26,339	34,837	61,176	34,665	5,804	40,469

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

Foster Care Organisation International Limited

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		70,208	63,073
Total current assets		70,208	63,073
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	6	(9,032)	(22,604)
Net current assets		61,176	40,469
Total assets less current liabilities		61,176	40,469
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		-	-
Total net assets		61,176	40,469
Funds of the Charity			
Unrestricted funds		26,339	34,665
Restricted funds	8	34,837	5,804
Total funds	9	61,176	40,469

For the year ending 31 March 2021 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The director's acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to small companies' regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 31.01.202
and signed on their behalf by:



Carrie Harrop
Trustee

FOSTER CARE ORGANISATION INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2021

1 Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

(a) General

Foster Care Organisation International Limited is a charitable company in the United Kingdom limited by guarantee. In the event that the charity is wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 (as updated through Update Bulletin1 published on 2 February 2016), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. The financial statements have adopted Charities SORP (FRS102) Bulletin 1 and taken advantage of the exemption to the prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

Foster Care Organisation International Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and are rounded to the nearest £.

(b) Going concern

The Board of Trustees is of the opinion that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existences for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties regarding the Charity's ability to do so.

(c) Income

Income represents the amount derived from the provision of goods and services falling within the charity's activities, membership subscriptions, donations and interest.

Income from government or other grants is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Subscriptions are accounted for in the year they are due. Investment income is included when receivable.

(d) Expenditure

Expenditure including irrecoverable VAT is charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis. Costs of raising funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

(e) Realised gains and losses

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

(f) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are donations and other income receivable or generated for the objects of the organisation without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Restricted funds are either donations which the donor has specified are to be used solely for particular areas of the charity's work or grant income sought for specific activities.

(g) Creditors and provisions

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the company does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

FOSTER CARE ORGANISATION INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts - continued
For the year ended 31 March 2021

(h) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

(i) Estimates and judgements

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Although these estimates are based on the trustee's best knowledge of the amount, events or actions, actual results ultimately differ from these estimates. The trustees do not consider there to be any estimates or judgements.

(j) Foreign currencies

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at the operating result.

(k) Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments, including trade and other debtors and creditors are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

2 Income from grants and donations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £
Grants	-	29,033	29,033	4,543	-	4,543
Donations	3,521	-	3,521	32	-	32
	3,521	29,033	32,554	4,575	-	4,575

Grants	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £
Erasmus grant	-	29,033	29,033	-	-	-
	-	29,033	29,033	-	-	-

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2020 £
Conference seminar and training income	-	-	-	-	-	-
Consultancy services	2,781	-	2,781	786	-	786
Subscriptions	1,658	-	1,658	3,601	-	3,601
	4,439	-	4,439	4,387	-	4,387

FOSTER CARE ORGANISATION INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

Notes to the Accounts - continued
For the year ended 31 March 2021

4 Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total £
Conference/meetings		1,934	-	1,934	4,420	-	4,420
Project expenses		-	-	-	1,736	-	1,736
Management and administration							
- Independent examiners fees		480	-	480	-	-	-
- Bank and other charges		324	-	324	268	-	268
- Officer expenses and representation		10,521	-	10,521	22,297	-	22,297
- Legal and Professional		926	-	926	840	-	840
- Office and sundry		1,244	-	1,244	1,353	-	1,353
- Website development		1,540	-	1,540	108	-	108
- Difference on exchange		(653)	-	(653)	1,245	-	1,245
		16,316	-	16,316	32,267	-	32,267

5 Trustee and related party transactions

None of the trustees received any remuneration (2020: £nil); reimbursed expenses and recharged costs totalled £Nil during the year (2020: £2,171).

There were no other related party transactions during the year.

6 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Creditors	6,002	9,790
Accruals and deferred income	3,030	12,814
	9,032	22,604

7 Movement in funds

	Balance at 1-Apr-20 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer	Balance at 31-Mar-21 £
Restricted funds - see note 8	5,804	29,033	-	-	34,837
Unrestricted funds	34,665	7,990	(16,316)	-	26,339
	40,469	37,023	(16,316)	-	61,176
Prior year	Balance at 1-Apr-19 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer	Balance at 31-Mar-20 £
Restricted funds	5,804	-	-	-	5,804
Unrestricted funds	57,818	9,114	(32,267)	-	34,665
	63,622	9,114	(32,267)	-	40,469

FOSTER CARE ORGANISATION INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
Notes to the Accounts - continued
For the year ended 31 March 2021

8 Restricted funds

	Balance at 1-Apr-20 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer £	Balance at 31-Mar-21 £
Pat Whelan Fund	5,804	-	-	-	5,804
Building Bridges: Connecting Voices	-	29,033	-	-	29,033
	5,804	29,033	-	-	34,837

Pat Whelan Fund

This fund is utilised to allow younger people to attend conferences.

Building Bridges: Connecting Voices

Grant awarded by Erasmus for the main objective of promoting young people's active citizenship, establishing partnership relations between youth from different parts of the country, empowerment & social inclusion by creating opportunities for interaction and communication between youth, professionals and policymakers.

<i>Prior year</i>	<i>Balance at 1-Apr-19 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfer £</i>	<i>Balance at 31-Mar-20 £</i>
<i>Pat Whelan Fund</i>	<i>5,804</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5,804</i>
	5,804	-	-	-	5,804

9 Net assets by fund

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Net current assets	26,339	34,837	61,176
	26,339	34,837	61,176

Net assets by fund - Prior year

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
<i>Net current assets</i>	<i>34,665</i>	<i>5,804</i>	<i>40,469</i>
	34,665	5,804	40,469

10 Taxation

Foster Care Organisation International Limited is a registered charity and therefore is not liable to income tax or corporation tax on income or gains derived from its charitable activities, as they fall within the various exemptions available to registered charities.