

**AFRICAN WOMEN'S CARE**  
**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**For the Year Ended**

**31 MARCH 2023**

## AFRICAN WOMEN'S CARE

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## AFRICAN WOMEN'S CARE

### CHARITY INFORMATION

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<b>Management Committee:</b>	Margaret Akullo	Chair
	Christine Atim	Treasurer
	Hadijah Kitembo	Member
	Jackie Kipwola	Member
	Lilian Olanya	Member
	Yvonne Wilson	Member

**Charity Number:** 1083548

**Registered Office:** Canalside House  
383 Ladbroke Grove  
London  
W10 5AA

**Independent Examiner:** E Alli  
Lakubi Consulting  
Accountants & Business Advisors  
Unit 47B Park Royal Business Centre  
9-17 & 19-21 Park Royal Road  
London  
NW10 7LQ

**Bankers** Lloyds Bank  
Willesden Green Branch  
1 Walm Lane  
London, NW2 5SN

## **AFRICAN WOMEN'S CARE**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

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The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

#### **Structure, Governance and Management**

African Women's care is governed by its committee who meets regularly to manage its affairs. The charity employs paid staff and uses paid consultants for specific projects. It relies heavily on committee and volunteers for its day to day activities. AWC applies for funding of projects through applications to Trusts, Local Government, Central Government and other funding bodies. Most of our projects are funded for 1 - 3 years and are monitored through regular monitoring visits from the funders and quarterly project reports.

#### **Statement of Committee's Responsibilities**

The law requires the committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the committee are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and the apply them consistently;
- make judgment and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable Accounting Standards and Statements of Recommended Practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the accounts;
- and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The committee have overall responsibility for ensuring that the charity has appropriate systems of control, financial and otherwise. They are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any given time the financial position of the charity and to enable them ensure that the financial statements comply with relevant regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

#### **Risk Management**

The risk to which the charity is exposed is reviewed regularly by its committee. At every committee meeting, the agenda would include among others, health and safety risk and compliance and, financial risk. The committee is certified that appropriate steps have been taken to identify and manage major risk to which the charity is exposed.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

The principal objectives and activities of the charity are:

- a) To advance education;
- b) To preserve and protect public health;
- c) To relieve poverty and suffering of women, girls and, families who are refugees especially those of African origin.



## AFRICAN WOMEN'S CARE

### TRUSTEES' REPORT *cont'd*

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I am delighted to present the African Women's Care (AWC), annual report for 2022-2023. Our specialism and expertise is in providing free and confidential services to Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) women, girls and children across London. The organisation remains unique as one of the few remaining black and minoritised-led women's organisations in the London, providing specialist support for black and minoritised women and children, locally, regionally and nationally. Over the last year African Women's Care has provided a range of services that meet the needs of black and minority women, girls and children in the West London areas delivering the following programmes; Training and Development, Ending Violence Against Women and Girls, Health & Wellbeing.

Our mission remains on placing women and girls at the heart of all our services, supporting them to live free from abuse and exploitation. We continue to advise, inform, guide and advocate on behalf of women as well as to offer activities to develop skills for greater empowerment.

The African Women's Care is committed to providing the support women need to fulfil their potential – whether they want to get more out of the activities we offer, break out of a relationship or manage their wellbeing.

Our dedicated staff, volunteers, Trustees and partners all passionately believe in this cause and are committed to helping women transform their prospects and live their best lives. Without them, we simply could not have supported so many women across London in the last year; nor could we hope to realise our ambition to support thousands more over the next 3 years.

I would like to thank everyone involved in working at The AWC. It is a privilege to be involved in the work of an organisation which sees the potential in every woman, whoever they are, whatever their circumstances.

I look forward to playing my role in the coming year as we continue with our efforts to help even more women to improve their health and wellbeing.

I would like to acknowledge the important roles played by the management committee during the year as they individually contributed resources and skills mentoring the staff during the hard days. I also take this opportunity to thank the staff team at AWC for their commitment in saving and changing many lives, with special mention for our volunteers for their hard work, commitment and dedication throughout the year and above all our service users.

I would like to express my gratitude to all the organisations that continues to work with us

  
Margaret Akullo  
Chair

15th November 2023

## **AFRICAN WOMEN'S CARE**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT cont'd**

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**AWC offered in the following services in current year:**

#### **Women's Centre:**

This service is open to all Black and Minority women for information, advice and support with day to day support needs, every Wednesday from 10am – 3pm. Women do not need to make any appointments to be seen by a Link worker, just come with your problem and our staff can work with them and keep a follow-up three months to make sure that problem is resolved properly. It helps to give women with up-to-date information about available services, enabling them to make informed choices about their daily support needs. Whether it's information on schools place, accessing family support, accessing welfare benefit, addressing health issues or just someone to talk to, our clients can get the help they want at the Help Centre. Most of the women presents with cases of housing arrears, looking for school place, Welfare Benefits overpayments, dealing with repairs, destitution, unsuitable housing condition, overcrowding or health related issue. The service

#### **Advocacy Support:**

Funded by National Lottery, Reaching Communities Fund, the project offers one to one support and guidance to women experiencing or affected by domestic abuse to help exit from domestic abusive. Sometimes people know that something is not right in a relationship but they are not sure what's wrong or how to change it. Domestic abuse isn't only physical, the majority of women suffer emotional abuse and the constant stress of living in fear can cause physical and mental health problems. Women very often become depressed and can see no way out.

We offer awareness raising to bring about better understanding of what domestic abuse really is through community outreach presentation reaching women in their local settings as well as supporting the individual journey in understanding their options to make informed choices.

Our Crisis Intervention and Advocacy Support which includes:

- a) Immediate Risk Assessments, Safety Planning, Advocacy & Guidance with the client to minimise risk uphold disclosure.
- b) Complete needs assessments, exploring the clients' rights and options, including around immigration and Child protective orders.
- c) Provide practical support and referrals to client to access support from Solicitors, Welfare Benefit Agencies, Housing, Refuges, Hospitals etc.
- d) Support the client in understanding Police processes and the Criminal Justice System and offer support with interpretation in several African languages.



## AFRICAN WOMEN'S CARE

### TRUSTEES' REPORT cont'd

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- e) Offer emotional support to clients during times of making statements at the Solicitors, Housing, and support with Domestic Violence Concession application to Home office.
- f) Offer advocacy and support women to understand their duty of care to their children and compliance with Child Protection Orders.
- g) Support Client in understanding the dynamics of abuse and have a better understanding of the various forms of abuse.
- H) Ensure the client understands their options in order to make informed decisions, that will help them and support them in breaking the cycle of abuse which will then have a positive outcome on the family home and children's experiences.
- i) Explore short and long-term goal and empower client in thinking ahead with regards to physical, emotional health as well as education and employment

We have supported 196 BME women & girls victim of violence against women and girls with improved quality of life and hope for the future. We have supported clients to flee from abusive relationship, moved to safe places, settled them in a new home, we have supported women with their children to secure their immigration status and obtain their Indefinite Leave to Remain in the UK.

#### Health and Wellbeing:

This programme is co-designed with current and former clients from their lived experience. The project works to address health inequalities among BME communities and empower community members with up to date information, restore mistrust and greater understanding & knowledge of where and how to access available health and other services assisting communities members to overcome access barriers to services e.g. fear, distrust, ignorance, low self-confidence, anxiety.

A key element of the project also involved direct engagement by trained volunteers to provide digital support to vulnerable clients or those with language barriers that are failing to follow-up with regular health checks and appointment current being delivered through digital.

The work is delivered by qualified and experienced staff, sessional workers and volunteers with health related background, willing to transfer their skills and knowledge to the community.

Our project offers monthly community information workshops and one-to-one holistic follow-up support (via drop-in, telephone or home visit). We also run extensive community outreach work and information stalls and surgeries promoting uptake of vaccinations and Government policies.

The project enable participants to feel more connected with their community, with improved understanding of the system, reduced isolation, greater opportunities to receive peer support

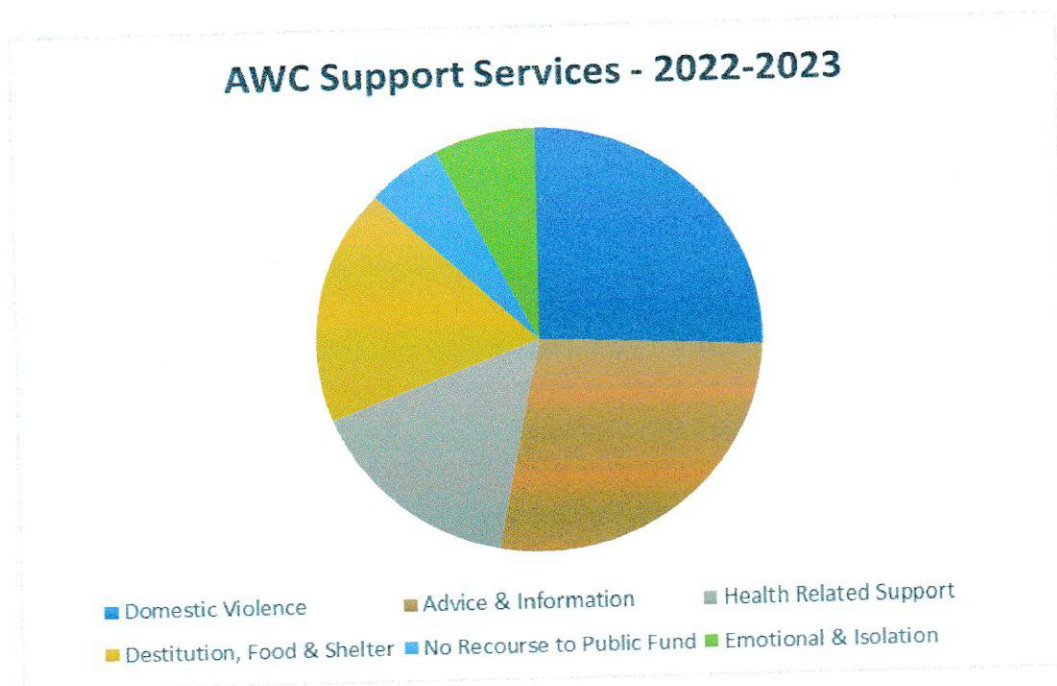
## AFRICAN WOMEN'S CARE

### TRUSTEES' REPORT cont'd

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We have received tremendous positive feedback from our clients who have said they have felt comfortable, being believed, and felt safe in engaging with us.

Here is the overall impact of our work during the financial year 2022-2023



#### Financial Review

During the year, AWC received incoming resources of £243,353 (2022: £155,217) and had outgoing resources of £245,516 (2022: £142,071) in delivering its objectives as well as for management and administration of the charity.

#### Reserve Policy

One of the financial objectives of AWC is to build up reserves. It is therefore seeking to establish a level of reserves that would allow it to increase its activities as well as to enable it maintain long-term viability.



## AFRICAN WOMEN'S CARE

### INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF AFRICAN WOMEN'S CARE

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I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

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

As the charity's Trustees' you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 does not apply.

It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Direction of the Charity Commissioner under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come my attention.

#### **Basis of Independent Examiner's Report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Direction given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees' concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

#### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention: which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements: to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act: and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirement of the Act, have not been met; or to which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



E. Alli  
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Unit 47B Park Royal Business Centre  
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LONDON  
NW10 7LQ

25th November 2023

**AFRICAN WOMEN'S CARE**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Incoming Resources</b>					
Grant	5	-	236,400	236,400	151,221
Other Income		<u>5,953</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,953</u>	<u>3,996</u>
Total Incoming Resources		5,953	236,400	242,353	155,217
<b>Resources Expended</b>					
Cost of generating voluntary income	2	1,394	-	1,394	251
Charitable Activities	2	1,483	240,789	242,272	140,445
Governance Costs	2	<u>1,850</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,850</u>	<u>1,375</u>
Total Resources Expended		<u>4,727</u>	<u>240,789</u>	<u>245,516</u>	<u>142,071</u>
<b>Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources for the Year</b>		1,226	(4,389)	(3,163)	13,146
Movement of Funds		-	-	-	-
Balances b/f at 1 April 2022		-	8,242	8,242	(4,904)
Balances c/f at 31 March 2023		<u>1,226</u>	<u>3,853</u>	<u>5,079</u>	<u>8,242</u>

# AFRICAN WOMEN'S CARE

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
<b>Tangible Assets</b>	3	4,448	1,973
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors		3,849	6,321
Cash at Bank & in Hand		<u>22,994</u>	<u>25,132</u>
		26,843	31,453
<b>Creditors</b>			
Amount falling due within one year	6	11,044	5,198
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		15,799	26,255
<b>Creditors</b>			
Amount falling after more than one year	6	15,168	19,986
<b>Total Assets Less Current Liabilities</b>		<u>5,079</u>	<u>8,242</u>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>		3,853	8,208
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>		<u>1,226</u>	<u>34</u>
		<u>5,079</u>	<u>8,242</u>

### Director's Statements

The Trustees considers that the organisation is entitled to audit exemption under Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993.

The Trustees acknowledges their responsibility for ensuring that the organisation keeps accounting records which comply with the provisions of the Charities Act 1993, and for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the organisation at 31 March, 2017 and of its results for the period then ended.

  
Margaret Akullo  
Chair

15th November 2023



## **AFRICAN WOMEN'S CARE**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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#### **1. Accounting Policies**

- a) The financial statements are prepared under the historical costs convention and with the Charities Act 1993 and related regulations.
- b) Depreciation is provided on straight line basis over estimated useful life of the assets which is four years.
- c) These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting by Charities (SORP 2005 updated 2008) and applicable accounting standards.
- d) Voluntary income received by way of donations is included in full in the account when they are receivable
- e) Grants are recognised in full in the accounts in the year in which they are receivable
- f) Funds received for specific purpose are funds restricted for use for that purpose. These funds are shown separately in the accounts.
- g) Costs of generating funds are cost associated with attracting voluntary income.
- h) Charitable expenditure are those costs incurred in the delivery of the charity's activities and these costs includes direct support costs.
- i) Governance costs include those associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory obligations.

# AFRICAN WOMEN'S CARE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 2. Resources Expended

Cost of generating funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Publicity & related costs	543	-	543	136
Volunteer Expenses	851	-	851	115
sub-total	1,394	-	1,394	251
<b>Charitable Activities</b>				
Volunteer Expenses	-	10,695	10,695	6,174
Sessional Work	-	29,403	29,403	20,040
Workshops, Welfare & Training	-	57,881	57,881	21,532
Recruitment	-	857	857	875
Consultancy	-	22,335	22,335	10,151
Rent	-	9,570	9,570	8,110
Salary & Wages	-	74,158	74,158	45,629
Telephone, Fax & Internet	-	3,132	3,132	2,141
Subscriptions	-	2,413	2,413	652
Information Resources	-	7,152	7,152	3,569
Print, Postage & Stationery	-	3,839	3,839	2,386
Publicity	-	4,855	4,855	3,611
Travel	-	5,175	5,175	3,164
Repairs & Maintenance	-	2,087	2,087	1,313
Bank Charges	-	675	675	330
Insurance	-	892	892	432
Conduit	-	5,670	5,670	8,000
Depreciation	1,483	-	1,483	2,336
sub-total	1,483	240,789	242,272	140,445
<b>Governance</b>				
Management Committee meeting	-	-	-	-
Independent Examination Fee	1,850	-	1,850	1,375
sub-total	1,850	-	1,850	1,375
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>4,727</b>	<b>240,789</b>	<b>245,516</b>	<b>142,071</b>

# AFRICAN WOMEN'S CARE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 3. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Furniture & Equipment	Total
	£	£
Costs		
At 1 April 2022	18,370	18,370
Additions in Year	3,958	3,958
At 31 March 2023	<u>22,328</u>	<u>22,328</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2022	16,397	16,397
Charge for the Year	1,483	1,483
At 31 March 2023	<u>17,880</u>	<u>17,880</u>
Net Book Value		
At 31 March 2023	<u>4,448</u>	<u>4,448</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>1,973</u>	<u>1,973</u>

### 4. (Deficit)/Surplus for the year

	2023 £	2022 £
This is stated after charging: Depreciation of Tangible fixed Assets	<u>1,483</u>	<u>2,336</u>

### 5. Incoming Resources

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Big Lottery	-	-	-	10,000
Charity Foundation	-	250	250	-
Hammersmith & Fulham Council	-	2,000	2,000	-
National Lottery	-	98,860	98,860	49,800
Imkhan Charity	-	34,600	34,600	-
International Policy	-	400	400	-
Kensington & Chelsea Social Council	-	5,600	5,600	-
Africa Advocacy	-	-	-	5,000
Rosa Fund	-	17,054	17,054	-
Brent Council	-	500	500	20,000
CVS Brent	-	-	-	5,000
French African Welfare	-	-	-	1,000
Imperial College H IHC	-	-	-	24,225
Lancaster West Fund	-	-	-	5,170
Lloyds Bank Foundation	-	27,250	27,250	25,000
Policy Education PERRASUK	-	-	-	2,550
Standing Together	-	-	-	1,000
Tudor Trust	-	-	-	2,000
Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea	-	1,400	1,400	-
London Borough of Barnet	-	40,000	40,000	-
Westway Trust	-	2,500	2,500	-
Other Income	5,953	5,986	11,939	4,472
Total	<u>5,953</u>	<u>236,400</u>	<u>242,353</u>	<u>155,217</u>



## AFRICAN WOMEN'S CARE

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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	2023	2022
	£	£
6. Creditors		
Amount falling less than one year:		
PAYE & NIC	6,552	1,076
Pension	617	247
Accruals	3,875	3,875
Total	<u>11,044</u>	<u>5,198</u>
Amount falling after more than one year:		
BB Loan	<u>15,168</u>	<u>19,986</u>