

St. Joseph's African Aid
(Registered Charity No. 1087768)

**Financial Statements and Trustees'
Report**

Year Ended 31 May 2023

St Joseph's African Aid
Registered Charity No 1087768

**Financial Statements and Trustees' Report
for the Year Ended 31 May 2023**

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St Joseph's African Aid (Registered Charity No 1087768)

Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31 May 2023

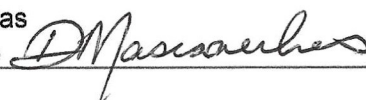
Year to 31 May 2023							
Restricted Funds (Income)			Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds	Last Year	
Schools	Teachers	Water/Medical					
Receipts							
Donations, legacies and grants	39,450	12,773	1,689	53,912	184,592	238,504	55,845
Gift Aid Tax reclaimed	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,621
Bank interest	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	39,450	12,773	1,689	53,912	184,592	238,504	68,466
Payments							
Grants for Charitable Purposes	(44,367)	(18,910)	(1,689)	(64,966)	(53,127)	(118,093)	(63,907)
Operating expenses (incl Newsletter)	-	-	-	-	(759)	(759)	(655)
Professional Fees	-	-	-	-	(700)	(700)	(700)
Bank charges	-	-	-	-	(316)	(316)	(180)
Total payments	(44,367)	(18,910)	(1,689)	(64,966)	(54,902)	(119,868)	(65,442)
Net Receipts less Payments for the Year	(4,917)	(6,137)	-	(11,054)	129,690	118,636	3,024
Cash balances - start year	32,952	17,869	-	50,821	41,060	91,881	88,857
Cash balances - end year	28,035	11,732	-	39,767	170,750	210,517	91,881

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

At 31 May 2023							Last Year
£	Schools	Teachers	Water/Medical	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds	
	Schools	Teachers	Water/Medical	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds	
Cash balances	28,035	11,732	-	39,767	170,750	210,517	91,881
Debtors	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Creditor for professional fees	-	-	-	-	-700	-700	-700
Net Assets at end year	28,035	11,732	-	39,767	170,050	209,817	91,181

Approved on 13th Oct 2023 by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Denzil Mascarenhas
Chairman & Trustee



Pauline Carter
Finance Director & Trustee



Note: These Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with the accompanying Trustees' Report

St Joseph's African Aid (Registered Charity No 1087768)

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

Report to the trustees of St Joseph's African Aid
on the accounts for the year ended 31 May 2023

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (The Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Our examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. We would like to point out that these accounts are based on the information provided by the Charity. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

1. which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



Anjani Boparai
Sethi & Co.
Chartered Certified Accountants
59-60 Thames Street
Windsor SL4 1TX

Date

30/10/23

ST JOSEPH'S AFRICAN AID

Charity Commission Registered Number 1087768

Registered address: Kenmore Cottage, The Friary, Windsor, Berkshire, SL42NP

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

Financial Year: 1 June 2022 – 31 May 2023

Structure, governance and management

St Joseph's African Aid (SJAA) is a registered charity established by a Trust Deed dated 9 July 2001.

The trustees who held office since 1 June 2022 are:

Mrs Pauline Carter
Mr Gregory Cole
Dr Joan O Davies
Mrs Lisa Goring
Mr Denzil Mascarenhas
Dr Alberto Ndumu (Appointed 22 March 2023)
Mrs Samantha H Turner

The Trust Deed provides that there shall be at least four trustees. New trustees are appointed by the existing trustees. In selecting persons to be appointed as new trustees, the existing trustees consider the benefits of appointing a person who through residence, occupation, employment or otherwise has special knowledge of the circumstances of the countries where SJAA is active or who is otherwise able by virtue of his or her personal or professional qualifications to make a contribution to the pursuit of the objects or the management of SJAA. This year saw the appointment of Dr Alberto Ndumu, who brings with him a wealth of knowledge and skills in financial risk management, as well as bilingual skills and project management.

The trustee board normally meets three times a year, this year it met five times in an endeavour to progress current and future projects. Meetings are held either face to face or via a Zoom platform.

The day-to-day business of managing SJAA is delegated to an Executive Committee consisting of the Chairman, Finance Director, Project Coordinator and one other nominated trustee; they communicate frequently.

All trustees give of their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration for their services. SJAA has no employees.

A review of the charity's financial controls was carried out by the trustees during the period, and it was concluded that the appropriate procedures were all in place.

Objectives and activities

SJAA's Trust Deed sets out that its principal objectives are the relief of poverty, sickness and distress, and the advancement of education in Africa. There has been no change to the objectives of SJAA as stated in the original 2001 Trust Deed.

SJAA operates by making grants for the furtherance of its objectives. Its aid is directed towards the support of schools and other community projects in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the Cameroon and in Gabon.

SJAA works closely with the Josephites, a Roman Catholic religious order founded in Belgium in 1817, who established schools and missions in the DRC (formerly known as the Belgian Congo and subsequently Zaire) and elsewhere in Africa. The Josephites remain active in these countries and provide the local presence through which the projects funded by SJAA are managed and implemented.

Suitable projects for grant-aiding are identified by both the trustees and the local Josephite communities and their contacts. Projects are assessed according to the criteria of the benefits they would bring to their communities, their cost effectiveness, and the likelihood of a successful implementation.

Grants are approved by resolution of all the trustees of SJAA. Authority to approve projects up to £1,000 has been delegated to the Executive Committee

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charities Commission.

Achievements and on-going projects

Education, clean water and sanitation, and medical help are the three building blocks by which we seek to help the local communities where we operate.

Education in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

Supporting education has been one of SJAA's key aims since its inception and most of the funds it has disbursed have been for this purpose. This has taken the form of grants for school buildings, supplementing teachers' low Government-financed salaries, and providing basic equipment for the schools such as blackboards, desks, and educational materials. Additionally, Computer equipment and sewing machines have been provided to help pupils earn a living when they leave school. We are active in a region of the south-west of the DRC known as the Kasai where we support 9 schools in Ilebo, Domiongo and Bulongo which together educate over 3,000 pupils of whom about half are girls, and two schools in Kinshasa which educate over 1,000 pupils.

As we have done for many years now, this year we again supported teachers in the Kasai schools by augmenting their low salaries, and by providing funds for the purchase of educational resources such as books and other classroom resources. The money to do this comes largely from donations generously given from their salaries by the staff at St George's Weybridge Junior School and College, which is then matched by St George's Weybridge, their parent charity. Fundraising events were also organized at both schools.

Boarding Accommodation for Girls in Domiongo. 2019-2023.

Trustees have spent a considerable amount of time on this project this year, asking for the Head of Education in the Diocese to intervene and talk to the contractor to get the project

complete. Transporting materials and labour to the site continues to prove difficult due to the lack of a decent roadway. In the past, materials were being strapped to bicycles and pushed to the location. We have explored the use of the intermittent railway system to get materials through, which has finally proved more fruitful, and construction can now continue. 2024 is the new completion timeline.

Running Water

We take for granted that communities will have safe running water, and this is not always the case. Last year In Cameroon we were able to assist two desperate communities to search for water and dig a well to provide fresh running water at Maoudak and Ngomessing. Whilst Maoudak was successful, no water was found in Ngomessing and we have provided further funds to assist with the ongoing search for water in this area.

Smaller Projects

DRC Grants: Domiongo; Sewing machines and a workshop to store the machines and hold classes. 15 Laptops. The refurbishment of classroom blocks and the building of toilet blocks. Ilebo; A more permanent perimeter wall which runs alongside a busy road, materials to build desks/chairs for their classrooms and a replacement water cistern. Kinshasa received a grant to purchase text books.

Cameroon Grants: Koza. Two new Primary classrooms, new toilets, pedagogical items (Computer/Copier/Printer), new solar panels and battery for the local community, plus student football equipment and kit. Douram. A motorbike to enable the parish priests to visit their 52 living church communities, often in the mountainous areas and provide support. Douram; a further grain mill following the successful installation of one last year.

Fundraising

SJAA invites donations from the general public to further its charitable work but does not engage in email or telephone fundraising campaigns.

This year we were delighted to be the recipient of two legacies from previously known sponsors, increasing our income by £163k, resulting in a higher than usual income and expenditure.

Grants

Total grants this year were £118,093 (2022 - £63,907).

As usual, most of this year's £118k grants went to the DRC who received £80k (2022 - £37k) with £38k going to the Cameroon (2022 - £27k). None was sent to Gabon.

In more detail, the grants in 2022/23 were:

Grants to the DRC

Jun 2022	Kasai schools: Prime de Remerciement	\$30,560	£25,678
Jun 2022	Kasai schools: Frais de Fonctionement	\$5,400	£4,537
Jun 2022	Domiongo Inst St. Marie 30 Sewing Machines	\$5,850	£4,916
Jun 2022	Domiongo: Tech Inst 15 Laptops	\$7,250	£6,092

Jun 2022	Local costs incl bank chgs	\$940	£790
Nov 2022	Domiongo: Refurb Institute Disanka	\$5,200	£4,746
Nov 2022	Domiongo: Toilet block	\$6,918	£6,315
Nov 2022	Kinshasa: Text Books College Constant Guillaume	\$2,078	£1,897
Nov 2022	Ilebo: Water Cisterns St Jacques	\$2,544	£2,322
Nov 2022	Local costs incl bank chgs	\$335	£305
Mar 2023	Ilebo: Perimeter wall	\$13,211	£10,894
Mar 2023	Ilebo: Desks/Chairs	\$7,193	£5,931
Mar 2023	Domiongo: Inst St. Marie Sewing Machine Workshop	\$6,724	£5,545
Mar 2023	Local costs incl bank charges	\$542	£447
		\$94,745	£80,415

Grants to Cameroon

Jun 2022	Koza: 2 Primary Classrooms	€27,368	£23,992
Jun 2022	Local bank costs	€32	£28
Nov 2022	Douram: Grain Mill	€2,846	£2,534
Nov 2022	Koza: Pedagogical items	€1,907	£1,698
Nov 2022	Local bank chgs	€47	£42
Mar 2023	Koza: Solar Panels/Batteries	€1,840	£1,652
Mar 2023	Koza: Toilets for St Joseph's School	€5,260	£4,723
Mar 2023	Douram: Motorbike	€1,230	£1,105
Mar 2023	Forage Ngomessing – 2 further tries to find water	€1,525	£1,369
Mar 2023	Koza: Funds for children's football kit	€564	£507
Mar 2023	Local Bank chgs	€31	£28
		€42,650	£37,678

Total Cost of Grants for Year: £118,093 (2022 - £63,907)

Financial Review

SJAA has prepared its Accounts for 2022/23, on the Receipts and Payments basis due to a turnover of less than £250,000.

Donations received in the year were £238,504 (2022: £55,845), including two legacies.

No Interest was received (2022: none).

No Gift Aid claims were made within the accounting year (2022: £12,621)

Grants made were £118,093 (2022: £63,907).

The expenses of running SJAA remain low and amounted to £1,775 (2022: £1,535) of which the cost of printing and distributing the Newsletter, professional fees, bank charges, and website expenses account for most of the costs. One Trustee was reimbursed their ferry fee to Belgium, to attend a Josephite General Council, enabling a meeting to occur with some of the Josephites who project manage for us in Africa. Costs for running the charity are kept down because support and administration is provided free of charge by the trustees along with voluntary help.

The cash balances of SJAA increased by £118,636 during 2023 (2022 - £3,024) to £210,517 as at 31 May 2023.

The cash balances of SJAA are held with Barclays Bank plc (SJAA's clearing bank). SJAA holds no shares, bonds or other assets.

At 31 May 2023, £39,768 (19%) of SJAA's total Reserves (2022: £50,822 (56%)) are classified as Restricted Income and may only be used for their defined restricted purposes. The major Restricted funds at 31 May 2023 were c.£16k held for the completion of the Domiongo Girls' Dormitory, c.£12k for the "Prime de Remerciement" for the Kasai teachers and c.£12k for schools.

SJAA's policy on reserves is:

a) To designate sufficient reserves to:

1. Pay all grants that have been approved but not yet paid
2. Cover the cost for a reasonable period ahead of grants that have not yet been approved but which, because of their recurring nature in the past, might be expected to continue
3. Provide for emergency requests e.g. water wells, that may be received.
4. Accumulate reserves to be able to fund larger scale projects such as the building/refurbishment of schools.

In view of SJAA's low operating costs, the trustees do not consider it necessary to designate any reserves to cover such costs because it would be an immaterial amount.

b) To release reserves as grants only when reasonably certain that the projects to be aided are appropriate to the development needs of the local communities, have the requisite priority compared to other potential projects, and will be well executed so using SJAA donor-income in an effective way.

Declaration

We declare that:

- the Trustees have approved the report above; and
- have authorised us to sign it on their behalf.

Signature: 



Full name: Denzil Mascarenhas

Pauline Carter

Position: Chairman & Trustee

Finance Director & Trustee

Date 13th October 2023

13th October 2023