

**Meninadança**  
(Registered charity, number 1095638)  
**Financial statements**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2023**

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# **Meninadança**

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

### **for the year ended 31 March 2023**

**Full name** Meninadança

**Other names by which the charity is known**

Crianças – Christian Answers (Old name)

Pedraviva – Living Stones (Old name)

**Registered charity number** 1095638

**Principal address** 8 Old Terrace, Pleasley, Notts, NG19 7QR

**UK Office address** Bishop's Stortford Baptist Church,  
Twyford Road, Bishop's Stortford, Herts CM23 3LJ

**Trustees**

David Roper (chair)

Yaa Owusua

Matthew Roper

Charlotte Piek

Simon Cole (treasurer)

Georgina Batten

**Independent examiner**

Peter Wright, St John's Centre, St John Street, Mansfield NG18 1QH

**Governance and management**

The charity is operated under the rules of its Declaration of Trust adopted 07/05/2002 and most recently amended 05/07/2011. New trustees are asked for a written recommendation from the minister of their church (or some other trustworthy person if they don't attend a church) and voted on by current trustees.

**Aims and objectives**

1. To assist and maintain registered Christian charities that provide education and/or support for young people who are living on the streets, drug users and/or victims of domestic abuse and/or commercial exploitation, and that provide necessary help for the families of such people in any way deemed charitable in law;
2. To assist and maintain registered Christian charities that run preventative programmes for young people who are living in conditions of deprivation or who are exposed to the dangers of abuse, exploitation or addiction and that provide necessary help for the families of such young people in any way deemed charitable in law;
3. To collate and disseminate information through all forms of media that will help draw attention to the plight of young people described in 1) and 2) whilst respecting their right to privacy and to encourage charitable action on their behalf.

## **Meninadança**

### **Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit**

Meninadança helps young girls at risk of sexual exploitation or human trafficking in Brazil, by offering them a safe house and rehabilitation and by teaching protective behaviours. We use dance and other therapeutic activities. We work with the girls' families, offering support and aiding reconciliation. Initiatives in local communities where sexual exploitation occurs help to challenge local entrenched attitudes which normalise and accept abuse and exploitation of girls. We also seek to prevent young girls from becoming victims of child sexual exploitation or trafficking by raising awareness with Brazilian authorities.

### **Summary of the main achievements and decisions during the period**

The first Pink House opened in Medina in January 2013, subsequently houses have been opened in Candido Sales (2016), Padre Paraíso (2019), Catuji (2020) and the fifth in Ponto dos Volantes early in May 2023, extending the work to communities over a 250km stretch of the BR-116 motorway. The projects also engage with the girls' families, and the support and participation of their mothers in particular has helped bring sustained change. Each of the Pink Houses welcome between 60 and 80 girls per day, across morning and afternoon sessions. The staff at each of the Pink Houses are local women who every day put themselves on the line and go above and beyond their roles to come alongside girls who have been traumatised by sexual abuse, violence and families in crisis.

An increasing number of separate projects have been created within the Pink Houses which have helped the teams successfully reach more girls as well as impact their communities. They include Blossom Meetings, evening events with food and activities especially for hard-to-reach girls who are more deeply involved in prostitution, and Step Into The Future days which offer professional skills to older girls, skills which they can use to set up their own micro business. In 2022 we also held the first Transforma exhibition in all our projects, when the Pink Houses were turned into exhibition spaces where music, dance, photography and art installations put across a message against child sexual abuse and exploitation and local people were invited to visit and take part.

A team of six people in Meninadança's Belo Horizonte office provide support, advice and training to the Pink House teams, headed by Brazilian director Warlei Torezani. Together they look after many aspects of the organisation and administration of the projects.

In May 2022 Meninadança opened its UK office having received an offer of a spacious room with daily access in the Bishop's Stortford Baptist Church Centre. From 6th to 23rd May 2022 we hosted a UK Tour with a team from Brazil including the Medina Pink House coordinator.

In June 2022 Meninadança Brazil opened a 'reference centre' in the town of Brumadinho, reaching out to girls who have been affected by the dam disaster there in 2019, which claimed 270 lives and is Brazil's worst environmental and industrial tragedy. This was part of an agreement with the Belo Horizonte prosecution service to run the project for an initial two-year period. Funding has also been released for additional staff in our five Pink Houses for the same period, allowing social workers and psychologists and additional workshop teachers to be taken on in each of the Pink Houses.

International director Matt Roper visited each of the Pink Houses in July-August 2022, fact finding, meeting staff and reviewing activities.

In September 2022 we took on a new member of staff to work in the UK office as the Supporter Care and Fundraising coordinator, working alongside our Event/Networking Coordinator.

A team including the Brazil director and the legal team leader visited in November 2022 speaking at several events to highlight the work of the Justice Project.




From January to December 2022 525 girls were directly assisted every week through the then four Pink Houses, as well as the new projects in the Brumadinho area. There was a total of 14,700 engagements with girls, that is, the number of times a girl took part in a group or individual session or activity in one of our projects. There were a total of 2,215 dance, drama, creative art and craft classes, beauty therapy sessions and conversation circles throughout our Pink Houses, and 46 outdoor events in which the girls performed or participated in the towns where we work. An estimated total of 5,122 local people attended a Meninadaça event in their town and heard through dance, drama or the spoken word a message of transformation.

In addition, our team of psychologists held 844 group or individual sessions with girls and/or their families in 2022 and made 230 visits to the girls' homes. Our Justice Team, consisting of two lawyers and a coordinator, participated in 95 meetings with a girl, Pink House staff member, or local protection network to discuss a case, either in person or virtually, and submitted 40 written reports giving direction or recommendations about a girl's case. They were involved in eight cases of abuse or exploitation which were going through the courts.

### **The charity's policy on reserves**

The trustee's policy is to prioritise funding to support the projects in Brazil, keeping the equivalent of a three months' running costs in reserve. In addition, at the end of this period we held reserved funds (£16,000) for Justice and Operating costs awaiting transfer and were accruing additional reserves in anticipation of significant increased needs when the state prosecutor funds cease in 2024/5.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed  Date Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023  
David H. Roper, Chair of Trustees

# **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Meninadança for the year ended 31 March 2023**

We report on the accounts of the charity, which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

## **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

## **Basis of independent examiner's report**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

## **Independent examiner's statement**

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 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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 Pwright Date 9<sup>th</sup> August 2023

Peter Wright, St John's Centre, St John Street, Mansfield NG18 1QH


**Meninadança**  
**Receipts & payments account**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2023**

2021/22		2022/23
	<b>Receipts</b>	
£ 85,688.31	Donations	£131,266.22
£ 0	Grants	£45,000.00
£ 71.66	Fundraising	£2767.69
£ 32,641.84	Web Fundraising	£40,540.34
£ 9,426.20	Gift Aid Claim	£0.00
£ 4.52	Bank Interest	£526.11
£ 127,832.53	<b>Total Receipts</b>	£220,100.36
	<b>Payments</b>	
£ 26,181.44	Wages, Consultancy, Tax & NI	£33,970.18
£ 711.06	Travel and expenses	£15,894.23
£ 83,430.97	Brazil funds	£58,350.00
£ 0	Brazil Justice Funds	£21,342.53
£ 3,782.15	Office and admin costs	£7,672.18
£ 114.70	Trustee / meetings expenses / sundries	£24.94
£ 351.00	Bank Charges	£100.00
£ 5,968.21	Fundraising costs	£32,074.90
£ 340.12	Insurance	£183.21
£ 0	Independent examination	£0.00
£ 120,879.65	<b>Total Payments</b>	£169,612.17
£ 6952.88	<b>Net receipts / (payments)</b>	£50,488.19
£ 72.15	Cash funds at start of period	£182.02
£ 36,214.79	Bank funds at start of period	£43,167.67
£ 32,474.58	<b>Total funds at start of period</b>	£43,349.69
£ 43,167.67	Bank funds at end of period	£93,788.80
£ 182.02	Cash funds at end of period	£49.08
£ 43,349.69	<b>Total funds at end of period</b>	£93,837.88


# **Meninadança** **Statement of assets** **on 31 March 2023**

2021/22			2022/23	
		<b>Cash Assets</b>		
£	43,168	Bank accounts	£	93,789
£	182	Petty cash	£	49
£	<b><u>43,350</u></b>	<b>Total fund</b>	£	<b><u>93,838</u></b>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed  \_\_\_\_\_ Dated 9th August 2023

David Roper, Chair of Trustees

Signed  \_\_\_\_\_ Dated 9th August 2023

Simon Cole, Treasurer

**Meninadança**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2023**

**1. Receipts and payment accounts**

Receipts and payments accounts contain a summary of money received and money spent during the period and a list of assets and liabilities at the end of the period. Usually, cash received and cash spent will include transactions through bank accounts and cash in hand. These accounts are prepared on a cash rather than accruals basis.

**2. Grants and donations**

A grant of £105,000 over three years was made by Stewardship. The first instalment of £45,000 to be split between funding the Justice Team in Brazil (£20,000) and Operational costs for a new Pink House (£25,000) was received. No Gift Aid was claimed in this period. Submissions for 2020 and 2021, expected to have been made in this period, will now be made in the next financial year.

**3. Trustees' remuneration**

Trustees received no remuneration or benefits in this period.

**4. Related party transactions**

An international director, who is the son of the Chair of the UK charity Meninadança is paid directly by the charity.