

Hands of Mercy: Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts:

1st April 2021 – 31st March 2022

CHARITY INFORMATION

CHARITY NAME: Hands of Mercy International
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1097434
CHARITY'S PRINCIPAL ADDRESS: c/o St. Thomas' Church Office, Luton, LU2 7UL

CHARITY TRUSTEES WHO MANAGED THE CHARITY DURING THE REPORTING YEAR

Samantha Graham	Chair
Keith Barter	Treasurer
David Alexander	
Michael Dodds (appointed 15 th December 2021)	
Frances Gunn (until 19 th May 2021)	
Sarah Savill	
Robert Gunn (until 19 th May 2021)	

Linda Clitheroe – charity administrator (commenced on 1st July 2020 but did not serve as a trustee).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

TYPE OF GOVERNING DOCUMENT: Trust Deed
HOW THE CHARITY IS CONSTITUTED: With 4-7 trustees – meeting 4/5 times a year
TRUSTEE SELECTION METHOD: By resolution of the trustees passed at a convened trustees' meeting

SUMMARY OF THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY SET OUT IN ITS GOVERNING DOCUMENT

To apply the Trust income in the Philippines for:

- The advancement of education
- The relief of poverty

SUMMARY OF THE MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT IN RELATION TO THESE OBJECTS

Seven programmes of compassion are provided through Hands of Mercy International which supports families and children living in poverty in Metro Manila, Mandaluyong and Baguio in the Philippines. These are:

1. **Supplementary Feeding Programme** – providing food to undernourished children
2. **Family Support Programme** – providing the poorest of families with supplementary food assistance
3. **Home Improvement Programme** – providing families with the necessary help and resources to help repair their dilapidated homes
4. **Child Sponsorship Programme** – enabling children to attend school or college and receive help with their health needs
5. **Surgical Treatment Programme** – providing funding towards surgical treatment

6. **Disabled Therapy Programme** – providing vital physiotherapy and support to disabled children
7. **Prescription Medicine Programme** – providing funding for essential medicine

SUMMARY OF THE YEAR AND MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE CHARITY

Hands of Mercy reached its twenty-fifth year, a significant milestone in its history. The Philippines continued to experience significant challenges during 2021-2022 due to continual lockdowns and rising food prices. Wage-earners continued to struggle to find work. The vaccine rollout was initially slow due to a shortage of vaccine stocks but then ramped up significantly as the year progressed. Fortunately, despite heavy rainfall, there were no serious typhoons affecting the squatter communities.

Hands of Mercy focused charity funds on providing families and children with food support, medicine and emergency assistance with bills. Consequently, of the seven compassion programmes, the following ones were prioritised during the year:

- Child Sponsorship Programme – over 100 children continued to be sponsored for their education and health needs. Children attended school online throughout the year due to the lockdowns and the sponsorship provided support to the child/children wherever this was needed the most (e.g. food for them and their families, help with Wi-Fi to access online education and/or support with their health needs).
- Family Support Programme – around 50 of the poorest families received supplementary food every month through the Family Support Programme.
- Supplementary Feeding Programme – this continued to serve meals to underweight and malnourished children and Hands of Mercy continued to find ways to distribute food during the lockdowns.
- Prescription Medicine Programme – this was a lifeline to many with over 250 people receiving help with laboratory tests and/or medication.

Ichthus (Hands of Mercy's livelihood programme) continued to sell filtered water to businesses and individuals. It is in its seventh year of operation (having started in 2015) and provides a way for the Filipino community to become more self-reliant. During the financial year, it remained in operation but the business environment was more challenging due to the continued lockdowns and increased competition from new water filtering organisations. Ichthus continued to provide a higher quality level of water though.

During the year, many churches and individuals in the United Kingdom kept supporting the compassion work through prayer, child and family sponsorship and donations. We are greatly indebted to all the supporters of Hands of Mercy.

There were also some significant trustee changes during the year. Robert and Frances Gunn, the two longest-serving trustees, both officially retired in May 2022. Their role in Hands of Mercy has been monumental since its inception and they leave a lasting legacy of faithful service and steadfast prayer. A new trustee, Michael Dodds, was appointed in December 2021, following a recruitment process.

BRIEF STATEMENT OF THE CHARITY'S POLICY ON RESERVES

A percentage of the money given for the humanitarian compassion programmes is held in a contingency fund at the HSBC.

All the trustees approved the Trustees' Annual Report on: 8th November 2022



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Hands of Mercy International

On accounts for the year
ended

31st March 2022

Charity no
(if any)

1097434

Set out on pages

2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **DD 31/03/2022**

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below *~~) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

John D. Kingham

Date:

16/05/2022

Name:

John D Kingham

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants
in England and Wales

Address:

338 Old Bedford Road, Luton, Beds LU2 7EJ

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st March 2022

2021

Balances as at 1st April 2021

	£	£	£	£
<u>Bank Accounts</u>				
Current Account	16,123.01		17,069.53	
Deposit Account	<u>20,162.56</u>		<u>20,130.47</u>	
	36,285.57		37,200.00	
<u>Cash in Hand</u>	<u>0</u>	36,285.57	<u>92.52</u>	37,292.52

Receipts

Giving under Gift Aid scheme	66,931.00		56,896.00	
Income Tax Repayments Received	20,623.00		10,217.00	
Other Giving	23,990.70		49,885.22	
Bank Interest	<u>2.64</u>	<u>111,547.34</u>	<u>12.09</u>	<u>117,010.31</u>
		147,832.91		154,302.83

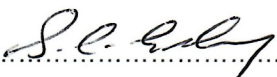
Payments

H of M Phillipines	95,285.00		115,864.00	
Office Wages	1,716.00		1,023.00	
Web-site costs	73.00		73.00	
Bank Charges	36.60		0	
Post, Stationery & Sundries	<u>843.13</u>	97,953.73	<u>1057.26</u>	118,017.26

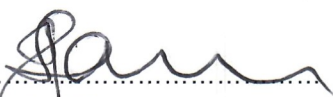
Balances as at 31st March 2022

<u>Bank Accounts</u>				
Current Account	29,713.98		16,123.01	
Deposit Account	<u>20,165.20</u>	<u>£49,879.18</u>	<u>20,162.56</u>	<u>£36,285.57</u>

Note 1 £14,000 is designated to be used for the New Housing Project**Note 2** As a result of the Giving under the Gift Aid Scheme £1,742 is reclaimable from the Inland Revenue as at the 31st March 2022**TRUSTEES**


 Mrs S Graham


 Mr K Barter


 Mrs S Savill


 Rev D G Alexander


 Mr M Dodds