

MARIAN MISSION FOR THE POOR
(*Registered Charity No: 1112407; Company No: 5589179*)



**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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Marian Mission for the Poor
Trustees' Annual Report
For the year ended 31 December 2023

FULL NAME: Marian Mission for the Poor
WORKING NAMES: Marian Mission Educational and Family Support Centre
Marian Missionary Sisters of the Poor
Marian Retreat Centre

MISSION STATEMENT

The Marian Mission for the Poor aims towards the development and provision of a range of meaningful quality services to meet the growing spiritual, emotional, social and educational needs of all children and young people, particularly those who are socially excluded or are from disadvantaged families of low income/single parent or who have learning and physical disabilities.

We further aim to support the spiritual development of individual adults who seek solace and tranquillity in encountering God through reflections, contemplation and retreats.

The Marian Mission Educational and Family Support Centre exists to further its mission in the London area by enabling children and young people explore their environment, increase the opportunity for them to maximise their potentials and develop socially, academically, morally and spiritually as they grow.

The new Marian Retreat Centre at Nympsfield in Gloucestershire County provides spiritual comfort and solace to adults and school children who need the quietude to encounter God and reflect on their lives and relationships.

Our services are enriched by the cultural diversity of its surrounding communities. We aim to offer first-class services that are responsive to the needs of the children and young people who are entrusted to our care and adults who visit to explore and enjoy our retreat services.

Our philosophy is grounded in Catholic Principles and the spirit of Ecumenism and Social Inclusion. It is enriched by the cultural and religious diversity of its surrounding communities. We seek to promote community cohesion by developing an all-embracing inclusive community that enhances individual, spiritual, social, academic and cultural development in the light of the principles of social inclusion and integration.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ORGANISATION

The principal objects of the Charity are the advancement of education, protection and care of abused/poor/underprivileged children; the relief of poverty, the advancement of religion, the provision of primary health care for the poor in third world countries and the financial support of Catholic Churches in poor rural communities of developing countries.

Overall management of the Charity is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected or co-opted under the terms of the constitutions. Day to day projects development activities are managed by and carried out by one full time staff 7 part time sessional staff and 15 volunteers.

TRUSTEES

The Trustees of the charity are: Mother Maria Chioma Emeagi, Chair of Trustees
Rev.Dr. Augustine U. Ihedinma, Trustee/secretary Sr. Stella E. Davies, Sir Joseph Duke and
Sr. Blessing O. Onuoha,

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE PERIOD

The board of Trustees of the Marian Mission for the Poor achieved some of the targets set for 2023. These include:

- **Continuing to develop further our Fee Paying Short Break Services for disabled children from the London borough of Newham and London borough of Waltham Forest.**

Yes the number of our short break service users increased remarkably and we are hopeful that it will continue to grow.

- **Advertise our services more to increase the capacity of service users**

We continue advertise our services in our local newspapers and online and the outcome is encouraging.

- **Securing funding to purchase a minibus for children and young people, particularly for our after school club and holiday projects.**

This target has not been achieved as another funding application for a minibus was not successful, but we are continuing to seek for such funding.

- **Complete the process of submitting application to secure FEEE funding.**

This was completed in November 2023 and we hope to get our funding before the end of January 2024,

- **Intensifying efforts to secure funding for our international literacy and poverty eradication school project in Nigeria.**

We are still searching for this funding with no success so far.

FINANCE

The Board of Trustees has in this financial year to December 2023 worked hard to increase number of service users in our Short Break services in the London borough of Waltham Forest as well as that of the London borough of Newham.

The charity's long term financial obligation is with Barclays Bank PLC as a commercial mortgage. The short term financial obligations are:

1. Bounce Back loan with Barclays and
2. CAF loan for the development of the sensory room.

Our new financial management systems make it easier for both the organisation and parents to be able to make payments as required and when due to avoid undue debts. With the new financial Control systems in place, our clients are supported in the process to avoid slipping into huge debts. Our financial Consultant continues to support the committee in developing robust financial systems that will sustain the growth of the Charity and our Sage Cloud accounting system is working out very well.

Securing the government's Free Early Education Entitlement (FEEE)

We have worked hard and completed the needed documentations and have submitted our application to the Early Years Team of the London borough of Waltham Forest for the approval of the FEEE funds for our pre-school service. Our senior management team is now waiting for the borough's first review since we submitted in November 2023. We are hopeful the funding will be secured early 2024.

The International Literacy and Poverty Eradication Project: Proposed Building of a Secondary School of British Standard

The proposed charity all through nursery, Primary and secondary school project continued to have a set back because of our slow recovery from the effect of the covid-19 lockdown as the Friends of the Marian Mission for the Poor, Nigerian group, have still not surveyed the purchased land. The "Friends of the Marian Mission for the Poor" in Nigeria are still working on the architectural drawings of the school plan. We still did not get to the stage of getting a bill of quantity produced and this will carry over to 2024 to give us an estimated cost of developing the project. The bakery project is developing gradually. The Friends of the Marian Mission Nigeria were still not able to carry out their planned fundraising event because of political instabilities and unrest. Hopefully, they may be able to do so when the economic situation improved. The team of project committee members are still working hard to find some funders and sponsors from Nigeria who can support the project.

Our Religious Community in Owerri, Imo State, Nigeria

Our religious community in Owerri, Imo State Nigeria is growing steadily in number. We have a growing number of postulants who are undergoing their religious formation as part of their journey to the religious life. We thank God for the vocation and pray for more. Some of the postulants will be sponsored to join our religious community in the UK for their novitiate at our community in Nympsfield, Gloucestershire GL10 3TZ. Our bakery had a set back again as we are going through transition from the use of firewood to the use of gas. Thanks be to God and the effort of Rev. Dr. Augustine U. Ihedinma, our Sisters and the members of the Friends of the Marian Missionary Sisters of the Poor, Nigerian branch, particularly Miss Blessing Deiye Davies who is leading in the restoration of the bakery.

The presence of the Sisters in our community in Owerri has led to the increase in number of young ladies who desire to join our religious order. It has also made it easier for us to get more sponsors and benefactors that are helping and supporting the congregation in Nigeria. We are now developing an in-depth formation for our young candidates to the religious life in Nigeria.

Our Projects in London

The pre-school has submitted our application for the government early years funding (FEEE- **Free Early Education Entitlement for Two, Three and Four Year Olds**).

We had a good Ofsted inspection in June 2019. However, we are not still in receipt of the government FEEE because we are still waiting for the outcome of the application we submitted. We have got all that is required by the local authority for the assessment of our application. We are really working hard to expand the capacity of the Pre-school and hope to achieve this as soon as possible. The building work has improved access for physically disabled children and young people and the extension has increase the capacity and meets the DDA's (Disability Discrimination Act) requirements.

Our focus for next year will be to further increase and sustain the self-financing services that the charity delivers so as to raise funds to be able to support many more vulnerable children and hard to reach disadvantaged families. The Pre-school is one of such projects. The organisation delivered Short Break services for the London borough of Waltham Forest and the London borough of Newham and we are continuing to do so. Our self-referral direct payment short break service is gradually developing in Waltham Forest and the London Borough of Newham to enable parents to buy in services directly for their children. We can now deliver services to wheelchair users in our Centre.

Our Saturday Supplementary School for children with Learning difficulties and school underachievers did not take place during this year 2023. We were not able to apply for any funding for the project this year. This is a very highly needed project as it helps children from disadvantaged low income families to break barriers to learning and raise academic achievements that will eventually get them out of the poverty cycle. We made application for funding for youth projects only to the local Wards and we got funding from Leyton,

High Street and Lea Bridge wards of the London borough of Waltham Forest. We have been supporting families with children with challenging behaviour on an outreach 1:1 basis. It is really very important that this project continues to run now that the building project is completed to prevent high level of school disaffection and exclusions in the future. Young people need a safe haven during school holidays and that was what the project provided. We have so far supported many disaffected children and young people from the charity's resources as this is one of our primary objectives and we continue to do so. The LEXIA READING SYSTEM software funded by the LBWF community ward grant in 2021/2022 is still being used to support the language development of underachieving pupils.

The growth of the Educational and Family Support Centre in the London Borough of Waltham Forest is progressive this year because of an increase in self financing projects. We succeeded in resourcing the pre-school and short break services for disabled children with sensory and wooden equipment and play toys that will last for years. So we do not need to spend much money on equipment in 2024. The Organisation continues to work well with local schools, social services, Early Years Team and Disabled Children's Team. We have succeeded in continuing to offer services in the following areas:

- Positive Holiday diversionary, Careers awareness, behaviour management for children and young people with Special Educational Needs, Physical disabilities, emotional and behavioural difficulties as well as those who are socially excluded;
- Breakfast and After School club.
- Short break services for disabled children
- Outreach Family Support Services
- Catechism of the Catholic Church to Catholic children at our Centre and in the parish
- Pastoral support to targeted children who access our services
- Support of our Catholic Choir
- Full Childcare and Pre-school services
- Retreat Services

FUNDRAISING:

The Friends of the Marian Missionary Sisters of the Poor and the Parents/Staff association had very little fundraising events during the year. Individual donations were also received this year. Our services were reviewed again based on the outcome of needs survey and it was decided that we continue to focus on vulnerable and disabled children and young people i.e. those with learning difficulties, behavioural and emotional difficulties as well as those with other forms of mental or physical disabilities as the need is very high on these areas. It was also agreed that we invest more on our pre-school and childcare services to be able to raise fund for our charitable services. Hence we are working hard to secure the FEEE funding.

OUR RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY AT NYMPSPFIELD IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Our religious community at the “ **Our Lady's Homestead at Nympsfield**” is still trying to survive the impact of the covid-19 lockdown as the **Marian Retreat Centre** that offers religious services to people, which is now open, is not yet operating at full capacity.

TASKS AHEAD:

- Continuing to develop further our Fee Paying Short Break Services for disabled children from the London borough of Newham and London borough of Waltham Forest.
- Advertise our services more to increase the capacity of service users
- Securing funding to purchase a minibus for children and young people, particularly for our after school club and holiday projects.
- Intensifying efforts to secure funding for our international literacy and poverty eradication school project.

POLICIES:

RESERVES POLICY:

Since it is a matter of urgency to continue our services to vulnerable, disadvantaged and poor children and their families, the Charity has a reserve policy whereby any unused unrestricted income will be set aside for the purpose of funding services for children and young people whose families are poor and unable to pay for such services.

The Trustees believe that by carrying out an annual review over its key financial indicators it will be able to provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse circumstances in the coming years

INVESTMENTS

This year the charity invested in a 10 laptops for our after school club. We also invested on developing tailor made educational resources for our targeted pupils who needed extra support. We invested in a lot of staff training to improve quality. The Trustees are pleased to report that all work undertaken are progressing satisfactorily.

This report is approved by the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf.

SIGNED:



Mother Maria Chioma Emeagi
(Chairperson)

DATE: 15th July 2023

**Report of the Independent examiner to the trustees of Marian Mission for the Poor
a charitable company limited by guarantee.**

Re Final statements for the year ended 31st December 2023

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Trustees who are also directors of the organisation are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

My 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. These procedures do not seek to express an audit opinion on the accounts


Independent examiner's statement

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

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities
- 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.

Independent Examiner.


Alex Davies
Certified Accountant
Community Accounting Support Project
702 High Road Leyton
London E10 6JP

Date; 17th July 2024

Marian Mission for the Poor**Statement of Financial Activities****For Year ended 31st December 2023**

Incoming Resources	notes	Total Funds	Total Funds
		2023	2022
Grant Receipts	2	4,635	9,512
Contracts	3	75,445	51,872
Income from Activities	4	91,023	97,206
Fundraising & Donations	5	21,174	28,447
Total Incoming Resources		<u>192,276</u>	<u>187,037</u>
Resources Expended			
Activity costs (educational resources, toys Ect)		24,258.57	28,920
Management & Administration costs		107,384.19	86,731
Mortgage /Repairs & Maintenance cost		35,076.65	42,926
Other Costs - Housekeeping		14,295.00	3,143
Miscellaneous Expenses		1,335.85	8,204
Governance Costs		<u>3,127.20</u>	<u>9,274</u>
		<u>185,477</u>	<u>179,198</u>
Net Incoming Resources		6,799	7,839
Fund Balances Brought Forward		<u>978,869</u>	<u>971,030</u>
Fund Balances 31st Dec 2023		<u>985,668</u>	<u>978,869</u>

MARIAN MISSION FOR THE POOR
Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2023

	notes	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Fixed Assets			
U K Properties M.Value (2019)	6	1,482,950	1,482,950
Land & Property Overseas	6	120,035	142,765
Sensory Room Equipment	6	28,316	30,586
Computer/ Office Equipment	7	30,182	36,182
		<u>1,661,483</u>	<u>1,692,483</u>
Current Assets			
Cash at Bank and in Hand		17,806	8,106
Current Liabilities	8	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Current Assets		17,806	8,106
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>1,679,289</u>	<u>1,700,589</u>
Long Term Liabilities	9	693,621	721,719
Total Net Assets		<u>985,668</u>	<u>978,869</u>
Net Incoming Resources		6,799	7,839
Fund Balance B/fwd		<u>978,869</u>	<u>971,030</u>
Total Funds 31st Dec 2023		<u>985,668</u>	<u>978,869</u>

Statement of Trustees responsibilities


The Trustees are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and no notice has been deposited under section 476 of the act requesting that an audit be conducted for the period ended 31st December 2023

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring the company keeps accounting records which complies with the requirements of section 386 of Companies Act 2006
- (b) preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at 31st December 2023 and of its income and expenditure for that finance year in accordance with the requirements of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the companies act relating to accounts so far as applicable to the company.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to small companies

Signed on behalf of the Trustees on...

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Mother Maria Chioma Emeagi
Trustee (Chairperson)

MARIAN MISSION FOR THE POOR

Notes to the Accounts for the period ending 31st December 2023

1, Accounting Policies

Accounting Basis

- (a) The Financial statements are prepared under the historic cost basis in accordance with Financial Reporting Standards For Smaller Entities and in compliance with Statements of recommended Practice applicable to Charities.)
- (b) The organisation's main source of income is from grants and donations. Some income is derived from derived from activities and services provided by the Company.
- (c) Grants received for specific purposes are accounted for as Restricted Funds and are applied in accordance with the terms of the grant. And all properties owned are restricted in that their use cannot be changed
- (d) Income and expenditure relating to the activities of the charity have been taken into account on the accruals basis.
- (e) Company Status; Marian Mission for the Poor is a company limited by guarantee without a share capital
Members liability in the event of the company being wound up, is restricted to £1 each
As a registered charity, the Organisation is exempt from income & corporation tax on income derived from its charitable activities as it falls within the various exemptions available to registered charities.

Incoming Resources

2, Income from Grants

Grant, LBWF Community Council Fund
Grant Funding (Friends of MMSP)

Year	Year
2023	2022
4,200	8,823
435	690
4,635	9,513

3, Income from Contracts

Short Break Services LBWF & LBN

Year	Year
2,023	2022
56,332	51,872

4, Income from Activities

Tuition Fees
Breakfast & after School
Pre School
Childcare
Holiday Club
Short break contracts & direct payments
Miscellaneous Income

Year	Year
2,023	2022
	2,000
49,273	45,339
-	-
32,146	22,953
9,604	3,000
19,112	23,914
-	-
110,135	97,206

Income from Fundraising, Gifts & Donations

Year	Year
2,023	2022
21,174	28,448

Notes to the accounts continued

5, Income from Fundraising & Donations

Our fundraising efforts and donations received raised £21,174 this year. Last year's donations totalling £28,447 thanks to our many supporters who believed in us and are committed to our work.

6, Fixed Assets

Includes Overseas Land & property acquired for the development of educational facilities for poor and vulnerable children and young people in Nigeria and includes a Bakery Investment plan. Unfortunately, this plan has been suspended due to the difficulty the Charity faces in its operation in England and this has resulted in the reduction in the value of the property even though our plans remain the same. The UK Property which originally consisted of 2 properties has undergone substantial Redevelopment for nursery education with a sensory room for special needs children and its valuation is not been depreciated.

7, The Computers and Office Equipment

are shown at the Written down value after charging depreciation at 20% to write off the asset over their estimated useful life. Depreciation is not charged in the year of acquisition.

8, Creditors

Accrued expenses outstanding ... NIL

9, Long Term Liabilities

These are the outstanding long term loan balances held as at 31st December 2023

Barclays Bank Long term Loan	631,622
Charities Aid Foundation Loan	24,614
Barclays Bank Bounce Back Loan	37,385

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No payments were made to the Trustees by way of remuneration during the current period to December 2023 and there are no related party transactions during this stated period.