

A young boy with dark skin is climbing a papaya tree. He is wearing an orange t-shirt and blue shorts with white stripes. He is holding a large, ripe yellow papaya. The tree has several green papayas at the top. The background is a clear blue sky.

Malaika Kids UK

Annual Report and Accounts 2024

Malaika Kids UK Chair's Report

I'm delighted to report that this has been a great year for Malaika Kids!

Four of our older children have achieved notable successes in 2024. One has qualified as an accountant and another as a pharmacist; one has a degree in social work and another has the equivalent of a degree qualification in port authority management.

We aim to help every child reach their full potential, which can be even more difficult when they face disability or academic challenges. We're proud that many now work in carpentry, security, and hospitality.

In the Netherlands, Ton Willemsen, the MKNL chair, was appointed a Knight in the Order of Orange Nassau in recognition of his 20 years of service to Malaika Kids NL.



Fundraising remained strong in 2024, but we are increasingly concerned that much of the responsibility falls on the trustees, most of whom are over 70. In addition, significant cuts to government aid from the USA and UK could have an indirect impact on our funding. Ensuring long-term financial stability remains a key priority.



I'm deeply inspired by the support that we receive from each of our donors. Thank you!

Alan

Alan Edwards
Malaika Kids UK Chair

January

Just before Christmas, Jasmine, a London-based dentist and supporter, travelled to Dar es Salaam to visit the children. Drawing on the generosity of her mosque community, she secured enough funds to provide Christmas presents for every child. Each one received a bilingual book with English and Swahili stories. Younger children also received puzzles, older children had Lego or sewing kits, and the oldest were gifted watches or jewellery. For many, these were the first Christmas presents they had ever received.



Jasmine was able to examine the teeth of many of the children. She reported that they were generally in good condition. However, some of the younger children needed to brush their teeth more thoroughly—we provide toothbrushes and toothpaste as part of the Relatives Support Programme (RSP) monthly package—and some of the older children had wisdom teeth coming through, which was painful.



February

In May 2023, the Government of Tanzania and the UN Children's Fund jointly published a revealing report entitled "What is life like as an adolescent in Mainland Tanzania?" Some of the issues that we are tackling include:

- Only 25% of Tanzanian adolescents have a birth certificate.
- 8 in 100 are covered by medical insurance.
- 25% of older adolescent girls (15–19 years) have anaemia.
- 23 in 100 older adolescent girls have been pregnant.
- 14% of all students completed the O levels (GCSE) in 2021.
- 2 in 10 pass basic Maths at O Level.
- 55% of adolescents are employed.

I'm happy to say that many of our children are doing much better than these national statistics.



Although the labour market continues to be extremely challenging for young people, I'm pleased to report that many of our children have found gainful employment.



Our children are doing very much better than the general population. We have learnt a lot about caring for children in the last fifteen years and I'm sure we will make further progress in the next fifteen!

March

Our news updates typically include photos to illustrate the stories. However, due to Malaika Kids' strict safeguarding policy, we can't identify individual children in this update. As a result, this update is text-only.

Malaika Kids Tanzania currently cares for 79 children in its Children's Village in Mkuranga and 30 children and young adults in Dar es Salaam (22 in the Reception Home and 8 in rented accommodation nearby).

Most of these have come to us at a young age, many as babies. Of these 109 children, seven have special needs.

A young adult came to us eight years ago, completely traumatised and barely able to speak. He has gradually made progress and, although not academic, he has been able to help Julius, the farm manager. We aim to find him an employer with a small business in Mkuranga town who will provide him with board and lodging and a small wage. It should be easy to keep an eye on him and make sure he is treated well.

Another boy left the Children's Village five years ago after experiencing a difficult period. As he approached adolescence, he became violent and couldn't be left alone with other children. He also started to suffer epileptic fits. Eventually, we were able to find an older childless couple for him to live with. We continue to contribute to his upkeep and to his frequent visits to the hospital. He has his own room and when we visited him fifteen months ago, he couldn't stop smiling.

Unfortunately, the prospects for the four remaining children with special needs are much more limited.

One child was brought to us as 'an emergency for a few weeks'. Six years later, she is still with us and has complex mental and physical needs. She is currently attending a special school, but once this is over, the Reception Home is likely to be her long-term home. Similarly, a toddler at the Children's Village is still unable to sit up at 18 months, and an MRI scan shows widespread brain damage.

Finally, two young adults have completed their education at a weekly boarding school for those with special needs; they would be vulnerable to exploitation outside our protective care. One can perform simple farming tasks; the other tries but is easily distracted. Recognising their vulnerability and the fact that Malaika Kids is their only safe environment, we are resolved to provide them with lifelong care.

We regularly update the safeguarding policy, which you can read on the website.

April

At the end of last month, Francesca and I arrived at Dar es Salaam airport to be welcomed by James, the Village Manager, and no less than five children from the Children's Village. For most of them, it was their first visit to the airport and they were very excited. "How many people were on your plane?" and "If you leave your seat, can anyone sit there?" were some of the many questions asked.



Most of our time was spent in Mkuranga at the Children's Village, where we talked individually to each child over six years old, a total of 65. We also spoke to every member of staff, including the ten mothers and four agricultural workers. We ate with the children at all times, often ending the meal with a rousing rendition of 'Old MacDonald Had a Farm' or a game of 'Simon Says'.



We visited three of the children's schools: Lifewaylight primary, Ujenzi and Mwinyi secondary. Some of the children already attend the first two and we may consider sending some less academic ones to Mwinyi in the future.

We also spent four days at the Reception Home in Dar es Salaam talking to the staff and older children who are doing apprenticeships or studying at college. We were delighted to visit two boys who'd recently completed their three-year carpentry course and who are now successfully employed—one in wooden door manufacturing and the other in a recycling plant creating wood and glass tourist goods.

May

Over the past two weeks, Tanzania has been hit by a torrential downpour. Much of the Children's Village has been turned into a muddy paddling pool, and staff have been hard at work pumping the water out into neighbouring fields.



The crops haven't enjoyed the constant rains, and the new cucumber project has been particularly hard hit. Before the rains, we were harvesting at least a dozen cucumbers a day—now they're rotting on the vines. On the bright side, all our children are safe and well and the schools are operating normally.



At the Kinondoni Reception Home, the water briefly entered the living area and one of the bedrooms was threatened. Luckily, the bunk beds are high off the ground and the frames are drying out well. For several days, the government halted all bus services because many buses were stranded in the mud or had water-damaged engines. As a result, most of the college students had a brief break due to the lack of available transport.

June

Just one hundred yards from the front gates of the Children's Village stands Lifewaylight primary, a fee-paying, English-teaching school. We wave goodbye to 25 Malaika children at 7:28 am and by 7:30 am they are in their classrooms. It's so important that the youngsters learn good English. The government insists that all secondary school pupils are taught in English. Learning it in primary school gives them a huge advantage.



The class sizes are small—typically 20—in stark contrast to the local state primary, where class sizes are over 100 and sometimes as much as 150. This means that our children receive much more attention and support and that their homework is diligently marked. This year, there is also an extra class for the Year 7s, who will be taking the all-important state exam in September. These students start their day at 6:30 am!



Playtime is always held outdoors in a safe, vibrant area filled with shrubs and trees, except when it rains. The space features climbing equipment, swings, and rubber tyres.

July

At the heart of the Children's Village in Mkuranga are 10 amazing women—the mamas.

Eight of them look after 10 children each, ranging in age from 6 months to 18 years old. Two are peripatetic, standing in for others if they're unwell or on holiday. Before coming to Malaika Kids, many of the children suffered severe trauma in their lives. Aggression and bed-wetting are common; some older children have never been to school, worn shoes or even slept in a bed.



Our mamas respond to all the problems with love and patience. Whenever I visit the Village, I'm amazed at how quickly children integrate into the larger community.



The mamas each reside in a house where they sleep in their own small central room, flanked on the right and left by two dormitories—one for five boys and the other for five girls. In practice, this means that they're on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (especially if they have babies to look after). Every weekday, they get up at 5.30 am in the dark to get their children ready for primary school.

August

The Kinondoni Reception Home is located in a very poor area north of Dar es Salaam city and is exceptionally busy. We currently have six children who have been referred to us by the welfare office. Most of them are likely to stay with us on a short-term basis while relatives are sought, and court cases are heard. If no suitable family member can be found, then in due course, the child will be transferred to the Children's Village.



Currently, 11 young adults live at the Reception Home, with two more soon to join them as they begin their IT and teaching courses. The courses available to our children include carpentry, welding and electrical installation, early childhood care, travel and tourism, and freight forwarding.



A further eight young adults, most of whom are nearing the end of their courses, live in rented accommodation near the Reception Home. By the end of this year, four high-flying children will graduate with diplomas or degrees in accountancy, social work, pharmaceutical sciences, and freight forwarding.

September

Our Relatives Support Programme is a cost-effective way to support desperately poor, neglected children within their own families in the community.

Tragically, a five-year-old boy's mother passed away in hospital shortly after his birth. A family friend cared for him for several months, but when she could no longer manage, the welfare office bought him to the Reception Home. After an in-depth search, a widowed aunt, facing severe poverty while raising her own two children, offered to care for her nephew. We now provide educational support for all three children.



Two years ago, three children lost their father in a car accident. Subsequently, they became homeless, as they were evicted from their home with their mother and the father's siblings. A kind neighbour provided temporary shelter while their mother found a rented room. Her roadside chapatti business covers the rent, and the fortnightly RSP support, which includes food and hygiene products, school supplies and health insurance, ensures the children are no longer hungry and can attend school.



October

This year we expect to spend around 862 million Tanzanian shillings, which at an exchange rate of TZS 3,560 to £1 is a very significant £242,000.

Our largest single expenditure is on staff. Malaika Kids Tanzania employs a total of 26 local people. This year the total payroll is expected to be £71,000.



Our second biggest expense is food. £58,000 a year covers all meals for the children and staff. To keep food costs down, there is a heavy reliance on the staple food ugali, which is made from maize and has the consistency of mashed potato.



The third largest expense is education. It costs £55,000 a year to educate 65 children at our preferred English-teaching schools and 14 in vocational courses. We also subsidise 93 RSP children with books and uniforms who attend state schools in Dar es Salaam.

After these major expenses, we need a further £58,000 a year to cover all the other costs, which include clothes, water, electricity, cleaning and laundry, health and hygiene, farm expenses, vehicle maintenance and local auditing and legal services.

November

Several children shared stories of their lives before coming into the care of Malaika Kids.

“I don’t remember what it was like before I came to Malaika because I was only one month old. I was told my father lives far away from Malaika and he has never visited us. Maybe he is very poor. I think my twin brother and I would have been living a poor life.”



“My mother died a long time ago. I lived with my father and my brother. Life at home was like we were in the army. Sometimes, our father forced us to work on farms like other labourers and not to go to school. If we refused to go to work, we were severely beaten. That is why we decided to run away. I have always been happy at Malaika.”

“Before Malaika, I lived with my blind mother, siblings and our grandmother. We were always moving from one place to another as my mother was unable to rent a house. Our life was very poor. Malaika is very good to me. Now I sleep on a good bed, get nice food, play with other kids and I am happy that all the other kids love me, something I didn’t experience before.”

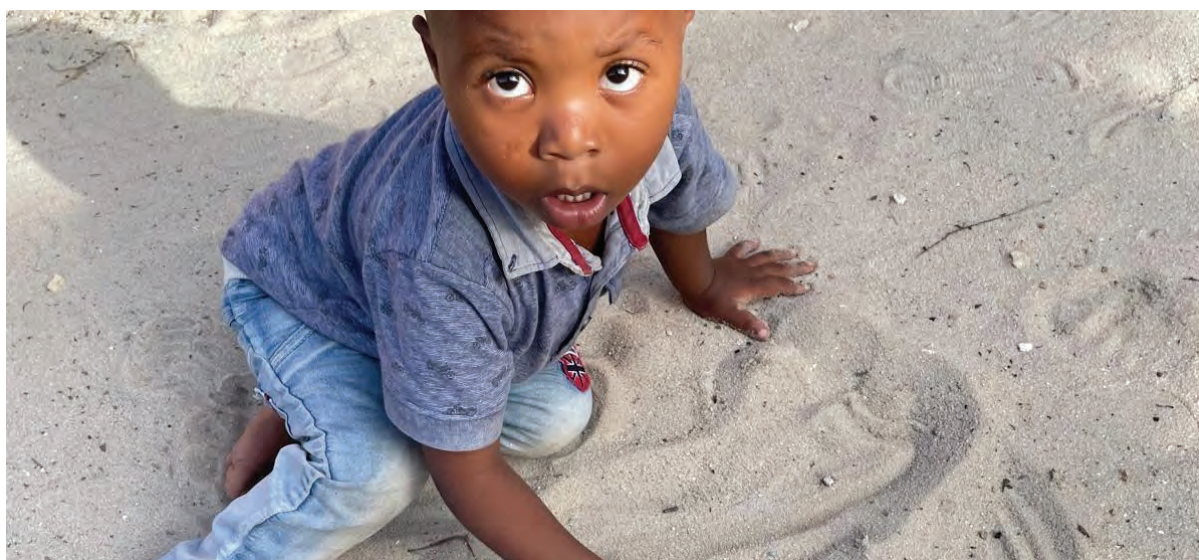


“I lived with my mother who had cancer. Our life was terrible. I was not going to school as we were living far away from school. I could not get regular meals, and I used to wear very old torn clothes. Malaika is giving me a good future and I am happy to be in the top three in my class.”

December

All the children are now home from school until the new academic year starts in early January. The village is full, with a total of 81 children, and there is time to relax and play before Christmas.

In December, the daytime temperature reaches 32°C and it's humid. When it starts to cool down around 5 pm, the daily sports hour begins with netball, volleyball and football all being very popular. There are 25 acres of land at the Children's Village, which is enough space for all the children to run around and play, and space to grow fruit and vegetables that supplement their daily diet.



Younger children play tag and love to draw in the sand. Once the older boys return from boarding school, football in bare feet becomes a very competitive and skilled game.



The rainy season is drawing to a close, but there are sometimes sudden heavy downpours. When this happens, most of the children shelter in one of the two central halls that have open sides so that air can circulate. They read, do puzzles or compete to make basic handicrafts.

Children cared for by Malaika Kids Tanzania

	Reception Home	Relatives Support Programme	Children's Village	Total
Start of 2024	28	115	85	228
Incoming-External	7	12	5	24
Moved from Children's Village	5		-5	
Moved to Children's Village	-4		4	
Moved to families	-7		-6	-13
Leavers	-10	-7	-2	-19
Total: end of 2024	19	120	81	220

By the end of the year, the Reception Home numbers returned to around 20 children, as some recent leavers secured jobs and moved into nearby accommodation. When the numbers exceed 20, we rent nearby rooms for the older children who are still studying.

The Children's Village consistently houses around 80 children, aiming to maintain eight households of 10 each. While temporary increases are managed as needed, we are hesitant to establish an entirely new household. Between the Reception Home and the Children's Village, we typically care for 100 or more children at any given time, though numbers fluctuate throughout the year.

The Relatives Support Programme currently helps 120 children in the community with food, medical insurance, and educational support. While this programme is highly cost-effective, its success depends on identifying a responsible family member, often a grandmother or aunt, to support its implementation.

The number of children determines the budget allocation. Approximately one quarter of the total is spent on food, another quarter on staff costs, another on education, and the final quarter covers all other expenses.

Our Patron



Our patron is H.E. Mbelwa Brighton Kairuki, High Commissioner of Tanzania in the UK. He says...

"I am very impressed with the work that Malaika Kids does... I would have no hesitation in recommending friends of Tanzania to support Malaika Kids if they can."

Malaika Kids UK Trustees and Volunteers

	Trustee	Last Elected
Chair	Alan Edwards	2022
Treasurer	Emile Farhi	2022
Secretary	Phil Cooke	2022
Honorary President	Nigel Fawkes	2023
	Francesca Edwards	2023
	Helen Marriage	2023
	Sophie Florientin-Siu	2023
	Martin Stoll	2024
	John Whitworth	2022
	Dr Simon Cooper	2024
	Dr Alan Lamont	2023

My thanks go to all the trustees and volunteers for their terrific work during 2024.

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, hosted from PIMCO offices in central London. Ton Willemsen and Maarten Steemers from MK Netherlands and Nigel Andrews from MK USA attend by Zoom, as do some UK trustees and volunteers. This enables the main fundraisers to remain connected and informed.

Shezan Manji in Tanzania initially prepares the budget for Malaika Kids Tanzania, which is then reviewed with Maarten Steemers before formal approval. While Malaika Kids Tanzania operates independently, its primary funding comes from Europe, transferred monthly according to the approved budget and with adjustments made as needed throughout the year.

Weekly discussions are held by Zoom between Europe and the management team in Tanzania; the key points are shared with the trustees in the monthly meetings. Annually, Ton, Simon Cooper, Francesca, and I undertake various independent visits to Tanzania.

I think this management system works extremely well in a very collegial way.

Looking forward, I can see that the original founder of Malaika Kids, Najma Manji, has the excellent support of younger managers in James Kalinga, who works in Mkuranga at the Children's Village and Shezan Manji, based in Dar es Salaam. Operationally, Malaika Kids Tanzania is structured to ensure the long-term financial viability and the continued provision of nurturing care for its beneficiaries.

The future appears less certain in Europe and the USA, where much of the funding originates. We have a substantial group of supporters who, together, make the Christmas Appeal and other initiatives a success, and hopefully, this will carry on.

However, the central organisation and liaison with Tanzania is largely undertaken by trustees who are mainly in their senior years. It would be good if a younger group, some of whom should be willing to travel to Tanzania regularly, could emerge...

Malaika Kids UK Annual Accounts 2024

Income and Expenditure Account

Year ended 31 December 2024

		2022	2023	2024
	Notes	£	£	£
	1			
Income				
Donations		138,874	126,470	142,724
Gift Aid	2	15,167	7,692	11,339
Event Income		6,448	8,081	16,771
Bank interest		3,430	11,581	20,408
Total Income		163,919	153,824	191,242
Expenditure				
Funds transferred to Tanzania		119,625	156,900	127,510
Event costs		2,444	3,344	5,420
Fundraising costs		411	2,733	3,529
Website maintenance		468	450	240
Annual Report printing		443	400	400
Bank charges		317	314	305
Total Expenditure		123,708	164,141	137,404
Net Income (Deficit) for the year		40,211	(10,317)	53,838

Balance Sheet

Year ended 31 December 2024

		2022	2023	2024
	Notes	£	£	£
Current Assets				
Cash at bank		650,372	640,055	693,893
Total current assets		650,372	640,055	693,893
Current liabilities		0	0	0
Net assets		650,372	640,055	693,893
Funds	3			
Balance at the start of the year		610,161	650,372	640,055
Surplus (Deficit) in the year		40,211	(10,317)	53,838
Funds at the end of the year		650,372	640,055	693,893

Notes to the Accounts

Note 1: Accounting basis

These accounts have been prepared on a cash basis.

Note 2: Gift Aid receipts

These relate to donations received in the year.

Note 3: Charity's funds

Includes £10,000 received in 2024 and restricted by a kind donor for education costs in 2025. This amount is included in the donations above.

We are Malaika Kids UK

Registered Office

Malaika Kids UK
6 Lauderdale Mansions
London
W9 1NE

Website: malaika-kids.uk
Email: info-uk@malaika-kids.org

Registered Charity No. 1118149

Bank Details

Bank: CAF Bank
Name: Malaika Kids UK
Account: 00093337
Sort Code: 40-52-40



MKUK Accounts 2024				
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Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name

MALAIKA KIDS UK

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31. DEC. 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1118149

Set out on pages

16, 17

(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 / MM / YYYY.

**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:

Cyril Barratt

Date:

19.2.25

Name:

CYRIL BARRATT

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

FCMA

Address:

56 LONG MEADOW

ST. HELENS WA10 4LS