



African Refugee Community Annual Report of Activities April 2021- March 2022

African Refugee Community (ARC) is a registered charitable organisation providing confidential emotional and practical holistic support to African Asylum Seekers and Refugees living in the borough of Barnet in particular and surrounding boroughs in general. Our aim is to facilitate the safe integration, relocation and rehabilitation of our service users who often present complex and challenging issues. Our target is to improve the quality of their life and promote their well-being in different aspects of their integration by helping them to reduce health inequalities, social exclusion, poverty and stigmatisation. The Safeguarding promotion of our clients is our priority.

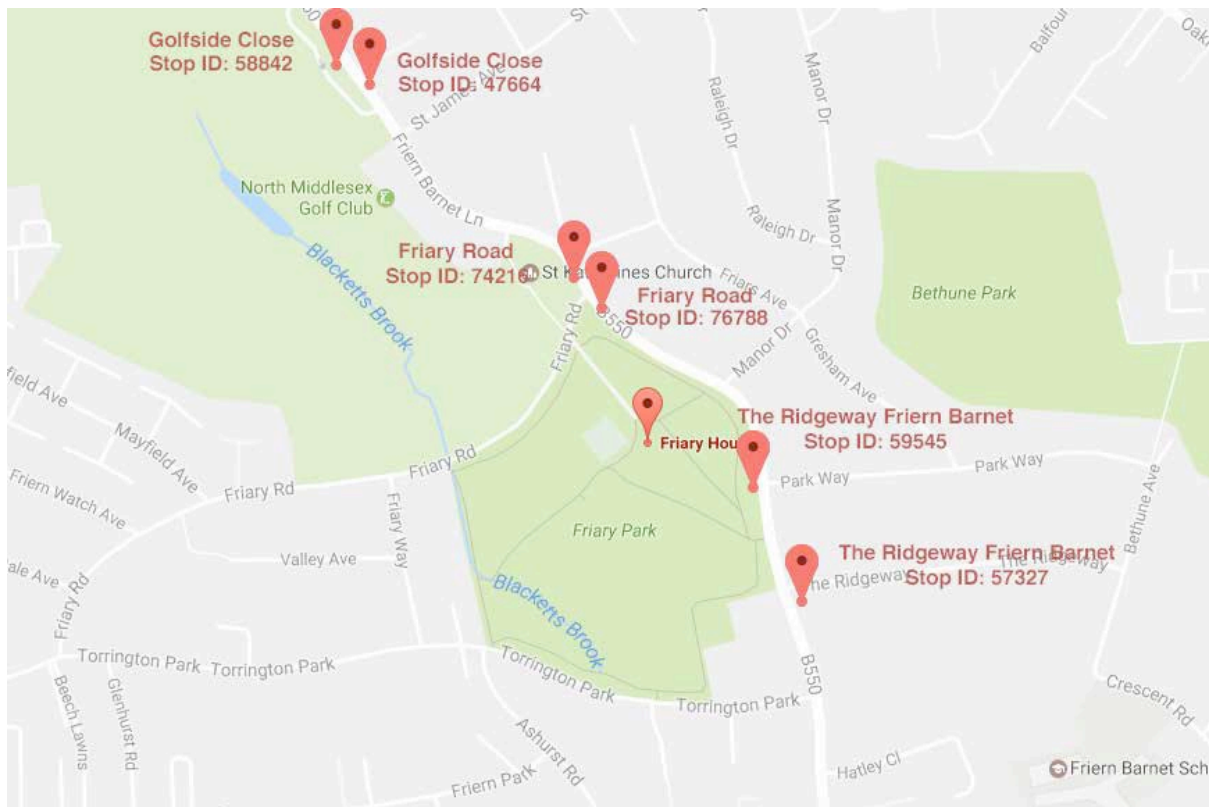
ARC works with individuals as well as families, we closely work with professionals from statutory and voluntary agencies providing additional and appropriate services

What we offer

- **Advocacy and Case Management**
Referrals and signposting to partner agencies such as: GP surgeries, medical health centres, solicitors, social services, job centre, hospitals, housing including other refugee organisations
- **Advice and information**
Education, immigration, health, employment agencies, training, housing, welfare benefit, individual and family grant applications for white goods, utility debts and holidays

- **Translation and Interpreting services** (French, Swahili, Kikongo, Tshiluba, Lingala and Arabic)
- **Outreach visits:** Home, hospital, detention centre, prison, residential care homes
- **Workshops**
Healthy eating, obesity, well being, tackling youth violence, domestic violence, completion of CV, job Interview techniques, IT, Basic English classes, cultural barriers and parenting skills
Physical and well being activities
- **Group visits:** seaside, park/gardens, museums, libraries, football stadiums and African cultural events
- **Food distribution**
- Distribution of sanitary material
- Destitution funds

Where to Find Us



Our address:
African Refugee Community
Friary House Friary Park
Friern Barnet Lane
London N20 0NR

Our Contacts:
Office: Tel/ Fax: 020 8368 9070
Mobile: 07956566573
Email address: africanrefugeecommunity@acrc.org.uk
Website: www.africanrefugeecommunity.co.uk

Opening days and hours
Monday and Wednesday: Drop-in from 10.00am -3pm
Tuesday Appointment
Thursday and Friday: Administration, trainings and visits.

Registered Charity No: 1120861 since 2007

Last financial year 2021-2022 was memorably interrupted by the shock of lock down which caused major disruptions to our services and required much adjustment, both, mental and physical. We had to work using hybrid approach, online and visiting the most vulnerable service users.

We obtained some small grant to cover some of our services and managed to support many service users from different gender, ages and family status. The total of 225 benefited from our holistic support.

Our members:

- Uganda
- Sudan
- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Algeria
- Tunisia
- Rwanda
- Burundi
- Angola
- Togo
- Gambia
- Ivory Coast
- Ghane
- Nigeria
- Cameroun

Drop in sessions, online information guidance and home visits

Every weekday from 10.00 to 14.00 held at our office or online, we provided an ever-increasing range of services to meet the needs that our service users who are asylum seekers, refugees and migrants raised. Our project helped by addressing the needs of the children, young people and families who struggled to connect with their other professionals. Many participants needed advocacy, case management and practical needs such as foods, sanitary equipments and devices. A dedicated team of our volunteers and staff were present in addressing these needs.

Online emotional and Wellbeing Support

Provided one to one support to members including families on issues related to accessing or following up services such as: schooling and education, health services, housing and welfare matters, immigration challenges and support with white goods.

English conversational and basic IT online classes were organised and well attended. Young People were also supported by Champions who provided a safe space for them to meet and talk about their challenges.

Volunteers and staffing

During 2021-2022 we managed to recruit more volunteers to offer their time to support our service users. More staff members were recruited at the same time some of them died during covid-19 pandemic.

Funding

We obtained some small Covid-specific grants for projects and office maintenance. It is now time to address the question of future funding for our services. From adversity come new approaches, the trustees and volunteers were determined to continue the delivery of our services.

We managed to secure some funding to support our services from:

- Awards for All
- Society for the Relief of Distress
- London Churches Refugee Grant
- Individual such as CAF
- Friends Trust LTD (Witting and Blackwell)
- Middlesex Learning
- Network for Social Change

- Voice4change England
- The Clothworkers F
- London Borough of Barnet
- Community Barnet

Challenges for our future work

- More funding to support our work in term of human resources, volunteers and projects

Challenging issues on the following areas:

- Mental health issues
- General well being
- Higher level of poverty
- Training into employment
- Legal advisor / solicitor
- Housing and welfare support
- Increased Cost of living ... Bills payment and support
- Projects on integration: Language, employment and Culture

General Comments:

Since 2021, we have also been supporting many migrants and others from different background that needed support and guidance / signposting. We have worked closely with many local partners as well as the ones in different boroughs.

We are still having an increase in new services users in need of our support and we have a good team of professionals who have been asylum seekers and refugees but now settled in the UK. We want to carry on supporting the new ones as well as our members who are still struggling to integrate. We can only better support them if we have enough funding and human resources to do so.

The following is a quote from one of our participants:

“As older and non-native citizen who arrived here without any knowledge of English language, it is hard for us to start learning a new language and speak it with confidence. Our brain struggles with layers of issues started with immigration, housing welfare and benefits, mental health. Coming to African Refugee Community has helped me a lot as they speak my language and better understand my needs given that most of them have been there, on the same journey. I feel at home and well connected each time when I go there. I often offer my time to help the new ones each time when they asked me to help. I go home smiling and sleep well after being there. African Refugee Community is my home”.

Written by:

Mr Bitenge Makuka

Trustees

African Refugee Community

18.11.2022

**AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

**AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
ANNUAL REPORT ACCOUNTS
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AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC) CHARITY INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Trustees	Bitenge Makuka Ma Mbombo Lukubika Mazuba Makwim
Charity Number	1120861 (England and Wales)
Registered Office	Friary House, Friary Park Friern Barnet Lane London N20 0NR United Kingdom
Accountants	Accountae Ltd Union House 111 New Union Street Coventry CV1 2NT

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
(CHARITY NO: 1120861 ENGLAND AND WALES)
TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Principal activity

What we offer

Advocacy and Case Management

Referrals and signposting to partner agencies such as: GP surgeries, medical health centres, solicitors, social services, job centre, hospitals, housing including other refugee organisations

Advice and information

Education, immigration, health, employment agencies, training, housing, welfare benefit, individual and family grant

Translation and Interpreting services (French, Swahili, Kikongo, Tshiluba, Lingala and Arabic)

Outreach visits: Home, hospital, detention centre, prison, residential care homes

Workshops

Healthy eating, obesity, well being, tackling youth violence, domestic violence, completion of CV, job Interview techniques, IT, basic

English classes, cultural barriers and parenting skills

Group visits: seaside, park/gardens, museums, libraries, football stadiums and African cultural events

Trustees

The following Trustees held office during the whole of the period:

Bitenge Makuka Ma

Mbombo Lukubika

Mazuba Makwim

Charitable and Political donations

No political donations were made or received during the financial year

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the report and accounts in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year. Under that law, the Trustees have elected to prepare the accounts in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under Charity law the Trustees must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the profit or loss of the Charity for that period. In preparing these accounts, the Trustees are required to:

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Small Company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Signed on behalf of the board of Trustees

.....

Bitenge Makuka Ma Trustee

Approved by the board on: 26 October 2022

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC) ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Accountants' report to the board of Trustees of African Refugee Community (ARC) on the preparation of the statutory accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022

In order to assist you to fulfil your duties under the Companies Act 2006, we have prepared for your approval the accounts of African Refugee Community (ARC) for the year ended 31 March 2022 as set out on pages 7 - 10 from the Charity's accounting records and from information and explanations you have given us.

This report is made solely to the Board of Trustees of African Refugee Community (ARC), as a body, in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 17 October 2021. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the accounts of African Refugee Community (ARC) and state those matters that we have agreed to state to them, as a body, in this report. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than African Refugee Community (ARC) and its Board of Trustees as a body for our work or for this report.

It is your duty to ensure that African Refugee Community (ARC) has kept adequate accounting records and to prepare statutory accounts that give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit of African Refugee Community (ARC). You consider that African Refugee Community (ARC) is exempt from the statutory audit requirement for the year.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit or a review of the accounts of African Refugee Community (ARC). For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the statutory accounts.

Accountae Ltd

Union House
111 New Union Street
Coventry
CV1 2NT

26 October 2022

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND RETAINED EARNINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Turnover	77,906	138,025
Raising Funds	(13,889)	(47,639)
Gross profit	<u>64,017</u>	<u>90,386</u>
Charitable Activities	(56,142)	(69,369)
Operating profit	<u>7,875</u>	<u>21,017</u>
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	<u>7,875</u>	<u>21,017</u>
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Profit for the financial year	<u><u>7,875</u></u>	<u><u>21,017</u></u>
Total fund at the start of the year	24,275	3,258
Profit for the financial year	7,875	21,017
	<u><u>32,150</u></u>	<u><u>24,275</u></u>
Total fund carried at the end of the year		

To

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

		2022	2021
	Notes	£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	4	11,902	15,870
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		20,248	8,405
Net current assets		<u>20,248</u>	<u>8,405</u>
Net assets		<u>32,150</u>	<u>24,275</u>
Capital and reserves			
Profit and loss account		<u>32,150</u>	<u>24,275</u>
Total Funds		<u><u>32,150</u></u>	<u><u>24,275</u></u>

For the year ending 31 March 2022 the Charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the Charity to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A - Small Entities.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 26 October 2022 and were signed on its behalf by

Bitenge Makuka Ma Trustee

Charity Registration No. 1120861
15/11/2022

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Statutory information

African Refugee Community (ARC) is a Charity, registered in England and Wales, registration number 1120861. The registered office is Friary House, Friary Park, Friern Barnet Lane, London, N20 0NR, United Kingdom.

2 Compliance with accounting standards

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A Small Entities. There were no material departures from that standard.

3 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below and have remained unchanged from the previous year, and also have been consistently applied within the same accounts.

Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets.

Presentation currency

The accounts are presented in £ sterling.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible assets are included at cost less depreciation and impairment. Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets over their estimated useful lives: 5

Computer equipment

Computer Equipment

Government grants

Government grants in relation to tangible fixed assets are credited to profit and loss account over the useful lives of the related assets, whereas those in relation to expenditure are credited when the expenditure is charged to profit and loss.

Turnover

Turnover is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, excluding discounts, rebates, value added tax and other sales taxes. Turnover from the sale of goods is recognised when goods have been delivered to customers such that risks and rewards of ownership have transferred to them. Turnover from the rendering of services is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the contract. The stage of completion of a contract is measured by comparing the costs incurred for work performed to date to the total estimated contract costs.

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31
MARCH 2022

4 Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment £
Cost or valuation	At cost
At 1 April 2021	20,174
At 31 March 2022	20,174
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2021	4,304
Charge for the year	3,968
At 31 March 2022	8,272
Net book value	
At 31 March 2022	11,902
At 31 March 2021	15,870

5 Average number of employees

During the year the average number of employees/volunteers was 8 (2021: 3).

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)

DETAILED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
Turnover		
Sales	21,000	31,205
Reimbursed expenses	56,906	106,820
	<u>77,906</u>	<u>138,025</u>
Cost of sales		
Purchases	13,889	47,639
	<u>64,017</u>	<u>90,386</u>
Gross profit		
Administrative expenses		
Staff training and welfare	2,300	2,000
Travel and subsistence	1,450	-
Rent	3,278	3,000
Telephone and fax	1,290	870
Stationery and printing	540	-
Courier services	-	1,267
Bank charges	240	-
Insurance	450	-
Equipment expensed	3,678	4,570
Depreciation	3,968	3,968
Sundry expenses	2,453	1,500
Consultancy fees	650	590
Management fees	21,500	27,850
Advertising and PR	-	674
Other legal and professional	14,345	23,080
	<u>56,142</u>	<u>69,369</u>
Operating profit	<u>7,875</u>	<u>21,017</u>
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	<u>7,875</u>	<u>21,017</u>

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st March 2022

Reg

1120861

Set out on pages

3 to 11 Of the financial statements

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st March 2022

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, 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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a part qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed: T SIGAUKE

Date: 13/11/2022

Name: TAE SIGAUKE

Address:

208A DILLOT FORD AVENUE, COVENTRY, CV3 5ED