

# KAMLA FOUNDATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1122840

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 2008-02-18

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** 8 The Fairway  
Stockport  
SK2 5DR

**Phone** 01612926633

**Email** [info@kamlafoundation.org](mailto:info@kamlafoundation.org)

**Website** [www.kamlafoundation.org](http://www.kamlafoundation.org)

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO RELIEVE THE NEED, HARDSHIP OR DISTRESS OF PEOPLE IN INDIA BY WORKING WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE ON THE MARGINS OF SOCIETY; THE POOR, LOW-CASTE, TRIBAL PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY WOMEN, TO HELP THEM BUILD AND SUSTAIN THEIR INDIVIDUAL, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY LIVELIHOODS. IN PARTICULAR WE AIM TO ADDRESS THE;1) PLIGHT OF WIDOWS (ONCE THE HUSBAND DIES), THEY ARE DISOWNED BY THEIR FAMILIES AND ARE DESTITUTE AND END UP BEGGING ON THE STREETS2) ISSUES FACING THE DALIT COMMUNITY (WITHIN THE CASTE SYSTEM THESE COMMUNITIES ARE DEEMED TO BE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SOCIETAL LADDER)

**Activities:** The Foundation works in India with people who live on the margins of society. Supporting the most vulnerable to develop their capacity to meet basic needs and create solutions to poverty and injustice.

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Economic/community Development/employment, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups

## Geography

- Area of benefit: INDIA
- India

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£20,328	£20,022	-	-
2023-12-31	£19,074	£5,822	-	-
2022-12-31	£21,574	£25,265	-	-
2021-12-31	£30,172	£14,160	-	-
2020-12-31	£41,075	£7,904	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
BHUPENDRA MISTRY	Chair	
HERSHA MISTRY		
MARGARET PATRICIA LLOYD		
SATISH LAD		2012-07-09

**KAMLA FOUNDATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 1122840

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# Accounts

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*Changing minds, changing lives*

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## **Kamla Foundation**

### Report of the Trustees

for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021

The Management Committee presents its report and accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.

### **Reference and Administrative Information**

**Charity name** Kamla Foundation

**Charity Registration Number** 1122840

#### **Principal Office**

8 The Fairway  
Stockport  
Cheshire  
SK2 5DR

#### **Trustees**

Bhupendra Mistry  
Diana Martin  
Margaret Patricia Lloyd  
Hersha Mistry  
Satish Lad

#### **Independent Examiner**

Christy Lau FCCA CTA DChA  
Slade & Cooper Limited  
Beehive Mill  
Jersey Street  
Ancoats Manchester  
M4 6JG

#### **Bankers**

Co-operative Bank plc  
1 Balloon Street  
Manchester  
M60 4EP

# Kamla Foundation

## Report of the Trustees

### for the year ended 31st December 2021

#### Objectives

Through a series of strategic programs, we are helping vulnerable communities in India develop their capacity to meet basic needs and create solutions to poverty and injustice. Our approach is to build partnerships that respond to locally defined problems with culturally sustainable solutions.

We do this by tackling the root cause of poverty through;

- Understanding problems and challenges faced by society and cultures
- Promoting inclusive, sustainable development
- Influencing and partnering local networks

#### Activities undertaken for public benefit in relation to objects

In planning our activities for the year we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and have stayed true to our core values and continued to work with some of the most marginalised communities in India.

#### The Pandemic in India

India has been hard-hit by the Covid-19 pandemic. The virus has exacted a heavy toll in terms of lives lost and deteriorating health outcomes. The economic consequences of the pandemic have been similarly grim. As the virus has spread out of the relatively affluent cities, and as economic stagnation persists, rural areas, with historically higher rates of chronic poverty and vulnerability, have seen sharp increases in poverty. While recent vaccination developments offer some grounds for optimism, there remains an urgent need to identify, implement and amplify effective policy alleviation measures.

#### Increased poverty

Increased poverty in India following the pandemic was not surprising. The pandemic-induced poverty has hit vulnerable India. A sizeable proportion of those who exit poverty, especially those who are just above the poverty line, remain vulnerable. This vulnerability has many faces: Poor quality of employment, uncertain income, minimal savings, lack of assets, absence of social security, inadequate housing, lack of skills and education, and lack of political voice. The numbers on poverty reduction in India have been glorified at the expense of making the vulnerable invisible to policy action. Greater vulnerability not only entailed greater susceptibility to contract the disease, but also greater disruption. At the same time, vulnerability took away from the ability to withstand such disruption.

*Many of the poor we work with relied on informal borrowings to finance their food, health, and other necessary expenditures. As such, electricity, water, and sanitation became financial liabilities.*

Gains in poverty reduction cannot be sustained unless these communities are made resilient and prevented from slipping back into the poverty trap. Some important sources of resilience include adequate financial savings, assets in the form of land or a house, higher levels of education and skill, insurance, and ability to access the digital world. To this end, it is no coincidence that these sources of resilience would have provided the wherewithal to cope with the shock of the COVID-19 pandemic. Resilience is accompanied by the capacity to grow in normal circumstances and the strength to adapt in the face of crisis.

The spread of COVID in rural areas became intensive during the second wave, last year which highlighted the lack of medical services and absolute dilapidated health infrastructure in the rural areas where we operate. The second wave was four times higher and spread like wildfire, pushing the rural communities to the edge of survival. These communities were the most vulnerable prior to the pandemic and continue to be the hardest hit.

**Our response** to the pandemic was a natural extension of the work we are already doing in the communities where we operate. We led on building community resilience, individual leadership and civil responsibility, developing effective partnerships with other civic organisations and therefore equipped and well-positioned to respond rapidly to:

- spreading messaging from credible sources like WHO and local public health authorities among our networks of community leaders.
- empower our community partners with information and encouragement about the role they play as community leaders and elected leaders in stopping the spread of the virus.
- Leverage our role as civil society thought leaders, to raise awareness and ensure government is accountable to local communities.

Our long-term work promoting strong systems, local leadership and resilience helped communities manage these changes, especially in times of crisis. In response to the pandemic, we mobilised trained, local leaders across the rural regions where we operate, to deliver accurate, easy-to-understand health information to many thousands of people. A crucial element of this, was working through and dispelling local myths, by distributing posters and campaign messages through recognised health system networks.

We worked alongside community leaders whose brief was to promote health and hygiene practices within their respective communities. The significance of their work was highly evident and intensified in the course of last year. Hundreds of community members have participated in specially designed water, sanitation and hygiene workshops so they are personally equipped to prevent the spread.

### **Closure due to the pandemic**

All our projects grounded to a halt in India over eighteen months, as our partner organisations were forced to close down their operations. We therefore, concentrated on leading on the relief program. For this reason we have incurred minimum outlay on project expenditure over the past two years.

With great sadness, last year we tragically lost the Director of the FORD Trust. Kamla Foundation has been working in partnership with the FORD Trust for over a decade. We developed a range of extremely impactful projects which changed the lives of thousands of people in rural India. Sadly, with the demise of the Director (in addition to the departure of key staff members) we are no longer able to work with the FORD Trust as they do not have the capacity to deliver, as the pandemic has had a devastating impact in this region.

### **Looking ahead**

Our income levels have stabilised and there is no undue pressure of lack of funds. To this end, we have operational funds to cover our work for the next four years. Indeed there are no adverse impact on the Foundation's level of reserves and any change to designated funds set aside for future commitments

### **New Partnerships**

That said, work which has been ongoing for some three years reaped benefits last year as we entered into two further partnerships. We are now working with two inspirational charities based in India and continue to develop new projects. The two charities we are working with are;

- **BUILD India** - [www.buildindia.org](http://www.buildindia.org)
- **Health and Care Foundation** [www.healthandcarefoundation.com](http://www.healthandcarefoundation.com)

## **BUILD - charity**

BUILD works to bring positive change to the lives of those that live on the streets of Mumbai. It works to help alleviate poverty in Mumbai, working with the poorest communities and campaigns and lobbies the state government on behalf of the homeless community on a series of key issues affecting them.

The primary aim of this collaboration is helping BUILD become efficient to speed up its ability to provide the homeless with a 'state acknowledged identity'. These documents are essential to link people to government schemes, welfare benefits and entitlements such as pensions, housing and healthcare.

### **The plight of the homeless in Mumbai**

For the homeless, each day is a struggle for identity, dignity and survival. As the day draws to a close and the night unfolds, these feelings are transferred into fear and trepidation, anticipating the slow crawl to dawn amidst screeching vehicles and flickering streetlights. As the chorus of birds announces the arrival of another day, the fight for survival ensues. They can be found everywhere but somehow they are invisible to the authorities. The city's homeless face daily battles for things so many of us take for granted – access to toilets, clean water, security and a good night's sleep. This is contrary to the popular urban, middle-class belief that people living on the streets are thieves, beggars, drug addicts and all round general troublemakers. Moreover, homelessness has fatal consequences. Unnatural deaths peak at the height of summer, winter and the monsoon seasons. In addition, several instances have been reported whereby reckless driving has claimed the lives of many pavement dwellers.



### **The Project**

Leaders from the homeless community will be recruited and schooled in filling forms, completing applications and other necessary formalities in order for the homeless to gain identity documentation. Once the first cohort have been fully trained, they will be tasked with steering members of the homeless community through the arduous process of applying for identity documents. They then will be charged with recruiting a new cohort and have the responsibility to deliver the same intensive training and support. BUILD will be working closely with the cohort to provide ongoing advice, guidance and related support.

We hope the initial 'ripple effect' will create an army of volunteers, which in time will grow into a bank of expertise for members of the homeless community to exploit when needed. In parallel to helping the homeless obtain these vital documents, we will also conduct regular document verification outreach camps.

Finally, to challenge the incessant negative narrative of the homeless community, we will develop a high profile information campaign, engaging a variety of civic stakeholders (students, business leaders, academics, community leaders and influencers). We will host a series of interactive workshops using a range of tools such as visual media, photography and theatrical plays - highlighting the plight of the homeless community and explore ways in which these stakeholders may be able to support our work in the future.

## Obtaining Identity

With an ever changing world, the tragedy is that a piece of laminated paper is stronger proof of human existence than one's own physical presence. Obtaining ID is a crucial step in escaping homelessness. Identity documents are used for multiple purposes, principally to obtain government benefits. Homeless people face unsurmountable barriers to obtaining ID. When people become homeless it makes it much harder to find a place to shelter and in many cases even stay at a homeless shelter. They cannot access all the services they desperately need because they do not have an address. Without an address, they can't open a bank account, obtain a mobile phone contract, access the internet, find employment or indeed gain entrance to government buildings so they can apply for an I.D document. One fully understands the value of official documentation, when the simplest things like buying a train ticket is not possible due to having inadequate paperwork.

The inability to obtain any form of ID renders it virtually impossible to escape homelessness and so the vicious cycle continues. Obtaining official paperwork will force the authorities to recognise them and open the door for receiving appropriate state support, otherwise they remain invisible to the government. Ultimately no ID means, no recognition, no rights, no voice and no vote.

**The irony - India's poorest are also document poor.** In 2010, the United Nations Development Program India, conducted a survey that found that only about 3% of the homeless possessed any type of ID documentation such as a voter ID or a ration card. Official India data suggests that even at an all-India level, when it comes to paperwork, the poorest are most likely to be further marginalised by any process that demands legacy data (which prove ancestry) or documentation. The prime example is the birth certificate, which only the most privileged social groups are likely to possess.

**To get an ID card, you need an ID.** The authorities require multiple proofs of identity or permanent residence, utility bills or birth certificates. Some even require proof of homelessness, such as a letter from a relevant government agency. This situation is exacerbated further by the fact that many homeless have very limited (or no) schooling so navigating through a myriad of agencies to understand and obtain documentation is nigh on impossible.



Even if one was to get to this stage, most charge a fee to get an identification card - not to mention fees for other documents such as a copy of a birth certificate. But even with waived fees, getting an ID can be an arduous process entailing multiple visits to a nominated government office. The constant battle to provide documentation makes many homeless people give up. When this happens, they lose all sense of hope and fall into a vicious cycle of despondency.

More often than not, helping the homeless obtain ID requires the investigative skills of a Detective. Given the fact that many homeless often have trouble remembering when or where they were born and to obtain a copy of a birth certificate, then needing proof of their parents' birthplace, one can start to understand the enormity of the task that lies ahead. **It's almost as if you're trying to 'walk them back through their life'.**

## Health and Care Foundation - charity

The pandemic has also had a detrimental effect on our Indian partners and GCCRI was no exception. However as we are unable to work with them for the past 2 years due to COVID-19 , we have developed another partnership with the Health and Care Foundation. The Health and Care Foundation based is based in Ahmedabad in the State of Gujarat. It is a charitable foundation multi-specialty hospital with well-equipped Operating Theatre, trained nursing staff, General and Special wards and 24 hr. pharmacy.

The work with the Health and Care Foundation mirrors that of the work we did with GCCRI. As with GCCRI we are giving people not just a new smile, but a second chance at life. The medical team at the Foundation performs reconstructive surgery FOR FREE for children and adults whose families could not otherwise afford them. They provide:

- Free initial assessment via hosting rural camps
- Free cleft surgery to thousands of poor people in India.
- Programme for training doctors and medical professionals across India
- Treatment for the “whole child” with comprehensive, total rehabilitative care including: speech therapy, general dentistry and orthodontics.

This partnership is born out of a mutual ideal that quality healthcare should be available to all, regardless of wealth. That principle remains at the core of our belief and we provide a holistic package of healthcare support to all our beneficiaries from the first point of contact throughout the pre and post operation period and related after care term.

In addition, the partnership is based on a set of shared values, helping to identify, support and change the lives of the most vulnerable in Indian society, by performing free cleft/palate and related surgery. By resolving facial birth defects, we are performing life-changing operations; helping vulnerable families overcome prejudice and helping them to integrate back into mainstream society, by offering a holistic package of support services.

In turn, reducing the number of family breakdowns caused by the deformity and supporting the mother who usually carries the burden of such defects. Kamla Foundation will bring additional expertise in best practice, in its capacity as an overseas charity, to add value to the programme of work. Through this partnership we are extending our reach and impact and transforming the lives of some of the most vulnerable members of Indian society.

Health and Care Foundation has a unique two pronged approach to delivering its services. In addition to performing all surgery at nil cost to the beneficiary, it also hosts an innovative TRAINING and EMPOWERING programme for newly qualified doctors. Thus providing the safest and most cost effective surgeries and follow-up care which in turn has enabled it to expand from a simple philanthropic concept into Gujarat’s leading cleft charity, bringing smiles and second chances at life to thousands of poor people and their families.

Unlike many charities that do many different things, this Foundation’s mission is focused on solving a single problem: cleft lip and cleft palate. In poor communities of India many thousands of people are born or live with disfiguring clefts.

### The Issue

A cleft is a birth defect that occurs when the tissues of the lip and/or palate of the fetus do not fuse very early in pregnancy. A cleft lip, sometimes referred to as a ‘harelip’, is an opening in the upper lip that can extend into the base of the nostril. A cleft palate is an opening in the roof of the mouth.

In most cases the exact cause is unknown, but it's thought to be a combination of genetic (internal) and environmental (external) factors.

## Stigmatisation

As a result of this deformity, most:

- Cannot eat or speak properly.
- Aren't allowed to attend school.
- Shunned and ostracised by their communities
- Will never get married or hold a job.
- succumb to a solitary life lived in the protection of their homes.

The difference we are making is best summed up below

**BEFORE**



**AFTER**



In conservative rural societies, where looks can seem to be of paramount importance, '**looking different**' can cause a severe sense of insecurity and inadequacy. Cleft children are often bullied which can lead to a lack of confidence. If the child or adult has a speech impediment caused by their cleft this can lead to difficulty with communication and associated feelings of inadequacy and isolation through shyness or inhibition.....***they face very difficult lives filled with shame and isolation, pain and heartache.***

People with unrepaired clefts are often viewed as outcasts and ostracised. They will never know the simple joys that we take for granted, like going to school or making friends or having a livelihood. Their clefts usually go untreated because **they are poor – too poor** to pay for a simple surgery that has been around for decades

## Launch of Report – ‘Our impact 2021’



At the back end of 2021 we launched ‘Our Impact’ report which captures in one place, the scale and scope of our work and the impact we have made to the lives of those living on the margins of society in rural India (since our inception). This has been an incredible journey of collaboration with partners, supporters and those who have gifted their time and expertise to our cause.

We continue to put the people we serve at the heart of what we do, working alongside communities and individuals so that they are part of deciding what support they need and how they get it. In addition, we are harnessing the opportunities to reach more people in new ways and in doing so, strive to inspire others to mobilise their kindness to support those less fortunate than us.

Our partners in India have enabled us to act quickly when needed, through tailored support based on existing connections with the communities in which we work. We know that poverty robs people of dignity, freedom, hope and of power over their own lives. They often live without the fundamental freedoms of action and choice that many of us take for granted. To this end, we continue to make significant progress towards our understanding of poverty, engaging with wider stakeholders and developing solutions that enables us to create lasting change. Through the delivery of our work, we have captured our learning in a multitude of ways. This report enables us to assess the difference we have made, also a promise to continue to build on and improve what we do.

Looking forward, we aspire to continue to transform lives and continue to provide a small but important window into that change. Understanding need, innovative approaches, capturing impact and critique commentary will remain the hallmarks of our work. In a world that sometimes seems full of discord, there is still amazing kindness and generosity where people, despite the odds, commit to making a huge difference.

### Financial review

Seeking Funding to sustain the work of the Foundation will remain a constant challenge. However, we are very content with the growth of the Foundation over the last year and will continue to forge alliances with like minded partners and donors to deliver the programme of work as set out in our strategic objectives.

The total free reserves of the charity are £101,227.

### Reserves policy

We will ensure to do the following;

- Contingency planning
- Fulfilment of legal and moral commitments
- Continue to exploit opportunities for new development
- underpin long-term commitments

In doing the above, we will demonstrate;

- Transparency and accountability to supporters
- Good financial management
- The levels of reserves the Trustees believe the Foundation needs
- The steps the Foundation is going to take to maintain reserves at the agreed level

The approach we would adopt in determining a reserve, would be as follows:

- Through a cash flow analysis
- Discussion with fellow Trustees
- Through an examination of past trends

As a minimum the Foundation shall:

- Forecast its income
- Forecast planned activities and their associated costs
- Consider future needs and opportunities, (for example, expansion possibilities)
- Consider various scenarios - asking "What if- questions"

### **Structure, governance and management**

The Governance and overall management of the Foundation rests with the Board of Trustees. The day to day management duties is carried out by the Chairman and Founding Trustee. The document guiding and underpinning the work of the Foundation is the Constitution adopted by the Board of Trustees.

### **Trustee selection methods**

By open recruitment process

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2022 and signed on their behalf by

Bhupendra Mistry (Trustee)

# **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Kamla Foundation**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 which are set out on pages 10 to 11.

## **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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records

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.

Christy Lau FCCA CTA DChA  
Slade & Cooper Limited, Chartered Certified Accountants  
Beehive Mill, Jersey Street  
Ancoats Manchester, M4 6JG

Date 5<sup>th</sup> August 2022

**Kamla Foundation**  
**Receipts and Payments Accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2021**

	2021	2020
	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>		
Donations	21,471	32,975
Income tax repayments	8,701	8,100
	30,172	41,075
<b>Payments</b>		
	2021	2020
<b>Project Expenses</b>		
Health and Care Foundation	12,000	-
The Gujarat Cleft and Craniofacial Research Institute (formerly known as The Medlife Foundation)	-	4,000
	12,000	4,000
<b>Administration Expenses</b>		
Marketing, publicity and website	600	1,674
Accountancy	360	360
Office Costs	697	969
Postage	468	901
Bank charges	35	-
	14,160	7,904
<b>Total receipts</b>	30,172	41,075
<b>Total payments</b>	14,160	7,904
<b>Net receipts / (payments) for the year</b>	16,012	33,171
Bank and cash balances at start of year	84,855	51,684
<b>Bank and cash balances at end of year</b>	100,867	84,855

**Kamla Foundation**  
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2021**

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Bank and cash balances</b>		100,867	84,855
		<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>

**Notes**

- a) All the charity's funds are unrestricted. Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity.
- b) The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. As a lower-income charity under section 133 of the 2011 Act, the trustees have elected to prepare the charity's financial statements using the Receipts & Payments basis.

Approved by the trustees on 15/07/2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Bhupendra Mistry (Trustee)

**KAMLA FOUNDATION**

England & Wales - Charity number 1122840

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# Accounts

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*Changing minds, changing lives*

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## **Kamla Foundation**

### Report of the Trustees

for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020.

#### **Reference and Administrative Information**

Charity name Kamla Foundation

Charity Registration Number 1122840

Principal Office 8 The Fairway  
Stockport  
Cheshire  
SK2 5DR

#### **Trustees**

Bhupendra Mistry  
Diana Martin  
Margaret Patricia Lloyd  
Hersha Mistry  
Satish Lad

#### **Independent Examiner**

Christy Lau FCCA CTA DChA  
Slade & Cooper Limited  
Beehive Mill  
Jersey Street  
Ancoats Manchester  
M4 6JG

#### **Bankers**

Co-operative Bank plc  
1 Balloon Street  
Manchester  
M60 4EP

# Kamla Foundation

## Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2020

### Objectives

Through a series of strategic programs, we are helping vulnerable communities in India develop their capacity to meet basic needs and create solutions to poverty and injustice. Our approach is to build partnerships that respond to locally defined problems with culturally sustainable solutions.

We do this by tackling the root cause of poverty through;

- Understanding problems and challenges faced by society and cultures
- Promoting inclusive, harmonious sustainable development
- Influencing and partnering local networks

### Activities undertaken for public benefit in relation to objects

#### Covid-19



At 8 pm on 24th March 2020, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that India would shut down in four hours. At a stroke, millions of daily wage labourers suddenly found themselves without jobs or a source of income. Overnight, the cities they had helped build and run seemed to have turned their backs on them, the trains and buses which should have carried them home suspended.

**Thus 1.3 billion people were decreed to stay home to break the chain of transmission.**

As the Prime Minister spoke, chaos erupted. Panicked mobs besieged the shops. Then, as buses and trains were cancelled, millions of migrant workers took to the roads on foot, streaming towards home in **scenes that were reminiscent of the partition of India in 1947**. So with the looming fear of hunger, men, women and children were forced to begin arduous journeys back to their villages - cycling or hitching rides on tuk tuks, lorries, water tankers and milk vans. For many, walking was the only option. Some travelled a few hundred kilometres, while others walked thousands to get home. They weren't always alone – many had young children, whilst others had pregnant wives and infirm elderly parents - the life they had built for themselves packed into their ragtag bags. Tragically, many never made it.



**Indian Government's response** The Indian Government failed terribly by not giving any clear assurances to the citizens of India, which led to a panic amongst the distressed as they decided to leave the big cities, as survival without work is not possible. Given the immediate shut down of all public travel, hundreds of thousands headed back to their native towns on foot. And at the same time, several videos of police brutality against these people have also surfaced, which not only exposes the insensibility of the Police but also the failure of the government in instructing them properly. It seems as if the Government had not factored in these people, when they were deliberating the lockdown.

The Government applied the lock down without properly analysing its intricacies and impact, which is presenting a severe challenge to the most vulnerable; precarious labourers, daily wage labourers, beggars, migrants, the disabled and homeless in carrying out their daily livelihood for survival. Although the Government's relief package promises free food for roughly 800 million beneficiaries, Economists and activists say few of those in need are registered with the federal food. With no access to state support, healthcare or testing, India's poor have been completely abandoned by the government during the lockdown.



**Inadequate healthcare and lack of testing** Due to the pandemic, people seem to have forgotten other diseases; critical and also still common. A good number of hospitals have now closed their outpatient departments. Even where they haven't, there is no transport, and India's existing ambulance service is all but desperate. Yet again it's the poorest in society who are hurt the most. India is struggling with its inadequate health care structure and lack of health workers.



**Kamla Foundations' response** to the coronavirus pandemic is a natural extension of the work we are already doing in the communities where we operate.

We work to build community resilience, individual leadership and civil responsibility, developing effective partnerships with other civic organisations and therefore equipped and well-positioned to respond rapidly to:

- spreading messaging from credible sources like WHO and local public health authorities among our networks of community leaders.
- empower our community partners with information and encouragement about the role they play as community leaders and elected leaders in stopping the spread of the virus.
- Leverage our role as civil society thought leaders, to raise awareness and ensure government is accountable to local communities.

Our long-term work promoting strong systems, local leadership and resilience helps communities manage these changes, especially in times of crisis. In response to the pandemic, we have mobilised over 150 trained, local leaders across the rural regions where we operate, to deliver accurate, easy-to-understand health information to many thousands of people. **An important part of this, is working through and dispelling local myths**, by distributing posters and campaign messages through recognised health system networks. Furthermore, we are leveraging local community radio and public address systems to disseminate information from the government. Carrying out announcements and public education, reaching out to as many people as possible.

At the village level, our networks include trained local leaders, women leaders, community activists, as well as women’s Self-help Groups. Collectively they provide an extensive active system for the sharing and dissemination of information. We have also appointed community leaders whose brief is to promote health and hygiene practices within their respective communities. The significance of their work is highly evident and has intensified in the past few months. Hundreds of community members have participated in specially designed water, sanitation and hygiene workshops so they are personally equipped to prevent the spread.

Additionally, we are supporting many villagers who are sewing face masks, making hand sanitizer and spreading awareness about what people should do if they are showing symptoms. Ultimately, our priority lies in ensuring that the right information and support reaches the communities most in need. With our extensive network, we have the capacity to extend our reach and impact, making sure the hardest to reach communities remain supported and fully informed.



**In addition**, in the first instance, we are working with local aid agencies to provide emergency relief to the poorest. In particular, the brunt of the pandemic has been felt by the poorest in society. “Millions of daily-wage labourers cook or buy food with their earnings each day and sustain their families. Hundreds of thousands of the poorest are engaged in menial work such as waste disposal, cleaning sewers, garbage and rubbish sorting, etc. without proper masks, gloves, boots, or other necessary protective gear are particularly at critical risk. These vulnerable people don’t have any kind of social protection and are desperately in need of assistance.

We are expanding and adapting our program of work to prevent the spread and reduce the risk of coronavirus in some of the poorest communities within the areas we operate. Mindful that even the most minimal impact of COVID-19 could increase long-term vulnerabilities for the rural poor. In India our extensive network of experts on the ground understand the challenges and needs in their respective

communities. To this end we have coordinated our Relief Response with a number of local NGO's and have set up an emergency fund distributing basic necessities for the most vulnerable. Our collaboration enables us to increase our reach and impact ensuring we are able to respond quickly and have led on the following activities:

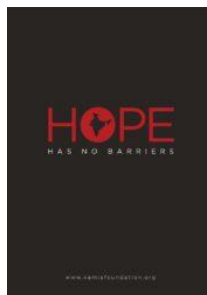
- Establishing food distribution centres and delivering food parcels where need is acute.
- Fund emergency hygiene packs to help people stay clean and safe.
- Providing critical medicine and hygiene supplies to help curb the spread of the virus.
- Improving hygiene, handwashing and sanitation at the community and household level.
- Producing radio messages, posters and leaflets on risks and prevention.
- Recruit and mobilise an army of community volunteers
- Training community volunteers to carry out awareness campaigns

### Activities undertaken for public benefit in relation to objects

In planning our activities for the year we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and have stayed true to our core values and continued to work with some of the most marginalised communities in India.

**Looking ahead** All our projects have come to a halt in India over the past year as we have concentrated on leading on the relief program. Inward donations were slightly increased last year, (compared to the previous year) equally our project costs were very minimal given the reduction in project activity. We are in a very healthy financial position and have operational funds to cover us for the next four years. Indeed there are no adverse impact on the Foundation's level of reserves and any change to designated funds set aside for future commitments.

### Launch of Report – 'Hope has no barriers'



The global pandemic and subsequent lock down has afforded us the time to reflect on our work in India and our latest report, 'Hope has no barriers' captures this thinking to date. As we continue to make significant progress towards our understanding of poverty, we find that '*hope*' can take many forms. For us, poverty is an attitude that *crushes* your spirit.

There are people in this world who lack basic necessities and need legitimate help but that in itself is not poverty. For us, **poverty is an attitude that crushes one's spirit**. Through the work of the Foundation, we are realigning our definitions of wealth and poverty....increasingly we find that **poverty isn't defeated with wealth; it's overcome by hope**.

Clearly poverty is an enemy of a good society. Almost everyone agrees that government should intervene. What divides people is whether state help should extend beyond subsistence levels. The poorest feel a big disconnect between the society they have and the society they want. This breeds a sense of powerlessness and a frustration with politicians who consistently seem incapable of developing a narrative of a good society that meets their needs. So, where is positive change going to come from? How can we think about the roles of civil society, business and government in addressing poverty creatively while being mindful of the background realities and finances that constrain what can be done? These are the key

challenges of our time.

We strongly believe that the promise of hope for ending the cycle of poverty resides in the well-being of the communities we work with. They need support to overcome challenges of the forceful waters of life. When they come to us, visit our partner organisations or engage with one of our programs of work, we may not know all the complexities of their lives but we do know that they look to us with hopeful expectation, that we will help them navigate successfully through the unpredictable high and low waters of poverty and all that it entails.

For us, it's about displaying and retaining a powerful and instinctive sensibility, in favour of the common good and social justice. We believe in cross-sector collaboration, strengthening engagement with civic partnerships and playing a key role in helping create lasting change. In doing so, helping to destroy misconceptions and prejudice. Raising hope and aspirations may prove to be the missing link in breaking the vicious cycle of poverty. The challenges that confront us and solutions that unite us should have no barriers, neither do we. We want bridges not walls!"

Making our collective contribution, we can all play a part in ensuring that **hope has no barriers**. We have received very favorable reviews on our latest publication and it has inspired many.

### **Financial review**

Seeking Funding to sustain the work of the Foundation will remain a constant challenge. However, we are very content with the growth of the Foundation over the last year and will continue to forge alliances with like minded partners and donors to deliver the programme of work as set out in our strategic objectives.

The total free reserves of the charity are £84,855.

### **Reserves policy**

We will ensure to do the following;

- Contingency planning
- Fulfilment of legal and moral commitments
- Continue to exploit opportunities for new development
- underpin long-term commitments

In doing the above, we will demonstrate;

- Transparency and accountability to supporters
- Good financial management
- The levels of reserves the Trustees believe the Foundation needs
- The steps the Foundation is going to take to maintain reserves at the agreed level

The approach we would adopt in determining a reserve, would be as follows:

- Through a cash flow analysis
- Discussion with fellow Trustees
- Through an examination of past trends

As a minimum the Foundation shall:

- Forecast its income
- Forecast planned activities and their associated costs
- Consider future needs and opportunities, (for example, expansion possibilities)
- Consider various scenarios - asking "What if- questions"

## **Structure, governance and management**

The Governance and overall management of the Foundation rests with the Board of Trustees. The day to day management duties is carried out by the Chairman and Founding Trustee. The document guiding and underpinning the work of the Foundation is the Constitution adopted by the Board of Trustees.

### **Trustee selection methods**

By open recruitment process

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2021 and signed on their behalf by

Bhupendra Mistry (Trustee)

**Independent examiner's report  
to the trustees of  
Kamla Foundation**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 which are set out on pages 8 to 9.

**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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records

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.

Christy Lau FCCA CTA DChA  
Slade & Cooper Limited, Chartered Certified Accountants  
Beehive Mill, Jersey Street  
Ancoats Manchester, M4 6JG

Date 04/08/2021

**Kamla Foundation**  
**Receipts and Payments Accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2020**

	2020	2019
	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>		
Donations	32,975	27,384
Income tax repayments	8,100	11,484
	41,075	38,868
<b>Payments</b>		
	2020	2019
<b>Project Expenses</b>		
The Gujarat Cleft and Craniofacial Research Institute (formerly known as The Medlife Foundation)	4,000	-
Womens Empowerment	-	6,000
Child Sponsorship Project	-	3,000
Supporting Widows	-	3,000
Clean Water Program	-	11,000
Capacity Building - Micro Enterprises	-	3,500
	4,000	26,500
<b>Administration Expenses</b>		
Marketing, publicity and website	1,674	1,375
Accountancy	360	360
Office Costs	969	2,051
Postage	901	227
Travel	-	496
Bank charges	-	30
	7,904	31,039
<b>Total receipts</b>	41,075	38,868
<b>Total payments</b>	7,904	31,039
<b>Net receipts / (payments) for the year</b>	33,171	7,829
Bank and cash balances at start of year	51,684	43,855
<b>Bank and cash balances at end of year</b>	84,855	51,684

**Kamla Foundation**  
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2020**

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
<b>Bank and cash balances</b>		84,855	51,684
		<u>84,855</u>	<u>51,684</u>

**Notes**

- a) All the charity's funds are unrestricted. Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity.
- b) The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. As a lower-income charity under section 133 of the 2011 Act, the trustees have elected to prepare the charity's financial statements using the Receipts & Payments basis.

Approved by the trustees on 27th July 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Bhupendra Mistry (Trustee)