ARMS AROUND THE CHILD(UK)

England & Wales · Charity number 1123038

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2008-03-03
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	93 Festing Grove Southsea Portsmouth Portsmouth Hants
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Website	www.armsaroundthechild.org

Activities

Objects: 1. THE RELIEF OF SICKNESS AND THE PRESERVATION OF HEALTH AMONG PEOPLE INFECTED WITH HIV/AIDS RESIDING IN AFRICA BY PROMOTING ANTI-RETRO VIRAL'S AND THE SURROUNDING SOCIAL AND MEDICAL CARE TO SUPPORT THE TREATMENT.2. TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION AND AWARENESS OF HIV/AIDS THROUGH TRAINING FOR HEALTH CARE WORKERS IN HIV/AIDS CARE AND TREATMENT.3. TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION AND AWARENESS OF THE AIDS PANDEMIC THROUGH GLOBAL MEDIA CAMPAIGNING TO CONTINUALLY ENGAGE THE PUBLIC ON THE AIDS EMERGENCY AND THE NEED FOR ACCESS TO ARV TREATMENT AND TO TRANSLATE THAT ENGAGEMENT INTO DIRECT ACTION.

Activities: AATC is dedicated to children living in adversity, providing homes, medical care, treatment, education, protection, respect, love & support services to children who are orphaned, sexually abused, affected by HIV, abandoned, trafficked or living in parentless households in Ghana, South Africa & India. We provide International Volunteer placements through VOCATIONAL IMPACT & support Fund A Mom.

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Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Accommodation/housing, Economic/community Development/employment, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** SOUTH AFRICA, KENYA, MALI, INDIA, UGANDA, RWANDA AND ZIMBABWE
- Ghana
- India
- South Africa

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-12	£213,303	£181,189	-	-
2023-12-12	£213,004	£205,738	-	-
2022-12-12	£175,637	£188,084	-	-
2021-12-12	£151,050	£143,108	-	-
2020-12-12	£114,405	£100,576	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
FRANK RUNGE	Chair	2013-10-11
Helen O'Brien		2014-07-25
Janet Eleanor Milner		2019-03-08
Roselyn Cason Marcus		2015-02-28

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ARMS AROUND THE CHILD(UK)

England & Wales - Charity number 1123038

Accounts

arms around the child

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Building a better and kinder environment for children living in extreme adversity.



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OBJECTIVES, AIMS & ACTIVITIES

Supporting Orphaned and Vulnerable Children Facing Extreme Adversity

Arms Around The Child (AATC) continues its unwavering commitment to safeguarding the lives and futures of orphaned and vulnerable children living in extreme adversity. Our work focuses on ensuring the health, well-being, and protection of children affected by or at risk of HIV/AIDS, trafficking, abuse, and abandonment. Operating in Ghana, India, and South Africa, we raise awareness and provide essential social and medical care to give these children the opportunity to lead safe, healthy, and dignified lives.

Advancing Education and Awareness

AATC remains dedicated to empowering children through education and increasing awareness of the challenges faced by those rescued from abuse, trafficking, and extreme poverty. Through educational initiatives, social outreach programs, and advocacy campaigns, we work to break the cycle of adversity and equip children with the tools they need to build a better future.

Creating Lasting Change

Beyond immediate care, our mission extends to creating long-term systemic change. We actively engage with governments, health agencies, and advocacy groups to influence policies that prioritise child welfare. By fostering dialogue and collaboration, we push for resource allocation, legal protection, and healthcare access for the children who need it most.

Mission Statement

Arms Around The Child (AATC) is a global charity dedicated to creating a kinder, safer world for children who have been orphaned, abandoned, abused, or affected by HIV. Whether rescued from trafficking or living in child-headed households, we stand as a vital force for protection and support, ensuring that no child is left behind.









Our Approach

With years of experience in direct care, AATC works closely with local partners and communities to deliver sustainable solutions tailored to the unique needs of each child. Through training, programme development, and long-term reintegration initiatives, we ensure that children not only receive immediate protection but also thrive within their family and community structures.

Key Activities

Arms Around The Child actively supports on-the-ground partners in Ghana, India, and South Africa, helping them in the following areas:



- ✓ Developing Fundraising Strategies
- ✓ Overseeing Daily Operations and Administration
- ✓ Supporting Programme Growth and Implementation
- ✓ Monitoring and Evaluating Impact
- ✓ Promoting Best Practices and Ethical Standards
- ✓ Advocating for Children's Rights and Welfare
- ✓ Raising Awareness and Mobilising Support

Community Engagement

In the UK, AATC strengthens its community-driven fundraising efforts through a combination of grant applications, donor campaigns, and special events. These activities not only provide essential funding but also create a strong network of global supporters who share our vision of a brighter future for vulnerable children.

As we move through 2024 and into 2025, we remain resolute in our mission to empower, protect, and advocate for the world's most vulnerable children. Through collaboration, dedication, and the continued generosity of our supporters, we believe in a future where every child has the opportunity to live with dignity, hope, and love.



GHANA

BECKY'S FOUNDATION

Prepared by Arms Around The Child (AATC) from observations and communications with Becky's Foundation.

Becky's Foundation
Making lives comfortable

Becky's Foundation continues to serve as a vital sanctuary for children who have been orphaned, abandoned, or rescued from trafficking, as well as those placed in care for respite due to family hardship. Operating under the ethos of "Making Lives Comfortable," the Foundation provides a safe, nurturing environment where children can grow, learn, and prepare for the future.

Over the past year, Becky's Foundation has expanded its reach, strengthened its support services, and provided meaningful opportunities for the children in its care.

Children in Care & Health Overview

At the beginning of 2024, Becky's Foundation was home to 46 children (28 boys, 18 girls). By December, this number had increased significantly to 74 children (56 boys, 18 girls)—a reflection of the growing need for care and the organisation's commitment to protecting vulnerable children.

Health & Well-being

Providing consistent medical care is a priority at Becky's Foundation. This year, 114 health cases were reported at the Foundation's sickbay, with common ailments including malaria, respiratory infections, allergies, and gastritis. More serious medical cases required hospital referrals:

- Two children underwent successful hernia surgeries.
- Others received dermatological treatment for skin infections.
- A child diagnosed with chronic otitis media was referred to a specialist hospital.



Despite these health challenges, Becky's Foundation maintains a strong health monitoring system, ensuring early detection and treatment.



Achievements in Education & Skills Development

Education remains at the heart of Becky's Foundation's mission, with structured counselling and after-school tuition helping children achieve academic success.

Key Educational Achievements

- Two children completed the Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE).
- Five students sat for the West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE).
- Four children gained admission to Senior High Schools (SHS):
  - **Isaiah Nakojah** – University Practice SHS
  - **Irene Asare** – Fettehman SHS
  - **Christiana Bonney** – Kwanyako SHS
  - **Ebenezer Djawolla** – Breman Essikuma SHS

The Becky's Foundation School has also grown significantly, with enrolment reaching 175 students by the end of 2024.

Reintegration & Progression to Adulthood

Becky's Foundation is deeply committed to ensuring that children transition successfully into adulthood. Several children have been reintegrated into families, while others have pursued apprenticeships, higher education, or vocational training.



Sono Apprenticeship Programme

Three young people—Stephen, Fredrick, and Israel—are now enrolled in the SONO Apprenticeship Programme, equipping them with hands-on technical skills to become self-sufficient.

Vocational & Career Development

Becky's Foundation is focused on bridging the gap between education and employment. In collaboration with AATC, workshops have helped children develop life skills, career awareness, and practical training, ensuring they are prepared for apprenticeships, work placements, or university.



Staffing & Capacity Building

With increasing enrolment and expanding programmes, Becky's Foundation grew its staff from 21 to 28 members in 2024. The team is now better equipped to provide individualised care, education, and mentorship to children.

Notable Staffing Changes:

New Manager/Accountant: Gad Kwesi Appiah Impraim
New Nurse: Elorm Efua Tettehvie
New Security Personnel: Seth Amenuvor

The team's dedication has been instrumental in maintaining high standards of care and education.

Arts Residency & Discovering Hidden Talent

The Arts Residency Programme, supported by AATC volunteers Pie Herring and Moyo Martins, has had a profound impact on the children at Becky's Foundation. Through art workshops, children developed creativity, confidence, and self-expression, with some producing exceptional artwork for auction.

The artistic talent emerging from Becky's Foundation is remarkable, highlighting the power of creative education in empowering children to find their voice and explore their potential.







Volunteer Engagement & Community Involvement

In 2024, 19 international volunteers participated in the Vocational Impact Programme, contributing in education, health, and psychological support. Workshops covered personal development, mental health, time management, and hygiene.

Notable volunteer-led initiatives:

- Workshops on emotional well-being, self-confidence, and anxiety management.
- Educational support in English, maths, and science.
- After-school mentorship and skills training.

Becky's Foundation continues to be a vibrant community where volunteers enrich children's lives while gaining valuable experience in NGO work.



Key Events & Activities in 2024

The children at Becky's Foundation actively participate in a range of educational, cultural, and sporting activities, fostering both academic excellence and personal development.

Educational & Sporting Achievements:

- Senya Junior Science & Maths Quiz – Two children represented the school, reaching the quarterfinals.
- Inter-Schools Sports Competition – The children performed exceptionally well, reaching the national finals in February.
- Speech & Prize-Giving Day – 52 students were awarded for academic and behavioural excellence.
- Soccer for Social Change – The U-13 team won a local tournament, with two players receiving individual awards.

Cultural & Community Engagement

- Women Empowerment & Girls' Talk Seminar – Focused on menstrual hygiene, financial literacy, and career planning.
- Graduation Ceremony – Supported SHS graduates in their transition to independent living.
- Christmas Party – Sponsored by Exceed UK, bringing joy through meals, games, and dance competitions.
- Movie Premiere: Chained Silence Speak – A powerful documentary on child trafficking, engaging the children in meaningful discussions.

These activities enrich the children's lives, providing valuable learning experiences and a sense of achievement.

Challenges & Future Goals

Current Challenges

Despite its remarkable progress, Becky's Foundation continues to face challenges:

- Rising costs of food and education due to increasing enrolment.
- Frequent borehole water pump breakdowns, impacting daily operations.
- Urgent need for a school bus to support increased enrolment and transport logistics.

Future Plans & Sustainability

To address these challenges, Becky's Foundation aims to:

- Expand Exceed Hostel to accommodate more children.
- Secure funding for a school bus to improve access to education.
- Increase local donations and volunteer engagement.
- Strengthen partnerships with sponsors and stakeholders.
- Create an educational fund to support children advancing to higher education and apprenticeships.

C O N C L U S I O N

Becky's Foundation continues to be a place of hope, opportunity, and transformation for vulnerable children in Ghana. Through education, vocational training, healthcare, and creative expression, the organisation is equipping children with the skills and confidence needed to build independent, fulfilling futures.

Arms Around The Child is proud to support Becky's Foundation and has witnessed first-hand the impact of their work. The resilience of the children, the dedication of staff, and the commitment of volunteers make Becky's Foundation a truly exceptional place.



CHRISTIAN ATSU EDUCATION CENTRE

Prepared by Arms Around The Child (AATC) from observations and communications with the school.

The Christian Atsu Education Centre, located in Senya Beraku, Ghana, stands as a beacon of hope, learning, and opportunity for children who might otherwise have limited access to quality education. Opened in June 2023, the school was established in memory of Christian Atsu, a dedicated advocate for children's rights and education. His legacy continues to empower, inspire, and transform young lives.

One year on, the school has become a thriving hub of academic and personal development, delivering a curriculum that aligns with Ghana's national education system while fostering creativity, critical thinking, and a passion for learning.

A Year of Growth: Enrolment & Staffing

From its inception, the Christian Atsu Education Centre has welcomed a diverse student body, reflecting the broader community it serves. By the close of the 2023/2024 academic year, the school had 175 students enrolled, with a balanced mix of 101 boys and 74 girls, spanning from creche to Junior High School (JHS 3).

The school has a dedicated team of 20 educators and staff, committed to delivering high-quality education, pastoral care, and extracurricular activities. Their expertise, combined with a child-centred approach, ensures that students develop holistically, gaining not just academic knowledge but also essential life skills.

Delivering a Strong & Holistic Curriculum

The Ghanaian national curriculum forms the foundation of teaching at the Christian Atsu Education Centre. However, the school goes beyond academic instruction, embedding a values-based education that promotes:

✓ Critical thinking & problem-solving
✓ Creativity & innovation
✓ Respect, discipline & responsibility
✓ Community engagement & leadership



Subjects taught include:

- Core academics: English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies
- Technical & vocational skills: ICT, Pre-Technical Skills
- Creative & expressive arts: Music, Drama, Visual Arts
- Health & well-being: Physical Education, Religious & Moral Education

Lessons are delivered in interactive, engaging, and child-friendly ways, ensuring that students not only retain information but develop a genuine love for learning.

The importance of practical, real-world application is central to the school's philosophy. From science experiments that ignite curiosity to debates and discussions that build confidence, the students are encouraged to be active participants in their education.

Academic & Extracurricular Achievements

The first full academic year was marked by outstanding student participation and achievements in both academics and extracurricular activities.

Academic Competitions & Excellence

- The school participated in the Junior Maths & Science Quiz, reaching the quarter-finals, showcasing the intellectual capabilities of its students.
- The Speech & Prize-Giving Ceremony, held in July 2024, recognised 52 students across categories such as academic excellence, punctuality, discipline, sports, and leadership.

Sports & Physical Development

- The school competed in the Inter-Schools Sports Competition, securing second place in the primary division.
- Physical education remains a key component of the school's curriculum, with structured activities promoting teamwork, discipline, and resilience.

Cultural & Creative Activities

- The Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols, held in December 2023, was an inspiring event featuring poetry recitals, drama, choreography, and musical performances. This provided students with a platform for self-expression and artistic growth.
- The creative arts programme continues to encourage art, storytelling, and performance, reinforcing the school's belief that education extends beyond textbooks.

Challenges & Areas for Development

Despite its remarkable progress, the Christian Atsu Education Centre faces key challenges that need urgent attention:

Lack of a school bus

Many students walk long distances to attend school, affecting punctuality and participation. A dedicated transportation system is crucial to ensuring access to education for all.

Classroom constraints

Due to increasing enrolment, multiple classes are currently sharing spaces, making teaching and learning less effective. The need for additional classrooms is urgent.

Expansion of ICT & Library Facilities

The school lacks a fully equipped computer lab and library, limiting students' access to technology, research, and digital literacy skills.

Shortage of teaching & learning materials

More textbooks, science kits, and classroom resources are needed to support effective learning.

Addressing these challenges will enhance the school's capacity to deliver quality education to even more children.



Future Projections & Ambitions

As the school enters its second year, the vision remains clear:

- **Expanding Junior High School (JHS) facilities** – With demand growing, plans are underway to extend infrastructure and ensure that students can continue their education at higher levels.
- **Securing a school bus** – A key priority is to acquire transport for students, ensuring that those in remote areas can attend school safely and consistently.
- **Strengthening academic & vocational pathways** – The school aims to enhance technical & vocational education, equipping students with skills for entrepreneurship and employment.
- **Increasing community & stakeholder engagement** – Collaboration with parents, local leaders, and donors will be key to sustaining and expanding the school's impact.

A YEAR OF REFLECTION AND CELEBRATION

In just one year, the Christian Atsu Education Centre has become a pillar of education and opportunity in Senya Beraku. It represents more than just a school—it is a place of dreams, possibilities, and transformation.

Through the dedication of teachers, staff, and volunteers, and the unwavering support of Arms Around The Child and its partners, young people are being given the chance to shape their own futures.

The legacy of Christian Atsu lives on in every child who enters the school gates with hope in their hearts and determination in their minds. His belief in the power of education to break cycles of poverty and disadvantage continues to inspire, uplift, and change lives.

As we step into the next academic year, Arms Around The Child remains committed to ensuring that this school continues to thrive, expand, and fulfil its promise of education, opportunity, and empowerment for all.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

– NELSON MANDELA



FRUITY FUTURES APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMME

The Fruity Futures Apprenticeship Programme, supported by our partner company SONO, continues to make a positive impact on the lives of the older children from Becky's Home in Ghana. This initiative is designed to equip participants with essential skills in fruit juice manufacturing and agriculture, helping them build independence and secure future employment opportunities.

Programme Progress and Achievements

The past year has seen significant progress in the programme, with several young individuals actively participating and excelling in their respective phases:

1. Godfred's Progress:

o Godfred has been part of the Fruity Futures Apprenticeship Programme for nearly three years. Over this period, he has demonstrated exceptional dedication and growth, mastering various skills in the manufacturing and agricultural sectors. Godfred's commitment has enabled him to develop a strong foundation for his future career, and he continues to thrive as a valuable member of the team at Sono.





2. Israel's Progress:

o Israel is currently in the final phase of the apprenticeship, having successfully completed nearly a year in this stage. His hard work and determination have been commendable, and he has gained substantial experience in the practical aspects of fruit juice production and related agricultural activities. Israel's progress highlights his readiness to transition into stable employment once his apprenticeship is complete.

3. New Apprentices - Fredrick and Stephen:

o Fredrick and Stephen recently embarked on their journey in the initial six-month phase of the programme. Both boys have shown enthusiasm and eagerness to learn, immersing themselves in the hands-on training provided by Sono. As they continue to gain experience, we are confident they will develop valuable skills that will support their growth and independence.

Impact and Future Outlook

The Fruity Futures Apprenticeship Programme has provided these young individuals with life-changing opportunities. By gaining practical skills, they are developing confidence and independence, crucial for securing future employment and building successful careers. We are proud of their achievements and remain committed to supporting their development. Looking ahead, we will continue to collaborate with Sono to expand the programme's reach and enhance its impact, ensuring more young individuals have access to this transformative opportunity.

C O N C L U S I O N

We celebrate the hard work and dedication of Godfred, Israel, Fredrick, and Stephen. Their commitment reflects the success of the Fruity Futures Apprenticeship Programme and the positive change it continues to inspire. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our partner Sono for their invaluable support in making this programme possible.



FARM PROJECT AT BECKY'S HOME







The Becky's Home Farm Project was launched to create a sustainable food source for the children, reducing dependency on external donations. With support from Arms Around The Child and SONO Global, the project began with optimism, led by Eli, a volunteer from SONO Global. Capitalizing on a favourable rainy season, the farm initially cultivated plantain, orange, tangerine, acerola, and various vegetables, fostering self-sufficiency.

Challenges Faced

Despite a strong start, the farm encountered critical setbacks:

- **Termite Infestation** – Severe termite damage hindered crop growth and yield.
- **Soil Infertility** – Nutrient depletion in the soil impacted productivity.
- **Inconsistent Rainfall** – Unpredictable weather patterns disrupted crop growth.
- **Limited Resources** – Inadequate farming tools, fertilizers, and pesticides constrained maintenance.

Due to these challenges, the project was temporarily paused to reassess and develop a sustainable long-term strategy.

Strategic Solutions for Revitalisation

Following a thorough evaluation, the team has developed an action plan:

- **Soil Restoration:** Implement organic composting, crop rotation, and cover crops to enrich the soil.
- **Pest & Termite Control:** Utilize eco-friendly pesticides and natural repellents such as neem extracts.
- **Irrigation Systems:** Introduce drip irrigation and rainwater harvesting to reduce reliance on rainfall.
- **Resource Mobilization:** Secure partnerships for essential tools, fertilizers, and seedlings while collaborating with agricultural experts.
- **Gradual Crop Reintroduction:** Restart with resilient crops such as cassava, sweet potatoes, and drought-resistant vegetables, expanding to high-yield crops once soil quality improves.

LOOKING AHEAD

The Becky's Home Farm Project remains a vital initiative for food security and self-sustainability. With these strategic measures in place, we are committed to revitalising the farm and ensuring its long-term success.

FUND A MOM GHANA

In 2024, Arms Around The Child (AATC) successfully launched the Fund A Mom (FAM) programme in Ghana, marking a significant step in empowering single mothers and preventing family separation due to poverty. Inspired by the success of Fund A Mom in India, this initiative aims to provide financial and social support to struggling mothers, ensuring that their children remain within a stable family environment rather than being placed in institutions due to economic hardship. With the first mother enrolled in the programme, our goal is to support at least three more mothers in early 2025, steadily expanding the initiative as funding allows. FAM Ghana is designed to foster long-term sustainability, helping mothers build self-reliance, develop income-generating opportunities, and secure a brighter future for their children.

Why Fund A Mom in Ghana?

In Ghana, poverty is the leading cause of children being placed in care institutions—not the loss of parents. Studies show that up to 90% of children in orphanages have at least one living parent. The economic instability that forces mothers to give up their children is preventable with direct financial support and business development opportunities.

By investing in these mothers, we keep families together, reduce child institutionalisation, and empower women to become financially independent. This approach has proven successful in India, where FAM has helped dozens of women secure stable incomes, provide education for their children, and break the cycle of poverty.

Case Study: Patience Eggrey

Name: Patience Eggrey | Age: 39 | Children: 4
Location: Anomabo, Ghana

Patience's life was devastated when her husband, Isaac Kofi Mensah, was tragically killed in Libya in August 2024. Isaac had migrated to seek better job opportunities, working tirelessly to support their family. His sudden death left Patience and their son in extreme financial and emotional distress, forcing them into precarious living conditions.

Rejected by Isaac's family and unable to reunite with her three daughters from a previous marriage, Patience faced immense hardship and struggled to provide for her youngest son. With no steady income, she lived in an unfinished building offered by a stranger, battling financial insecurity and health issues.

Through Fund A Mom, Arms Around The Child, in partnership with Becky's Foundation, stepped in to support Patience.

The programme has provided:

✓ Counselling and emotional support to help her process grief and rebuild confidence.

✓ Financial assistance to restart her small trading business, giving her economic stability.

✓ Educational support for her son, ensuring he can return to school.

✓ Medical care to address post-surgical complications affecting her ability to work.

With ongoing support, Patience is determined to rebuild her life, secure a stable future for her son, and regain her independence. Her story reflects the transformational power of direct support for struggling mothers.



Looking Ahead: Expanding Fund A Mom in Ghana

Having launched the programme in 2024 with its first participant, Arms Around The Child is now focusing on scaling up support in 2025. Our immediate goal is to enrol three more mothers in the first quarter of 2025, providing them with:

- A monthly stipend to cover basic needs and childcare.
- Education support for their children to prevent school dropouts.
- Mental health and well-being services to address the trauma many of these mothers face.

The programme's expansion is entirely dependent on funding, and we are actively seeking partners and sponsors to ensure more mothers receive the help they desperately need.

THE IMPACT OF SUPPORTING MOTHERS

Investing in mothers means investing in stronger communities and a brighter future for children. The Fund A Mom model is based on sustainable, long-term empowerment rather than short-term aid. The initiative:

✓ Prevents child abandonment and institutionalisation.
✓ Promotes financial independence for women.
✓ Strengthens local economies by supporting small businesses.
✓ Breaks cycles of poverty and ensures access to education.

By continuing to support Fund A Mom in Ghana, Arms Around The Child is reinforcing its commitment to protecting vulnerable children and strengthening families. Together, with the help of our supporters and partners, we can expand this life-changing programme and give more mothers the opportunity to build a secure and hopeful future for their children.



SOUTH AFRICA

BOBBI BEAR

Bobbi Bear
Giving abused children a voice







Supporting Vulnerable Children in South Africa

In 2024, Bobbi Bear continued its vital work in rescuing, representing, and reintegrating children who have experienced sexual abuse in KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa. Despite ongoing challenges, the organisation remained a lifeline for vulnerable children, ensuring they receive immediate intervention, legal support, and long-term care.

Arms Around The Child remains committed to supporting Bobbi Bear's crucial programmes, ensuring that children in high-risk environments receive the protection and advocacy they deserve. Through ongoing collaboration, Bobbi Bear has been able to continue its vital rescue work and legal interventions despite significant obstacles.

Challenges Faced

Social and Political Unrest: The region continued to experience social unrest, looting, and protests, disrupting daily operations and posing safety concerns for staff and beneficiaries.

Increased Demand for Support: A rise in teenage pregnancies, substance abuse among adolescents, and domestic violence placed additional pressure on Bobbi Bear's resources. The ethical dilemma of prioritising cases while ensuring all children receive help became even more pronounced.

Infrastructure Disruptions: Persistent power outages and water shortages hindered operations, impacting everything from casework to court attendance.

Funding Struggles: South Africa's economic downturn saw a reduction in donations, with businesses and individuals prioritising immediate financial concerns over charitable contributions. This financial strain threatened the sustainability of some programmes.

Key Achievements

Despite these challenges, Bobbi Bear remained a steadfast advocate for children's rights and achieved the following in 2024:

- **Rescue Operations & Child Protection:** The organisation successfully rescued and provided emergency care to numerous children in high-risk situations, ensuring their immediate safety and well-being.
- **Legal Advocacy & Justice for Victims:** Bobbi Bear continued its strong partnership with the Family Violence, Child Protection, and Sexual Offences Unit (FVCPSU). This collaboration resulted in multiple life sentences for perpetrators of child abuse, demonstrating Bobbi Bear's commitment to securing justice.
- **Community Engagement & Awareness:** Increased education and awareness efforts led to a significant rise in community reports of abuse, reflecting growing trust in Bobbi Bear's work. The organisation also played a key role in advocating for stronger child protection policies.

Financial Overview

The financial landscape in 2024 presented significant challenges, with reduced funding impacting operational sustainability. In response, Bobbi Bear:

- Implemented cost-saving measures to ensure essential services continued.
- Sought alternative funding streams through international partnerships and local sponsorships.
- Strengthened donor engagement by increasing awareness of its impact.

Despite these financial hurdles, the organisation remains dedicated to its mission and continues to seek innovative solutions to maintain its work.



Monitoring and Evaluation

As a rapid response organisation, Bobbi Bear's primary focus remains immediate intervention, legal support, and medical care. Long-term tracking remains a challenge, as many children transition to extended family members or state-run children's homes. However, Bobbi Bear ensures that each child is connected to local support systems to receive ongoing care and protection.

Looking Ahead

Bobbi Bear remains determined and resilient in its mission to protect and support vulnerable children. In the coming year, the organisation aims to:

- Expand its advocacy efforts to further influence child protection policies.
- Strengthen community partnerships to enhance long-term support for rescued children.
- Diversify funding sources to ensure financial stability and programme sustainability.

CONCLUSION

In 2024, Bobbi Bear demonstrated unwavering commitment to the children it serves, despite facing significant adversity. With the continued support of Arms Around The Child, donors, and partners, the organisation will persist in its fight for justice, protection, and a better future for the most vulnerable.

Bobbi Bear remains a refuge for children in need, a champion for justice, and a driving force for change.



UZIMA

UZIMA SOUTH AFRICA



Empowering Vulnerable Communities with Arms Around The Child

Uzima SA South Africa is a community-driven non-profit organisation dedicated to supporting vulnerable children, youth, and families in Soweto, Johannesburg. With a strong emphasis on nutrition, psychosocial support, education, and healthcare, Uzima has been instrumental in addressing the needs of orphaned and vulnerable children (OVCY), survivors of abuse, and individuals living with HIV/AIDS.

In 2024, Uzima SA, with the support of Arms Around The Child (AATC) and other partners, expanded its services to reach thousands of beneficiaries, providing essential resources, advocacy, and empowerment initiatives to uplift families facing extreme hardship.

Programme Highlights & Achievements in 2024

Nutrition & Essential Support

- 5,574 beneficiaries across 1,028 households received monthly food parcels containing essential nutrition and supplements.
- 400 dignity packs were distributed monthly to boys and girls, ensuring that young people—especially girls—had hygiene products to maintain dignity during menstruation.
- 600 beneficiaries in Ezimbuzini Informal Settlement received clothing, shoes, blankets, and furniture, helping to improve their living conditions.

Psychosocial Support & Counselling

- 5,574 vulnerable children and youth were enrolled in Uzima's OVCY programme, receiving social support, counselling, and essential services.
- 480 home and school visits were conducted, ensuring that children were assisted with schoolwork and caregivers received emotional support.
- Bereavement counselling sessions were held to help families cope with loss and trauma.
- 12 support groups were conducted twice a month, providing victim empowerment, mentorship, and adherence support for individuals affected by HIV/AIDS and other challenges.

Education & Early Childhood Development (ECD)

- 12 primary school children were enrolled through a partnership with the Gauteng Department of Education.
- 8 Grade R and 4 Grade RR children were placed in Thabisang Primary School, while 48 children (ages 1.5 – 3 years) attended Uzima-affiliated early childhood development centres.
- 200 children received school uniforms and stationery, ensuring that financial barriers did not hinder their education.
- A career expo provided career guidance to 50% of beneficiaries, helping them make informed decisions about their future.









Health & Well-being

- Children on antiretroviral treatment (ART) were provided with transport support for their hospital and clinic visits, ensuring treatment adherence.
- Monthly health screenings for 60 beneficiaries per session helped detect and prevent chronic illnesses.
- Awareness campaigns were conducted throughout the year on HIV/AIDS, TB prevention, cancer awareness, and sexual health education.
- Through the Just Footprints Foundation, 50 HIV-infected children attended a therapeutic camp, fostering self-confidence and joy.

Lesedi Girls Initiative: A Partnership with Arms Around The Child

In 2024, Uzima SA and Arms Around The Child launched Lesedi Girls, a transformative programme designed to empower young women and girls in Soweto. This initiative addresses the unique challenges faced by girls in impoverished communities, including:

✓ Gender-based violence prevention
✓ Menstrual hygiene support
✓ Educational mentorship and career guidance
✓ Self-defence and personal safety workshops
✓ Vocational and entrepreneurship training

Through Lesedi Girls, hundreds of young women have gained access to mentorship, education, and skills development, equipping them with the confidence and tools to break the cycle of poverty and discrimination.

Staffing Breakdown

Uzima SA operates with a dedicated team, ensuring that programmes reach the most vulnerable efficiently. The staff structure includes:

✓ Executive Director – Oversees programme strategy and development
✓ Social Workers & Auxiliary Social Workers – Provide counselling, home visits, and psychosocial support
✓ Community Care Workers – Deliver food parcels, hygiene packs, and household support
✓ Educators & Mentors – Run early childhood education and school support programmes
✓ Healthcare Workers & Volunteers – Conduct screenings, treatment adherence support, and awareness campaigns

Challenges & Future Plans

Despite significant progress, Uzima SA faces key challenges:

- Limited funding opportunities as a newly established organisation.
- Overwhelming demand for services in Ezimbuzini and surrounding areas.
- Lack of infrastructure and office space to accommodate programme expansion.

Looking ahead to 2025, Uzima aims to:

✓ Expand the Lesedi Girls programme, reaching more young women.
✓ Secure additional funding partners to enhance long-term sustainability.
✓ Advocate for land and infrastructure support from the City of Johannesburg.
✓ Increase mental health support services for youth affected by trauma and abuse.

C O N C L U S I O N

In just one year, Uzima SA South Africa has become a vital force for change, empowering children, youth, and families across Soweto. With the continued support of Arms Around The Child, donors, and community partners, we remain committed to building brighter futures for those in need.

We look forward to expanding our impact in 2025, ensuring that no child or family is left behind.



NKOSI'S HAVEN

Arms Around The Child (AATC) is proud to partner with Nkosi's Haven in supporting vulnerable children and mothers affected by HIV/AIDS in South Africa. Throughout 2024, our Vocational Impact programme has fostered a remarkable collaboration that has enriched both our volunteers and the Nkosi's Haven community.



Building Bridges Through Cultural Exchange

This year, Nkosi's Haven welcomed enthusiastic volunteers from the UK, Australia, and the United States. These young individuals brought not only valuable skills and a willingness to help, but also a vibrant exchange of cultures. Simo and the Nkosi's Haven staff developed meaningful friendships with the volunteers, sharing South African traditions while learning about the volunteers' home countries. This cultural exchange has been a rewarding experience for all involved, particularly the children who enjoyed interacting with the diverse visitors and participating in their organised activities.

Challenges and Opportunities

Despite the programme's success, Nkosi's Haven faces significant challenges. With a population of around 180 residents, each with unique needs, the Haven requires ongoing support. A major hurdle is the high cost of fuel and transportation maintenance. These expenses are essential for covering school runs, donation pickups, and critical hospital visits. Further straining resources is the urgent need for new vehicles. Ideally, the Haven would acquire a mix of smaller cars, a Toyota Fortuner, and two Iveco buses to meet their transportation demands effectively.

Financial limitations extend beyond transportation. The Haven also requires additional resources such as laptops for graduates, updated computers for the office, new kitchen equipment, a refrigerator, and medical supplies for the sickbay. A key long-term goal is to establish greenhouses to grow fruits and vegetables, promoting self-sufficiency and reducing dependence on external food donations. It is important to note that despite these challenges, Nkosi's Haven has maintained a supportive environment with minimal behavioural issues among the residents.

A Dedicated Team

The Haven is a testament to the tireless efforts of its dedicated staff. The team consists of approximately 80 mothers, 60 children, 10 caregivers, an operations and project manager, a director, a social worker, three sickbay nurses, three kitchen staff, a groundskeeper, and a part-time office assistant. A critical need exists to hire a full-time office assistant to support the Director Gail Johnson with administrative and technical tasks.



Building a Sustainable Future

Establishing a garden is a key project for the coming year. This initiative will provide fresh produce, promote self-reliance among the residents, and contribute to the overall sustainability of the Haven.

Nkosi's Haven is a remarkable community with an unwavering commitment to its mission. AATC is proud to be a part of this vital organization and looks forward to our continued collaboration. Together, we hope to ensure that the legacy of Nkosi lives on, providing children and mothers affected by HIV/AIDS with hope for a brighter future.

L O O K I N G A H E A D

AATC and Nkosi's Haven have ambitious goals for 2025. We aim to significantly increase volunteer participation, recognising the invaluable role volunteers play in both community engagement and generating income. Extending the stays of Vocational Impact volunteers would allow for deeper connections and a greater impact. A top priority at Nkosi's is launching the Early Childhood Development (ECD) centre, along with expanding physical activities for the mothers and children to promote overall health and well-being. We will also focus on enhancing counselling and therapy support services, recognising the importance of mental health in the recovery and growth of the residents. Financial self-sufficiency is another goal, with aspirations to cover all operational expenses for a full year through expanded fundraising efforts.



THE TEDDY BEAR FOUNDATION



The Teddy Bear Foundation (TBF) in Johannesburg, South Africa, remains at the forefront of providing holistic, integrated services to children who have suffered abuse, ensuring they receive the care, support, and intervention necessary for healing and recovery. Their multidisciplinary approach encompasses psychological, social, and legal support, making them a vital resource for vulnerable children and their families.

In 2024, Arms Around The Child has deepened its collaboration with TBF through the Vocational Impact Programme, enabling psychology students to learn, shadow, and contribute to their impactful work. These students have gained invaluable experience in understanding the complexities of trauma care and child protection, while actively supporting TBF's key programmes:

- Victim Support Services – Providing counselling, forensic assessments, and therapeutic interventions to children who have experienced abuse.
- Teen Mom Programme – Supporting young mothers with mental health resources, parenting guidance, and empowerment initiatives.
- Prevention & Early Intervention – Working within schools and communities to educate children on their rights, safety, and abuse prevention.
- Community Outreach – Expanding awareness, advocacy, and early intervention strategies to break cycles of abuse and create safe spaces for children.

As we look ahead to 2025, Arms Around The Child is committed to expanding our support for TBF, strengthening our Vocational Impact placements, and developing new collaborative projects that will enhance psychosocial care, early intervention strategies, and community-driven solutions for child protection in South Africa.

The work of the Teddy Bear Foundation is life-changing, and we are proud to stand alongside them in their mission to restore dignity, hope, and healing to the children who need it most.









INDIA

FAITH SANSTHAN

Faith Sansthan continues to be a vital lifeline for children affected by HIV/AIDS in Jaipur, India. Since its establishment in 2005, the organisation has provided holistic, long-term residential care at FAITH – AALINGAN, ensuring that some of the most vulnerable children in society receive the protection, healthcare, and education they need to thrive. Over the past 19 years, 104 children have received support, with 33 currently in residence (20 boys and 13 girls). Arms Around The Child (AATC) has partnered with Faith Sansthan since 2012, supporting the organisation in its mission to create a loving, stable environment where children can grow and develop without stigma or discrimination.

Children's Health and ART Adherence

The health of children at Faith Sansthan is central to the organisation's work, with a particular focus on ART adherence and preventative care for those living with HIV. Of the 33 children currently under care, 25 are HIV-positive and are receiving Antiretroviral Therapy (ART), with a 99% adherence rate—a testament to the dedication of the staff in ensuring treatment is followed correctly.

Regular health check-ups take place at SMS Hospital, Jaipur, and a weekly paediatric consultation is provided by Dr Vivek Sharma. The home has also maintained strong referral links with major hospitals in Jaipur for emergency and specialist care. To protect children recovering from infections or undergoing treatment, a dedicated isolation room is available, ensuring their recovery is closely monitored while safeguarding the wider community.

Achievements and Key Activities in 2024

Faith Sansthan provides a nurturing, structured environment where children can pursue education, develop life skills, and enjoy a well-rounded childhood. This year, some key developments include:

- Education & Vocational Training: All school-age children are enrolled in formal education, and additional tutoring is provided for those who need academic support. Two girls have successfully completed a certificate course in beautician training, equipping them with vocational skills for future employment.
- Reintegration: Four children (three boys and one girl) were reintegrated with their families this year, following an extensive process of counselling and assessment to ensure a safe and supportive environment.
- Skill Development and Placement Support: A continued focus on vocational training has allowed older children to explore potential career paths, with workshops designed to enhance practical skills and personal confidence.
- Extracurricular Activities: A strong emphasis on sports, yoga, and creative arts ensures that children remain active and engaged. A structured yoga programme, led by an experienced instructor, has contributed to improved health outcomes and mental well-being.
- Community & Cultural Celebrations: The children have participated in numerous festivals and cultural activities, including Holi, Diwali, Christmas, and Janmashtami, fostering a sense of identity, belonging, and joy.

Monitoring and Evaluation

One of the most impressive aspects of Faith Sansthan's model is its robust monitoring and evaluation framework, ensuring that children's progress is tracked effectively, and care standards remain consistently high.

- Internal Monitoring: Monthly staff review meetings, regular child feedback sessions, and a structured suggestion box system allow the organisation to assess its effectiveness and make necessary adjustments.
- Programme Management Committee (PMC): The PMC meets monthly, providing a formal mechanism for addressing concerns raised by children and staff. It ensures that Faith Sansthan operates in line with the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2015 and other relevant regulations.
- External Evaluation: Faith Sansthan is subject to regular governmental oversight by the Child Welfare Committee (CWC), the Department of Child Rights, and the Rajasthan State AIDS Control Society (RSACS). Additionally, Arms Around The Child (AATC) conducts periodic evaluations to ensure that best practices in childcare, health management, and education are consistently upheld.



New Arrivals & Volunteer Engagement

Faith Sansthan welcomed new children into its care this year, ensuring that each child received immediate medical, psychological, and social support. The process of settling in new arrivals is carefully managed to help them feel safe and supported.

Additionally, six volunteers from international and domestic backgrounds joined through the Vocational Impact Internship Programme, focusing on psychology and mental health support. These volunteers contributed significantly to the children's emotional well-being, facilitating recreational activities and providing additional learning support. The programme continues to be a vital resource for both the children and volunteers, offering valuable cross-cultural exchange and learning opportunities.

Building a Home for Children Project

One of the most significant milestones for Faith Sansthan is the continued progress on its purpose-built children's home in Jagatpura, Jaipur. The construction now includes:

- Completed basement, ground floor, and first floor.
- Structural work for the second floor finished, with efforts underway to secure additional funding for completion.

Expanded facilities, including eight large rooms, a dormitory, dedicated study spaces, an isolation room, and a multi-purpose hall.



This new home is a crucial step in Faith Sansthan's journey towards long-term sustainability, providing a secure, permanent environment where children can grow up without the fear of displacement.

Challenges & Future Goals

Despite remarkable progress, Faith Sansthan faces ongoing financial and logistical challenges. The completion of the second-floor finishing work is a priority, requiring additional funding. Maintaining high-quality healthcare services, expanding vocational training, and securing stable career pathways for older children remain key goals for 2025.

Furthermore, Faith Sansthan continues to advocate for greater awareness and acceptance of children living with HIV, working with communities to reduce stigma and support long-term reintegration efforts.

C O N C L U S I O N

Faith Sansthan remains an exemplary model of compassionate, high-quality care for children affected by HIV/AIDS. Through a combination of healthcare, education, psychosocial support, and skill-building, the organisation is transforming the lives of vulnerable children, equipping them with the tools they need to build independent, fulfilling futures.

Arms Around The Child is proud to support Faith Sansthan and recognises the incredible dedication of the team, the resilience of the children, and the unwavering commitment to ensuring every child is given the chance to thrive. As we look to the future, we continue to stand alongside Faith in its mission to provide love, hope, and opportunity to those who need it most.



FUND A MOM

Empowering Mothers, Transforming Lives

In 2024, the Fund A Mom programme in Jaipur, India, continued its mission to support single mothers facing extreme hardship, providing direct financial aid, vocational support, and empowerment opportunities. Led by Arms Around The Child (AATC), the programme helps mothers achieve financial independence and create a secure future for their children.

Through monthly stipends, skills training, and a strong support network, Fund A Mom enables women to break the cycle of poverty, ensuring better education, healthcare, and stability for their families.

Programme Overview

The Fund A Mom programme provides:

✓ Direct Financial Assistance – Monthly support to cover housing, food, education, and healthcare.

✓ Vocational & Skills Development – Training in financial literacy, employment skills, and entrepreneurship to build long-term sustainability.

✓ Community Support & Mentorship – Creating a support network for struggling mothers, ensuring ongoing guidance and empowerment.



Success Stories: Moms Who Have Gained Financial Independence

A significant achievement in 2024 was the successful transition of eight mothers out of the programme. These women have become financially stable and have chosen to step aside so that other mothers in dire need can receive support.

✓ Indu Devi – Indu's daughters are now employed, earning ₹15,000 and ₹9,000 per month, while she earns ₹8,000 from domestic work. Their combined income has brought stability, allowing Indu to step out of the programme.

✓ Geeta – Geeta's daughters have married and settled, and her son now earns ₹15,000 per month. She has returned to her village, where her son visits during holidays. With her financial situation improved, she no longer needs FAM's support.







Success Stories: Moms Who Have Gained Financial Independence (continued)

✓ Anokh Devi – After selling her ancestral land, Anokh bought a house in Jaipur and now earns ₹15,000 per month from rental income. Her son also earns ₹12,000 per month, ensuring financial security for their family.

✓ Manju Devi – With FAM's support, Manju started her own vegetable business, generating ₹15,000 per month. Her two sons now earn ₹12,000 and ₹10,000 per month, making her financially independent.

✓ Sushila Chandel – Sushila has entered a stable relationship with someone who provides financial support, and she earns ₹12,000 per month. She has voluntarily left the programme to allow another mother to benefit.

✓ Saroj – Saroj's elder daughter has married, and her son now earns ₹18,000 per month. She also earns ₹9,000 per month from household work, giving her family a secure financial future.

These stories highlight the programme's success in providing financial independence and stability.

New Participants in 2024

In 2024, eight new mothers facing severe financial and social hardship joined the programme. Their inclusion ensures that FAM continues to support those most in need.

✓ Lalita (29 years old, Widow, Soot Mill Colony) – After her husband's suicide due to debt, Lalita was forced to leave her village. She now lives in a Jaipur slum with her 10-year-old daughter, working as a wedding cook (₹5,000 per month). Fund A Mom is helping her stabilise her income and secure her daughter's education.

✓ Manju (43 years old, Widow, Soot Mill Slum) – A Harijan community widow, Manju struggled with low-income cleaning work (₹5,000 per month). With FAM's help, she has enrolled her youngest children in school, ensuring they have better career prospects.

New Participants in 2024 (continued)

✓ Meena (38 years old, Widow, Kachcha Bandha Slum) – After her husband's fatal accident in 2014, Meena worked as a housemaid (₹6,000-₹7,000 per month) while raising three daughters. With FAM's support, she can now provide quality education for her children.

✓ Raj Kumari (27 years old, Widow, Soot Mill Slum) – Left alone when her husband passed away in 2021, Raj Kumari works at a plant nursery (₹5,000 per month). FAM is helping her secure long-term financial stability and support her daughter's schooling.

✓ Vishnu (35 years old, Separated, Soot Mill Slum) – A survivor of domestic abuse, Vishnu was forced out of her home with her four children. She now cleans houses (₹5,000 per month). Fund A Mom has provided the means for her children to stay in school, securing their future opportunities.

✓ Pooja (43 years old, Widow, Soot Mill Slum) – After losing her husband to COVID-19, Pooja was evicted by her in-laws. Working in an export factory (₹6,000 per month), she struggled to support her four children, one of whom has a hearing impairment. Fund A Mom has helped stabilise her income and cover medical and school costs.

✓ Malti (45 years old, Separated, Bassi Slum) – After enduring domestic violence, Malti was abandoned by her husband and left to raise her 13-year-old daughter alone. She earns ₹4,000-₹5,000 per month from manual labour. Fund A Mom is supporting her to achieve financial independence.

✓ Bhanukiran (36 years old, Separated, Durgapura Hostel) – After contracting HIV from her abusive husband, Bhanukiran was thrown out of her home. Now living in a hostel with her 12-year-old son, she earns ₹5,000 per month. FAM support is ensuring her son's medical treatment and education, offering hope for their future.





Programme Impact & Achievements in 2024

✓ Financial Stability – All participating mothers now have a reliable source of income to support their families.

✓ Education Support – Children who were at risk of dropping out of school are now enrolled and continuing their education.

✓ Healthcare Assistance – Mothers and children facing health challenges received essential medical care.

✓ Economic Growth – The programme's vocational training initiatives have enabled some mothers to start businesses or gain better employment opportunities.

Looking Ahead to 2025

Building on the success of 2024, Fund A Mom aims to:

✓ Expand Programme Reach – Identify and support more mothers in need within Jaipur.

✓ Enhance Training & Employment – Provide new skills workshops to help mothers secure sustainable incomes.

✓ Strengthen Community Networks – Develop peer mentorship programmes, allowing former FAM beneficiaries to guide new participants.

C O N C L U S I O N

The Fund A Mom programme has transformed the lives of widowed and abandoned mothers in Jaipur, India. By providing direct financial support, educational assistance, and vocational opportunities, FAM continues to empower women and create lasting change.

With the continued support of Arms Around The Child, the programme will expand in 2025, ensuring that more women receive the help they need to rebuild their lives and create a brighter future for their children.

Together, we are not just funding mothers—we are empowering families and transforming futures.



GLOBAL INITIATIVES

VOCATIONAL IMPACT

Introduction

2024 has been a year of growth, reflection, and impact for Vocational Impact (VI). Building on our previous successes and lessons from 2023, we have continued to expand our work, touching the lives of vulnerable children and communities across Ghana, South Africa, and India. This year's achievements reflect our unwavering commitment to providing transformative volunteer experiences that contribute directly to the initiatives of Arms Around The Child (AATC).

This report highlights the invaluable role VI has played in supporting AATC's mission through innovative volunteering and programme development.

Organisational Mission and Values

At Vocational Impact, our mission is to empower students and graduates with meaningful volunteer placements that offer practical, skills-based field experience while making a tangible difference in the communities we serve. Our core values—compassion, sustainability, and empowerment—guide every aspect of our work.

As a part of Arms Around The Child, we share their vision of providing sanctuary, education, and hope to children living in extreme adversity.





Key Achievements in 2024



1. Volunteer Engagement and Programme Growth

Vocational Impact has been instrumental in expanding volunteer opportunities within AATC's projects. Key achievements include:

Volunteer Placements: A total of 44 volunteers supported AATC projects, contributing over 170 weeks of service across Ghana, South Africa, and India.

Ghana: 24 volunteers

South Africa: 15 volunteers

India: 5 volunteers

Volunteer Contributions: Volunteers provided invaluable support in education, mental health initiatives, community outreach, and infrastructure improvements at AATC sites. Their work enhanced both the daily lives of the children and the sustainability of our programmes.

2. Educational and Mental Health Initiatives

Our specialised programmes in psychology, criminology, and mental health were in high demand, reflecting a growing need for these services in the communities we serve. Volunteers provided critical mental health support, including psychoeducation sessions and therapy for children and young adults facing trauma and other challenges.



3. Strategic Developments

Partnership Expansion: We formalised partnerships with universities and organisations worldwide, enhancing our capacity to recruit skilled volunteers and secure funding.

Digital Presence: Improvements to our website and digital marketing efforts led to a 33.57% increase in enquiries and a 199.50% rise in applications compared to 2023.

4. Feedback Mechanisms

Volunteer feedback consistently highlighted the exceptional organisation and life-changing impact of our programmes.



Volunteer Impact Stories



- Jess Walch (Psychology Volunteer, Ghana): "This was one of the most intense yet rewarding experiences of my life. I worked closely with rehab and bipolar patients, contributing to major breakthroughs. The opportunity to lead psychoeducation sessions and write diagnostic reports was invaluable for my career."
- Polly Jones (Psychology Volunteer, Ghana): "The experience gave me a fresh perspective on life. It's made me more appreciative and grounded. I'll carry these lessons with me forever."
- Heena Shanker (Psychology Volunteer, Ghana): "I felt incredibly supported throughout the process. The detailed pre-departure information and on-the-ground guidance were exceptional, making this one of the most enriching experiences I've had."

Looking Ahead: 2025 Goals

Building on these successes, we aim to:

- Expand Volunteer Engagement: Target 50–70 volunteers across all programmes, increasing placements in South Africa and India.
- Strengthen University Partnerships: Secure additional funding through university partnerships, with a focus on course-accredited placements.
- Enhance Digital Outreach: Develop a new website to attract a broader audience and improve conversion rates.
- Deepen Local Impact: Invest in full-time, in-country staff to enhance programme delivery and sustainability.
- Increase Donations: Leverage volunteer networks and partnerships to raise an additional £10,000 in donations for 2025.

C O N C L U S I O N

2024 was a transformative year for Vocational Impact. Through our collaboration with Arms Around The Child, we have made significant strides toward our shared mission. As we look to 2025, we are inspired by the possibilities ahead and remain committed to creating brighter futures for the children we serve and the volunteers we empower. Together, we are making a difference—one child, one volunteer, one community at a time.



ARMS AROUND THE CHILD ARTIST RESIDENCY

The Arms Around The Child International Artist Residency in Senya Beraku, Ghana, has continued to flourish in 2024, bringing together artists with African roots or connections to its diaspora to engage, create, and inspire. This initiative is not just an artistic retreat, it is a powerful cultural and philanthropic movement, fostering cross-cultural exchange, creativity, and community impact while raising essential funds for vulnerable children under AATC's care with the support of Jason Colchin Carter and the AATC Art committee.

Through the universal language of art, the residency has provided children at the Christian Atsu Education Centre with a platform for self-expression, storytelling, and creative exploration, ensuring that they see art not just as a subject, but as a means of empowerment and transformation.

A Year of Creative Impact

The 2024 residency programme saw two extraordinary artists contribute their talents to the children and community:

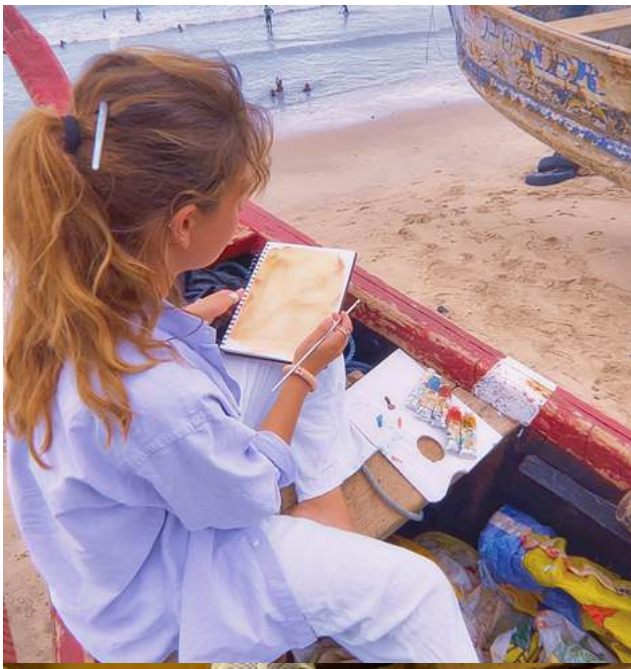
- Pie Herring began the year in Senya Beraku, leading art workshops at the school, working alongside children to explore new artistic techniques and develop creative confidence. Her time in Ghana culminated in the creation of artworks that will be showcased in an exhibition scheduled for February–March 2025, with proceeds benefiting Arms Around The Child's initiatives.
- Móyòsóré Martins followed, bringing his dynamic mixed-media abstract expressionist style to Senya Beraku. His residency fostered deep engagement with the children, encouraging them to tell their own stories through visual art. The impact of his time in Ghana extended beyond the residency, with:

✓ An exhibition at The Front Back Club in Accra, showcasing works inspired by his time in Ghana.

✓ A solo exhibition in Paris (October 2024), featuring two paintings created during the residency—one of which was sold to a collector, with proceeds supporting AATC.

✓ His commitment to becoming an official ambassador for Arms Around The Child, ensuring long-term artistic and philanthropic collaboration.

Looking ahead, the 2025 exhibition of Pie Herring's work is expected to further amplify awareness and funding opportunities, cementing the residency as a cornerstone of AATC's sustainable fundraising initiatives.





A LASTING CREATIVE LEGACY

The AATC Art Residency is more than a programme, it is a movement that blends artistic expression with philanthropy, ensuring that every brushstroke contributes to real-world change.

✓ Children learn to see art as a tool for self-expression, resilience, and opportunity.

✓ Artists engage with and learn from local communities, creating meaningful cultural exchanges.

✓ AATC expands its network of creative ambassadors, with Móyòsóré Martins leading the way as a global advocate for the cause.

As we move into 2025 and beyond, Arms Around The Child remains committed to nurturing this initiative, attracting more artists, expanding funding opportunities, and ensuring that art continues to be a force for good in the lives of vulnerable children.

Through creativity, connection, and compassion, the AATC Artist Residency is transforming not just canvases, but futures.

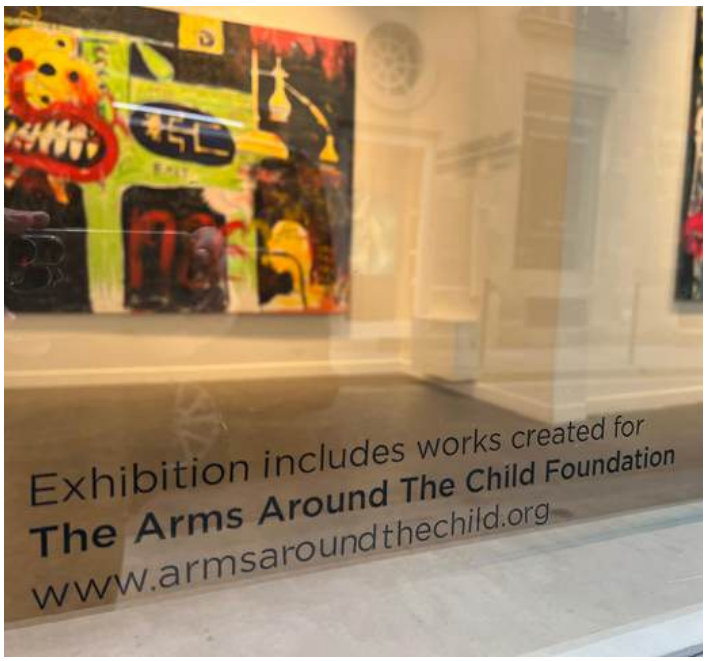


AATC ARTIST RESIDENCY PARIS EXHIBITION

The Paris Exhibition 2024: Showcasing the Art of Moyosore Martins and Arms Around The Child



In October 2024, during the prestigious Paris Art Week, Arms Around The Child were proud to be part of an exhibition featuring the work of Moyosore Martins, a Nigerian-born, New York-based abstract expressionist. The exhibition was a celebration of creativity, cultural exchange, and philanthropy, showcasing some of the remarkable artworks created during Martins' time as the artist-in-residence at the Christian Atsu Education Centre in Ghana. Held in one of Paris' leading contemporary art spaces, the exhibition drew international attention, receiving critical acclaim, including a feature in Forbes. The event provided a platform for audiences to engage with the transformative impact of art, not just as an aesthetic experience but as a catalyst for change.



Art with Purpose

The exhibition featured a dynamic collection of bold, expressive works inspired by Martins' immersive experience in Senya Beraku, Ghana. These pieces encapsulated the stories, emotions, and resilience of the children and community members he worked with during his residency.

Each canvas reflected the vibrant energy, struggles, and dreams of young artists who participated in the residency, serving as a powerful reminder of art's ability to transcend boundaries and amplify unheard voices. More than just an artistic showcase, the Paris exhibition played a pivotal role in fundraising for Arms Around The Child. Selected works were sold, with proceeds directly supporting AATC's ongoing education, social care, and empowerment programmes for vulnerable children in Ghana, South Africa, and India. The exhibition proved that art could not only document and inspire but also provide tangible resources for those in need.

A Global Audience for a Local Impact



The exhibition attracted collectors, art patrons, cultural influencers, and philanthropists, further strengthening AATC's presence within the international art community. Discussions were held highlighting the intersection of art, social justice, and philanthropy, and reinforcing how creative expression can be used as a tool for advocacy.

For Martins, this exhibition was a continuation of his commitment to bridging cultures and fostering artistic collaborations that have a lasting social impact. His deep connection with the children in Ghana was evident in the energy and depth of the works on display, leaving a profound impression on those who viewed them.

LOOKING FORWARD

The success of the Paris exhibition has paved the way for future opportunities, including the potential for a London auction in collaboration with Christie's in 2026, further ensuring that art created through the residency continues to support and uplift vulnerable children.

Arms Around The Child remains committed to expanding the impact of its International Artist Residency Programme, using art as a powerful means to generate both awareness and direct support for children in need. The Paris exhibition was a testament to the strength of this vision, where creativity, philanthropy, and global advocacy intersect to build a better future.

This landmark event reinforced the idea that art is more than a visual experience; it is a movement for change, one that Arms Around The Child will continue to champion.



SPONSOR A CHILD

The Arms Around The Child Sponsor Programme remains at the heart of our mission, offering orphaned and abandoned children the care and opportunities they need to thrive. Thanks to the continued generosity of our sponsors, we provide essential resources such as safe homes, healthcare, medication, nutrition, and education.

Our sponsorship model extends beyond financial aid, fostering meaningful connections between sponsors, the children they support, and their wider communities. Sponsors receive regular updates, photos, and personal letters, enabling them to follow the child's progress and build a bond that encourages sustained giving. Through this programme, we secure long-term funding for our partners in India, Ghana, and South Africa, ensuring that sustainable, community-led solutions address the complex challenges faced by vulnerable children. Looking ahead, we remain committed to expanding the programme's reach, providing more children with security, stability, and a brighter future.



THE WORLD MUSIC VILLAGE

The World Music Village at Victorious Festival A Vital Fundraising Hub for AATC

Each year, Arms Around The Child (AATC) transforms the World Music Village (WMV) at Victorious Festival into a powerful fundraising and community engagement platform, helping to generate essential funds for AATC's work supporting vulnerable children worldwide. Hosted at the UK's largest urban festival, the WMV is not only a vibrant celebration of global music and culture, but also a key source of sponsorship revenue, donations, and awareness-raising for our cause.

Victorious Festival continues to provide a generous donation to AATC in recognition of the impact of the World Music Village and The People's Lounge, and in 2024, our fundraising initiatives within the village expanded even further, allowing us to sustain and grow our support for children in Ghana, India, and South Africa.

A Vital Fundraising Hub for AATC

Sponsorship & Donations – The direct funding from Victorious Festival, along with sponsorship opportunities, helped AATC expand its support for children in care, education initiatives, and community-based projects. The festival also strengthened its partnership with BIMM, who helped showcase emerging young talent on our stage, reinforcing AATC's mission to empower young people.

The People's Kitchen – A favourite among festival-goers, this initiative raised funds through delicious, freshly cooked vegan curries, sweet treats, and refreshing drinks. Every meal purchased contributed directly to our work with vulnerable children.

Fundraising Raffle & Wishing Tree – The ever-popular AATC fundraising raffle returned, offering festival-goers the chance to win unique prizes while supporting a great cause. The Wishing Tree, a heartfelt tradition at WMV, invited visitors to leave their hopes, dreams, and messages of goodwill, creating a meaningful connection between festival-goers and the children we support. Many attendees returned to share how their wishes had come true, reinforcing the magical energy of this special space.

Clothing Stall – Ethical Fashion from Ghana – Our dedicated clothing stall featured handmade garments from Ghana, providing sustainable income for local artisans and raising additional funds for AATC.

The People's Lounge – This cultural hub within WMV, celebrating local and emerging talent, also played a key role in fundraising efforts, while showcasing spoken word, poetry, live music, and DJ sets from some of Portsmouth's most exciting grassroots artists.













The Music That Brings It All Together

The World Music Village stage continues to be a key attraction, drawing in thousands of festivalgoers each day. In 2024, the line-up featured an incredible mix of international and UK-based artists, with headline performances from:

Natty – The Jamaican Reggae sensation returned with his soulful, socially conscious sound, bringing festival-goers together in a moment of unity and celebration.

K.O.G. Sound System – Direct from Ghana, K.O.G. brought an electrifying fusion of Afrobeat, Funk, Jazz, and Reggae.

Juanita Euka – Her blend of Congolese Rumba, Afrobeat, and Latin rhythms was a standout moment of the weekend.

Florence Adooni & Band - Ghana's celebrated vocalist, delivered traditional and contemporary Ghanaian highlife music.

The Bhangra All Stars ft. Bobby Friction & Bee2 – Their high-energy performance ignited the festival with infectious beats and danceable rhythms.

The People's Lounge also showcased an array of local talent, from Jazz and Funk collectives to Portsmouth's Hip-Hop and Afrobeat artists, creating a powerful platform for emerging musicians while adding to the fundraising energy of the village.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2025

As we reflect on another incredible year at Victorious Festival, AATC remains committed to expanding the fundraising potential of the World Music Village. This space has become more than just a stage—it is a community-driven initiative that brings together music lovers, activists, and change-makers, all united in the belief that every child deserves love, protection, and opportunity.

In 2025, we aim to:

✓ Expand our fundraising efforts through new sponsorship models and enhanced donor engagement.

✓ Grow The People's Kitchen to generate even more funding through food sales.

✓ Strengthen partnerships with artists, brands, and local businesses to increase our reach.

✓ Continue to curate a world-class line-up, ensuring that music remains a force for change.

Through the support of Victorious Festival, our sponsors, the artists who perform, and the thousands of festival-goers who participate, the World Music Village continues to be one of AATC's most exciting and impactful fundraising platforms.

Music has the power to change lives, and at The World Music Village, it is doing just that.



ESCAPE TO THE FARM

On 7th September 2024, Arms Around The Child (AATC) hosted the inaugural Escape to the Farm festival at Rushmere Farm in Hambledon, Hampshire. This family-friendly retreat was designed to celebrate well-being, the arts, and community, all while supporting AATC's mission to aid vulnerable children across Africa, India, and the UK.





A Day of Enrichment and Connection

Set against the serene backdrop of Rushmere Farm, the festival offered a diverse array of activities catering to all ages. The day commenced with sessions in yoga, meditation, sound healing, and Tai Chi, providing attendees with opportunities to rejuvenate both mind and body. Creative workshops, including drumming, ecstatic dance, environmental discussions, and pizza-making classes, encouraged participants to explore new skills and passions. The enchanting "Poetry in the Woods" sessions and a varied lineup of musical performances—from country and blues to jazz and world music—added layers of cultural richness to the event. As dusk settled, families gathered around campfires to enjoy marshmallows, hot chocolate, and acoustic jams, while others danced beneath the canopy of trees, embracing the magic of the evening.

Dedicated Spaces for Children

Understanding the importance of engaging younger attendees, Escape to the Farm featured a Creative area brimming with activities tailored for children. Collaborations with local organizations, such as My Friendly Planet and Southsea Play Cafe, provided painting, drawing, and sensory play workshops. Kids' yoga sessions and face painting added to the delight, ensuring that the youngest festivalgoers had a memorable and enriching experience. Notably, children under 14 were granted free entry, emphasizing the event's commitment to family inclusivity.

Culinary Delights and Sustainable Practices

Culinary offerings were thoughtfully curated to align with the festival's ethos of well-being and sustainability. The Hungry Herbivores served wholesome vegan meals, including mezze plates for lunch and Indian-inspired thali dishes for dinner. A bar provided an assortment of refreshments, from cakes and cocktails to mocktails, ensuring all tastes were catered to. Attendees had the option to extend their experience by camping on-site, with various accommodation choices ranging from traditional pitches to bespoke options like modern cottages and yurts, all available at special rates for festivalgoers.

Supporting a Worthy Cause

Beyond the festivities, Escape to the Farm served a greater purpose. Proceeds from the event directly supported Arms Around The Child's initiatives. By participating in the festival, attendees contributed to sustaining these essential programmes.

A Partnership Rooted in Shared Values

The choice of Rushmere Farm as the venue was deliberate, reflecting a partnership grounded in shared commitments to sustainability and community. As a working organic farm dedicated to sustainable food production and wildlife conservation, Rushmere Farm regularly hosts workshops and offers nature-based accommodations, making it an ideal collaborator for this event.

L O O K I N G A H E A D

The success of the inaugural Escape to the Farm festival has set a promising precedent. Plans are underway to make this an annual gathering, further strengthening the bonds between community, well-being, and charitable endeavours. Arms Around The Child extends heartfelt gratitude to all attendees, volunteers, and partners who contributed to making this event a resounding success.



PUBLIC BENEFIT



Our trustees affirm their compliance with the Charity Commission's guidelines on public benefit, ensuring that all our activities align with our core mission to support children in extreme adversity.

Arms Around The Child actively benefits the public by:

✓ Fundraising to provide care, education, and healthcare for children impacted by HIV/AIDS, abuse, trafficking, and child-headed households.

✓ Rescuing and rehabilitating children who have been abandoned, orphaned, or forced into slavery.

✓ Providing inclusive and non-discriminatory support, welcoming donations from all members of the public to sustain our work.

We remain dedicated to increasing our public impact through advocacy, direct intervention, and community-driven initiatives.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE



In 2024, Arms Around The Child (AATC) worked closely with our Board of Trustees to refine strategic planning, allocate budgets, secure funding, and submit grant applications to support our programmes.

Key achievements include:

✓ Strengthening partnerships with local organisations in South Africa, Ghana, and India to improve service delivery.

✓ Developing new fundraising strategies tailored to the needs of each community.

✓ Expanding volunteer and mentorship programmes, particularly through Vocational Impact placements

✓ Identifying and recruiting new board members/committee members to enhance our governance and impact.

Further details on our fundraising progress and performance metrics are outlined in the financial section of this report.

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND SITE VISITS

In 2024, Arms Around The Child conducted several key site visits to ensure our programmes remain effective and community focused.

✓ **Ghana:** We visited the Christian Atsu School in Senya Beraku, overseeing its continued development. We also launched the Fund A Mom programme, supporting single mothers in gaining financial independence.
✓ **South Africa:** Our February visit focused on new partnerships in Johannesburg, where we collaborated with The Teddy Bear Foundation, REPSSI, and Lawyers for Human Rights to expand psychology, criminology, and law placements through Vocational Impact.
We also visited Nkosi's Haven, continuing our long-standing support for their work with HIV-affected children and mothers. Additionally, we met with local police and community leaders in Soweto, addressing issues in Ezimbuzini Informal Settlement through Mum Carol's newly formed organisation, UZIMA.
✓ **India:** A visit is planned for 2025, focusing on:
Assessing and strengthening our supported homes for HIV+ orphans; Developing a new volunteer programme to enhance education and care support; Expanding the Fund A Mom initiative to support more mothers in financial distress.

These site visits reinforce our commitment to maintaining a strong, on-the-ground presence, ensuring our programmes align with the evolving needs of the communities we serve.



FUNDING
DONATIONS

2024 has been a year of significant financial support for our programmes in India, Ghana, and South Africa. We are grateful for donations from renowned Trusts and Foundations, including:

- ✓ **Belacqua Charitable Trust**
- ✓ **ZEDRA Trust**
- ✓ **Clark Charity**
- ✓ **Alchemy Foundation**
- ✓ **The Ian Maidens Charity**
- ✓ **Prosperity Law LLP**
- ✓ **William Howarth CT**
- ✓ **Strathspey Charitable Trust**
- ✓ **Lady Yuen Peng McNair RBC**
- ✓ **The W Foundation (Mark Astaire)**
- ✓ **Paradigm Trust**
- ✓ **The Father O'Mahony Trust**

In Ghana, Sono Global continues to provide vital funding. The late Christian Atsu's planned contributions for the completion of the Christian Atsu School were tragically disrupted due to his passing, but we honour his legacy by continuing this work. Lazy Susan Furniture remains a key supporter of our projects, and we extend special gratitude to Frank Runge and Gaynor Fascione for their dedicated fundraising efforts.

Beyond these major donors, Arms Around The Child (AATC) is deeply grateful for the dedicated network of regular monthly donors, whose generosity provides the foundation for our ongoing initiatives.

Alongside these committed supporters, one-off fundraising efforts through Enthuse and our website continue to play a crucial role in sustaining our work.

We are also privileged to have the unwavering support of Victorious Festival, a cherished and longstanding partner. As we mark our ninth year of running The World Music Village, this collaboration remains a powerful platform for raising awareness and generating vital funds, bringing together music, culture, and philanthropy in a shared mission of hope.

In addition to these partnerships, AATC continues to expand its direct fundraising initiatives, offering unique experiences that blend creativity, community, and purpose. Our annual Escape to the Farm festival has become a much-anticipated event, bringing people together in a celebration of well-being, nature, and artistic expression, all in support of vulnerable children.

Furthermore, 2024 has seen significant developments in our Art Initiatives, including the International Artist Residency in Ghana, which provides emerging and established artists with an opportunity to create and inspire while contributing to a meaningful cause. With major exhibitions scheduled for 2025, we are poised to showcase the profound impact of art as a vehicle for social change, ensuring that creativity continues to drive our fundraising efforts and advocacy.

Through these dynamic fundraising ventures and enduring partnerships, AATC remains committed to securing sustainable resources that directly support children living in extreme adversity, offering them hope, dignity, and opportunity for a brighter future.

PRO BONO SUPPORT

We are incredibly grateful for the pro bono support we have received throughout 2024, which has played a vital role in strengthening Arms Around The Child, Fund A Mom, and Vocational Impact.

A special thank you to KANDI LONDON, whose expertise in graphics, website development, and digital maintenance has been instrumental in enhancing our communications and outreach. Their continued dedication has enabled us to engage a wider audience and amplify our impact.

We also extend our sincere appreciation to Jason Colchin-Carter for his pro bono support in developing the Art Residency in Ghana. His unwavering commitment has been pivotal in realising this meaningful initiative, fostering artistic expression and social change.

In addition, we are deeply appreciative of our corporate partners, whose generosity has significantly contributed to the success of our events. Cansecco/Canvino has once again provided exceptional hospitality services, ensuring that our fundraising events remain welcoming and impactful.

Finally, we express our heartfelt gratitude to all our volunteers, whose dedication and enthusiasm have been a driving force behind our success in 2024. Their contributions to events such as Victorious Festival and Escape to the Farm have been invaluable in helping us advance our mission and continue supporting the children and communities we serve.

Our pro bono supporters and volunteers are at the heart of our work, and we thank them for standing with us in our commitment to creating a better future for children in adversity.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
INDEPENDENTLY EXAMINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12 DECEMBER 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

A summary of the year's results can be found in the statement of financial activities on page 4.

Total incoming resources amounted to £213,202 (2023:£213,004).

All of this relates to charitable donations.

The balance sheet shows total funds of £81,360 (2023: £ 50,842).

Reserves policy

At the balance sheet date the unrestricted fund was £ 50,721 (2023: £42,586) the restricted fund was £ 34,639 (2023: £ 10,658). Last year the charity had net current assets of £43,576 of which £46,255 was held as cash at the bank. The bank balance at 12 December 2024 was £85,359.

The trustees are planning future fund raising events and exploring potential sponsorship opportunities. In addition, the trustees are reviewing the model for their fundraising events with the aim of reducing the costs involved in staging them, therefore ensuring an increase in the amounts raised for the charity's programmes.

The trustees' policy is to work towards building a sustainable level of reserves over the next five years to fund the charity's programmes and running costs for at least the following twelve months.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are appraised of their duties and obligations under charity law and Charity Commission guidelines and recommendations. The trustees adhere to corporate governance policies and are required to register and declare any potential conflicts of interest on a regular basis. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external courses to enable them to carry out their role .

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1123038

Principal address

93 Festing Grove
Southsea Hampshire
PO4 9QE

Trustees

Mr F Runge
Ms J E Milner
Ms R Cason-Marcus
Mr M Lyn
Ms H O'Brien
Ms K Sharma

Independent Examiner

Johnny Kritzinger
Chartered Accountant (CA)
ICAEW Membership Nr: 5483062

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 26th September 2025 and signed on its behalf.



.....
Mr F Runge - Trustee



.....
Ms JE Milner - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Arms Around The Child (UK)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Arms Around The Child (UK) (the Trust) for the year ended 12 December 2024.

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').

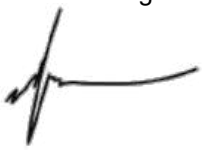
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.



Johnny Kritzinger
Chartered Accountant (CA)
ICAEW Membership Nr: 5483062

Date: 26th September 2025

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOMEANDENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	44,818	87,419	**132,237**	**129,573**
Other trading activities	3	67,589	12,109	**79,698**	**82,826**
Bank intest income	4	1,368	-	**1,368**	**605**
Total		113,775	99,528	**213,303**	**213,005**
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	5	(41,913)	(23,087)	**(65,000)**	**(40,692)**
Charitable activities	6				
Grants to projects		(49,710)	(22,462)	**(72,172)**	**(113,221)**
Development costs		(26,016)	(18,001)	**(44,017)**	**(51,826)**
Total Expenditure		(117,639)	(63,550)	**(181,189)**	**(205,738)**
Transfer between funds		12,000	(12,000)	-	-
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	12	8,136	23,978	**32,114**	**7,266**
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		42,586	10,660	**53,246**	**43,576**
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		50,722	34,638	**85,360**	**50,842**

The notes form part of these financial statements.

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 12 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	**2024 Total funds £**	2023 Total funds £
CURRE NT AS S E TS					
Cash at bank		50,721	34,639	**85,360**	53,246
CRE DI TO RS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(4,000)	-	**(4,000)**	(2,403)
NETCURRENT ASSETS		46,721	34,639	**81,360**	**50,842**
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LI ABI LI TI E S		46,721	34,639	**81,360**	**50,842**
NET ASSETS		46,721	34,639	**81,360**	**50,842**
F UNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				**46,721**	40,183
Restricted funds				**34,639**	10,660
TOTAL FUNDS				**81,360**	**50,842**

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 26th September 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
Mr F Runge - Trustee

.....
Ms JE Milner - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements.

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
NOTES TO THE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis ofpreparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Going Concern
The trustees consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

At the balance sheet date the charity had net assets of £81,360 and cash reserves of £85,359. The trustees consider that it will be in a position to meet its obligation as they fall due.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

E x pe ndi ture
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Charitableactivities
Costs of charitable activities includes grants made.

Allocation and apportionmentofcosts
Support costs have been allocated to costs of generating funds and then are apportioned between fund raising and generating voluntary income. Support costs have been apportioned based upon the income under each of these headings.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
NOTES TO THE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12 DECEMBER 2024

2.DONATIONS AND LEGACIES	**2024**	2023
Donations	**83,468**	85,856
Vocational Impact volunteer donations	**48,769**	43,717
	132,237	129,573

Further information on mentionable donors are given in note 15.

3.OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

Fundraising events	**79,698**	82,826

During the year the charity held events to raise funds. The most significant events was the Art Auction and the Victorious Music Festival.

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

Bank Interest Received	**1,368**	605

5.RAISING FUNDS

Expenditure on raising donations

Event costs	**19,696**	16,430
Support costs	**45,304**	24,262
	65,000	40,692

6.CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

Grants to projects and associated costs	**72,172**	144,685
Development Costs	**44,016**	51,826
	116,188	**196,511**

Further information on grants made to projects is given in note 14.

7. SUPPORT COSTS

Support costs are allocated equally between fund raising activities and raising awareness, campaigns and education.

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

Ms E Milner received payment in respect of other services provide to the charity, further details are given in note 13.

9. EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

During the current and prior years the charity had no employees.

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (12 DECEMBER 2023)

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	**Total funds £**
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	97,756	31,817	**129,573**
Other trading activities	82,826	-	**82,826**
Investment income	368	237	**605**
Total	180,950	32,054	**213,004**
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	(38,371)	(2,321)	**(40,692)**
Charitable activities			
Grants to projects and associated costs	(78,269)	(34,952)	**(113,221)**
Development costs	(38,291)	(13,535)	**(51,826)**
Total	(154,931)	(50,808)	**(205,739)**
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	26,019	(18,754)	7,265
Transfers between funds	(14,253)	14,253	-
Net movement in funds	11,766	(4,501)	7,265
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	25,784	17,792	**43,576**
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	37,550	13,291	**50,841**

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
NOTES TO THE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12 DECEMBER 2024

11CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN

	2024	2023
Trade Creditors	4,000	2679
	4,000	2,679

12MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 12 Dec 23	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 12 Dec 24
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	42,586	(3,864)	12,000	50,721
Re s tric te d Funds				
Vocational Impact	31,496	15,142	(12,000)	34,638
Restricted Projects (incl FAM USA)	(20,836)	20,836		-
Total	53,246	32,114	0	85,359

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Re so u rce s expended	Movement in funds
Unrestricted Funds			
General Fund	168,774	(160,639)	8,135
Re s tric te d Funds			
Vocational Impact	48,769	(41,087)	7,682
Restricted Projects (incl FAM USA)	50,759	(34,462)	16,297
Total	268,302	(236,188)	32,114

Vocational Impact - Vocational Impact have a deep passion and drive to link professional volunteers and university students to the Arms Around The Child projects in Africa and India. With a core mission to drive international skills exchange and empowerment, they recognised the need of NGOs, and the skills university students can bring to them. During the year Volunteer Invest changed its name to Vocational Impact.

12.MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Becky's Foundation - Arms Around The Child works with Becky's Foundation, a care home for children in poverty in Senya Beraku , Ghana. The project aims to offer a home for orphaned children and to provide them with shelter, protection, support, and education. Donor funds for this cause is restricted if instructed as such by the donor. During the year Charities Aid Foundation made donations to this project and these funds were used to support the running costs of the home. During the year funds have been received to start building a school at Becky's Home.

India Projects and Charites Aid Foundation Funds - Arms Around The Child works with various projects in India.Faith Sansthan is a safe home for HIV+ orphans. Vatslaya Jalore is a child care home and care centre for boys affected with HIV/AIDS. CHEER is a skills development project and Fund A Mom is a universal basic income scheme for mothers in need. Donor funds for this cause is restricted if instructed as such by the donor. Funds from CAF have been used to cover operational costs for these projects.

Comparatives for movement in funds:

	At 12 Dec 22	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 12 Dec 23
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	28,466	(17,344)	-	11,122
Re s tric te d Fund				
Vocational Impact	17,513	13,983	-	31,496
Becky's Foundation (incl CAF	-		-	-
India Projects (incl CAF USA)	-	(20,836)	-	(20,836)
Total	**45,979**	**(24,197)**	**0**	**21,782**

Each year the charity uses funds from the unrestricted fund to support the administrative costs incurred by the restricted funds as and when the need arises.

13.RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year the charity made payments to Ms E Milner, a member of the key management personnel and a trustee of the charity.

The payments totalling £ 36,000 (2023: £36,000) were in respect of raising awareness of the charity and its aims, fundraising, management, event management services and payment of consultant fees to support AATC. In addition, during the year expenses directly relating to the activities of the charity and the running of the charity totalling £ 1,000 (2023: £3,000) were reimbursed to Ms E Milner.

14. GRANTS MADE TO PROJECTS

During the year the following grants were paid to support projects and individuals in India and South Africa;

Crime Check - the project aims to be the foremost crime prevention advocacy and philanthropic organization in Africa with the sole aim of serving humanity without discrimination. During the year the charity provided funds of £3,995 (2023: £0).

AATC India - The project supports the India initiatives such as FAITH Homes for Children affected by HIV/AIDS, CHEER and Fund a Mom as well as Vocational Impact programmes at the psychiatric hospital in Jaipur. During the year the charity provided £22,462 (2023: £20,839.32)

Becky's Home - The project supports the running costs, education, food and staffing for 55 orphans rescued from Slavery and Trafficking in Senya Beraku, Ghana. During the year the charity provided funds of £32,259 (2023:£65,672).

Bobbi Bear Fund - the project in Durban, South Africa, provides support for children who are victims of abuse, abandonment and rape. During the year the charity provided funds of £ 3,451 (2023: £14,250) .

Nkosi's Haven - Nkosi's Haven provides a home for children who have been orphaned by AIDS.The children receive a quality education, health care, good nutrition, housing and support. During the year the charity provided funds of £ 3,003 (2023: £0).

Friends Without Borders Refugee Children. During the year the charity provided funds of £699 (2023: £100).

Uzima - the project in Soweto, South Africa.The mission is to prevent HIV transmission among key vulnerable populations through health education, adherence support, psychosocial support, and empowerment initiatives by providing them with home based care. During the year the charity provided funds of £3,141 (2023: £ 5,000).

Lawyers for Human Rights - The program supports and independent human rights orginsation that has six strategic programmes staffed by specialist practitioners, each focusing on a specific aspect of human rights law. They help vulnerable, marginalised, and indigent people and communities. During the year the charity provided funds of £1,700.(2023: £ 0).

REPSSI - is a project in Johannesburg, South Africa that provides capacity building and leads advocacy for sustained psychosocial support (PSS) mainstreaming into programmes and services for girls. During the year the charity provided funds of £1,468. (2023: £ 0).

15. SIGNIFICANT DONATIONS

During the year the following notable donations were received to support specific (restricted) projects - continued;

Donor name	Project/Fund Use
Belacqua Charitabl Belacqua Trust	*India Projects*
The Alchemy Foundation	*India Projects*
The Ian Maidens Charity	*India Projects*
William Howarth Charity Trust	*India Projects*
The Bryan Guinness Charitable Trust	*India Projects*
The Woodford Trust	*India Projects*
Mr G J Ward Charitable Trust	*India Projects*
Wallace Bell Charitable Trust	*India Projects*
Strathspey Charity Trust	*India Projects*
MJB Charitable Trust	*India Projects*
The Souter Charitable Trust	*India Projects*
Alma Jean Henry Charitable Trust	*India Projects*
Paradigm Norton Trust	*India Projects*
The Lady Yuen Peng McNeice Charitable Foundation	*India Projects*
The Father O Mahony Trust	*India Projects*
The W Foundation Mark Astaire	*Ghana Projects*
The Henhurst CharItable Foundation	*India Projects*

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD(UK)

England & Wales - Charity number 1123038

Accounts



arms around the child

2023 Annual Report









arms around the child

2023 Annual Report

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OBJECTIVES, AIMS & ACTIVITIES

Relief for Orphaned and Vulnerable Children Living in Extreme Adversity.
Arms Around The Child (AATC) remains steadfast in its mission to alleviate the suffering of orphaned and vulnerable children facing extreme adversity. Our efforts are directed towards preserving the health and well-being of children affected or at risk of HIV/AIDS. We extend our support to children in Ghana, India and South Africa, raising awareness and providing essential social and medical care to ensure they lead healthy and secure lives.

Advancing Education and Awareness.
A core pillar of our work is to enhance knowledge and awareness surrounding the plight of children rescued from, abuse, trafficking, abandonment, orphans affected by HIV/AIDS, as well as those living in child-headed households. Through educational initiatives, social outreach programs, and advocacy campaigns, we strive to empower these children and break the cycle of adversity.

Making Lasting Change
Arms Around The Child is dedicated to effecting enduring change by engaging with governments and health agencies, advocating for the needs of children in the aforementioned circumstances. By fostering dialogue and collaboration, we seek to drive policy changes and resource allocations that prioritise the well-being of vulnerable children.

Mission Statement:
Arms Around The Child (AATC) is a global charity committed to creating a better and more compassionate world for children facing extreme adversity. Whether orphaned, abandoned, at risk of abuse, affected by HIV, trafficked, or living in child-headed households, we stand as a beacon of hope, providing essential care and support.

Our Approach:
With a wealth of experience in direct care, AATC collaborates closely with local communities and partners on the ground. Through training and programme implementation, we ensure scalable solutions that address the unique needs of each child and organisation. Our focus extends beyond immediate relief to include long-term reintegration and development programmes, aimed at keeping children within their family and community structures.

Significant Activities:
- Arms Around The Child works hand in hand with our on-ground partners in India, South Africa, and Ghana, supporting them in various capacities:
- Developing Fundraising Initiatives
- Overseeing Day-to-Day Administration
- Facilitating Program Development
- Conducting Monitoring and Evaluation
- Promoting Good Working Practices
- Levating Awareness
- Advocating for Children's Rights

Community Engagement:
In the UK, Arms Around The Child emphasises community-based fundraising efforts, complemented by grant applications and one-off events. These initiatives not only generate vital funds but also foster a sense of collective responsibility and solidarity in supporting vulnerable children worldwide.

As we reflect on the accomplishments of 2023, we remain resolute in our commitment to serving as a beacon of hope and compassion for children in need. Together, we strive towards a brighter and more equitable future for all.





GHANA

Becky's Foundation

Becky's Foundation
Making lives comfortable

In 2023, the compassionate efforts of Arms Around The Child (UK) continued to positively impact the lives of vulnerable children under the care of Becky's Foundation and the surrounding communities. With unwavering support from our dedicated sponsors, local donors, and volunteers, we ensured that the children received the love and care they deserve.

Enrolment and Reunification

At the start of the year, Becky's Foundation provided a haven for 47 children, with 31 boys and 16 girls, aged between two and twenty years. Throughout the year, four children were successfully reunified with their families for independent living, while still receiving ongoing support from the foundation. December 2023, the care home housed 43 children, including a new addition, Kwasi Nyamegyeme, rescued from life on the streets in July.

Staff Strength/Changes

In March 2023, Madam Linda Kumah transitioned her role to Madam Monica Wiredua as the new Home Care Manager. With a workforce of eleven dedicated individuals, including new hires in various roles such as cleaning, security, and healthcare, our team remained committed to the well-being of the children.

Health Statistics

Frequent health talks and educational initiatives resulted in a decrease in health cases compared to the previous year. Throughout 2023, the sick bay attended to 57 cases, mostly minor ailments, with only five requiring referrals for intensive care.

Education

Academic achievements soared as children exhibited remarkable progress in their studies and attitude towards learning. With enhanced support, including special incentives for academic excellence, 93% of the children demonstrated significant improvement in their performance. Efforts were also intensified to address learning difficulties and provide personalised academic support.

School Building Project

The completion and commissioning of the Christian Atsu Educational Centre provided children with access to quality education, supported by voluntary teachers and sponsors.

The home extended support to vulnerable children in surrounding communities, with initiatives aimed at empowerment and education.

Challenges included overcrowding and





transportation needs, while future expectations focus on increasing enrolment, enhancing volunteer engagement, and improving infrastructure.

Counselling Sessions

The implementation of counselling sessions, bolstered by external support and volunteer expertise, proved instrumental in addressing various challenges faced by the children. Emphasis was placed on holistic development, including spiritual growth through regular prayer and church attendance.

Community Support

Beyond the care home, our outreach extended to support thirteen vulnerable children within the community, alongside ongoing assistance for those successfully reunified with their families. Collaborative initiatives, such as community talks and partnerships with local organisations, further enriched our impact.

Farm and Poultry Project

Our agricultural venture, initiated in April 2023, flourished under the collective efforts of volunteers, staff, and children. Recognized as the District s Best Institutional Farmers, the project not only provided sustenance but also instilled valuable skills and pride in the participants.

Major Event/Celebration

Significant milestones, including the commissioning of the Christian Atsu Educational Centre and our recognition as the district s best farmers, marked moments of celebration and reflection on our collective achievements.

Achievements/Successes

From educational milestones to vocational opportunities, our children continued to thrive, supported by dedicated staff and volunteers. Noteworthy accomplishments include successful graduations, internship placements, and the establishment of the Art Studio to nurture artistic talents.

Challenges

Despite our successes, challenges such as the need for transportation and accommodation constraints persist, highlighting areas for future improvement and investment.

Future Expectations

Looking ahead, we aspire to further enhance our educational and vocational programs, expand community outreach, and strengthen our infrastructure better to serve the needs of vulnerable children and families.

Arms Around The Child (UK) remains steadfast in its commitment to providing love, care, and opportunities for a brighter future for every child under our wing. Together, we will continue to make a difference, one child at a time.







The Christian Atsu Education Centre, Senya Beraku, Ghana

The grand opening of The Christian Atsu Education Centre on the 28th of June 2023, marked a significant milestone in the pursuit of education for the children of Senya Beraku, Ghana. This momentous occasion was graced by esteemed personalities and celebrated with various cultural performances.

Supportive Personalities:
The event welcomed distinguished guests, including Director Ellie Milner and Gaynor Fascione from Arms Around The Child, Director Seth Asiedu from Becky's Foundation, Professor Hinneh Kusi representing the University of Education, Winneba, Mr. Aaron Twum Akwaboah from the Ministry of Education, Hon. Gizella Tetteh Agbotui, Member of Parliament for Awutu Senya West Constituency, and Reverend J.C Agbesi Rtd from The Church of Pentecost.

Celebratory Performances:
The program was enriched with captivating performances, showcasing the talent and cultural heritage of the region. Children from Becky's Foundation presented a melodious song, while students of The Christian Atsu Education Centre delivered inspiring poetry recitals. Cultural dance displays by Mother Teresa School for Girls and choreography by C7 Dancers added vibrancy to the event. The celebration was further elevated by soulful music performances and traditional drum appellations.

Christian Atsu's Legacy:
The inception of The Christian Atsu Education Centre is a testament to the late Christian Atsu's enduring commitment to the educational advancement of underprivileged children. Despite his untimely passing, Christian's vision was realised through the collaborative efforts of Arms Around The Child and other supportive individuals who rallied to complete the school.

School Structure and Facilities:
The newly inaugurated school comprises a nine-unit classroom block equipped with essential amenities, including a Computer Lab, Library, Sickbay, and administrative offices. The serene environment and well-furnished facilities have garnered interest from parents within the community, reflecting the school's potential to become a beacon of educational excellence.

Activities and Enrolment:
Since its official commencement in June 2023, The Christian Atsu Education Centre has embarked on a journey of academic excellence. Activities such as reading clubs and spelling bees have been integrated into the curriculum to foster holistic development. Notably, the school organised a successful Carols Day Celebration in December 2023, showcasing the talents of its students and fostering community engagement.

Enrolment Statistics:
The school's enrolment has steadily grown, with an initial cohort of twenty-four orphanage children in January 2023 expanding to a current total of eighty-six students. This diverse student body comprises both home children and community members, reflecting the school's inclusive ethos.

Conclusion:
The opening of The Christian Atsu Education Centre symbolises a triumph of hope and perseverance, embodying the transformative power of education in uplifting communities. As the school continues to flourish, it stands as a testament to the enduring legacy of Christian Atsu and the collective dedication of all those who contributed to its realisation.

Appreciation:
Special thanks are extended to all individuals and organisations whose unwavering support and dedication made the establishment of The Christian Atsu Education Centre possible. Their commitment to education has ignited a beacon of hope for generations to come.





The Apprentice Scheme Beckys/Sono/Pinora/AATC

The partnership between SONO and Arms Around the Child has continued to grow over the last year and we have made some significant developments with 2 of our projects; The Fruity Futures Apprenticeship Programme & The Agroforestry Garden Project at Becky's Home.

The Fruity Futures programme was designed to provide training opportunities, skills development, life experience, employment and independence to young adults under the care of AATC at Becky's Home. The sustainable agroforestry project was established with the objectives of food self-sufficiency, biodiversity, re-connecting with the local land, and making a positive environmental impact by training and working with the staff and children at Becky's Home.

Fruity Futures

The Fruity Futures scheme is now successfully in its 2nd year. There are three core actions we have achieved over the last year. 1. First apprentice Godfred completed a year on the programme. 2. Regular work experience/ internship opportunities for returning apprentice Israel during school vacation. 3. Group visits with potential future apprentices.

Godfred's Story

We are delighted to see Godfred complete a whole year with the apprenticeship programme.

Godfred took an interest in the production operations at SONO and is working under the mentorship of Mr. Wisdom Agbley (Production Supervisor). He has completed his training as a Centenario Extractor Operator and can operate the extractor without supervision. He has also started with the training on the operation of the Cold Press Oil line (CPO).

Godfred has shown a real interest and enthusiasm for learning about the operations and production process. He has integrated well with colleagues and is still living at the accommodation on site. He has also made contact with the local Youth Association and has been registered with the football and fitness clubs, and he participates in their weekend jogging/games.

We are looking forward to Godfred completing the Apprenticeship Programme and moving into full-time employment with SONO.

Israel's Story

Israel initially joined for the first 2 months of the apprenticeship programme in May-June 2022. After review, he decided he would benefit from returning to finish his education so he could be better prepared for the expectations and working environment at SONO.

His studies are going well, and we have organized for him to do month-long work placements at SONO during his vacations to continue his training. He has taken an interest in the farming and agriculture side of the business. He completed a month in April and returned in July for further work experience.

Group Visits

We have had 3 successful group visits with young adults from Becky's Home interested in joining the apprenticeship programme. We had a visit of 5 students in September 2022, another 7 students in March 2023 and a further 6 students visit in November 2023. The visits include an introduction to SONO, a tour of the facilities and different areas of work, lunch, a meeting with the head of departments and a Q&A session. Arms Around the Child's UK & EU Volunteers from Vocational Impact also joined on these visits.



THE FOOD FOREST

Senya Beraku, Ghana

Agroforestry

The Food Forest project at Becky's home aims to provide a sustainable food supply for the residents and hands-on education for the children on horticulture. The project has been supported by Sono in partnership with Arms Around The Child to help the growth and development of Becky's Home.

Project Goals

- Providing a long-term sustainable food supply for Becky's home.
- Giving a 'hands-on' learning experience for the children about natural processes and crop cultivation.
- Carbon sequestration.
- Increasing biodiversity.
- Promoting mental well-being and physical health.
- Developing a space to stimulate all senses and deepen connection to nature.

Project Progress

The project has been in development for over a year but we have finally been able to make the first stages of the project come to life. SONO took on Elizabeth, an agricultural intern from Germany. She was tasked with implementing and setting up the initial stages of the project.

Elizabeth worked closely with the specialists at SONO, the team at Becky's Home and AATC's volunteers from Vocational Impact to begin the first phases of the project.

Initially, a plot of land was allocated for the garden and the land was cleared by the team at Becky's. Elizabeth then helped to develop the infrastructure for the project.

- Planting cover crops to replenish and revitalize the soil.
- Building a compost structure and establishing a composting system.
- Building a seed nursery.
- Planting seedlings and trees.
- Education classes and practical workshops with the kids.
- Drawing up plans for the garden layout.
- Selecting what vegetables, fruits and plants to grow.

Second Stage

Elizabeth visited again in June 2023 to try and establish a sustainable working structure for the garden. She was able to achieve the following steps:

- Set up the vegetable beds and continue transplanting seeds from the nursery.
- Build a rain harvesting system.
- Build a seating area in the garden.
- Continue education classes and workshops.
- Build walkways.
- Show kids how to propagate plants.
- Build fencing around the garden.

Moving Forward

We are delighted to report on these exciting projects that are making a positive social impact in Ghana. Together we are working to create sustainable projects that offer opportunities for skills development, employment, food self-sufficiency and community building. We look forward to seeing these projects evolve and looking at future actions we can take to continue our partnership and work together.





PROJECTS IN SOUTH AFRICA

BOBBI BEAR, KWAZULU NATAL, DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA.

Overview:

In reflection of the year 2023, Bobbi Bear continues to operate in an environment deeply affected by the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, social unrest, looting, and natural disasters, notably two significant floods. The ongoing challenges have placed the team under unprecedented pressure, exacerbating the already strained circumstances within South Africa.

Challenges

Societal Turmoil:

The aftermath of looting, violence, and continuous rioting for service delivery has intensified, impacting not only NGOs and companies but also the daily lives of individuals. The closure of numerous businesses and families leaving South Africa has created a domino effect, severely affecting the survival of charities.

Increased Demand for Assistance:

Bobbi Bear faces a surge in the number of children seeking help, including cases of teenage pregnancy, drug abuse among teenagers, and domestic violence. The question of how to turn away desperate children becomes an ethical dilemma for the organisation.

Unemployment and Social Strain:

The rise in unemployment has heightened stress in homes, leading to family murders and domestic violence. The police, community and social workers







turn to Bobbi Bear for assistance in debriefing and trauma interventions, often involving the removal of children from harmful environments.

Infrastructure Challenges:
Daily electricity and water cuts significantly hinder the organisation's operations. The team faces disruptions during court cases, travels to new cases, and engages with schools due to load-shedding schedules. Telecommunication interruptions further impact administrative tasks.

Funding Crisis:
Funding is at an all-time low as companies and families prioritise local needs over charity donations. The daily struggle to secure funding poses a substantial threat to the continued operation of Bobbi Bear.

Rescue and Impact:
Despite these challenges, Bobbi Bear remains committed to its core mission of rescuing, representing, and reintegrating children who have experienced sexual abuse. The year witnessed two major floods, impeding the organisation's ability to reach set goals. The team worked tirelessly under challenging conditions to reach children in high-risk areas.

Monitoring and Tracking:
Being a rapid response organisation, monitoring and tracking the impact of interventions remains challenging. The focus is on the initial rescue, police station, hospital, and court appearances. Once children move on to extended family or children's homes, tracking progress becomes challenging, with each child sent to a referral base in their town.

Prosecution Success and Reporting:
The Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences Unit (FVCPSU) is a non-profit organisation that works alongside Bobbi Bear to prevent and address family violence and child sexual abuse. In 2023, the FVCPSU secured five life imprisonment sentences for child rapists. Bobbi Bear, the organisation's founder and CEO attended court with the victims' families as much as possible. The cases took place over three to four years.

Bear also participated in the 16 Days of Activism for No Violence against Women and Children campaign. The campaign is a global initiative that aims to raise awareness about gender-based violence. During the campaign, the FVCPSU secured five life imprisonment terms for rape, murder, abduction, and assault.

95% of child rape and sexual abuse cases supported by Bobbi Bear's Child Safety Officers result in successful court prosecutions, showcasing the organisation's commitment to seeking justice.

Increased Reporting:
Bobbi Bear actively ensures an 80% increase in reporting cases of child rape and sexual abuse within the communities and schools where the organisation operates.

Conclusion:
As we navigate through these challenges, the team at Bobbi Bear remains resolute and passionate in their pursuit of justice. The unwavering commitment to rescuing and supporting vulnerable children persists, even in the face of adversity. The organisation acknowledges the vital role of funders and partners in ensuring the continuation of its crucial work.







UZIMA

Soweto

Mission, Aim, and Objectives:
Since the beginning of w2023 Arms Around The Child has begun working with Carol Dyanti who has moved from Ikageng to create Uzima with a new board of trustees and our support Uzima operates in the Ezimbuzini Informal Settlement, Soweto aiming to address pressing health needs, particularly targeting adolescent girls and young women (AGYW), to combat the HIV epidemic prevalent in Sub-Saharan Africa. The mission is to prevent HIV transmission among key vulnerable populations through health education, adherence support, psychosocial support, and empowerment initiatives.

The settlement resides within an Industrial Site, historically renowned for fostering black business growth. In addition to its commercial significance, it served as a marketplace for goat sales during weekends, hence earning the name "Ezimbuzini," derived from the Zulu term for goats. Positioned in Orlando East, it stands close to the iconic Orlando Stadium, which hosted the World Cup Concert in 2010.

Programmess and Activities:

Health Education Workshops and Campaigns:
Conduct workshops and campaigns to prevent HIV transmission among key vulnerable populations within informal settlements and hostels.
Encourage and monitor adherence support to HIV treatment.

Psychosocial Support and Counselling:
Provide psychosocial support, health education, and counselling to individuals affected and infected by HIV, gender-based violence, and substance abuse.
Refer key populations to health facilities or community resources for treatment and medication.

Community Psychoeducation:
Provide scholastic materials and mental support for needy children.
Support early childhood development by assisting parents, particularly single-parent households, with essential skills and materials for raising children.

Women Empowerment:
Initiate programs to empower women with skills, including gender-based violence prevention, entrepreneurship, and supportive knowledge.
Promote healthcare referrals to government institutions for medical check-ups, diagnosis, treatment, and other needed assistance.

HIV/AIDS Awareness and Support:
Provide education on prevention, treatment therapy, disclosure, and coping mechanisms for individuals infected and affected by HIV.
Work towards transforming health services to be people-centred, rights-based, and responsive to community needs, while eliminating stigma and discrimination.



Place of Learning and Safety:
Create a youth-friendly and safe environment conducive to convenient and excellent learning experiences for beneficiaries.

OVC & Y Programme:
Offer after-school care, primary education support, book fairs, arts and culture activities, and nutrition programs for HIV-infected and affected youth and young women from previously disadvantaged communities.

Lesedi - Empowering Girls for the Future:
Aims to address the health needs of AGYW, particularly targeting HIV prevention.
Offers tailored services including HIV testing, empowerment sessions, education subsidies, economic empowerment, post-violence care, PrEP, condom promotion, access to sexual and reproductive health services, parental care programs, and community mobilization.
Uzima South Africa, with the support of Arms Around The Child, remains dedicated to empowering vulnerable populations, breaking the cycle of vulnerability, and ensuring a brighter and healthier future for all in the Ezimbuzini Informal Settlement and beyond.

Lesidi Girls Programme at Uzima.

Empowering Girls for the Future program, which aims to address the health and socio-behavioural needs of adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) in the Ezimbuzini Informal Settlement, Soweto, South Africa. Led by Uzima South Africa, the program targets the high prevalence of HIV infections among AGYW in Sub-Saharan Africa. It provides a range of tailored services and interventions to mitigate vulnerabilities associated with HIV risk and empower AGYW to lead healthier lives.

Services, Activities, and Interventions:

Primary Services:
HIV testing, screening, and counselling through partnerships with organizations like SOHACA and QALA KABUSHA.

Secondary Services:
Community-Based HIV and Violence Prevention Program: Group-based interventions and empowerment sessions in collaboration with organizations like VUTSHILO 1 and 2.

Contextual Activities:
- Education subsidies to assist girls in attending school.
- Comprehensive economic strengthening through CV writing, job search skills, and leadership opportunities.
- Post-violence care for survivors of gender-based violence.
- Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is provided through partnerships with USAID.
- Condom promotion and provision.
- Improved access to youth-responsive sexual and reproductive health services.
- Parental care programs to promote positive parenting practices.
- Community mobilization and norms change programs addressing gender-based violence and harmful social norms in collaboration with relevant organizations.

Overall, the program adopts a holistic approach to address the multifaceted challenges faced by AGYW, aiming to break the cycle of vulnerability and empower them to lead healthier, more fulfilled lives.



JOHANNESBURG | Nkosi's Haven

Supporting Nkosi's Haven has mainly been through Vocational Impact programme which sends

University student volunteers who are studying courses including Business or International Development, Psychology, Health and Social Care at graduate, post Grad, and PhD levels. The programme not only sends students to support the essential work of Nkosi's Haven but also uses the fees to support Nkosi's with donations throughout the year.

Nkosi's Haven provides a home for children who have been orphaned by AIDS. A safe home for over 100 children and about 25 mothers. The children receive a quality education, health care, good nutrition, housing and support. The right to education is often a challenge for children who are infected with HIV/AIDS. Getting a good quality education is of the utmost importance at Nkosi's Haven.

The children who live in Nkosi's Haven receive their education at schools inside the community. Nkosi's Haven is the dream project of Nkosi Johnson, to whom the International Children's Peace Prize was dedicated posthumously in 2015. In his short life, Nkosi advocated for the rights of children with HIV/AIDS. Nkosi's Haven was founded in 1999 by Gail Johnson, Nkosi's foster mother. AATC continued to support the work of Nkosi's Haven through 2023 and hopes to expand the support in 2024. '











INDIA

Jaipur Faith

Arms Around The Child (AATC) UK is proud to help develop and support FAITH - AALINGAN, an institution dedicated to providing care, support, and love to children living with HIV in India. Since 2012, AATC has been a steadfast partner in ensuring that these children receive the necessary care, education, and opportunities to thrive despite the challenges they face due to their HIV status.

Health and Nutrition:

At FAITH - AALINGAN, we recognize the unique health and nutritional needs of children living with HIV. Through our partnership with the ART Centre at SMS Hospital in Jaipur, these children receive essential medical care, including ART medication, CD4 count tests, and counselling services. Our dedicated staff ensures that ART medication adherence rates remain consistently above 99%, reflecting our commitment to the well-being of every child under our care.

Education:

Education is a fundamental aspect of every child's development, regardless of their circumstances. At FAITH-AALINGAN, we ensure that all children attend regular school or college, providing them with opportunities to excel academically. Despite facing challenges such as dropping out or lacking basic literacy skills, our tutors work tirelessly to bridge these gaps and support each child's educational journey.

Future Aspirations and Career Counselling:

We believe in empowering children to dream big and pursue their passions. Through career counselling sessions and interactions with professionals from diverse sectors, we help children explore their interests and aspirations. By providing guidance and support, we aim to equip them with the skills they need to succeed in their chosen paths.





Enrichment Activities:
Beyond academics, FAITH - AALINGAN offers a variety of enrichment activities to nurture creativity, physical well-being, and spiritual growth. From art and craft sessions to gardening, yoga, and spiritual teachings, we provide a holistic environment where children can thrive and explore their talents.

Celebrations and Outings:
We believe in creating joyful experiences that foster a sense of belonging and community among our children. From birthday celebrations to festivals like Independence Day, Janmashtami, Rakshabandhan, and Diwali, we ensure that every occasion is marked with love, laughter, and meaningful connections. Additionally, we organize outings and trips to places of cultural and recreational significance, allowing children to experience the world beyond the confines of their everyday lives.

Re-integration and Follow-up:
FAITH - AALINGAN is committed to facilitating the reintegration of children into their families or communities whenever possible. Through counselling, capacity-building programs, and regular interactions with families, we strive to create a supportive environment for successful reintegration. Our effective follow-up system ensures that children continue to receive support and care even after leaving our institution.

Monitoring and Evaluation:
We understand the importance of accountability and continuous improvement. Through internal monitoring processes, oversight by relevant agencies, and regular reporting, we ensure that our programs meet the highest standards of quality and effectiveness. Our dedicated team of staff and volunteers works tirelessly to uphold the well-being and rights of every child under our care.

Conclusion:
FAITH - AALINGAN is more than just an institution; it is a beacon of hope and support for children living with HIV in India. With the unwavering support of Arms Around The Child and other partners, we remain committed to providing these children with the love, care, and opportunities they need to thrive and realise their full potential. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of these vulnerable children and build a brighter future for them.





FUND A MOM

Jaipur

Despite the challenges posed by the ongoing global circumstances, FAM remained dedicated to its mission of empowering mothers through financial assistance, education, and community engagement.

Financial Overview:
In 2023, FAM experienced robust financial performance, marked by increased donations and strategic partnerships. The total funds raised reached an all-time high of [amount], showcasing the growing support and trust from our generous donors and sponsors. These funds played a crucial role in expanding our reach and impact, allowing us to assist even more mothers facing financial hardships.

Programme Highlights:

Financial Assistance:
FAM's core program continued to provide direct financial assistance to mothers in need. Through a careful vetting process, we identified and supported [number] mothers facing various challenges, including single parenthood, unemployment, and economic instability. The financial aid provided enabled these mothers to meet essential needs, ensuring the well-being of both them and their children.

Educational Initiatives:
Education remains a cornerstone of FAM's mission. In 2023, we expanded our educational initiatives to empower mothers with essential skills and knowledge. Workshops and training sessions covered topics such as financial literacy, career development, and mental health. These initiatives aimed to equip mothers with the tools necessary to break the cycle of poverty and create a brighter future for their families.

Community Engagement:
FAM believes in the strength of community support. Throughout the year, we organized community events, outreach programs, and support groups. These initiatives fostered a sense of belonging and solidarity among the mothers we serve. The creation of a supportive community allows mothers to share experiences, seek advice, and build lasting connections, creating a network of mutual assistance.

Impactful Stories:
FAM is proud to share stories of transformation and resilience from the mothers we supported in 2023. Many recipients of our financial assistance reported improved living conditions, better access to education for their children, and a newfound sense of hope. These success stories underscore the profound impact that targeted support can have on the lives of struggling mothers and their families.

FAM Updates:
See below for a more detailed account of specific case studies, program developments, and testimonials from mothers who benefited from FAM's initiatives over the past 5 years. It serves as a testament to the organization's commitment to transparency and accountability.

CASE STORIES



Jasoda Rajput:
Jasoda, who initially struggled with physical challenges and financial difficulties, has seen positive changes. Her elder son is pursuing graduation, and she works as an ASHA, earning Rs 6,000 per month. Jasoda also engages in tuition and NGO work, further enhancing her income. With improved financial stability, she no longer requires FAM support.



Sonu Dhanaka:

Sonu, initially facing domestic violence and financial crisis, has made significant progress since her association with FAM. She now works in a company, earning Rs 12,000 per month. The issues with her husband have been resolved, and he supports her financially. Sonu's children are attending school regularly. Considering her improved situation, she no longer requires support from FAM.



Mamta:

Mamta's family has shown remarkable progress. Both her elder sons are employed, earning Rs 10,000 and Rs 9,000 per month, respectively. Mamta herself earns Rs 6,000 monthly through domestic work. Their combined income has significantly improved, and Mamta no longer requires support, making space for another mom in need.

Mithlesh:

Mithlesh's family has progressed, with both elder sons employed and earning Rs 9,000 and Rs 7,000 per month. Mithlesh herself earns Rs 6,000-7,000 monthly. Their improved financial condition indicates that they no longer need support from FAM, opening the way to assist another mom.

Poonam Devi:

Poonam's family has experienced significant positive changes. Her elder son earns Rs 12,000 per month, and Poonam herself earns Rs 7,000-8,000. With additional support from government pensions and grants, their financial situation has improved. Poonam



no longer requires FAM assistance, making room for another mom in need.

Malti Devi:

Malti Devi's family has seen substantial improvement. Both her elder daughters have completed their studies and secured good jobs. Malti herself no longer requires FAM support. Her family's financial condition has stabilized, indicating successful outcomes from the support provided.

Pinkey Devi:

Pinkey has relocated and built a new house. She works in a cloth export company, earning Rs 12,000 per month, and engages in tailoring, generating additional income. Pinkey's improved financial situation, along with government support, suggests she no longer needs FAM assistance.

Sona Verma:

Sona Verma has faced challenges but has found stability. While she lost her job, she now works in a private office and earns Rs 10,000 monthly. Additionally, she receives government grants for her children's education and upbringing. Sona's improved financial condition indicates that she no longer requires support from FAM.

These updates demonstrate the positive impact of FAM's support, empowering mothers and families to achieve financial stability and independence.

LOOKING AHEAD:

As we reflect on the accomplishments of 2023, FAM remains focused on the future. We aim to further expand our programmes, reach more mothers in need, and deepen our impact within communities. The ongoing support from our donors and partners is invaluable, and we look forward to continuing this journey of empowerment and positive change in the years to come one meaningful intervention at a time.



GLOBAL INITIATIVES:

Vocational Impact I Sponsor A Child I Artist Residency

Reflecting on the accomplishments and challenges of 2023, Vocational Impact is proud to present our annual report, encapsulating a year of dedication, growth, and positive impact. Guided by our mission to empower individuals through vocational training, cultural exchange and travel, we've witnessed significant strides in providing sustainable solutions to the communities we work with.

Organisation Values & Ethos

VI has 4 core goals:

- VI is a not-for-profit NGO connecting skilled volunteers to the projects where they're needed most.
- VI provides safe and ethical volunteer programmes focused on skills-based learning and cultural exchange.
- Volunteers will collaborate with local professionals, gaining practical field experience and making a real difference in developing communities.
- VI's volunteer programmes provide our projects with a sustainable source of donations and funding.

The Market & Our USP's

There is a strong desire for travel after COVID and our enquiries have doubled since 2022. We have found there is a big demand for psychology placements domestically in the UK. Lots of students and grads are competing for a limited number of psychology placements in the UK/ EU/ AUS. Students need to have some practical experience for career progression.

Students are increasingly looking abroad for placement opportunities to get industry and professional experience, which we provide a solution to.

USP's

- We are an NGO
- We specialise in Psychology & Mental Health Programmes
- We specialise in Criminology & Law Programmes
- We offer the largest number of Psychology programmes in the market.
- We have 5 programmes in 3 locations, competitors
- offer at most 2 but have a wide range of other programmes and locations other than Psychology.
- We are experts in travel in Ghana, South Africa and India
- We have exceptional partnerships and programmes

Programme Development

- We have focused on developing our programme experience and quality.
- We have 20 programmes in 3 destinations
- We have focused on building the right partnerships for the practical/ work part of the volunteering experience
- We have worked on developing the pre-departure information system, in-country personnel, communication and coordination, and the programme logistics (food, accommodation, transport, etc.).



VOLUNTEERS & FEEDBACK

A total of 20 volunteers went on VI programmes in 2023, 16 to Ghana and 4 to India.

The most popular programmes were Psychology & Mental Health and Law & Criminology. The busy months were June to September.

The overall experience and feedback were positive.

The volunteers gained a lot from the experience in terms of working at our foundations, supporting the children, and helping with community outreach projects. Our foundations also really enjoyed hosting the volunteers and found their input and help very useful.

'I had the best time!! I want to thank Vocational Impact because it was very well organized, and I felt very safe and taken care of. I'm very grateful for all the work you guys put in! Priceless!'

Lena Funk, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Psychology Volunteer in India, November 2023



'This was probably one of the most amazing but also the hardest and most intense experiences of my life to date. I was involved in some breakthroughs with some of the rehab, bipolar & anger management patients. I ended up doing 8 am-6:30/7 pm most days as there was too much to do, see and talk to/about. I also helped do a lot of psychoeducation on diagnosis and the brain, in both the male ward and rehab clinic and the counsellors let me write up the reports. This was all such an incredible experience and has helped my professional and career development.'

Jess Walch, Sydney University, Psychology Volunteer in Ghana, October 2023

'It is nothing like one can experience in the UK and just gives a fresh perspective on life. It has made me appreciate life so much and how lucky we are. I appreciate the little things so much more now.'

Polly Jones, Nottingham Trent University, Psychology Volunteer in Ghana, June 2023

'In terms of preparation, I must express my appreciation for the exceptional support provided by Vocational Impact. I felt calm and well-prepared for the journey, thanks to the comprehensive information and guidance I received. Every step of the way, my questions were answered, and I felt supported throughout the process. Overall, I believe the organization did an outstanding job in preparing volunteers for their placements. It's challenging to think of any areas that require improvement, as the support and information provided were exceptional, contributing to a smooth and enriching volunteering experience'.

Heena Shanker, Solent University, Psychology & Mental Health Volunteer in Ghana, June 2023

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Website

In 2023 we had a big revamp of the website. We worked with marketing consultants Tom Mangan, and Andy Downham from Kandi Media, to improve the website experience and capture more enquiries. We made it clear and concise: Who we are, what we offer, where we work and why you should join us.

We focussed on:

- Programme Categories,
- Locations,
- Programme Pages,
- Enquiry Forms,
- Reviews

The goal of the website redevelopment was to increase traffic and volume to the website and more specifically the quality of our enquiries and applications.

Bright Future

Our target for 2024 is to double our volunteer numbers to 40. We want to send volunteers to all 3 of our sites in South Africa, Ghana & India, and we look forward to volunteers participating in our new and improved programmes in Ghana and South Africa.

We had 943 enquiries in 2023, an average of 82 monthly, and we had 180 applications after enquiry at an average of 18 per month. From January to March 2024, we have already seen applications increase and have received 182 applications in the first 3 months at an average of 60 per month. This shows there is a strong demand for our programmes.

In 2023 we successfully expanded our reach, having volunteers join us from Australia, Germany and the Netherlands. In 2024 we would like to receive more volunteers from the US.

With increased volunteer numbers would come more donation fees. We hope that we can continue to generate a significant volume of donations to our projects next year to help continue to fund and support their work.

Our volunteer work with Vocational Impact is continuing to grow and we look forward to trying to solidify and grow VI over the next year. There are many benefits to the VI programmes; the cultural exchange and learning experience between the volunteers, children and staff is reciprocal and mutually beneficial, the volunteers leave a lasting and positive impact on the children and the community, and the volunteers take away a richer cultural understanding as well as practical field experience in their area of study. We hope to continue building on the positive steps taken in 2022 & 2023.

SPONSOR A CHILD

The Arms Around The Child Sponsor Programme remains steadfast in its commitment to fostering a nurturing and compassionate environment for orphaned and abandoned children. Through the generosity of our sponsors, we have been able to offer these children a promising start in life by providing essential resources such as homes, healthcare, medications, food, and nutrition.

Our sponsorship programme goes beyond financial support; it cultivates a bond between sponsors and the children they support and the sponsored child's community. Sponsors receive updates, including photos, messages, and letters, allowing them to connect with and support their sponsored child on a personal level.

This relationship serves as a foundation for sustained donations, enabling us to offer long-term care and financial assistance to communities in need. By securing funding for our partners on the ground in India and Africa, we ensure the implementation of sustainable, long-term solutions to address the challenges faced by these communities. We remain committed to its growth in the years ahead. Through continued dedication and support, we aspire to expand the reach and impact of this programme, positively transforming the lives of even more vulnerable children around the world.







ARTISTS RESIDENCY

In 2023, Arms Around The Child embarked on a ground-breaking endeavour with the trial of The Art Residency program in Senya Beraku, Ghana, in collaboration with renowned artist Pie Herring. Hosted at The Christian Atsu Education Centre, this initiative marked a significant milestone in our mission to enrich the lives of children through artistic exploration and expression.

Guided by Pie Herring's expertise, the Art Residency provided an unparalleled platform for children to delve into their creativity and unlock their artistic potential. Through immersive workshops and interactive sessions, participants were encouraged to express themselves freely, using various mediums to convey their thoughts and emotions. This nurturing environment empowered children to discover the transformative power of art in shaping their identities and perceptions.

Pie Herring's involvement extended beyond facilitating the Art Residency programme; she embarked on her creative journey, drawing inspiration from the vibrant culture and landscapes of Ghana. Immersed in the community, Pie's artworks captured the essence of Senya Beraku, reflecting its colours, textures, and rhythms of everyday life. These captivating paintings will culminate in an exhibition and sale in London in Autumn 2024, with a % of the proceeds benefiting Arms Around The Child. This exhibition not only provides art enthusiasts with an opportunity to acquire Pie's evocative work but also supports our mission to empower vulnerable children and communities in Ghana and beyond.

As we eagerly anticipate the unveiling of Pie's creations, we are grateful for her dedication, talent, and generosity. Her partnership with Arms Around The Child exemplifies the transformative potential of art as a catalyst for social change and community empowerment.



PUBLIC BENEFIT

Our trustees affirm their adherence to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in delineating the activities necessary for the fulfilment of our charity's aims and objectives. Arms Around The Child actively fosters public benefit through fundraising efforts aimed at aiding children and families impacted by HIV/AIDS. Additionally, we extend support to children who have endured abandonment, and abuse, and those living in child-headed households. Our commitment extends to those rescued from slavery and trafficking, as well as to orphaned individuals, alongside other related initiatives.

Arms Around The Child operates on a principle of inclusivity and non-discrimination. We warmly welcome fundraising contributions from all members of the public.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Arms Around The Child (AATC) has collaborated extensively with our Board of Trustees on strategic planning, budget allocation, securing funding, and submitting grant applications for all the sites we actively support. We are deeply involved in supporting, developing, and providing training for the communities we serve in South Africa, India, and Ghana. Additionally, we are actively engaged in the process of identifying and recruiting new board members, as well as devising innovative fundraising strategies tailored to the unique contexts of the communities we support in these regions.

Our achievements and performance metrics for each supported site are detailed in the notes, along with further information regarding our fundraising accomplishments and performances in the UK.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION & SITE VISITS

In 2023, Arms Around The Child (AATC) embarked on two significant trips to Ghana as part of our ongoing development efforts. Our organisation prioritises regular visits to the sites and countries where we are actively involved, striving to maintain a presence at least once every two years. During these visits, we leverage the collaboration with Vocational Impact students who contribute to our supported organisations, enabling us to forge stronger connections and engage more closely with the communities we serve.

In addition to our activities in Ghana, a similar journey will be organised to India, focusing on visiting the homes we support and crafting a new volunteer programme. This trip will also provide an opportunity to follow up on the Fund A Mom initiative and coordinate with local organisations, facilitating visits to our sites on behalf of AATC. These visits underscore our commitment to hands-on involvement and partnership with communities, ensuring that our efforts align closely with their needs and aspirations.

FUNDING

DONATIONS

In 2023, Arms Around The Child (AATC) was honoured to receive generous support for our programmes in India and we are immensely grateful for the donations from several esteemed Trusts and Foundations, including the Lady Yuen Peng McNeice Charitable Foundation, the Ward Family Charitable Trust, The Woodford Trust, Westwood Charitable Trust, The Carron Charitable Settlement, The Pat Newman Trust, The Hudson Charitable Trust, The Hyne Trust, and The Christadelphian Samaritan Trust.

Continuing our impactful work in Ghana, we are deeply appreciative of the ongoing support from Sono Global. Unfortunately, the intended contributions from Christian Atsu, aimed at aiding the completion of the school in Senya Beraku, were regrettably interrupted due to the tragic earthquake in Turkey, which claimed his life. Lazy Susan Furniture has continued to be a great support to our work in Ghana along with Match Worn Shirts, Talk of Tyneside and a special mention to Gaynor Fascione for her fundraising efforts.

At AATC, we maintain a dedicated database of regular monthly donors and are grateful for the contributions received through one-off fundraising initiatives via our platform through Enthuse and our website. Victorious Festival remains one of our regular donors as we enter our 8th year of running The World Music Village.

THE WORLD MUSIC VILLAGE

Victorious Festival Portsmouth | August 2023

The World Music Village (WMV) at Victorious Festival 2023 once again proved itself as a vibrant celebration of cultural diversity and inclusivity. Nestled within the festival grounds, the WMV stood out as a bastion of multiculturalism, offering a rich tapestry of musical styles, dances, and cuisines from across the globe.

One of the highlights of 2023's WMV was the eclectic line-up of performances that showcased the incredible talent and diversity. From the soulful acoustic set by Alabama 3 to the pulsating beats of The Dhol Foundation, each act brought something unique to the stage. The All-female Afro-Latin band Colectiva captivated audiences with their infectious rhythms, while Dele Sosimi transported listeners to the heart of Nigeria with his mesmerising Afrobeat melodies. TC and the Groove Family added a touch of funk and soul, rounding off the line-up with their dynamic performance.

But the WMV was more than just a platform for musical entertainment'it was a space for cultural exchange and appreciation. Festivalgoers were invited to immerse themselves in the sounds, dances, and traditions of different cultures, fostering a sense of unity and understanding among attendees. From Afro-Latin dance workshops and local performances to traditional food stalls offering flavours from around the world, the WMV provided a sensory journey that transcended borders and boundaries.

For Arms Around The Child, a Portsmouth-based charity dedicated to supporting children in extreme adversity, the WMV offered a valuable opportunity to connect with the community and raise awareness about their vital work. Amidst the vibrant atmosphere of the festival, volunteers had the chance to engage with thousands of people, sharing stories of hope and resilience and rallying support for vulnerable children in Ghana, South Africa, and India. Through the generosity of Victorious, volunteers, and festivalgoers, Arms Around The Child was able to continue expanding its reach and making a meaningful difference in the lives of those in need.

As the sun set on another successful fund-raising year at Victorious Festival, the spirit of unity and celebration lingered on in the air. The World Music Village had once again proven itself as a beacon of diversity and inclusivity, reminding us of the power of music and culture to bring people together, regardless of background or nationality.





ESCAPE TO THE FARM

A Rural Retreat for the Whole Family: Escape to the Farm at Rushmere Farm, Hambledon 09/09/23

A Rural Retreat for the Whole Family: Escape to the Farm at Rushmere Farm, Hambledon 09/09/23

Escape to the Farm at Rushmere Farm in Hambledon in September 2023 offered a delightful blend of relaxation, wellness, camping and family-friendly fun, all set against the picturesque backdrop of a rural organic farm. This family-friendly retreat, inspired by the ethos of community and connection, provided a perfect opportunity to unwind and rejuvenate in the tranquil embrace of nature while supporting the charitable cause of Arms Around the Child.

Nestled amidst the barn and woodland areas of Rushmere Farm, Escape to the Farm promised a day filled with enriching workshops, holistic wellness activities, delicious vegan cuisine, soul-stirring acoustic music, poetry readings, and engaging kids' activities. With a diverse programme curated to cater to all ages and interests, attendees were treated to a truly immersive experience aimed at nurturing the mind, body, and spirit.

The day kicked off with family meditation, yoga, sound healing, and Tai Chi sessions, setting the tone for a day of mindfulness and self-care. Guests were invited to explore the healing fields, where they could indulge in rejuvenating massages, reiki sessions, tarot readings, and astrology consultations, fostering a sense of inner harmony and well-being.

For those seeking creative expression, Escape to the Farm offered a variety of workshops and activities, including environmental discussions, drum workshops, ecstatic dance sessions, and food workshops such as pizza making. Poetry enthusiasts found solace in the tranquil woods, where they were treated to soul-stirring performances and open mic sessions.

Throughout the day, there was acoustic music, ranging from country and blues to jazz and folk, creating a serene backdrop for relaxation and reflection. As the evening descended, guests gathered around the campfire for storytelling, marshmallow roasting, and acoustic jams.

Children were not left out of the festivities, with a dedicated Creative Circle offering painting and drawing workshops, storytelling sessions, kids' yoga, face painting, and glitter art. The inclusion of family-friendly activities ensured that Escape to the Farm truly lived up to its promise of being an inclusive and welcoming event for all.

Culinary delights awaited guests at the Hungry Herbivores stall, where wholesome, healthy, and delicious vegan meals were served throughout the day. From mezze plates for lunch to Indian-inspired thali plates for dinner.

Escape to the Farm at Rushmere Farm was a testament to the power of coming together, embracing nature, and nurturing the spirit of giving, all while basking in the warmth of family and community. Returning September 7th, 2024.



MATCH WORN SHIRTS AUCTION

Christian Atsu's journey from humble beginnings to international football stardom epitomised the power of resilience and determination. His affiliation with Chelsea Football Club in 2013 marked the beginning of a fruitful sporting career, during which he not only showcased exceptional talent but also used his platform to champion noble causes and uplift marginalised communities.

In honour of Christian's memory and his unwavering dedication to charitable work, Chelsea Football Team came together to auction match-worn shirts and other memorabilia from their Premier League encounter at Stamford Bridge on March 18th, 2023. The proceeds from the auction were specifically to support the completion of a school project initiated by Christian in Senya Beraku, Ghana, back in 2018.

Chelsea captain at the time, Cesar Azpilicueta, aptly captured the essence of this endeavour, emphasising its significance in preserving Christian's legacy and continuing his humanitarian efforts.

Notably, the addition of a signed Gary Cahill shirt to the auction added to the allure of this fundraising event, offering supporters an opportunity to own cherished memorabilia while contributing to a worthy cause.

The auction, which ran until 2 pm on April 8th, 2023, created an exciting opportunity for football enthusiasts and philanthropists alike to make a meaningful difference in the lives of orphaned children in Ghana. By participating in the auction, supporters not only honour Christian's memory but also uphold his belief in the transformative power of education.

As the auction progressed, supporters were encouraged to follow the bidding process closely via the designated links provided for the Chelsea match-worn shirts. In conclusion, the fundraising auction organised by Match Worn Shirts raised enough funds to finish the building of the school in Senya Beraku which was opened in June 2023 and stands as a poignant tribute to Christian Atsu's indelible legacy and a testament to the enduring impact of compassion and solidarity in our global community.



PRO BONO

A big thank you to all our volunteers and supporters

We are deeply appreciative of the pro bono support provided by KANDI LONDON, which has been instrumental in enhancing the Arms Around The Child, Fund a Mom and Vocational Impact initiatives. Their assistance with graphics, website development, and maintenance has significantly contributed to our outreach efforts.

Furthermore, we extend our gratitude to Jason Colchin Carter for his pro bono support in establishing the Art Residency in Ghana. His dedication has been invaluable in realizing this impactful project.

In addition to individual support, we are fortunate to have received assistance from corporate partners in ensuring the success of our events. Special thanks to Portobello Brewing Company and Cansecco/Canvino for their generous support in providing hospitality services for our events.

Lastly, we express our heartfelt appreciation to all our volunteers whose unwavering dedication has been a cornerstone of our success throughout 2023. Their contributions to events such as Victorious Festival and Escape to the Farm have been indispensable in advancing our mission and serving those in need.



Rest In Eternal Peace

Christian Atsu 1992-2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

A summary of the year's results can be found in the statement of financial activities on page 29.

Total incoming resources amounted to £ 213,004.70 (2022: £ 175,637). All of this relates to charitable donations.

The balance sheet shows total funds of £ 50,842 (2022: £ 43.576).

Reserves policy

At the balance sheet date the unrestricted fund was £ 42,586 (2022: £25,784) the restricted fund was £ 10,658 (2022: £ 17,7923). Last year the charity had net current assets of £43,576 of which £46,255 was held as cash at the bank. The bank balance at 12 December 2023 was £53,245.74.

The trustees are planning future fund raising events and exploring potential sponsorship opportunities. In addition, the trustees are reviewing the model for their fundraising events with the aim of reducing the costs involved in staging them, therefore ensuring an increase in the amounts raised for the charity's programmes.

The trustees' policy is to work towards building a sustainable level of reserves over the next five years to fund the charity's programmes and running costs for at least the following twelve months.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are appraised of their duties and obligations under charity law and Charity Commission guidelines and recommendations. The trustees adhere to corporate governance policies and are required to register and declare any potential conflicts of interest on a regular basis. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external courses to enable them to carry out their role.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1123038

Principal address

93 Festing Grove
Southsea Hampshire
PO4 9QE

Trustees

Mr F Runge
Ms J E Milner
Ms R Cason-Marcus
Mr M Lyn
Ms H O'Brien
Ms K Sharma

Independent Examiner

Johnny Kritzinger
Chartered Accountant (CA)

ICAEW Membership Nr: 5483062

Approved by order of the board of trustees and signed on its behalf.



....
Mr F Runge - Trustee Ms JE Milner - Trustee

Date: 14th May 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Arms Around The Child (UK)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Arms Around The Child (UK) (the Trust) for the year ended 12 December 2023.

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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or

2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Johnny Kritzinger
Chartered Accountant (CA)
ICAEW Membership Nr: 5483062

Date: 14th May 2024

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	**2023 Total funds £**	2022 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	97,756	31,817	**129,573**	124,620
Other trading activities	3	82,826	-	**82,826**	50,943
Bank intest income	4	368	237	**605**	74
Total		180,951	32,054	**213,005**	**175,637**
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	5	(38,371)	(2,321)	**(40,692)**	(41,565)
Charitable activities	6				
Grants to projects and associated costs		(78,269)	(34,952)	**(113,221)**	(115,418)
Development costs		(38,291)	(13,535)	**(51,826)**	(31,101)
Total Expenditure		(154,931)	(50,807)	**(205,738)**	**(188,084)**
Transfer between funds		(14,253)	14,253		
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	12	11,767	(4,501)	**7,266**	**(12,447)**
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		25,784	17,792	**43,576**	56,022
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		37,551	13,291	**50,842**	43,575

The notes form part of these financial statements.

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 12 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank		42,586	10,660	**53,246**	46,255
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(2,403)	-	**(2,403)**	(2,679)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		40,183	10,660	**50,842**	**43,576**
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		40,183	10,660	**50,842**	**43,576**
NET ASSETS		40,183	10,660	**50,842**	**43,576**
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				**40,183**	25,784
Restricted funds				**10,660**	17,792
TOTAL FUNDS				**50,842**	**43,576**

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 14th May 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



....

Mr F Runge - Trustee Ms JE Milner - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements.

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
NOTES TO THE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12 DECEMBER 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Going Concern
The trustees consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

At the balance sheet date the charity had net assets of £50,842 and cash reserves of £53,246. The trustees consider that it will be in a position to meet its obligation as they fall due.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Charitable activities
Costs of charitable activities includes grants made.

Allocation and apportionment of costs
Support costs have been allocated to costs of generating funds and then are apportioned between fund raising and generating voluntary income. Support costs have been apportioned based upon the income under each of these headings.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
NOTES TO THE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12 DECEMBER 2023

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES	2023	2022
Donations	**85,856**	62,387
Vocational Impact volunteer donations	**43,717**	62,234
	129,573	124,620

Further information on mentionable donors are given in note 15.

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

Fundraising events	**82,826**	50,943

During the year the charity held events to raise funds. The most significant event was the Victorious Music Festival.

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

Bank Interest Received	**605**	74

5. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

Consultancy	**-**	
Event costs	**16,430**	22,360
Support costs	**24,262**	19,205
	40,692	41,565

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

Grants to projects and associated costs	**144,685**	115,418
Development Costs	**51,826**	31,101
	196,511	**146,519**

Further information on grants made to projects is given in note 14.

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
NOTES TO THE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12 DECEMBER 2023

7. SUPPORT COSTS

Support costs are allocated equally between fund raising activities and raising awareness, campaigns and education.

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

Ms E Milner received payment in respect of other services provide to the charity, further details are given in note 13.

9. EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

During the current and prior years the charity had no employees.

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	**Total funds £**
Donations and legacies	62,387	62,234	**124,621**
Other trading activities	50,943	-	**50,943**
Investment income	62	12	**74**
Total	113,392	62,246	**175,638**
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	(41,565)	-	**(41,565)**
Charitable activities			
Grants to projects and associated costs	(69,897)	(45,521)	**(115,418)**
Development costs	(27,731)	(3,370)	**(31,101)**
Total	(139,193)	(48,891)	**(188,084)**
NET	(25,801)	13,355	(12,446)
Transfers between funds		-	**-**
Net movement in funds	(25,801)	13,355	(12,446)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	51,585	4,437	**56,022**
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	25,784	17,792	**43,576**

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
NOTES TO THE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12 DECEMBER 2023

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
Trade Creditors	**2,403**	2679
Accruals and deferred income	-	-
	2,403	**2,679**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 12 Dec 22	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 12 Dec 23
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	28,466	(17,344)	-	11,122
Restricted Fund				
Vocational Impact	17,513	13,983	-	31,496
Becky's Foundation (incl CAF USA)	-			-
India Projects (incl CAF USA)	-	(20,836)		(20,836)
Total	**45,979**	**-24,198**	**0**	**21,781**

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
Unrestricted Funds			
General Fund	169,051	(186,395)	(17,344)
Restricted Funds			
Vocational Impact	32,054	(18,068)	13,986
Becky's Foundation (incl CAF USA)	-	-	-
India Projects (incl CAF USA)	11,900	(32,739)	(20,839)
Total	213,005	(237,203)	(24,198)

Vocational Impact - Vocational Impact have a deep passion and drive to link professional volunteers and university students to the Arms Around The Child projects in Africa and India. With a core mission to drive international skills exchange and empowerment, they recognised the need of NGOs, and the skills university students can bring to them. During the year Volunteer Invest changed its name to Vocational Impact.

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
NOTES TO THE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12 DECEMBER 2023

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Becky's Foundation - Arms Around The Child works with Becky's Foundation, a care home for children in poverty in Senya Beraku , Ghana. The project aims to offer a home for orphaned children and to provide them with shelter, protection, support, and education. Donor funds for this cause is restricted if instructed as such by the donor. During the year Charities Aid Foundation made donations to this project and these funds were used to support the running costs of the home. During the year funds have been received to start building a school at Becky's Home.

India Projects and Charites Aid Foundation Funds - Arms Around The Child works with various projects in India.Faith Sansthan is a safe home for HIV+ orphans. Vatslaya Jalore is a child care home and care centre for boys affected with HIV/AIDS. CHEER is a skills development project and Fund A Mom is a universal basic income scheme for mothers in need. Donor funds for this cause is restricted if instructed as such by the donor. Funds from CAF have been used to cover operational costs for these projects.

Comparatives for movement in funds:

	At 12 Dec 21	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 12 Dec 22
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	54,265	(25,801)	-	28,464
Restricted Fund				
Vocational Impact	4,435	(3,357)	-	1,078
Becky's Foundation (incl CAF	-		-	-
India Projects (incl CAF USA)	-	16,712	-	16,712
Total	**56,021**	**(12,446)**	**0**	**46,254**

Each year the charity uses funds from the unrestricted fund to support the administrative costs incurred by the restricted funds as and when the need arises.

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year the charity made payments to Ms E Milner, a member of the key management personnel and a trustee of the charity.

The payments totalling £ 36,000 (2022: £29,500) were in respect of raising awareness of the charity and its aims, fundraising, management, event management services and payment of consultant fees to support AATC. In addition, during the year expenses directly relating to the activities of the charity and the running of the charity totalling £ 3,000 (2022: £3,000) were reimbursed to Ms E Milner.

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
NOTES TO THE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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14. GRANTS MADE TO PROJECTS

During the year the following grants were paid to support projects and individuals in India and South Africa;

Faith Sansthan - the project supports care homes in Jaipur, India, which provide care for children affected by HIV/AIDS. During the year the charity provided funds of £11,900 (2022:£12,042).

AATC India - The project supports various of the India initiatives such as Vatslaya Jalore , CHEER and Fund a Mom as well as Covid Appeal Jaipur. During the year the charity provided £20,839.32 (2022: £18,768)

Becky's Home - The project supports the running costs, education, food and staffing for 55 orphans rescued from Slavery and Trafficking in Senya Beraku, Ghana. During the year the charity provided funds of £65,672 (2022:£36,956).

Bobbi Bear Fund - the project in Durban, South Africa, provides support for children who are victims of abuse, abandonment and rape. During the year the charity provided funds of £ 14,250 (2022: £6,050) .

Friends Without Borders Refugee Children. During the year the charity provided funds of £100 (2022: £600).

15. *SIGNIFICANT DONATIONS*

During the year the following notable donations were received to support specific (restricted) projects;

Donor name	Project/Fund Use
The Lady Yuen Peng McNeice Charitable Foundation	*India Projects*
The Ward Family Charitable	*India Projects*
TrustTheWoodford Trust	*India Projects*
Westwood Charitable Trust	*India Projects*
The Carron Charitbale Trust	*India Projects*
The Pat Newman Trust	*India Projects*
The Hudson Charitable Trust	*India Projects*
The Hyne Trust	*India Projects*
The Christadelphian Samaritan Trust	*India Projects*

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD(UK)

England & Wales - Charity number 1123038

Accounts



arms around the child

2022 Annual Report









2022 Annual Report

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OBJECTIVES, AIMS & ACTIVITIES

1. Relief for orphaned and vulnerable children living in extreme adversity.
We work for the preservation of health among children affected or at risk of HIV/AIDS. We help children residing in India and South Africa by raising awareness and providing the essential social and medical care needed to support healthy and safe lives.

2. To advance education and awareness.
We work to raise knowledge about children rescued from slavery, trafficking and abuse or living in child-headed households continue through education, social outreach and campaigns.

3. To Make Lasting Change
We continue to educate governments and health agencies about the needs of children in the above-mentioned circumstances.

Mission Statement

Arms Around The Child (AATC) is a global charity building a better and kinder environment for children living in extreme adversity.

This could be children who are orphaned, abandoned, or at risk of child abuse sexual or otherwise, affected by HIV, trafficked or living in child-headed households.

With years of experience in direct care, Arms Around The Child are committed to working with people on the ground and involved with the communities affected. We support our partner organisations to train and implement programmes in a scalable way including reintegration and development programmes to help children stay within their families and extended families. We know that providing the kind of joy, love, peace and respect that children need leads to a brighter future.

AATC advocates for their needs and invests in their futures. They provide support and outreach for their extended families and strive to make their futures bright and happy.

Significant Activities

Arms Around The Child UK work closely with our on-ground partners in India, South Africa and Ghana to support them in:

- Develop Fundraising initiatives
- Day-to-day administration
- Development
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Good working practices
- Raising awareness
- Advocating for the rights of children

Arms Around The Child focuses on Community-based fundraising in the UK, grant applications and funding through one-off events and campaigns.



PROJECTS IN INDIA

Faith Aalingan, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India

Project Background

We fund and manage 2 care homes, in a suburban setting; one for boys and one for girls which together can accommodate 55 children We have just completed the first phase of building a new home which houses the boys, and we are starting the next building phase to enlarge the home as the demand is high for more places for children HIV+ orphans who are shunned from their communities. Both homes have all the amenities and facilities necessary for the children to have a healthy, peaceful and caring environment.

The homes have an excellent infrastructure providing a comfortable living for children both during scorching summers and chilly winters. Parkland and a clean, natural environment are nearby. Despite the high levels of stigma around HIV/AIDS most of the neighbours are helpful and friendly and have got to know the children. It's a good location for children to grow.

In addition to the dormitory bedrooms, kitchens and dining rooms you'd expect, there are study areas, music, praying and yoga areas and play spaces (both indoor and outdoor). The house has 24/7 electricity and water facilities (not something you can assume in India). The buildings are well maintained, and security is given a high priority to keep the children safe, day and night.

Our initial work was with street children, and we ran the education support programme for two years in the city slums. Children are being stigmatised and discriminated against due to their HIV status. There was no facility to care for these children hence FAITH-AAlingan was established in 2006.

Project Objectives:

- To provide services that would promote the health, growth and development of the children affected with HIV
- To encourage adoption and re-integration / rehabilitation of children orphaned by HIV into society
- To provide long-term residential care to the most deprived orphaned children due to HIV.

Our core area of work is:

- Survival
- Protection
- Development
- Participation

Staff: A team of 20 dedicated staff and local volunteers. We offer full training.
Project Outreach: We currently care for 31 children: 16 boys and 15 girls. 29 of the children that we care for are orphaned. All the children are affected by HIV/AIDS.



Boys Home: The 16 boys have all been moved into the new home that we have been building over the past 6 years. A new home. The three-story house has 16 rooms, six of which are rooms for the boys with en-suite bathrooms. It has a large basement, office, isolation room, staffroom, kitchen, parlour, store, house of worship, dining room, volunteer room and kitchen. The boys reside together in their age groups. Their names are displayed on their door, and they all have bedding and their own belongings. The rooms are well-maintained and tidy.

Girl's Home: To avoid conflict the 16 girls have been moved to a private home. The house has eight big rooms. The four bedrooms have an en-suite bathroom.

Facilities for both homes: They have running water and electricity and a security system. CCTV cameras are also installed for surveillance. Emergency contact numbers are plainly visible. We have a garden for the children to play. In compliance with the Juvenile Justice Act 2015, the Children Club and Children's Committees have been formed. This is a democratic process that provides them with fair representation and responsibility, and it gives them a voice.

Health: This is an important component when caring for children with the HIV virus. They have specific nutritional needs that affect the overall development of the child. All the children are registered at ART, SMS Hospital, Jaipur. They perform regular check-ups, provide treatment and monitor their CD4 Count and Viral Load. They also monitor possible opportunistic



infections. They have a weekly visit from a GP and a monthly hospital visit.

Sick Bay: In cases of Tuberculosis and other communicable diseases, we prefer to keep the child in an isolation room to protect other kids. This is also very useful for recovery due to a lower risk of re-infection or other opportunistic infections. This room is installed with a medical bed, mattress, pillow, bed sheet, medical kit, etc.

Nutrition: All the children have carefully devised individual nutritional plans that are sympathetic to cultural practices. They adhere to rule 44 of The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules, 2007. The meal plans are revised periodically and monitored appropriately. This is cross-checked with the individual's BMI during the period and helps in analysing the trends in other indicators of their health profile. The nutritional status of children in India is very low and



we make efforts to ensure they do not become too thin.

Yoga and Pranayam: We have adopted the Common Yoga Protocol (CYP) published by the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India. This is important in maintaining their health and has illustrated positive trends in CD 4 Counts and viral load, good appetite and positivity.

Spiritual Health: The children are from different religions with different cultural beliefs. We create a positive and inclusive approach to religion and culture to develop their spirituality and value system. We perform daily prayers with the children and regularly visit temples and ashrams. A high priest blesses the children for good health and schooling. They are also taught the Geeta Path.

Education: All the children at FAITH attend regular school/college and in-house tutors help them to bridge the gap in their missed schooling. Some of the children have performed very well in their education.

Individual Care Plans: All the children have individual care plans with a full case history. When the child is admitted to FAITH, we complete a full assessment report that is regularly assessed and evaluated to ensure that our goals are met. We have interventions from counsellors to strengthen our understanding of an individual's behaviour, attitude, practices and belief. We help to think about their aspirations and ambitions to guide them towards realising their goals and dreams. We have facilitated meetings with local service providers to help inform the children of future pathways for them.

Sports and Games: We have a range of indoor and outdoor sports equipment to suit all age ranges and the children play daily in the evening. Staff supervise the games and often join in. We encourage competitive sports to improve physical ability and strength, and, on occasion, we have organised matches where we invite people to watch.

Arts and Crafts: This year the children made various art and craft items and enthusiastically participated in the activities. They make very good decorative items from waste.

Gardening Activities: This year the children participated in many gardening activities. They have taken the initiative and have created a pit for compost. They have grown saplings and taken responsibility to care for and nurture the plants; each child has a plant of their own.
Some of the boys participated in a workshop on how to recognise rich soil and can now recognise the benefits of it.
Water Pots for Birds: Children made pots for birds to drink water and pick up grains. They take responsibility for the birds and feed them and provide water.

Birthday Celebrations: We celebrated the children's birthdays in a big gathering with relatives, friends, staff and FAITH supporters at the boy's home. Local dignitaries also attended, and we celebrated in Chopati, Jaipur.

Children's Day Celebration: In November 2021 the Child Welfare Committee and District Child Protection Unite, Jaipur organised a Child Rights Week which lasted for seven days. In this program children performed in a live band playing instruments and singing.



World AIDS Day Observation: This year due to COVID, the children celebrated World AIDS Day in the children's home. They participated in activities like painting, drawing, art and craft. They also participated in various sports competitions.

Dance Performance: In February 2022 the children performed on the Foundation Day of AWAS. They based their performances on themes such as yoga, COVID and social media. There was also a live band.

Celebrated Religious Occasions: All the children took part in various important occasions. Some of these celebrations last many days and the children are fully involved with the decorations, preparation and participation:
Makar Sankranti , Rakhi Celebration
Janmashtami Celebration, Holi, Dussehra
Diwali, Christmas

Reintegration: We believe in maintaining the relationships between a child and their family / relative. We intervene with counselling when families visit their child and aim to maintain the relationship to enable a smooth re-integration programme. We also support aftercare when the child returns to the family home. If requested, we enable children to continue their studies and keep track of progress at regular intervals through home visits, ART adherence and a social security scheme.

During this financial year, we re-integrated three boys into their relatives with permission granted from the Child Welfare Committee.

Monitoring and Evaluation: We have adopted two levels of effective monitoring and evaluation of the programmes.

Internal Monitoring: The project officers and board members monitor the progress referring to the plan and expected outcomes. We hold monthly staff reviews and planning meetings, care home management meetings, suggestion boxes, action plans, observation and discussion with staff and children and internal monitoring.

The Programme Management Committee (PMC) has been formed adhering to the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules, 2007 section 55 (3) and meets every month. The purpose of the meetings of the committee is to monitor the progress of every child. The issues discussed generates appropriate decision-making in the best interest of the children.
Monitoring by Department and other agencies:
External agencies periodically monitor the child's progress to ensure that they are receiving quality care. We submit monthly, quarterly and online tracking reports to the agencies concerned.



FUND A MOM 2022

Jaipur, India

Fund A Mom is an initiative that reinvents the old-fashioned charity model because it's based on the idea that poor Mothers should be trusted to do what's best for their families without being dictated to. It's a unique way of ensuring education, nourishment and safety for children by making sure the Mother is protected and supported. All our Moms are without a male breadwinner for one reason or other and they struggle to survive.

Each Mom is given 3800 INR per month. This small amount is HUGE to them. Some women work all week as domestics for this amount or on building sites. Some of them have started small businesses and are looking forward to a brighter future

We started our work in 2018 in the slums of Jaipur, India giving a direct monthly cash-guaranteed income and optional support services currently to 40 single mothers struggling to provide the most basic needs for their children. Fund A Mom has been fundraising to continue and potentially expand the already successful guaranteed income program.

The results of this direct economic empowerment for our pilot group are staggering. The mothers are thriving, the families eat better, the children have returned to school, and the mothers are starting businesses and living with confidence, breaking the cycle of hopelessness.

In 2022, Fund A Mom was able to extend our direct economic support for our Mothers for an additional year. Many of our mothers have been able to use the support to move to autonomy and independence and the additional year has set the mothers up for sustainable change.

The programme continues with its education outcomes - under the programme, many of the children have vastly improved access to education and more than 30 children re-enrolled in schools after getting this support and the majority are still in school, with some attending



college

The programme also continues with its economic outcomes as Fund A Mom offers support to develop skills, improve employment, and self-employment and help them towards a more financially independent and secure future.

Fund A Mom has also been at work documenting the success of the program in both qualitative and quantitative ways to not only demonstrate positive outcomes but also set up future work for funding based on data and storytelling.





PROJECTS IN SOUTH AFRICA

BOBBBI BEAR Amanzimtoti, Durban, Kwa Zulu Natal

Bobbi Bear went through a very difficult year in 2022. The aftermath of the last two years has clearly affected all NGOs. Many have closed their doors completely, resulting in an influx of domestic violence, drug abuse, rape, abuse, neglect and teen pregnancy cases coming to our gate. We do not turn any child away.

Bobbi Bear will always exist to rescue, represent and reintegrate children that have been raped or sexually abused while stabilising and strengthening the organisation so our innovative model can have an even greater impact on more children in need.

Direct target for any raped or abused child

The process to assist & rescue a child / fresh rape or abuse call.

1. Call comes in for child raped or abused
2. Grab the rape bag and bear - get to the child
3. Phone the Police to meet us
4. Go to Prince Mysheni Hospital for medical and J88 - 4 - 5 hours wait
5. Go to the Police station for a statement taking approx. 3 hours
6. Back to the Bobbi Bear house - bathe and feed the child, debrief then settle the exhausted child
7. Go into the office open a case file and note all evidence, print notes.

8 One Child - 7 - 8 hours - sometimes longer!

Extended

1. Contact and meet with the Social worker the next morning. Open the docket and start
2. Obtaining forensic information on the child.
3. Get the case number from the policeman who attended the call-out
4. Locate family members, and school and contact extended family for placement.
5. Social worker to assist with necessary forms to remove a child on the official form to place away from the perpetrator
6. Attend court with the child to get removal forms authorised by Magistrate.
7. Liaise with the family to collect the child.
8. Do referral letters to social workers, courts, schools, and psychologists in the jurisdiction that child is moving to.

In some areas, our stats dropped because of COVID-19 and lockdown. We were only able to do public awareness and Edu-toys in schools in January and February 2020. Our domestic violence and rape and sexual abuse of children increased due to families being locked up for extended periods of time

Progress: implementing activities towards goals and specific objectives.

This year saw two huge floods, making it almost

impossible to try and reach any target goals. The team worked under some horrific conditions with flooding trying to reach children in high-risk areas - we are still not able to attend any workshops, public awareness talks or present at schools with our Edu - toy presentation.

As a rapid response organisation, Bobbi Bears' impact is extremely difficult to monitor and to keep track of children once they have left our care. We are at the initial rescue, police station, hospital and court appearances. Once the child is moved onto extended family, often in other provinces or even children's homes, we cannot track the progress of the child. Every child moved on is sent to a referral base in their town, social worker, psychologist etc.

The Bobbi Bear team have aided in many challenging situations including: assisted flood victims even when their own houses have been washed away; helped look for missing children, eventually finding one body after another; made clothing parcels and food; provided or shared blankets or clothing. It has been the most traumatic time for the team, our communities and the children. There are long periods of no water or electricity and WIFI and Internet and phone lines are not fully operational. The biggest challenge during this period is the country's high unemployment rate and corruption, even more so now with dockets going "missing". The aftermath of COVID, looting and two floods has left the country in a total mess. The team is facing double the number of cases due to natural disasters during the last two years.

Example of Rape Case

The team were called to a complaint where two little girls, age 6 and 8, were abandoned in a broken-down car on a derelict building site next to an old building with no lights or water. BB was devastated to see the situation. There were five men living there, all drug addicts. The girls were crying due to hunger, they had been raped by some and were afflicted with dirty sores, nits and lice. Their health care had been neglected. The men would not let them sleep in the house and made them sleep in the old car. We took them into the house, and they quietly pointed to one man that had raped them. He was immediately arrested.

The two girls were taken to hospital where they received medical attention and then released to Bobbi Bear. The five men refused to tell us where the parents were. But one of them hinted at where they might be found. They abandoned their children at this old building in a deserted bush and never came back. The five men tried to look after them, but at the same time raped them. The girls were terrified and traumatised; so, we still have a long road ahead of us. Currently, the system is busy issuing arrest warrants for the parents and two more for the men. The girls will remain in our care until a solution can be found. Our children's homes are full, and they cannot legally take in any more children.

External Challenges

Bobbi Bear is now facing another huge challenge since Covid and the looting: working in schools. Students are more aggressive and are taking guns and knives to schools. Hundreds of thousands of people are unemployed and have resorted to crime to survive. Groups of men will target schools, hold the teachers and students up at gunpoint and steal any valuables to enable them to have money to buy food for their families. Students have now had enough, so they will take illegal weapons to school to enable them to protect themselves. In a recent school raid 75 illegal guns were confiscated and over 100 knives. Our CSOs are also scared to go into a school alone so they get police protection. When the students have their illegal weapons taken away, they retaliate and burn the school down. In KZN we are currently working under some traumatic times making our work extremely difficult.

Future Targets

- 700 children per year, who have been raped and or sexually abused will have their rights upheld throughout their interaction with the criminal justice system and will not show signs and or symptoms of secondary trauma.
- 95% of child rape and or sexual abuse cases supported by Bobbi Bear's Child Safety Officers (CSOs) will go to court and be successfully prosecuted.
- 80% we make sure any case that we are aware of is reported increase in the number of cases of child rape and or sexual abuse that are reported at police stations within the communities/schools that Bobbi Bear works in.
- 230 local community members (teachers, caregivers, the tree ladies, mothers at the support group) per year will be sensitized and oriented on preventing and identifying child sexual abuse, positive parenting as well as HIV/AIDS



BEST HEALTH SOLUTIONS

Soweto Township. Johannesburg

Over the past 2 years, Arms Around The Child has been developing their work with Best Health Solutions following the migration of Carol Dyanti (Mum Carol) from Ikageng in Soweto to Best Health Solutions which is also located in Soweto. We have been primarily supporting Mum Carol's work as a continuation of her work with child-headed households, children affected and often infected with HIV/AIDS and her long-time community support for the informal settlement Ezimbuzini. Additionally, Arms Around The Child supported the construction of The Community Hub in the Ezimbuzini settlement.

Arms Around The Child identifies with the following objectives of BHS, to improve health outcomes for orphans and other vulnerable children, adolescents, and youth in Soweto Township, Johannesburg, South Africa.

To provide quality parenting skills and guardianship education on HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support for orphans and vulnerable children, improve quality of life and resilience for orphans and vulnerable children, adolescents and youth who are victims of sexual assault and rape in Soweto Township.

To contribute to research and easy access to quality data that inform the civil society sector and The Government on the status of efforts on HIV and AIDS prevention, and treatment care in South Africa.

BHS prioritise work that improves the lives of the most marginalised populations such as orphans and vulnerable children, adolescents, and youth, sex workers, lesbians, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning and intersex community, and people living with HIV. We have a special focus on rural areas and informal settlements as the underserved geographics in South Africa. Working with communities from a grassroots level collaborating with faith-based organisations, media, academic institutions, government, international non-governmental organisations (NGO), private sector, development partners and community structures to achieve increased health service uptake and utilisation.

Area of Concentration

The catchment area is inhabited by many underserved key population groups. More than 60% of the informal settlement's population are young people. Moreover, drug or injection drug users and substance users have sought to use the settlement as a site for the purchase and usage of drugs. Our interventions continue to reach out to a broader community, and we have had a special focus on orphans and vulnerable children, as well as young people and those affected by HIV/AIDS who constitute most of our target priority group.



Context of Action

The organisation observes the cruciality of the early and adolescent stages of a child's life as a foundation upon which they build their future. This has been one of the key drivers of interventions focused on adolescent girls and young people. Hundreds of children in Ezimbuzini Informal Settlements and communities beyond do not have access to quality early education and health services. This key population group often struggle for safe and conducive learning environments and adequate health service provision, due to a lack of access to funds and support.

There is a general lack of extracurricular activities for children, most children are often left to roam and play in the streets unsupervised, and time on the streets increases exposure to the dangers of violence, crime, gangsterism and drugs. Many children fall victim to physical and sexual abuse in their communities, often by a family member or neighbour. This is exacerbated by high rates of substance abuse among parents and other adults. We opened our gates to community children to provide a place of safety where they can receive a nutritious meal, emotional support, and a space to play in the afternoons. This is a preventative measure that keeps children away from the dangers of the streets and provides a warm nurturing environment for them to feel safe, supported and free.

Collaboratively, with sector leaders and with community leaders, The Best Health Solutions has since developed community-based interventions that promote active support for key population groups.

BHS is a referral structure where key population groups go for accessibility of a range of activities addressing health, nutrition, and cognitive stimulation. The community outreach team and linkage officers



walk door-to-door throughout the settlement, searching for groups in need of support. Due to an understanding of the Ezimbuzini Informal Settlement, the team provides key population groups with support groups, referrals to rehabilitation centres and local facilities, sanitary care, and nutritional support. Crucially offering emotional support for key population groups and educating them about their rights. This has given community members the confidence to speak out about any abuse or injustice that they are facing.

Activities

Activity 1: Conduct support groups, and counselling. Facilitate rehabilitation referrals
Activity 2: Provide basic needs, education, clothing & food for vulnerable & underserved population groups
Activity 3: Provision of sanitary care
Activity 4: Contribute to research and implementation science for health programmes





JOHANNESBURG | Nkosi's Haven

Nkosi's Haven is a registered non-profit organization with its primary function being to offer long-term resident care to the destitute, special needs, HIV/AIDS-infected mother, her children and AIDS Orphans - the children may or may not be infected.
In addition, management decided to open their doors during the COVID lockdown to GBV (gender-based violence - which is at pandemic levels in S.A.) survivors who are not necessarily HIV+ but need immediate and safe accommodation and continue to have an open door.

Named after Nkosi Johnson, the young AIDS activist who passed away from an AIDS-related disease on 1st June 2001, the philosophy and concept of the organization are to keep the mother and child unit together in a non-judgmental, non-discriminatory, accepting and normal environment.

The first Nkosi's Haven opened its doors on 14th April 1999 and since then the project has grown from strength to strength, presently owning the Nkosi's Haven Village on 2 - acres in the southern end of Johannesburg. The Village comprises 22 cottages, a large main house which houses a 6 bedded sickbay unit, admin offices, an industrial kitchen, dining rooms and a large leisure room. In addition, the Village has an IT lab, baby day care centre, therapy block, library, music and art room, and a compact sports field.

In total, the Nkosi's Haven project is caring for 34 mothers and 92 children. Of the total number of children, 20 are HIV+ (under the age of 20) and some of those children are infected through rape and not from birth and 51 are orphaned.

The education of the children is of prime importance; thus, children are placed in educational institutions relevant to their academic ability. Children are assessed prior to admission to school and/or if found to be struggling during a school year. Therefore, there are children with very special needs, remedial, theory/skills and mainstream schools. Four recent school leavers now have university degrees, with one achieving honours and in 2023 another will be receiving her honours.

HIV/AIDS carry a multitude of issues that have and need to be addressed and part-time therapists are employed both for the older residents and a play therapist for the younger children.

Whilst extensive interventions are implemented for the children the mothers' needs too are addressed. A mother who shows initiative, drive and energy will have her capacity built, by being employed by Nkosi's Haven, in positions such as cook, childcare, matron, baking and laundry manager. In addition to living free of charge, that mother earns a stipend, will receive training and the cost of educating her children will be covered by Nkosi's Haven.

In 2022 a partnership with Vita Nova Counselling Services was formed whereby Nkosi's Haven is the beneficiary of counselling services of counsellors who must do 3 months of practical counselling. Five Counsellors are due to start by the middle of February 2023. Most of the counsellors are studying psychology (various disciplines) and have proved to be so good for our residents. Arms Around The Child /Vocational Impact send psychology students to work with the children and the counsellors at Nkosi's Haven and this partnership will also enable volunteers to provide more support for Nkosi's Haven.



BECKY'S FOUNDATION

Overview

At the heart of every child, the safety tool is to belong to a stable, loving and caring group or place that serves as a home. As the mantra of the foundation goes "making lives comfortablel", the foundation has over the year made all effort to give comfortable lives to the children in the care home and nearby communities through Arms Around The Child's support plus a few local donors and volunteers from Vocational Impact throughout 2022.

Enrollment and Reunification

The total number of children at the beginning of the year was 49: 30 boys and 19 girls. The age ranges from five years to nineteen years. Throughout the year a total number of six (6) Children were reunified with their families but still receive support from the foundation. The number of children in the care home as of December 2022 was 43.

Staff Strength/ Changes

The care home had a new manager who assumed work in the first week of January 2022. The total number of the workforce was eleven (11). In the late mid part of the year, there were few staff changes. The volunteer coordinator (young Seth) was replaced by Nimrod, in November 2022. Gifty the Social worker was also replaced by Monica as a voluntary Social Worker.

Health statistics

Although the year 2022 was a healthy year there were some minor issues that were tested and treated by the home nurse. There were a couple of serious issues a hepatitis B case and a glaucoma case. Medications were provided and regular check-ups were conducted and continue to be monitored.

Education

Academically, there has been tremendous progress with most of the children. The year was seen as a year of change. As different strategies were put in place by the care home manager to facilitate academic excellence. Results from school showed a great improvement in about 90% of the children. The remaining children were seen to have learning difficulties and other problems which needed counselling and intensive support. Home tuition was intensified; quizzes and reading sessions were organized weekly. Out of the total number of children at the home 37 are in basic school 11 are in senior high school. 1 in vocational school, Ernestina who will complete in September



2023. Kingsford is in his second year studying for a Bachelor of Degree in Nursing at Pentecost University, Accra.

New School Entrant

Five of the children were enrolled in their first year of Senior High School in 2022 at the Obrachire Senior High Technical School. Also, the youngest child (Enos Kweku Obosu) was enrolled in Kindergarten at the age of 5.

Counselling sessions

Counselling sessions were intensified throughout the year, and two external counsellors, as well as volunteers with psychology backgrounds, joined the counselling sessions at the care home to help solve identified problems of children. Children who visited the counselling sessions were reviewed from time to time to check on progress made.

Sono Apprenticeship

The Sono Apprenticeship scheme commenced in February 2022 with a visit by some staff and children from the care home. The children showed much interest in the program. Godfred and Israel were the first two to start the program. After some months of training at the company, it was advised that Israel should get advanced formal education at school and visit the company as an intern during vacations. Ernestina is expected to complete school and join Godfred in the programme. Other children in high school and volunteers from Vocational Impact were also given the opportunity to visit PINORA 3 times within the year

Vocational Impact Volunteer Programme

The volunteer programme received 7 volunteers in 2022 and more are expected in 2023. Various activities were outlined for volunteers to pain experience at various mental health facilities, clinics, schools and community health talks, girl child education programmes, reading club projects etc. Both groups of volunteers visited PINORA LIMITED for a field trip and other interesting places of their choice.

School Building Programme

The school building which started years ago received much attention around March 2022 through to the recent year. As of December 2022, the school building was about 78% completed. The support for the build has been made possible through Arms Around The Child, Christian Atsu, Lazy Susan Furniture and other supporters.

Community Support

The care home provides support to 10 other vulnerable children who do not reside in the home but are with their families in Senya Beraku, Obrachire and surrounding districts. The home also supports children who have been reunified with their families. The Foundation organised Girl-child programs to educate the young females in the Senya community and organised the community reading club project.



Poultry Project

As of November 2022, the total number of birds in stock was 300. Out of that 120 were broilers and 170 were layers. The price of the bird feed became very expensive that we resorted to selling the birds and hope to restock them the following year. In December 2022 most birds were sold, and egg production halted. The birds will be replaced in January 2023.

Major Event / Celebration

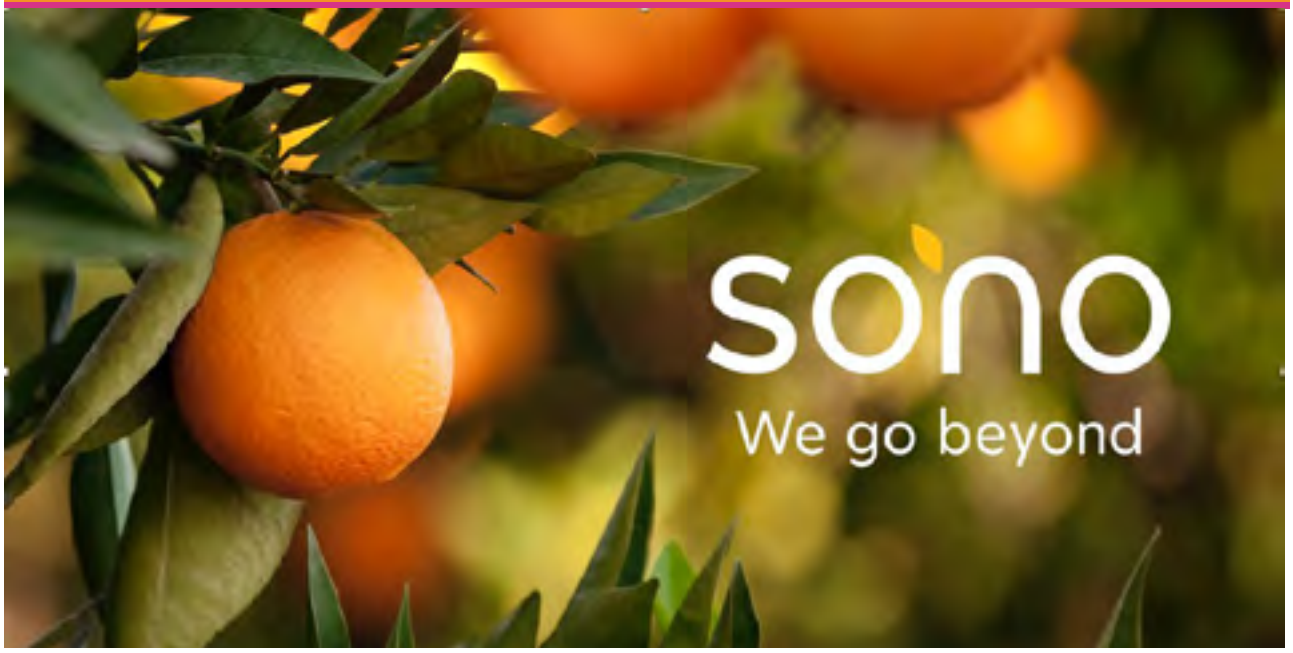
2022, was the 10th Anniversary celebration of the Foundation. The celebration was meant to be on April 25th and was rescheduled to 3rd December 2023. There were a lot of interactive, educative and fun sessions for the children.

Challenges

- Unexpected breakdowns in the washrooms, pump, taps and electrical issues
- Unavailability of computers at home for children to use and practice during I.C.T tuition sessions.

Future expectations for the upcoming year and beyond

- 100% completion of the school building in the early part of 2023
- The school to receive a high level of patronage and enrollment
- To develop and increase the number of volunteers in the Vocational Impact program.
- Support children due to being repatriated and enroll others who need our support.
- Build a strong online database file for children and staff of the care home.
- Expand the support from our sponsors and seek new opportunities for sponsorship.
- Increase the number of local donations and local volunteers.
- Turn Becky's Food Forest into a successful Project.



FRUITY FUTURES

Sono and Arms Around The Child apprenticeship scheme GHANA

The SONO /Arms Around The Child Apprenticeship Scheme is a unique programme offering underprivileged young adults from Ghana the opportunity to learn, work and develop new skills in the agricultural and manufacturing industries. Working together with SONO we have developed a focused programme to support and help young adults from vulnerable backgrounds to take the next steps towards independence.

The project aims to help the participants to continue their education, learn new skills and trades, become economically independent, integrate into a new community and assist with their career development.

We anticipate enrolling between 1 -4 new apprentices a year. Together we have developed an integrated program of well-being, education, and work values that we hope to give young adults the opportunity to pursue rewarding, successful, and happy lives and careers.



Project Ethos

At the heart of this programme is our core belief in sustainable and ethical development. We want to see all children provided with the opportunity to access education, healthcare, employment and a brighter future. This apprenticeship scheme is our small and modest way of trying to create a programme based on employment, skills, training, well-being, independence and above all else compassion.

At the beginning of 2022, there were 2 young adults from Becky's Home who were preparing to leave the home to pursue their own independent lives that were eligible for the scheme. An initial visit was completed with staff from Becky's Home to meet the



SONO team and visit the factory, the farm and offices of the fruit manufacturer SONO who are based in Assamankese. Post the visit both and with consultation with the 2 potential apprentices the SONO and Becky's Home team assessed the interests of the participants and tried to match them with the suitable departments based on mutual needs.

In February the participants were given the opportunity to go to SONO for a week's placement and shadow in a few different departments giving everyone the opportunity to assess if the apprenticeship is the correct approach before proceeding. Again, an assessment is made of the needs and suitability. It was established that the 2 participants would take up the apprenticeships on a 2-month trial and a start date was agreed upon along with arrangements for accommodation, a buddy, a remuneration and a work agreement.

After 2 months there was a review to check on well-being, work suitability and if they were happy in their positions and whether they wanted to continue the programme. It was established that one of the participants would benefit from finishing his schooling so an arrangement was made to get him back to Becky's Home and enrolled in Senior High School and during vacations he would return to work at SONO.

One of the participants will complete his first year on the scheme in 2023 and a review will be made to potentially offer him a full-time contract. Hopefully the other will complete his High School Diploma and return to a full-time apprentice role in 2023. Additionally, other children from Becky's Home who are reaching the end of their Senior High School Education have visited SONO in 2022 with a view to starting on the scheme in 2023.



SONO & ARMS AROUND THE CHILD PARTNERSHIP

Development of a Food Forest at Becky's Home June 2022

Project description

A food forest is an edible garden plot composed of trees, herbs, vines, and even mushrooms, all working together to create a harmonious ecosystem. Food forests are planted in such a way as to have as little maintenance as possible. The project at Becky's home aims to provide a sustainable food supply for the residents and "hands-on" education for the children on horticulture. The project will be supported by Sono, a Fruit processing company with agricultural activities in Ghana. Sono has partnered with Arms Around The Child to support the growth and development of Becky's Home in Ghana through the function of numerous projects.

Project goals

- Providing a long-term sustainable food supply for Becky's home
- Giving a "hands-on" learning experience for the children about natural processes and crop cultivation
- Carbon sequestration
- Increasing biodiversity
- promoting mental well-being and physical health
- Developing a space to stimulate all senses and deepen connection to nature

Background

A food forest is a diverse planting of edible plants that attempts to mimic the ecosystems working with agroforestry principles. Agroforestry is a system in which trees or shrubs are grown with crops or pasture-land. Trees produce a wide range of useful products from fruits, nuts, medicines, and wood products. This intentional combination of agriculture and forestry has multiple benefits, such as greatly enhanced yields from staple food crops, enhanced livelihoods from self-sufficiency, increased biodiversity, improved soil structure and health, reduced erosion, and carbon sequestration.

Agroforestry practices are highly beneficial in the tropics, especially in subsistence smallholdings in Africa, as they are resilient farming systems also under drought conditions which provide a variety of foods.

Benefits

- sequester carbon from the atmosphere
- Raise water and nutrients from deep in the ground
- Provide a framework for above- and belowground biodiversity to flourish
- Build soil organic matter and thus soil carbon content
- Create regulating micro-climates
- Provide fodder and shelter for livestock
- Innovate diversified farm enterprises
- Make agricultural landscapes more resilient
- Record climate history

Drought resistance

The long roots of trees mobilize nutrients and water from lower soil horizons and make them available to the shorter rooting crops. In addition, they provide shade and organic material from leaves reducing and increasing water-holding capacity and moisture in the soil.

Biodiversity

Food forests are biodiverse systems, resembling natural ecosystems. They contain trees, shrubs, vines and all kinds of crops. High biodiversity in plants also attracts all kinds of insects and other animals.

Soil improvement

Depleted soil can be protected from soil erosion by groundcover plants such as naturally growing grasses in agroforestry systems. This help to stabilise the soil as they increase cover compared to short cycle cropping systems. Soil cover is a crucial factor in preventing erosion. Cleaner water through

reduced nutrient and soil surface runoff can be a further advantage of agroforestry systems. Trees can help reduce water runoff by decreasing water flow and evaporation and thereby allowing for increased soil infiltration.

Sustainable agricultural system

A food forest is applying ecological principles in agriculture, designing a system that functions sustainably like a natural ecosystem, and at the same time yields products that are useful to humans.
The benefits provided by this kind of system are manifold and emphasize its sustainability.

Aesthetic value: a diverse and rich environment with natural aesthetics
These characteristics make food forests one of the most useful and sustainable strategies for producing food, while preserving water and rehabilitating the soil.

Carbon sequestration

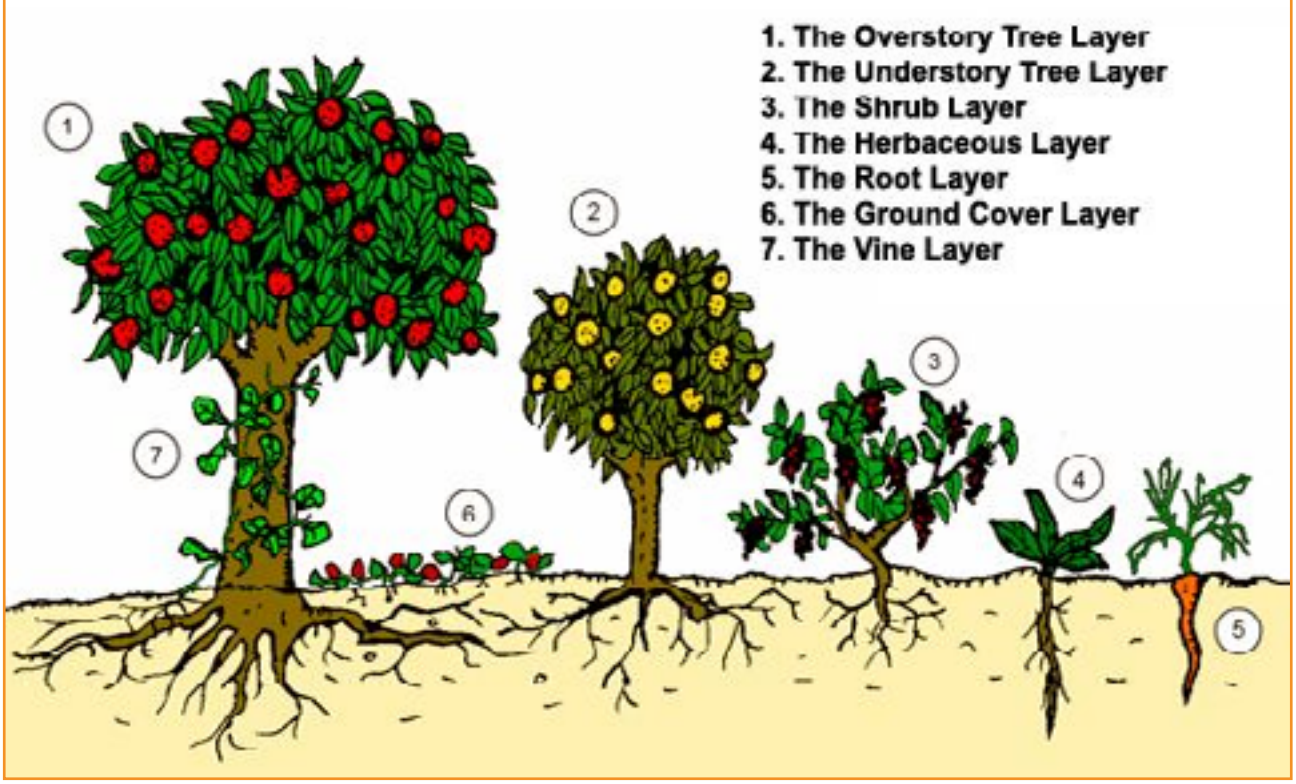
Carbon sequestration is an important ecosystem service. Agroforestry practices can increase carbon stocks in the soil. It has been shown that agroforestry systems play an effective role in carbon capture and the long-term storage of atmospheric carbon dioxide. The conversion from grassland to agroforestry systems increases soil organic carbon by an average of 10%.

This plan was devised in 2022 and will start with the following in 2023:

Land preparation

- Mapping out the area and zones
- Ploughing
- Setting up compost
- Building soil (cover crops, compost,) year 1 (2023)

The Seven Layers of Every Forest





VOCATIONAL IMPACT

Vocational Impact provides volunteer abroad programmes and global work experience for University students and professionals to enhance their career development.
Volunteers gain valuable and practical work experience while immersed in the country's culture.

Our volunteer project partners are carefully and ethically developed with local organisations and the heart in each country to ensure our placements have a lasting and positive impact on the local community.

In 2022 Vocational Impact bounced back after a challenging couple of years. With international travel opening back up, VI was able to re-establish some of its programmes and send volunteers to Ghana and South Africa.

Volunteers

A total of 12 volunteers went on VI programmes in 2022, 7 to Ghana and 5 to South Africa.
The most popular programmes were Psychology & Mental Health and Law & Criminology. The busy months were June-September.

The overall experience and feedback were really positive. The volunteers gained a lot from the experience in terms of working at our foundations, supporting the children, and helping with community outreach projects. Our foundations also really enjoyed hosting the volunteers and found their input and help very useful.

New Programmes

We spent a lot of time developing the programmes and learning from the volunteers' experience in 2022. It was the first-time having volunteers back at our

projects, and it was also the first time for some of our staff members in those countries hosting volunteers.

The overwhelming demand for our programmes has been in the field of Psychology & Mental Health. We attribute this to several factors

1. There are many students who need to gain practical experience in the field of psychology. Placements are very competitive in the UK/EU and students are increasingly looking abroad for opportunities.
2. A leading provider in the volunteer market for Psychology placements went under during the pandemic.
3. During and after the pandemic there has been a big shift in thinking regarding mental health and the importance of well-being.

We have focused on trying to develop outstanding Psychology and Mental Health programmes and develop relationships with partner institutions and projects in the countries we work. We now offer Psychology & Mental Health programmes in Ghana, South Africa and India.

In each country, the programme focuses on 3 core areas: Child Development, Psychology Placements at Hospitals, and Community Outreach. We believe this gives the perfect balance between understanding our work and supporting our children, gaining practical field experience by working with local clinics and hospitals, and volunteers giving back and making an impact in the communities they are working in. Developing these programmes has also given us the opportunity to understand some of the wider issues and challenges in these countries. We have been able to support other organisations and projects, both through donations and volunteer help, to increase their capacity to support people and communities with access to mental health services, as well as provide education and awareness programmes regarding well-being.



We have also developed new partnerships in the areas of Criminology & Law, and we look forward to having volunteers join those programmes in Ghana and South Africa next year.

Bright Future

Our target for 2023 is to double our volunteer numbers to 25. We want to send volunteers to all 3 of our sites in South Africa, Ghana & India, and we look forward to volunteers participating in our new and improved programme experience, particularly in Psychology & Mental Health.

Our volume of applications in the busy months between January-March was an average of 43 Applications a month in 2022. From January to March 2023, we have already seen this increase and doubled to an average of 91 applications a month. There is a healthy appetite for our programmes. The next step is to convert more of these applications into volunteers joining our programmes.

Next year we want to expand our market into Australia. If we are successful with this, we would have volunteers at our projects throughout the year, in both the UK winter and summer months. We are also hoping to establish our environmental programme in Ghana. This is a sustainable agroforestry project in partnership with SONO with the goal of creating food self-sufficiency, and in the future as the project grows, carbon sequestration by planting trees for every volunteer who flies to one of our projects.

With increased volunteer numbers would come increased donation fees. We hope that we can continue to generate a significant volume of donations to our projects next year to help continue to fund and support their work.

Our volunteer work with Vocational Impact has great potential to become a sustainable, ethical and continuous stream of support for our foundations. There are many benefits to the VI programmes; the cultural exchange and learning experience between the volunteers, children and staff is reciprocal and mutually beneficial, the volunteers leave a lasting and positive impact on the children and the community, and the volunteers take away a richer cultural understanding as well as practical field experience in their area of study. We hope to continue building on the positive steps taken in 2022.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake to achieve its aims and objectives.

Arms Around The Child promotes public benefit by fundraising to support children and families whose lives have been affected by HIV/AIDS, children who have been abandoned, abused, who live in child-headed households, rescued from slavery & trafficking and orphaned and other associated projects.

Arms Around The Child does not discriminate against anyone who has been affected by HIV/AIDS and welcomes fundraising from any members of the public.

Achievements & Performance

AATC has worked closely with the Board of Trustees on strategy, budgeting, funding and grant applications for all the sites that we support and are active in the support, development, training, finding and recruiting new board members and developing fundraising strategies within the communities of the sites we fund in South Africa, India and Ghana.

AATC has outlined our achievements and performances with each site we support in the notes above as well as the information below outlining our UK fundraising achievements and performances.

Monitoring, Evaluation & Site Visits

Arms Around The Child aims to visit the sites and countries we work with at least once every 2 years. With the Vocational Impact students who are working at most of our supported organisations, we can connect more closely on a regular basis with the organisations. Due to the prolonged nature of the COVID pandemic, there were no trips to the sites in 2022 directly from Arms Around The Child. Vocational Impact sent 12 volunteers who were our eyes and ears on the ground. Additionally, there were visits to our sites by people who are interested in and support our work. We are in constant WhatsApp communication with all the sites and have at least weekly calls to support and implement developmental concepts, update policies, discuss budgets and the use of funds and the general well-being of the children we support. We also work closely with other organisations in all the countries we work in to share good practices and to help and support when required.

FUNDING

Donations

AATC was delighted to be the recipient of funds from the Educational & General Charitable Trust, MJB Charitable Trust, Wallace Bell Charitable Trust, The Strathspey Charitable Trust, Paradigm Norton Trust, The Woodsford Trust, Thomas Sivewright Catto Charitable Settlement.

Sono Global continues to support our work in Ghana. Christian Atsu continued to donate throughout 2020 to support the school building in Ghana. AATC has a database of regular monthly donors and gratefully received one-off fundraising initiatives through Just Giving and other fundraising platforms including our platform through the website. Victorious Festival donated to AATC in lieu of us hosting The World Music and we produced 2 other fundraising events during 2022 "Escape to the Farm" and Arms Around The Child Art Auction at Christie's London.





THE WORLD MUSIC VILLAGE

Victorious Festival Portsmouth | August 2022

The popular World Music Village curated by the charity Arms Around the Child at Victorious Festival served up a treat in 2022. A feast of contemporary, vibrant and exciting acts in what might have been the biggest line-up to date.

The major coup was Jazztronica duo Blue Lab Beats, fresh from clinching their 1st Grammy! The team had been chasing them for years.

Other great performers included Kongo Dia Ntotila s fusion of African roots-inspired beats, Faith I Branko s Balkan Gypsy music, and the bohemian singer-song-writer Neon Hitch performed her edgy Electro-Pop sounds. Local NuFunk & Disco diva Tash Hills kept the party going with her catchy melodies and awesome band.

Crowd favourite and chart-topping sensation Natty returned to the WMV with his Reggae roots band, socially conscious lyrics and Soulful summer vibes. He was joined by Electric Jalaba, the Electronic Psychedelic project from Simo Lagnawi, performing his intoxicating mix of Moroccan Gnawa, infectious grooves and inex-haustible energy. The diverse line-up continued with Afrocluster Barbudo, Tuto Marcondes, Indian Man, At'ntico, The Majestic, and Africappella.

The World Music Village has also partnered with sponsors BIMM and presented some of the budding and fresh young talent coming out of the school.

The World Music Village's alternative hot spot The People's Lounge had several musical gifts lined up over the weekend. TPL is a Cultural Collective of Artists, Musicians, Poets & DJs that celebrates Portsmouth's diverse local talent. The People's Kitchen cooked and served up a feast of Vegan curries, cold and hot refreshments, and sweet delights to raise money for AATC.

The World Music Village brings together an eclectic array of Portsmouth's movements, sounds and people to create a festive fusion of art, beauty and love that represents the global nature of our city.

Curated by Arms Around the Child, the World Music Village is a vibrant celebration of cultural diversity and will return in 2023.





ESCAPE TO THE FARM

A family-friendly Retreat inspired Festival set in the beautiful barn and woodland areas of Rushmere Farm in Hambledon. A day of workshops, well-being, vegan food, acoustic music, poetry and kid's activities to raise money for the charity Arms Around the Child.

It was a perfect wind-down to recharge and ease back into the flow of Autumn. Over 100 people escape from the city for the weekend and joined us for a magical, intimate and unique experience on a rural organic farm immersed in the countryside. We connected with nature, replenished the soul with mindfulness and the arts, enjoyed a holistic day of wellness, and felt the wholeness of community and family.

Programme

There was an incredible programme of activities led by artists, practitioners, creatives and communities from in and around Hampshire. Family Mediation, Yoga, Sound Healing and Tai Chi sessions were all on offer along with environmental discussions, Drum Workshops and Ecstatic Dance you could even learn to make a pizza and cook in the wood-fired oven. There were Poetry and Acoustic Music performances in the woods throughout the day from Country to Blues, Jazz to Folk. The evening was spent around the Camp Fire with Storytelling, Marshmallows, Hot Chocolates and Acoustic Jams.

The Creative Circle provided fun activities for Kids, painting and drawing workshops, Puppet Shows and Storytelling, Kids Yoga, and getting messy with Face painting and Glitter.

The Hungry Herbivores offered up wholesome, healthy and vegan Lunch and Dinner, a delicious Mezze plate for Lunch and an Indian-inspired Thali plate for Dinner with a bar serving refreshments, cakes, beers, wines, cocktails and mocktails.

Rushmere Farm is a working organic farm in Hambledon that grows food sustainably whilst maintaining and conserving a place for wildlife. They also run Workshops from Spoon Carving to Stool Making and have beautiful accommodations for nature getaways. They run monthly workshops with refugees and have been incredibly kind in supporting Escape to the Farm. Rushmere Farm is developing a unique approach to ecologically sustainable farming and having a positive impact on the environment and community. Escape to the Farm will be back in 2023.





ART AUCTION
CHRISTIE'S LONDON

Leading contemporary artists including Dan Baldwin, Lauren Baker, Chila Kumari Singh Burman MBE, David Byrne, Rob and Nick Carter, The Connor Brothers, Pure Evil, Kay Gasei, Jamie Hewlett, Chrissy Hynde, LUAP, Maxim, Zak Ove, Poppy Lennox, Dan Pearce, Pigcasso, Jamie Reid, Kristjana S Williams, Zandra Rhodes, David Shrigley and Osman Yousefzada donated work to Arms Around the Child Art Auction - helping children living in extreme adversity.

Contemporary artists from around the world - and Pigcasso, a pig with an unusual talent for art donated artwork to a fundraiser for Arms Around The Child,

A stunning array of emerging and established contemporary artists generously donated to the auction; Jacobo Alonzo, Christian Azolan, Lauren Baker, Dan Baldwin, Bartholomew Beal, Mr Brainwash, Paul Broomfield, Justin Bua, Chila Kumari Singh Burman MBE, David Byrne, Rob and Nick Carter, Newton Cavalcanti, Fabrice Cazenave, Wayne Clough. Pete Codling, The Connor Brothers, C'cile Davidovici, Miriam Escofet, Pure Evil, Jermaine Francis, William Fice, Jill Furmanovsky, Toni Gallagher, Jimmy Galvin, Kay Gasei, Gregory de la Haba, Jamie Hewlett, Heckel's Horse Jnr, Grey Hutton, Chrissie Hynde, Reece Jones, Ryo Kato, David Paul Kay, James Lai, Poppy Lennox, Emma Loizides, LUAP, Joe Machine, Maximilian Magnus, Alison McKenna, Colin McMaster, Jemima Murphy, George Morton-Clark, MM (Art by Maxim under the moniker MM), Jemima Murphy, Alexander Newley, Aidan O'Neill, Milosz Odobrovic, Zak Ove, Pigcasso, Dan Pearce, Giles Price, Thiago Rocha-Pitta, Jamie Reid, Zandra Rhodes, Sam Rowley, Andrew Salgado, David Shrigley, Paul Stephenson, Ben Summers, John Trashkowsky, Alexandros Tsolakis, Bradley Theodore, Michael Thompson, David Tucker, Lisa Vandy, Johan Walstrom, Kristjana S Williams, Joy Wolfenden-Brown and Osman Yousefzada.

The pandemic-postponed event took place on Friday, November 11th at Christie's in their London King Street location, and online by The Auction Collective.

Co-curated by Bakul Patki, Lee Sharrock and







Peter Wells-Thorpe with special guest curator Neneh Cherry, the event raised much-needed funds to help us towards completing a school in Senya Beraku, Ghana. This builds on the success of our previous auctions, which enabled us to build a children's home in Jaipur, India.

David Paul Kay (a New York City-based American contemporary artist) came to London from New York for an artist residency at The Mandrake Hotel and painted a bespoke canvas for the auction. David Paul Kay is a New York City-based American contemporary artist.

Originally from Eastern Europe (former Soviet Republic of Georgia), David migrated to the United States in 2008. As a self-taught artist, Kay has always experimented with various techniques, though his career evolved soon after moving to New York City in early 2009 and developing his signature monochromatic style.

The auction provided a unique opportunity to snap up work from some of the world's most exciting upcoming talents, as well as art icons, all were keen to help the charity continue and grow its essential work building a better and kinder environment for children living, through no fault of their own, in extreme adversity.









Guest curator Neneh Cherry, a long-time supporter of the charity attended the event and said:

" I grew up surrounded by creativity, my father was a Jazz musician and my mother a multidisciplinary artist. Naturally, art and design have always played a huge part in my own creative practice as a musician and performer. I was therefore thrilled to be invited to guest curate the auction for Arms Around The Child - a charity whose work I've long admired - and to be able to bring together some of my favourite artists and collaborators to help this deserving cause. "

FINANCIAL REVIEW

A summary of the year's results can be found in the statement of financial activities on page 4.

Total incoming resources amounted to £ 175,637 (2021: £ 151,050). All of this relates to charitable donations.

The balance sheet shows total funds of £ 43,576 (2021: £56,022).

Reserves policy

At the balance sheet date the unrestricted fund was £ 26,966 (2021: £51,585) the restricted fund was £ 17,563 (2021: £ 4,437). Last year the charity had net current assets of £56,022 of which £58,700 was held as cash at the bank. The bank balance at 12 December 2022 was £46,029.

The trustees are planning future fund raising events and exploring potential sponsorship opportunities. In addition, the trustees are reviewing the model for their fundraising events with the aim of reducing the costs involved in staging them, therefore ensuring an increase in the amounts raised for the charity's programmes.

The trustees' policy is to work towards building a sustainable level of reserves over the next five years to fund the charity's programmes and running costs for at least the following twelve months.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are appraised of their duties and obligations under charity law and Charity Commission guidelines and recommendations. The trustees adhere to corporate governance policies and are required to register and declare any potential conflicts of interest on a regular basis. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external courses to enable them to carry out their role.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1123038

Principal address

93 Festing Grove
Southsea Hampshire
PO4 9QE

Trustees

Mr F Runge
Ms J E Milner
Ms R Cason-Marcus
Mr M Lyn
Ms H O'Brien
Ms K Sharma

Independent Examiner

Johnny Kritzinger
Chartered Accountant (CA)
ICAEW Membership Nr: 5483062

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 25th May 2023 and signed on its behalf.

....
Mr F Runge - Trustee Ms JE Milner - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Arms Around The Child (UK)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Arms Around The Child (UK) (the Trust) for the year ended 12 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Johnny Kritzinger
Chartered Accountant (CA)
ICAEW Membership Nr: 5483062

Date: .....

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	**2022 Total funds £**	2021 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS					
Donations and legacies	2	62,387	62,234	**124,620**	123,006
Other trading activities	3	50,943	-	**50,943**	28,045
Bank intest income	4	62	12	**74**	-
Total		113,392	62,246	**175,637**	151,050
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	5	(41,565)	-	**(41,565)**	(51,558)
Charitable activities	6				
Grants to projects and associated costs		(69,897)	(45,521)	**(115,418)**	(91,550)
Development costs		(27,731)	(3,370)	**(31,101)**	
Total Expenditure		(139,193)	(48,891)	**(188,084)**	(143,108)
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	12	(25,801)	13,355	**(12,446)**	7,943
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		51,585	4,437	**56,022**	48,079
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED		25,784	17,792	**43,576**	56,022

The notes form part of these financial statements.

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 12 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	**2022** Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank		28,463	17,792	**46,255**	58,700
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one	11	(2,679)	-	**(2,679)**	(2,678)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		25,784	17,792	**43,576**	56,022
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		25,784	17,792	**43,576**	56,022
NET ASSETS		25,784	17,792	**43,576**	56,022
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				**25,784**	51,587
Restricted funds				**17,792**	4,435
TOTAL FUNDS				**43,576**	56,022

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 28th May 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

....

Mr F Runge - Trustee Ms JE Milner - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements.

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
NOTES TO THE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12 DECEMBER 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Going Concern
The trustees consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

At the balance sheet date the charity had net assets of £44,529 and cash reserves of £46,029. The trustees consider that it will be in a position to meet its obligation as they fall due.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Charitable activities
Costs of charitable activities includes grants made.

Allocation and apportionment of costs
Support costs have been allocated to costs of generating funds and then are apportioned between fund raising and generating voluntary income. Support costs have been apportioned based upon the income under each of these headings.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2022	2021
Donations	**62,387**	115,816
Vocational Impact volunteer donations	**62,234**	7,190
	124,620	123,006

Further information on mentionable donors are given in note 15.

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

Fundraising events	**50,943**	28,045

During the year the charity held events to raise funds. The most significant events was the Art Auction and the Music Festival.

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

Bank Interest	**74**	-

5. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

Consultancy	**-**	6,786
Event costs	**22,360**	12,429
Support costs	**19,205**	1,076
	41,565	20,291

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Grants to projects and associated costs	**115,418**	91,550
Development Costs	**31,101**	31,101
	146,519	**122,651**

Further information on grants made to projects is given in note 14.

7. SUPPORT COSTS

Support costs are allocated equally between fund raising activities and raising awareness, campaigns and education.

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

Ms E Milner received payment in respect of other services provide to the charity, further details are given in note 13.

9. EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

During the current and prior years the charity had no employees.

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	**Total funds £**
Donations and legacies	68,138	54,867	**123,005**
Other trading activities	28,045	-	**28,045**
Investment income	-	-	**-**
Total	96,183	54,867	**151,050**
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	(11,240)	(9,051)	**(20,291)**
Charitable activities			
Raising awareness , campaigns and education	(17,320)	(13,947)	**(31,267)**
Grants to projects and associated costs	(17,340)	(74,209)	**(91,550)**
Total	(45,900)	(97,207)	**(143,108)**
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	50,283	(42,340)	**7,942**
Transfers between funds	(43,653)	43,653	**-**
Net movement in funds	6,630	1,313	**7,942**
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	34,250	-	**34,250**
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	40,880	1,313	**42,192**

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN

	2022	2021
Trade Creditors	**2,679**	2678
Accruals and deferred income	-	0
	2,679	2,678

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 12 Dec 21	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 12 Dec 22
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	54,265	(25,801)	-	28,464
Restricted Fund				
Vocational Impact	4,435	(3,357)	-	1,078
Becky's Foundation (incl CAF USA)	-			-
India Projects (incl CAF USA)	-	16,712		16,712
Total	**58,700**	**-12,446**	**0**	**46,254**

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
Unrestricted Funds			
General Fund	113,391	(139,192)	(25,801)
Restricted Funds			
Vocational Impact	30,437	(17,082)	13,355
Becky's Foundation (incl CAF USA)	-	-	-
India Projects (incl CAF USA)	31,809	(31,809)	(0)
Total	175,637	(188,084)	(12,446)

Vocational Impact - Vocational Impact have a deep passion and drive to link professional volunteers and university students to the Arms Around The Child projects in Africa and India. With a core mission to drive international skills exchange and empowerment, they recognised the need of NGOs, and the skills university students can bring to them. During the year Volunteer Invest changed its name to Vocational Impact.

Becky's Foundation - Arms Around The Child works with Becky's Foundation, a care home for children in poverty in Senya Beraku , Ghana. The project aims to offer a home for orphaned children and to provide them with shelter, protection, support, and education. Donor funds for this cause is restricted if instructed as such by the donor. During the year Charities Aid Foundation made donations to this project and these funds were used to support the running costs of the home. During the year funds have been received to start building a school at Becky's Home.

India Projects and Charites Aid Foundation Funds - Arms Around The Child works with various projects in India.Faith Sansthan is a safe home for HIV+ orphans. Vatslaya Jalore is a child care home and care centre for boys affected with HIV/AIDS. CHEER is a skills development project and Fund A Mom is a universal basic income scheme for mothers in need. Donor funds for this cause is restricted if instructed as such by the donor. Funds from CAF have been used to cover operational costs for these projects.

Comparatives for movement in funds:

	At 12 Dec 21	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 12 Dec 22
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	51,585	50,282	(43,653)	58,214
Restricted Fund				
Vocational Impact	4,436	1,314	-	5,750
Becky's Foundation (incl CAF	-	(26,953)	26,953	-
India Projects (incl CAF USA)	-	(16,701)	16,701	-
Total	**56,021**	**7,943**	**0**	**63,964**

Each year the charity uses funds from the unrestricted fund to support the administrative costs incurred by the restricted funds as and when the need arises.

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year the charity made payments to Ms E Milner, a member of the key management personnel and a trustee of the charity.

The payments totalling £ 29,500 (2021: £24,000) were in respect of raising awareness of the charity and its aims, fundraising, management, event management services and payment of consultant fees to support AATC. In addition, during the year expenses directly relating to the activities of the charity and the running of the charity totalling £ 3,000 (2021: £5,400) were reimbursed to Ms E Milner.

14. GRANTS MADE TO PROJECTS

During the year the following grants were paid to support projects and individuals in India and South Africa;

Faith Sansthan - the project supports care homes in Jaipur, India, which provide care for children affected by HIV/AIDS. During the year the charity provided funds of £12,042 (2021: £28,381).

AATC India - The project supports various of the India initiatives such as Vatslaya Jalore , CHEER and Fund a Mom as well as Covid Appeal Jaipur. During the year the charity provided £18,768 (2021: £22,358)

Becky's Home - The project supports the running costs, education, food and staffing for 55 orphans rescued from Slavery and Trafficking in Senya Beraku, Ghana. During the year the charity provided funds of £36,956 (2021:£29,953).

Bobbi Bear Fund - the project in Durban, South Africa, provides support for children who are victims of abuse, abandonment and rape. During the year the charity provided funds of £ 6,050 (2021: £4,688) .

Ikageng Itireleng - the project in Soweto, South Africa, provides support and care for children affected by HIV/AIDS. During the year the charity provided funds of £ xxx (2021: £ NIL).

Friends Without Borders Refugee Children. During the year the charity provided funds of £600 (2021: £294).

Ikamva Lethu - the project in Soweto, South Africa, provides support and care for children affected by HIV/AIDS by providing them with home based care. During the year the charity provided funds of £7,110 (2021: £ 5,000).

15. SIGNIFICANT DONATIONS

During the year the following notable donations were received to support specific (restricted) projects;

Donor name	Project/Fund Use
Wallace Bell Charitable Trust	India Projects
MJB Charitable Trust	India Projects
Paradigm Norton	India Projects
Educational & General Charitable Trust	India Projects
Christian Atsu	Ghana
Lazy Susan Furniture	Ghana
Victorious Festival	Ghana/India/South Africa
Sono Global	Vocational Impact/Ghana/AATC





A big thank you to all our volunteers and supporters

Megan Ayling
Cansecco Proofdrinks
James McDermott
Marc Laventure
Rosie Newton
Alison Silvester
Steve Newton
Jan Peat
Jacqui Der Karapetian
Trevor McArdle
Maddie McArdle
Frank Runge
Caroline Runge
Lotta Runge
Darren Jenkins
Lidia Harding
Jared Rolfe
Jason Colchin Carter
Lee Sharrock
Gaynor Fascione
Bakul Patki
Kiran Sharma
Roselyn Marcus
Mervyn Lyn
Moses Milner
Georgia Dryhurst
Ollie Hoxey
Nelson Milner
Justin James
Melanie Cox
Jo Bird
Julie Ayling
Martin Ayling
Marcus Holmes
Rowan Cullen
Erin Morton
Christian Atsu
Teresa Ewart
Andy Downham
Sia Lymo
Ajay Parekh
Lazy Susan Furniture
Michael Scott
Roy Hanney
Victorious Festival
Neneh Cherry
Paula Savage
Steve Peat
Sarah Swaff
Keith Cox
Gill Haydon
Steve Eade
Steffan Swaff
Tina Sanchez
Peter Wells Thorpe
Christie's
Tom Best
Jill Berry
Oliver Hoey
AVL Wines
Portobello Brewing
Proof Drinks
Frankie Murdoch
Johnny Sackett
Victorious Festival
Vaani Parekh
Alan Howard
The Mandrake Hotel
BIMM
Suzi Ireland
Sarah Harris

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD(UK)

England & Wales - Charity number 1123038

Accounts



arms around the child

Annual Report 2021

MISSION: SAFE HAPPY KIDS

WE PROVIDE LOVE, HOPE & DIGNITY

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OBJECTIVES, AIMS AND ACTIVITIES

Relief for orphaned and vulnerable children living in extreme adversity

We work for the preservation of health among children affected or at risk of HIV/AIDS.
We help children residing in India and South Africa by raising awareness and providing the essential social and medical care needed to support healthy and safe lives.

To advance education and awareness

We work to raise knowledge around children rescued from slavery, trafficking, abandonment and abuse or living in child-headed households continue to through education, social outreach, and campaigns.

To Make Lasting Change

We continue to educate governments and health agencies to the needs of children in the above-mentioned circumstances.

MISSION STATEMENT

Arms Around The Child (AATC) is a global charity building a better and kinder environment for children living in extreme adversity.

This could be children who are orphaned, abandoned, at risk of child abuse – sexual or otherwise, affected by HIV, trafficked or living in child-headed households.

With years of experience in direct care, **Arms Around The Child** are committed to working with people on the ground and involved with the communities affected. We support our partner organisations to train and implement programmes in a scalable way including reintegration and development programmes to help children stay within their families and extended families. We know that providing the kind of joy, love, peace, and respect that children need leads to a brighter future.

AATC advocates for their needs and invests in their futures. They provide support and outreach for their extended families and strive to make their futures bright and happy.

SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

Arms Around The Child work closely with our on-ground partners in India, South Africa and Ghana to support them in:

- Develop Fundraising initiatives
- Day to day administration
- Development
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Good working practices
- Raising awareness
- Advocating for the rights of children

Arms Around The Child focuses on: Community-based fundraising in the UK, grant applications and funding through one-off events and campaigns

PROJECTS IN INDIA (Registered organisation: Arms Around The Child India)

Faith Sansthan, Jaipur, India

Overview

Smriti Singh founded Faith as a safe home for HIV+ orphans and children affected by HIV/AIDS providing specialised care. The number of children she took in grew rapidly as there was no other care home that would take in HIV+ Orphans in Jaipur and the surrounding areas.

Effects of COVID-19 2021

The COVID 19-second wave was much more severe than the first wave of the virus, the country was unprepared to deal with it and unable to adjust social behaviour to break the chain of infection. It peaked in April 2021 when the delta variant spread so drastically. We witnessed the struggle for beds in hospitals, scarcity of oxygen and drugs supplies, etc. People were trying hard to overcome the COVID-19 first wave when the second wave hit and made it impossible for some people to work whose families rely on daily wages. We realized that there was not much support available, the schools were closed, domestic help services were suspended, and labour at construction sites was stopped making it hard for the breadwinners to provide for their families.

During the second wave of the COVID -19 pandemic, it was imperative that all the government guidelines were followed as the children were vulnerable due to their HIV+ status.



AATC worked with FAITH to make sure that all the guidelines issued by the government were followed. AATC Representatives visited both the centres and trained all staff on how to follow the COVID-19 guidelines of complete lockdown, no visitors allowed, all supplies to be properly sanitised and only one person from the staff allowed to manage the daily supplies and collect the drugs for children from ART Centre. The children maintained social distancing and used masks and hand washing at regular intervals.

Health and Nutrition Programme

Nutritional status and the progression of HIV are strongly interrelated. HIV infection increases the body's energy needs while it diminishes appetite and decreases the body's ability to digest food and absorb nutrients. This leads to malnutrition which in turn accelerates HIV infection. HIV infection and malnutrition have been strongly linked for years, the most common malnutrition among HIV-infected children and adolescents is acute malnutrition or wasting syndrome accompanied by growth retardation or stunting. Therefore, the provision of food, good nutrition and education is essential to the well-being of the children and their adherence to ARV medication. Your support helps us keep the children healthy giving them the best start in life with a positive outlook and life expectancy.

Arms Around The Child has been working with the homes in Jaipur since the conception of the charity in 2009. Food and nutrition have always been our top priority to make sure the children thrive living with HIV in our homes. We have seen the children grow and flourish and be able to leave the home at the right stage in their development to pursue adulthood within their local or extended family communities. Some of the children have successfully completed their education and are at university, others are following apprenticeships or have undertaken vocational training and are working within the service industry. We maintain a very close connection with the children once they have left the home to support their transition and to make sure that they keep their adherence to a good diet and nutrition to their HIV medications which they will have to take for life.

In May 2021 Lazy Susan Furniture Director Michael Scott made a very generous donation which covered most of the food and nutrition for 12 months for all the children that Arms Around The Child support at Faith in Jaipur.

Children's Weekly Meal Plan

DAY	5:50AM	BRUNCH FOR TIFFIN	LUNCH	EVENING SNACKS	DINNER
M	CHANNA MOONG	NAMKEEN DALIA	DAAL & VEGETABLE WITH RICE & CHAPATI	MILK & FRUITS BISCUITS & TOAST	BHINDI / GWAR KI FALI & DAAL IN VEGETABLE & CHAPATI
T	CHANNA MOONG	POHO	DAAL & VEGETABLE WITH RICE & CHAPATI	MILK & FRUITS BISCUITS & TOAST	KADDU / CAPSICUM & GAATTE KI SABJI IN VEGETABLE & CHAPATI
W	CHANNA MOONG	UPMA	DAAL & VEGETABLE WITH RICE & CHAPATI	MILK & FRUITS BISCUITS & TOAST	LOKI CHANA DAAL & CHAPATI
T	CHANNA MOONG	SABUNAANE KI KHICHDI	DAAL & VEGETABLE WITH RICE & CHAPATI	MILK & FRUITS BISCUITS & TOAST	PANEER GRAVY & CHAPATI
F	CHANNA MOONG	NAMKEEN DALIA	DAAL & VEGETABLE WITH RICE & CHAPATI	MILK & FRUITS BISCUITS & TOAST	BRINGLE IN VEGETABLE & CHAPATI
S	CHANNA MOONG	POHO	DAAL & VEGETABLE WITH RICE & CHAPATI	MILK & FRUITS BISCUITS & TOAST	ALTERNATE SATURDAY CHICKEN & TOMATO VEGETABLE & CHAPATI FOR 2 SATURDAYS. HOBBY COOKING CLASS FOR BOYS 2 SATURDAYS
S	CHANNA MOONG	ALOO PARATHA	DAAL & VEGETABLE WITH RICE & CHAPATI	MILK & FRUITS BISCUITS & TOAST	MIX VEGETABLE & CHAPATI

Left is a sample menu. In addition to the meal schedule all the children have a multi vitamin and additional calcium every day. We have 1 cook and an assistant at each of the homes.

During the many festivals in India, the children always dress in their traditional clothes and celebrate with a large variety of Indian cuisines, cakes, and sweets which this year was supported with the funds from Lazy Susan Furniture. Please see images here of the children celebrating the Dusserah Festival on October 16th at the new home with guests from the community. The festival starts the preparations for Diwali, the festival of lights, which occurs twenty days after Dusserah which celebrates the victory of good over evil. As part of the festival, the children celebrated with various dances including The Garba Dance and by creating decorations and beautiful Rangoli (Often made with rice, sand or flour) see below. (They all look so grown up with their beautiful festival clothes and makeup.)

CHEER PROGRAMME

(Children Happy, Educated, Empowered and Responsible)

AATC India has created a skills development programme titled “CHEER (Children Happy, Educated, Empowered and Responsible) and was submitted for funding to The Aavas Foundation. Dr Narendra liaised with the management and Project Coordinator in detail about the proposed activities and implementation of the project. AATC & Faith purchased items including, music equipment, hair and beauty equipment, canvases, brushes, paints and also computers to set up the Skills Centre in the homes before lockdown.





The proposal was accepted at the end of 2020 has been on hold throughout most of 2021 due to COVID-19 but has more recently restarted and funding from Aavas has been allocated to 5 skills areas:

1: Computer: Basics (MS – Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Internet, etc.), Photoshop, Corel, and Tally. (we have 10 computers, 1 printer, 1 projector, medium-range Wi-Fi-enabled music system, internet connectivity with good speed, etc.)

2: Music: Guitar, Drum, Piano, Harmonium, flute, mouth organ, etc.

3: Art & Craft: Painting, Paper-Mache, outfit designing for ladies and girls, various science projects.

4: Photography: Basic Course in Photography and potentially linked with a photographic studio. (A Camera, tools to manage light, etc.)

5: Beauty and Wellness: Pedicure, Medicare, Hair Style, Hair Cuts, massages, etc are the main courses in beauty and wellness and girls are excelling.

AATC/Faith preparing for potential apprenticeship scheme

Some of the older children from Faith AATC India visited Nila House which is the home of the JCB Companies CSR programme facilitated by AAVAS Foundation. Nila House supports creative development to conserve, promote and strengthen traditional artisanal communities in Rajasthan, with a particular focus on natural dyes and handloom textile and some of the girls are very interested in pursuing a career in textiles.

Five girls from Faith have been supported for their higher education in designing at a nearby college and are sponsored by Aavas Foundation.

Some of the older boys are exploring some of the IGA (Income Generating Activities) and are looking for support from the foundation for higher education and University. A group of older boys from the Jalore care home and Jaipur home have joined together to create a start-up business for exhibitions and southern India showcasing Rajasthan textiles and blue pottery, they are looking for support from The Aavas Foundation.

Arms Around The Child has submitted a detailed report and proposal to the Aavas Foundation for 2022.



Application for Government Funding

Through Arms Around The Child India an application and proposal for funding for the girl's and boy's home has been delivered to the Rajasthan Government under the ICPS (Integrated Child Protection Scheme). This has been submitted to Department of Child Rights (Government of Rajasthan) that has now been forwarded to Ministry of Women and Child Development (Government of India) for further consideration. The application for funding support has been followed up in 2021 and we expect a decision in 2022.



Building A Home for HIV+ Children in Jaipur, India.

We are delighted to report that the new building of a home for the boys has a completed basement and ground floor with enough living space, toilets & bathrooms and other facility areas for the boys to move in. There is also space for a kitchen garden and a garden for the children alongside the home. The boys are all moved in and we are delighted that we will no longer need to be reliant on landlords and their decisions to move the children on. At last we have a place the children can truly call their home.

With the help of a Public Sector Undertaking unit Rajasthan Electronics and Instruments Limited, a solar power supply system has been installed at the home.

The original plans for the home has an additional floor which would eventually mean that we could accommodate more children at the home. The Government look set to release more funds to support the building of the additional floor which can take place while we are in residence. All the relevant safety rules and guidelines will be adhered to.









Continued Partnership

Arms Around The Child/Faith India is collaborating with a new partner Cienvidas (a Spanish organization with two programmes 1) Sponsorship for girls further education Programme and 2) Building a home for Girls in Alwar Programme.

AATC has facilitated the interaction between Faith Sansthan, Jaipur and Cienvidas Foundation and they have agreed on both of the initiatives as per discussions. It has started with the sponsorship of five children and Mr. Atanasio Flores De Haro Director, Cienvidas will be transferring funds through AATC, UK until the new FCRA accounts become operative for Faith in India.

As per the initial discussion, Faith and Cienvidas formed a foundation and Faith has purchased a piece of land for the new building in Alwar with the support of AATC. The plan for construction were prepared and submitted and have been approved and ready to start the construction. The Contractor has been hired and an agreement for the construction work in now in place.



After Care Support.

We provide after care support for all the children who leave our homes in India, whether it be through re unification with parents or extended families who are now in a position to look after the children or because they have reached an age where they can become independent, have work or extended study and are able to build their own networks. We stay in contact through the Director of Arms Around The Child India through personal interactions, phone and social media platforms. They are always invited back to the homes for special occasions and ceremonies and there is always someone to support them should they need any help.

The alumni from Faith and Vatsalya homes have created WhatsApp groups to keep in touch with one another and AATC India has frequent group and individual calls. Mohan, Kalidas and Deepak have formed a company selling clothes and jewellery buying in Jaipur and selling in the South of India. Jyoti is working for a car sales showroom in Jaipur, Ganpat, Suthar and Naresh are working with clothing showrooms in Surat and Hyderabad. Ashok from Vatsalya, Jalore is in Delhi and preparing for some competitions which will further his chances of working for the railroads and Bilal from Faith is working in a pharmacy and preparing for a degree course in agriculture at SKN Agriculture University in Jobner.

Partner Organisations in India

Carmel Jyoti Care home, Imphal (Manipur) India: Carmel Jyoti is registered non-government organization working for social development in the state of Manipur and runs a care home and care centre for children and families affected by HIV/AIDS in Luwangsangbam, Nirmalabas, Imphal, Manipur.

Jalore Network for People Living with HIV/AIDS Sansthan (JNP+) is a community-based organisation created in 2006 aiming to improve the quality of life of People living with HIV in the district. In 2010 JNP opened VATSALYA Child Care Home and Care Centre for boys affected by HIV/AIDS since in the Narbda Colony, Jalore and currently caring 21 boys here. Apart from this project, the organisation is implementing a Care and Support Centre to support adherence to ART (Anti-retroviral Drugs) and links HIV+ people with social security services provided by government departments.







Fund A Mom (FAM) Project

Arms Around The Child India has been instrumental in planning and implementing the Fund A Mom Project in India. We started this project in 2018 with 25 destitute and vulnerable mothers from five slums of Jaipur City and over the period of 2 and half years they have regained their confidence, their children are getting a better education, they have better health care. food security and nutrition and are in better position to buy clothes for their children and themselves. Last year, some of the moms started income generating initiatives setting up a veg/fruit stall in a weekly market. Others who set up their small businesses in 2020 have managed to restart their businesses as the COVID-19 lockdown has eased.

The Moms managed to celebrate most of the festivals in 2021 however they were very much scaled back and more personal. Raksha Bandhan (a festival in which sisters of all ages tie a thread called the Rakhi, around the wrists of their brothers, symbolically protecting them) AATC India supported the moms to make Rakhi's to sell at markets, shopping mall and some offices, the Rakis mostly sold out and any left go through Arms Around The Child India's personal contacts. The moms involved in the making and selling were able to share the funds to boost their income.



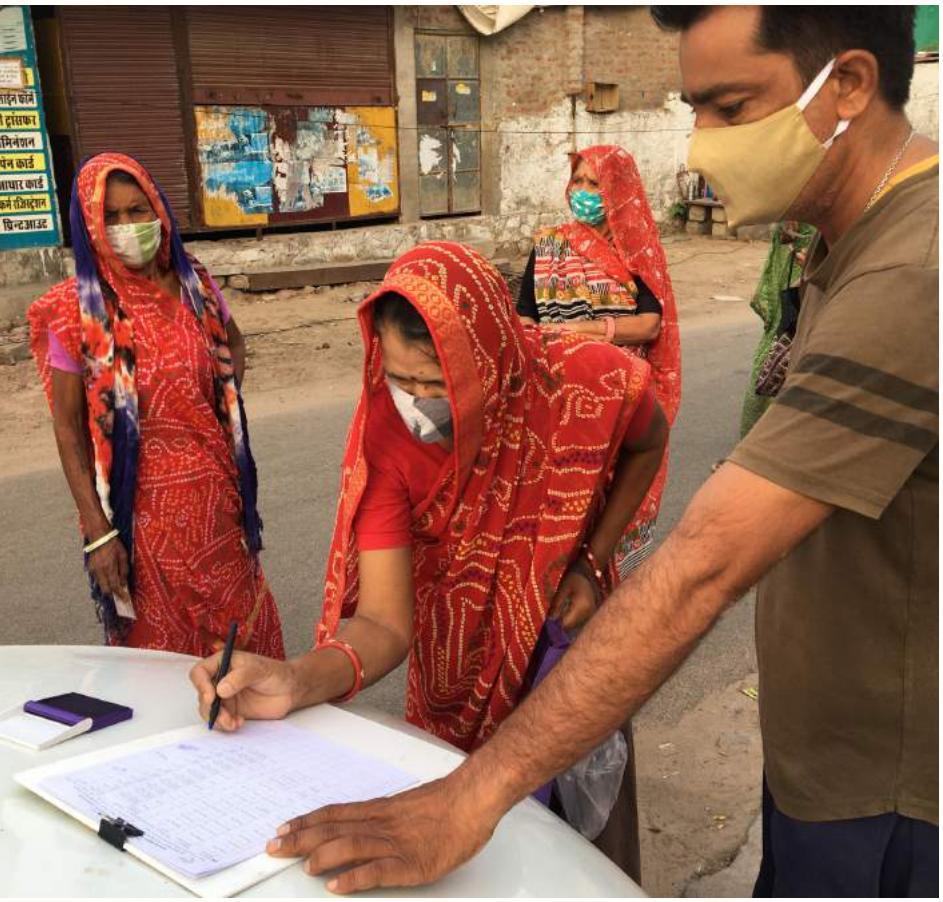




During the COVID-19 second wave, the moms who are part of the Fund A Mom project were able to manage their supplies with the support they were getting through Arms Around The Child. They all were well connected with AATC staff members who were able to educate and counsel throughout the worst of the pandemic and advise them on appropriate behaviours to follow.

The vaccination programme for COVID -19 in India started with online registration. We facilitated the registration for vaccination process online for the moms and booked their vaccination appointments. All the moms and their eligible family members are fully vaccinated as of the end of 2021.

After the second wave calmed, we spoke with all the moms who said they could not have survived such a tough time without the support of Arms Around The Child and the team.





During the COVID-19 second wave, the moms who are part of the Fund A Mom project were able to manage their supplies with the support they were getting through Arms Around The Child. They all were well connected with AATC staff members who were able to educate and counsel throughout the worst of the pandemic and advise them on appropriate behaviours to follow.

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Skills Development for Fund A Mom

As the lockdown eased many of the mothers were able to get their old jobs back and we were able to reassess our plans to create a skills development programme to improve the mom's income potential through increased work efficiency by developing existing and new skills.

Based on a detailed interaction to understand the moms areas of interest and feasibility for a skills building programmes we have drafted the proposal for three job roles –

1 Domestic Worker: Since many of the mothers are in service as part time domestic worker in nearby colonies there is ample opportunity to equip them with skills in a formal setup, for example using

electronic devices such as automatic washing machine, smart TV, baby cradle care, care for elderly people.

2 Gardener: The settlement of slums seems to be always nearby affluent areas and this is true of Jaipur City. There are large houses with open spaces in the front and rear. This can be developed as a kitchen garden and the grounds can be landscaped. This is a developing area and most moms from our programme already have some knowledge of farming which would be to their advantage.

3 Self Employed Tailor: Some of the mothers are skilled in stitching. Initially they learned on a domestic sewing machine and then underwent two months of training on Industrial Machines and only then could get the job at textile industry. We have planned a 3 month course to cover all required skill sets for this kind of employment.

We applied to the skill development project in RSALDC (Rajasthan Skill and Livelihoods Corporation) and although the proposal was sanctioned we were not successful at gaining funding. There is a potential to apply again which we will follow but in the meantime we are looking for another CSR Foundation or partner for 2022.

COVID-19 emergency relief Project 2021.

COVID -19 has adversely affected human life globally. It has affected every aspect of life ranging from occupation, health, nutrition, employment, education, family, finance, etc. People have been afraid of this infection due to misleading information or rumours around health care facilities, if someone contracts COVID-19 it brings a lot of mental trauma and stress, uncertainty, fear, anxiety, dread, and denial. Along with the loss of a job, staying away from home, isolation or quarantine, fear of future employment, financial crisis, starvation, and stigma due to Covid-19 are among the many stress factors which can make recovery more difficult. In response to the raised mental health issues, we funded and created an online counselling service for COVID-19 through a helpline number where mental health experts were and still are available to provide online counselling and information





Additionally Arms Around The Child created a project to help the neediest families by providing food parcels and supporting mental health in collaboration with The Mindroot Foundation. Arms Around The Child raised funds through an online appeal and The Give India platform. The funds raised provided food parcels to last for 3 weeks to over 1000 families throughout Rajasthan State.

Soot Mill Wellness Initiative with The Mindroot Foundation

During regular contact and discussions with moms and others in the slums of Jaipur City we tried to understand the reasons for the decline of mental and physical health in people who were living in close proximity to the moms in the slums. The problems were complex and had a common thread of excessive alcohol consumption. The majority of the moms we support are widowed because of their husbands addiction to alcohol either through a related accident or health consequences (liver failure.) AATC met with Dr. Poonia, Psychiatrist and planned an initiative for mental health which was actually conceived in 2020 but could really implemented during 2021. The goal for 2021 under the initiative was to help as many people who were addicted to become clear of addictive substance abuse.

AATC developed the intervention strategy below:

1. Interaction with Individual: for critical thinking and motivation for change.

2. Family Support: This is a disease and we must treat it as such. Discuss and prepare with the family, this may include neighbours and other relatives as well.

3. Medical Intervention: An appointment is made with the specialist addiction doctor who works with the patient to decide the best line of treatment. The follow up team supports the treatment and makes regular visits with the telephone number of the doctor available should any problems arise.

We run the de-addiction camps in the slums on the first and third Thursday of each month and to date have organised more than 20 camps for mental health. Under this initiative we have reached out to 63 people with average follow up visit around 45 percent which is considered good in mental health initiatives.





Youth Club: #youngsootmill@24.

Considering the vulnerability of young people to various types drug dependencies, we have started talking to the youth as well and have linked them with mental health camps to explore their access to information and related services. We have created a WhatsApp group to share the information followed by some group meetings. The purpose of the group was to share the information related to any issues and challenges and at the same time motivate them to share their problems. The project is ongoing and will continue into 2022.

Support for Skill Development and employment.

Under this initiative we have facilitated a session on career options among the youth in Soot Mill. Dr. Narendra clarified the career options as per their wishes and motivated them to identify their strengths in order to understand the aspiration of individuals. There were 7 youths who we were able to support to join different courses in retail marketing and all were placed with a training partner and most of them are now working with their training partners having been offered jobs at the end of their training. We will be looking to conduct more skills development in 2022.





Children's Club.

The care and protection of young children in the slums are mostly ignored or poorly managed, this is often due to the way of life and the freedom to roam in the slums at a very young age. We runs regular activities including workouts, games and simple exercises in the form of boot camps. Each of these activities is followed by an interaction with children on different topics for example personal hygiene, the role of children in the family and dreams and aspirations. Additionally we have celebrated some of the festivals with children to develop a sense of belongingness and sharing greetings with each other. AATC India has supported the children by purchasing shoes and socks for 100 children in Soot Mill, Jaipur. More Children's Clubs will continue in 2022.







Sharing the Warmth.

In 2021 the temperature in winter was below average (Jaipur is a desert city in the Northern part on India so temperatures can fall very low in the winters.) AATC India mobilised support locally and with the help of our volunteers identified some of the needy people from Soot Mill and Jhalana Dungari Slums and supported them through sharing some warmth with good quality blankets in the month of December 2021. We partnered with Laxmi Devi Memorial trust who supported 40 women from Soot Mill and Jhalana Mahal to provide blankets and AATC India volunteer team ran the assessment and distribution to share some warmth.

PROJECTS IN AFRICA

Becky's Foundation, Senya Beraku, Ghana.

Overview of the Project

Arms Around The Child works with Becky's Foundation, a care home for children in poverty. Offering orphaned and abandoned children shelter, health care, protection, support, and education. Currently we look after 48 children 30 boys and 18 girls. Below we look at the 2021 and how Becky's Home held up under the strain of the pandemic.



Educational and personal progress of the children.

After the lock down of schools and social gatherings, the children who completed junior high school the previous year had their senior high school placement and they were admitted at Jukwah Senior High School.

In the year 2021, all the children except for the final year students were moved to a public basic school at Bonsuoku. At the end of the academic year examination, it was observed that the children from Becky's had the best positions and scores. About 85% of the children progressed in their academic performance. However, there are some who still need to get more serious with studies.

Some of the children developed some level of leadership qualities. Some of our children were awarded various leadership positions in the school due to the hard work and leadership qualities they possess.

A good number of the children improved to a good level of personal hygiene.

The Water Project

The water project has been ongoing since Arms Around The Child first started working in Ghana over 5 years ago with numerous bore holes dug for water and promises of links to mains water, (this happened briefly but that supply also dried up and the water department have done nothing to resurrect!) We took more professional advice and secured a well-known and successful company to bore for water (we knew where not to bore!) Christian Atsu supported in the first instance and with additional financial support from https://www.lazysusanfurniture.co.uk/ we are have completed.

The company that assisted with the drilling process has guaranteed water flow for the next few years and sees no reason why this shouldn't continue even further. We have installed the tank, pumps and filters which now provides the children with clean drinking water. Additionally, we have been able to direct a flow to the showers and the toilets, however due to the amount of time the showers were unused they have fallen into disrepair and the shower heads need to be replaced which should be completed in 2022. We have erected an enclosure around the tank and electricals to protect from the elements.

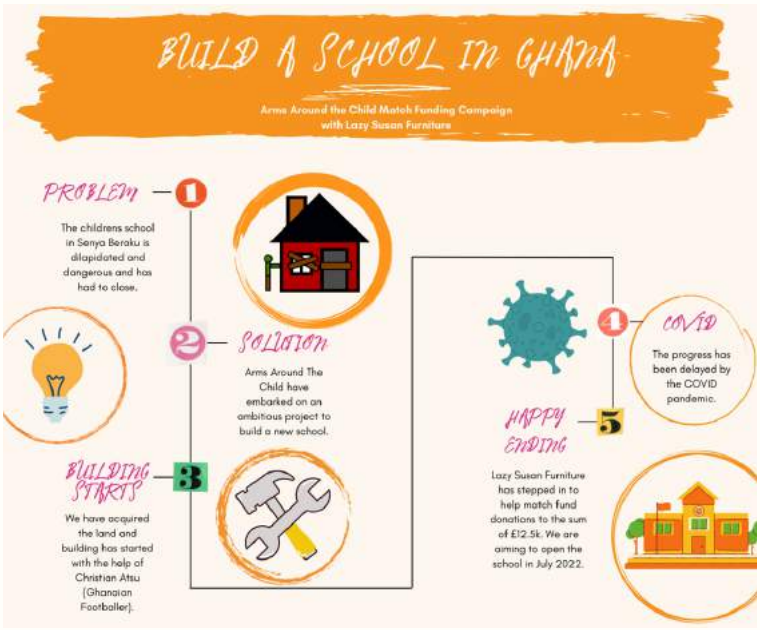
The results of this project mean the children have clean, safe, filtered water to drink, we no longer have to buy expensive tankers of water and environmentally unfriendly plastic water sachets. The health and hygiene for everyone has improved dramatically with the installation of taps in the kitchen and the freer flowing water for sanitation and bathing, the lives of the children and staff have been made a little easier.











Progress on the school building.

In the year 2021, we were able to reach the roofing stage of the school building (All block work was completed, formation of woods for roofing, lengthening of the building and wall pillars were done)

During the recent survey of the school building, it was observed that some woods used for the roofing needed to be replaced. Wood treatment and replacement has been completed. A campaign has been devised for 2022 providing matched funding through Lazy Susan Furniture to support the continuation of the school build. Roofing sheets and other materials have been ordered to be supplied on 16th of March 2022. Installation of the roofs will commence as soon as materials are supplied.

The construction of outside washroom commenced in 2021 but was not completed.

Events throughout the year



Football Pitch

The inauguration of the Football pitch was organized by Cheetah FC, and it happened that Christian Atsu was deeply involved in the Project. This gave an opportunity for the children of Becky's Home to be invited to perform choreography dance during the inaugural ceremony. There were many great Ghanaian footballers there including Hans Nunu Sarpei who plays for the Bundesliga club FC Ingolstadt. Hans made a huge donation of goodies for the children and everyone celebrated at the home after the ceremony to open the new astro turf pitch that is located close to Becky's Home. After Arms Around The Child introduced Abdul Hayye Yarty the Director of The Cheetahs FC, they became interested in land close to the school and created this new project. The children and Becky's Home Football Club are able to use this pitch for recreation when it is not being used for The Cheetahs training matches and events.





Christmas Party

In December 2021 just like every year Exceed – UK organized the annual Christmas party for the kids of Becky's Foundation on the 25th of December 2021. It was such an exciting moment for the kids. As part of the celebration Christmas gifts were presented to all the children and staffs of the home. Also, personal items and other school material were presented to the children in SHS to be used at School.

New Year Party

As part of motivation and appreciation towards work at the care home, management organized a New Year Party/Get together for the staff and children of Becky's home.

Donations

In the same month, since it was the Christmas season, the home was fortunate to receive donations from few stakeholders and individuals who have the home and the children at heart.
Also, Demond Krampah received a new wheelchair from Madam Julie Tachie.

Initiatives

As part of the initiatives implemented in the home the children started beading, sewing, and painting classes. Several beads and beautiful cards were made by the children. Becky's Home received a wonderful donation of sewing machines and other equipment to produce reusable sanitary pads however this project will start in 2022.
Adding to the assets of the home all fans were fixed in the various rooms at the home.



Volunteers

The Covid 19 restrictions on travel affected the visit of volunteers. Towards the latter months in the year a few Volunteers visited the Home.

Outings and Excursion

In June 2021 Christian Atsu the ambassador of Arms Around the Child visited the home and took the children on an outing to the West Hills Mall in Accra to buy gifts, dresses and shoes for the children.



Learning from Home

Home tuition sessions were organised for the children especially those who were in their final year in the junior high school. This prepared them towards their final examination.

Covid 19 related challenges and how it was managed.

The outbreak of the pandemic posed several challenges and constraint. However, no one from the home contracted the virus. The various protocols were put in place and adhered to. Personal Protocol Equipment was provided to children and staff.

Regular Health talks on the virus was organised at the home. Children were monitored to practice the regular hand wash with soap under running water.

Visits

Due to the Covid outbreak, as some of the measures to curtail the transmission and spread of the Covid virus, the home did not receive outsiders. However, the Managing Director of Pinora Limited visited the home and all Covid protocols were strictly observed.
Throughout the year there was no records of visiting parents due to the pandemic. As part of the Covid restriction the social worker did not make any home visits, however, telephone calls were made to some of the families.

Farming

With the help of the children and staff members, the home cultivated maize and other vegetables but due to the change in weather pattern, there was not enough rainfall, and this affected the harvest. There is a plan for 2022 to work with the sustainability team from Pinora to support the home with growing crops for feeding.





Goats, chickens, and egg production

In the year 2021, the total animals in the farm were ten (10) goats, three (3) sheep and four hundred hens and cocks (400). The egg production increased in the latter part of the year by a small margin. Some of these eggs produced by the hens were sold and the proceeds used to purchase feed and other medication for the chickens. Some of the eggs were also used to feed the children

Staff Changes in the year 2021

In the year 2021, there were some few issues of labour turn over. However new employees applied to fill the vacant positions. The home nurse was replaced by Emmanuel.

The social worker Firdaus relocated to further her education another town and was replaced by Gifty. Also, one of the house mothers Zenabu was replaced by Patience. At the end of the year 2021 the total staff strength was eight (8) in number. They include. Mothers/Cook (4) Security (1) Accounts and Reports (1) Health Worker (1) Social Worker (1)

Apprentice Programme with Pinora/Sono Global

The SONO Apprenticeship scheme is a unique programme offering underprivileged young adults from Ghana the opportunity to learn, work and develop new skills in the agricultural industry.

Arms Around the Child and Pinora/Sono have developed a focused programme to support and help young adults from vulnerable backgrounds take the next steps in their lives.

The project aims to help the participants to continue their education, learn new skills and trades, become economically independent, integrate into a new community and to assist with their career development.

We hope to send 1-4 new apprentices a year and we have developed an integrated program of wellbeing, education and work that we hope will give these young adults the opportunity to pursue rewarding, successful and happy lives and careers.

The programme is in the developmental stages and is hopeful that the first wave of apprentices will be in place in 2022.





Ikageng Itireleng, Soweto, South Africa

Overview of the Project

Ikageng, the non-profit organisation, was founded by Carol Dyanti (“Mum Carol”) in 2001 in Orlando West, Soweto. Through her work as a home-based care provider in Soweto, she saw an increasing number of children left to fend for themselves and knew she had to intervene. Many of these children had lost their parents and guardians to HIV/AIDS and were now living in single parent-headed, grandparent-headed, or child-headed households. This meant they were exposed to cramped living spaces, poor sanitary conditions, inadequate food, and rampant drug and alcohol abuse. By providing for all their basic needs, Ikageng relieved some of the pressure and despair faced by children who, having lost parents, are forced to take on adult roles.

Arms Around The Child have been supporting Mum Carol for the past 13 years and have continued to support Ikageng with development for staff training and policy implementation and the provision of food parcels for the child-headed households in Soweto, South Africa.



Ikamva Lethu (Our Future)

Towards the end of 2021 Carol Dyanti has moved one of the main projects we were supporting to work with Dr Ndumiso Tshuma at Best Health Solutions based in Johannesburg. Arms Around The Child is supporting the development funding of this project “Still We Rise” and will consider the future funding potential for 2022. Working through Best Health Solutions they are located at The Boxshop on Vilakazi Street next to Nelson Mandela’s House in Orlando

Access to health services is still a challenge among orphans and vulnerable children particularly in an informal settlement Ezimbuzini close to Orlando, some of these they are children of sex workers or are in child headed households.

Program Objectives

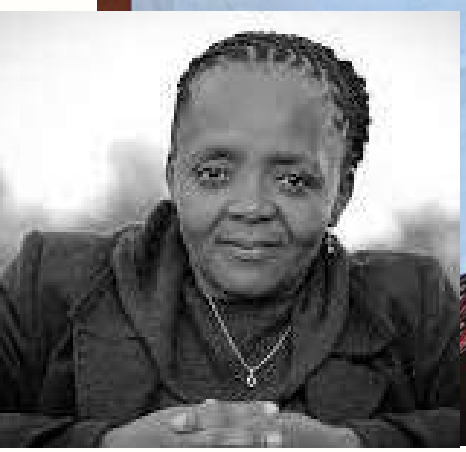
1. To improve health outcomes of an initial number of vulnerable and disadvantaged young people and adolescents aged 9 - 26 living with HIV/AIDS through HIV/AIDS and gender-based violence prevention, treatment care and support services over 3 years.

2. To provide quality parenting skills and guardianship education on HIV/AIDS and gender-based violence prevention, care and support for orphaned and vulnerable children aged 0 - 18 in over 3 years.

3. To improve the quality of life and resilience for vulnerable and disadvantaged young people aged 9 - 26 who are victims of gender-based violence including sexual assault and rape over 3 years.

4. To conduct research and disseminate finding among community-based organisations, district and provincial levels





Operation Bobbi Bear, Durban, South Africa

Upholding the rights of sexually abused children

The last year for Bobbi Bear has been extremely challenging. There have been days when of wonder at how they have managed to carry on and keep the doors open to help the children.

With COVID-19 and the political unrest around the previous president Jacob Zuma court case causing rioting and looting, Bobbi Bear has experienced an increase of extreme cases of rape and domestic abuse. Families were locked up in their homes and the cases more than doubled. Families lost their jobs and lost what little they owned through the looting; services came to a halt as companies closed. People were frustrated, Fathers couldn't pay the rent, couldn't put food on the table and children were being abused. Men were taking out frustrations on women and children. Not only were we responding to increased rape cases but also to a lot of domestic violence cases. There were a lot of suicides and abuse this last year. Kids trying to run away from home, it's been a nightmare year.



The looting happened in 2021 and consequently hundreds of small companies had to shut down. They were damaged beyond repair. When the insurance money was paid out a lot of businesses said they would not reopen and decided to leave the country. This had a massive impact on BB, as these small companies help to keep the doors open by raising funds and donating to help towards the running costs. The schools were closed which meant that Bobbi Bear could not go into the schools to run the awareness programmes. Children were being raped and sexually abused, but there was no voice, no one for them to talk to. Children were not going to school and instead were locked up at home with their parents as there were heavy curfews, they had no one to turn to. Normally children could report cases through the school and the teachers or councilors would contact us, then a child safety officer would be sent to work with the child.

The Illovo Tree programme also had to close for an entire year. The families, children and people who depended on the tree no longer had any where to go or someone to talk to. Bobbi Bear tried once or twice to go and meet with people, but the police arrived and threatened everyone as it was considered a social gathering.

For over a year no one had any where to turn to. Bobbi Bear were trying to get food parcels into the communities as people were starving. As well as COVD there were challenges with the services, weeks and days with no access to water and electricity and internet. Some of the staff in the BB house didn't have water for 6/7 days. Moral was very low and the staff are very tired and fatigued. Bobbi Bear are working to get back into the schools and have started up the tree again every other `Saturday with smaller numbers and are hopeful to return to the full programme in 2022.

Bobbi Bears work is totally community focused. SA was in a state of emergency for the whole of 2021 with everything shut down, solicitors, legal representation, home affairs and the courts. It has been impossible to get court papers and cases are constantly being postponed. Cases are endlessly postponed, and perpetrators are getting out on bail because there's no space in jail. Everybody is suffering the consequences of COVID. There was a case that came up before COVID 2019 which is nowhere near to the case being heard for the children to testify. There is no help at all it feels as though the authorities, schools, hospitals, the police, courts are hiding behind COVID, everything is on a go slow, with limited numbers of cases dealt with every week.

2021 has been a very difficult year for Bobbi Bear and through the will of the staff and the Directors have managed to keep supporting children and their families through abuse and are hopeful that 2022 will open the courts and services up fully for the organisation to continue with their important work

Nkosi's Haven, Johannesburg, South Africa

Overview

Supporting Nkosi's Haven has mainly been through our Vocational Impact programme that sends University students to volunteer who are studying courses including Business or International Development, Psychology, Health and Social Care at graduate, post Grad, MA and PhD levels. The programme not only sends students to support the essential work of Nkosi's but uses the fees to support Nkosi's with donations throughout the year.



Nkosi's Haven provides a home for children who have been orphaned by AIDS. A safe home for over 84 children and about 31 mothers, some of the young mothers are survivors of gender-based violence and are being treated for PTSD. The children receive a quality education, health care, good nutrition, housing, and support. The right to education is often a challenge for children who are infected with HIV/AIDS. Getting a good quality education is of the utmost importance at Nkosi's Haven. One of the saving graces for Nkosi's Haven during the lockdown is the bakery that they operate from a converted

shipping container on site, not only were they baking to feed their community but also for the wider community and donating bread to feeding schemes for drop off centres for children and the elderly.

The children who live in Nkosi's Haven receive their education at schools inside the community. Nkosi's Haven is the dream project of Nkosi Johnson, to whom the International Children's Peace Prize was dedicated posthumously in 2015. In his short life, Nkosi advocated for the rights of children with HIV/AIDS. Nkosi's Haven was founded in 1999 by Gail Johnson, Nkosi's foster mother.

Arms Around The Child has been working with Nkosi's Haven for many years and more recently have implemented a volunteer programme for Psychology students, however over the past 2 years due to the COVID-19 pandemic this has not been possible. The programme has been relaunched in September 2021 and by the end of 2021 there are at least 6 volunteers who will be working with Nkosi's from the UK in 2022.

Vocational Impact

After a challenging year in 2020, 2021 saw Vocational Impact working hard behind the scenes focusing on redesigning the website and updating content ready for the relaunching in October 2021.

Updates

Many of our competitors had to close their doors during the pandemic, therefore Vocational Impact were in a good position to take a larger market share.

We continue to see on average 20 applications per month despite the travel restrictions showing there was still a hungry volunteer abroad market.

The new website launched in December 2021, has a simplified but slicker, more up-to-date feel, with an easier user experience, quicker enquiry process, enhanced SEO and conversion tracking set up. The VI website sees an average of 4k monthly users.

VI has been looking into affiliate schemes to tap into new revenue streams (student finance, career development loans, insurance etc.)



VOCATIONAL IMPACT

VI has been maximising limited resources by developing an SEO strategy, content strategy and refreshing old content ready.

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake to achieve its aims and objectives.
Arms Around The Child promotes public benefit by fundraising to support children and families whose lives have been affected by HIV/AIDS, children who have been abandoned, abused, who live in child-headed households, rescued from slavery & trafficking and orphaned and other associated projects. Arms Around The Child does not discriminate against anyone who has been affected by HIV/AIDS and welcomes fundraising from any members of the public.

Achievements & Performance

AATC has worked closely with the Board of Trustees on strategy, budgeting, funding and grant applications for all the sites that we support and are active in the support, development, training, finding and recruiting new board members and developing fundraising strategies within the communities of the sites we fund in South Africa, India and Ghana. AATC has outlined our achievements and performances with each site we support in the notes above as well as the information below outlining our UK fundraising achievements and performances.

Monitoring, Evaluation & Site Visits

Arms Around The Child aims to visit the sites and countries we work with at least once every 2 years. With the Vocational Impact students who are working at most of our supported organisations, we can connect more closely on a regular basis with the organisations. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has halted our international travel and we have not sent any volunteers to our sites in 2021, however we have been working throughout and are re launching Vocational Impact and are booking volunteers for trips from May 2022. Arms Around The Child personnel aim to re visit all the sites that are supported in 2022.

Arms Around The Child have remained in close contact with all the staff throughout 2022 through regular zoom calls and WhatsApp messaging and more regular written reports.

Funding

Donations

AATC was delighted to be the recipient of funds from Lazy Susan Furniture to support the children in our programmes in Jaipur with food and nutrition for a year .
Additional Donations were received from the following trusts and foundations. We are extremely grateful for their support for our programmes in India:
The Walter Watson Charitable Trust; The Grace Trust; The Woodsford Trust; The Casey Trust; William Howarth; Marshland McAdoo; NCB & HH Taylor 1984 Trust; Pat Newman Memorial Trust;

The Henhurst Charitable Trust; The Shelton Trust; The Hudson Charitable Trust; Father O'Mahoney Charitable Trust. We would also like to thank Kabuki productions for their donation to support our work with Fund A Mom in Jaipur.
Sono Global continues to support our work in Ghana. Christian Atsu donated towards the school building in Ghana at the beginning of 2021 which enabled the frames for the roof supports for both buildings.
AATC has a database of regular monthly donors and gratefully received one off fundraising initiatives through various fundraising platforms including our platform through our website. In 2021 we received a donation from Victorious Festival as The World Music Village was able to go ahead as part of the overall Victorious Festival.
Arms Around The Child works closely with the Board of Trustees on strategy, budgeting, funding and grant applications for all the sites that we support and meet regularly to discuss the progress and future plans for the work of the organisation.





The World Music Village

The return of Victorious Festival after the cancellation of 2020 meant that we were once again able to curate and run The World Music Village which has been a feature of the festival for the past 7 years and a favourite of many of the festival goers.

The WMV prides itself on being a bastion of multiculturalism, diversity and inclusively, seeking to represent the diverse voices, sounds and traditions within our community, and to display the incredible musical styles and cultures from across the Globe.

Being a part of Victorious Festival has been an amazing journey for Arms Around The Child, a Portsmouth based charity looking after children living in extreme adversity in Ghana, South Africa and India. Each year we've had the opportunity to speak to thousands of people about the work we do to provide safe loving homes, education, health care, love, hope and respect to hundreds of children who have been affected by HIV/AIDS, orphaned, abandoned, abused and living in child-headed households. With the support of Victorious, our volunteers, and festivalgoers, we've been able to continue to expand our work and help many vulnerable lives across the world.

Farm Fiesta

A Private Farm Party to raise funds for the charity. The party was held in a beautiful setting just outside of Portsmouth with vegan food and an assortment local bands and DJs. The party kept in line with the latest government restrictions around the pandemic. The party was family friendly and by invite only. Many donations were received throughout the lead up to the party, during and after the party as it was an opportunity to speak to people about the work of Arms Around The Child.

It had been a tough year for everyone especially those working in the hospitality and entertainment industries. This is also true of the charity sector which often relies heavily on funds raised from parties and events which haven't been able to go forward due to Covid-19, so we needed the support more support than ever.



The event was made successful through the generosity of the farm owners Jeremy and Sasha Weisselberg who donated their time and farm and made sure that everyone was welcomed and had the very best experience.



Pro Bono

Kandi Media
House of Canvino
Proof Drinks

We are extremely grateful for the pro bono support we have received from KANDI MEDIA for our Vocational Impact website building and maintenance and also support with Google Ad Words and continued support for the Arms Around The Child website and the Fund A Mom website, graphic support and logo design.



Financial report for the year

Financial Review

The trustees are planning future fund-raising events and exploring potential sponsorship opportunities. In addition, the trustees are reviewing the model for their fundraising events with the aim of reducing the costs involved in staging them, therefore ensuring an increase in
the amounts raised for the charity's programmes.

The trustees' policy is to work towards building a sustainable level of reserves over the next five years to fund the charity's programmes and running costs for at least the following twelve months

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are appraised of their duties and obligations under charity law and Charity Commission guidelines and recommendations. The trustees adhere to corporate governance policies and are required to register and declare any potential conflicts of interest on a regular basis. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external courses to enable them to carry out their role.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Reference and administrative details

Registered Charity number
1123038

Principal address
93 Festing Grove
Southsea
Hampshire
PO4 9QE

Trustees

Mr F Runge
Ms J E Milner
Ms R Cason-Marcus
Mr M Lyn
Ms H O'Brien
Ms K Sharma

Independent Examiner

Johnny Kritzinger
Chartered Accountant (CA)
ICAEW Membership Nr:
5483062

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 29th April 2022

_____

and signed on its behalf by

_____

Mr F Runge - Trustee

FINANCIAL REVIEW

A summary of the year's results can be found in the statement of financial activities on page 4.

Total incoming resources amounted to £ 151,050 (2020: £114,405). All of this relates to charitable donations.

The balance sheet shows total funds of £ 56,022 (2020: £48,079).

Reserves policy

At the balance sheet date the unrestricted fund was £ 51,585 (2020: £44,956) the restricted fund was £ 4,437 (2020: £ 3,123). Last year the charity had net current assets of £48,079 of which £56,059 was held as cash at the bank. The bank balance at 12 December 2021 was £58,700.

The trustees are planning future fund raising events and exploring potential sponsorship opportunities. In addition, the trustees are reviewing the model for their fundraising events with the aim of reducing the costs involved in staging them, therefore ensuring an increase in the amounts raised for the charity's programmes.

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

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The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are appraised of their duties and obligations under charity law and Charity Commission guidelines and recommendations. The trustees adhere to corporate governance policies and are required to register and declare any potential conflicts of interest on a regular basis. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external courses to enable them to carry out their role.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Arms Around The Child (UK)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Arms Around The Child (UK) (the Trust) for the year ended 12 December 2021.

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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Johnny Kritzinger
Chartered Accountant (CA)
ICAEW Membership Nr: 5483062

Date: .....

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12 DECEMBER 2021

	Note	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	**2021 Total funds £**	2020 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS					
Donations and legacies	2	68,138	54,867	**123,006**	97,748
Other trading activities	3	28,045		**28,045**	16,656
Investment income	4	-	-	-	1
Total		96,183	54,867	**151,050**	114,405
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	5	(11,240)	(9,051)	**(20,291)**	(14,230)
Charitable activities	6				
Raising awareness , campaigns and education		(17,320)	(13,947)	**(31,267)**	(26,836)
Grants to projects and associated costs		(17,340)	(74,209)	**(91,550)**	(59,510)
Total Expenditure		(45,901)	(97,207)	**(143,108)**	(100,576)
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	12	50,282	(42,340)	**7,943**	13,829
Transfers between funds		(43,653)	43,653		
Net movement in funds		6,629	1,314	**7,943**	13,829
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		44,956	3,123	**48,079**	34,250
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		51,585	4,437	**56,022**	48,079

The notes form part of these financial statements.

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 12 DECEMBER 2021

	Note	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank		54,265	4,435	**58,700**	56,059
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one	11	(2,678)	-	**(2,678)**	(7,980)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		51,587	4,435	**56,022**	48,079
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		51,587	4,435	**56,022**	48,079
NET ASSETS		51,587	4,435	**56,022**	48,079
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				**51,587**	44,956
Restricted funds				**4,435**	3,123
TOTAL FUNDS				**56,022**	48,079

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 29th April 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
Mr F Runge - Trustee

.....
Ms JE Milner - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements.

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
NOTES TO THE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12 DECEMBER 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Going Concern
The trustees consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

At the balance sheet date the charity had net assets of £56,022 and cash reserves of £58,700. The trustees consider that it will be in a position to meet its obligation as they fall due.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.
Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.
Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Charitable activities
Costs of charitable activities includes grants made.

Allocation and apportionment of costs
Support costs have been allocated to costs of generating funds and then are apportioned between fund raising and generating voluntary income. Support costs have been apportioned based upon the income under each of these headings.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2021	2020
Donations	**115,816**	113,595
Vocational Impact volunteer donations	**7,190**	13,597
	123,006	127,192

Further information on mentionable donors are given in note 15.

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

Fundraising events	**28,045**	16,656

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

Interest Received	**-**	1

5. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

Consultancy	**6,786**	1,928
Event costs	**12,429**	5,641
Support costs	**1,076**	1,984
	20,291	9,553

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Direct	Grant	Support	Total
Raising awareness, campaigns and education	30,191	-	1,076	31,267
Grants to projects and associated costs		91,550	-	91,550
	30,191	**91,550**	**1,076**	**122,817**

Further information on grants made to projects is given in note 14.

7. SUPPORT COSTS

Support costs are allocated equally between fund raising activities and raising awareness, campaigns and education.

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

No trustees received remuneration or other benefits (including expenses paid) for their services as trustees of the charity for the year ended 12 December 2021 nor for the year ended 12 December 2020.

Ms E Milner received payment in respect of other services provide to the charity, further details are given in note 13.

9. EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

During the current and prior years the charity had no employees.

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	**Total funds £**
Donations and legacies	94,354	3,394	**97,748**
Other trading activities	16,656	-	**16,656**
Investment income	-	1	**1**
Total	111,010	3,395	**114,405**
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	(13,817)	(413)	**(14,230)**
Charitable activities			
Raising awareness , campaigns and education	(12,390)	(14,446)	**(26,836)**
Grants to projects and associated costs	(59,510)	-	**(59,510)**
Total	(85,717)	(14,859)	**(100,576)**
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	25,293	(11,464)	**13,829**
Transfers between funds	(14,587)	14,587	**-**
Net movement in funds	10,706	3,123	**13,829**
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	34,250	-	**34,250**
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	44,956	3,123	**48,079**

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)
NOTES TO THE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12 DECEMBER 2021

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE

	2021	2020
Trade Creditors	2,678	6540
Accruals and deferred income	-	1440
	2,678	7,980

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 12 Dec	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 12 Dec 21
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	44,956	50,282	(43,653)	51,585
Restricted Fund				
Vocational Impact	3,122	1,314	-	4,436
Becky's Foundation (incl CAF USA)	-	(26,953)	26,953	-
India Projects (incl CAF USA)	-	(16,701)	16,701	-
Total	48,079	7,943	0	56,021

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
Unrestricted Funds			
General Fund	68,138	(17,856)	50,282
Restricted Funds			
Vocational Impact	7,190	(5,876)	1,314
Becky's Foundation (incl CAF USA)	13,000	(39,953)	(26,953)
India Projects (incl CAF USA)	34,678	(51,379)	(16,701)
Total	123,006	(115,063)	7,943

Vocational Impact - Vocational Impact have a deep passion and drive to link professional volunteers and university students to the Arms Around The Child projects in Africa and India. With a core mission to drive international skills exchange and empowerment, they recognised the need of NGOs, and the skills university students can bring to them. During the year Volunteer Invest changed its name to Vocational Impact.

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Becky's Foundation - Arms Around The Child works with Becky's Foundation, a care home for children in poverty in Senya Beraku , Ghana. The project aims to offer a home for orphaned children and to provide them with shelter, protection, support, and education. Donor funds for this cause is restricted if instructed as such by the donor. During the year Charities Aid Foundation made donations to this project and these funds were used to support the running costs of the home. During the year funds have been received to start building a school at Becky's Home.

India Projects and Charites Aid Foundation Funds - Arms Around The Child works with various projects in India.Faith Sansthan is a safe home for HIV+ orphans. Vatslaya Jalore is a child care home and care centre for boys affected with HIV/AIDS. CHEER is a skills development project and Fund A Mom is a universal basic income scheme for mothers in need. Donor funds for this cause is restricted if instructed as such by the donor. Funds from CAF have been used to cover operational costs for these projects.

Comparatives for movement in funds:

	At 12 Dec 19	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 12 Dec 20
Unrestricted Funds				
General	34,250	25,293	(14,587)	44,956
Restricted Fund		(11,464)	14,587	3,123
Vocational Impact				
TOTAL	**34,250**	**13,829**	**0**	**48,079**

Each year the charity uses funds from the unrestricted fund to support the administrative costs incurred by the restricted funds as and when the need arises.

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year the charity made payments to Ms E Milner, a member of the key management personnel and a trustee of the charity.

The payments totalling £24,000 (2020: £9,000) were in respect of raising awareness of the charity and its aims, fundraising, management, event management services and payment of consultant fees to support AATC. In addition, during the year expenses directly relating to the activities of the charity and the running of the charity totalling £5,400 (2020: £3,400) were reimbursed to Ms E Milner.

14. GRANTS MADE TO PROJECTS

During the year the following grants were paid to support projects and individuals in India and South Africa;

Faith Sansthan - the project supports care homes in Jaipur, India, which provide care for children affected by HIV/AIDS. During the year the charity provided funds of £28,381 (2020: £15,560).

AATC India - The project supports various of the India initiatives such as Vatslaya Jalore , CHEER and Fund a Mom as well as Covid Appeal Jaipur. During the year the charity provided £ 22,358 (2020:NIL)

Becky's Home - The project supports the running costs, education, food and staffing for 55 orphans rescued from Slavery and Trafficking in Senya Beraku, Ghana. During the year the charity provided funds of £29,953 (2020:£31,880). This included funds for a water project (£3000) as well as a school build (£10,000)

Bobbi Bear Fund - the project in Durban, South Africa, provides support for children who are victims of abuse, abandonment and rape. During the year the charity provided funds of £4,688 (2020: £9,470) .

Ikageng Itireleng - the project in Soweto, South Africa, provides support and care for children affected by HIV/AIDS. During the year the charity provided funds of £ NIL (2020: £1,000).

Friends Without Borders Refugee Children. During the year the charity provided funds of £294 (2020: £100).

Ikamva Lethu - the project in Soweto, South Africa, provides support and care for children affected by HIV/AIDS by providing them with home based care. During the year the charity provided funds of £ 5,000 (2020: £ NiL).

15. SIGNIFICANT DONATIONS

During the year the following notable donations were received to support specific (restricted) projects;

Donor name	Project/Fund Use
Christian Atsu	School Build Senya Beraku Ghana
Walter Watson Charitable Trust	India Projects
The Grace Trust	India Projects
The Woodsford Trust	India Projects
Ward Family Charitable Trust	India Projects

15. SIGNIFICANT DONATIONS - continued

During the year the following notable donations were received to support specific (restricted) projects - continued;

Donor name	Project/Fund Use
The Casey Trust	India Projects
Lazy Susan Furniture	India Projects (Faith Home - Food and Nutrition)
William Howarth	India Projects
Marshland McAdoo	India Projects
NCB & HH Taylor 1984 Trust	India Projects
Pat Newman Memorial Trust	India Projects
Lazy Susan Furniture	Water Project Sneya Beraku, Ghana
The Henhurst Charitable Trust	India Projects
The Shelton Trust	India Projects
Kabuki Productions	India Fund A Mom
The Hudson Charitable Trust	India Projects
Father O'Mahoney Charitable Trust	India Projects
Charities Aid Foundation (CAF)	India Projects



A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS & SUPPORTERS

Megan Ayling
Cansecco
Proofdrinks
James McDermott
Marc Laventure
Rosie Newton
Alison Silvester
Steve Newton
Jan Peat
Jacqui Der Karapetian
Trevor McArdle
Maddie McArdle
Tom Mangan
Pranoti Bhonsie
Frank Runge
Caroline Runge
Lotta Runge
Darren Jenkins
Lidia Harding
Jared Rolfe
Jason Colchin Carter
Lee Sharrock
Gaynor Fascione
Bakul Patki
Kiran Sharma
Roselyn Marcus
Mervyn Lyn
Sarah Harris
Moses Milner
Georgia Dryhurst
Ollie Hoxey
Nelson Milner
Justin James
Melanie Cox
Jo Bird
Gary Plumley
Jo Langshaw
Julie Ayling
Martin Ayling
Jeremy Weisselberg
Sasha Weisselberg
Marcus Holmes
Rowan Cullen
Erin Morton
Julian Formica
Christian Atsu
Polly Doyle
Andy Thomas
Teresa Ewart
Andy Downham
Sia Lymo
Ajay Parekh
Rachael Hamorak
Lazy Susan Furniture
Michael Scott
Roy Hanney
Victorious Festival
Neneh Cherry
Paula Savage
Steve Peat
Dave Hendon
Versal Gordon
Sarah Swaff
Keith Cox
Gill Haydon
Steve Eade
Steffan Swaff
Tina Sanchez
Peter Wells Thorpe

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD(UK)

England & Wales - Charity number 1123038

Accounts



arms around the child

Annual Report 2020

MISSION: SAFE HAPPY KIDS

We provide love, hope and dignity.

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Objectives, Aims and Activities

1. **Relief for orphaned and vulnerable children living in extreme adversity**.
   We work for the preservation of health among children affected or at risk of HIV/AIDS. We help children residing in India and South Africa by raising awareness and providing the essential social and medical care needed to support healthy and safe lives.

2. **To advance education and awareness.**
   We work to raise knowledge around children rescued from slavery, trafficking and abuse or living in child-headed households continue to through education, social outreach and campaigns.

3. **To Make Lasting Change**
   We continue to educate governments and health agencies to the needs of children in the above-mentioned circumstances.

Mission Statement

Arms Around The Child (AATC) is a global charity building a better and kinder environment for children living in extreme adversity.

This could be children who are orphaned, abandoned, at risk of child abuse – sexual or otherwise, affected by HIV, trafficked or living in child-headed households.

With years of experience in direct care, Arms Around The Child are committed to working with people on the ground and involved with the communities affected. We support our partner organisations to train and implement programmes in a scalable way including reintegration and development programmes to help children stay within their families and extended families. We know that providing the kind of joy, love, peace and respect that children need leads to a brighter future.

AATC advocates for their needs and invests in their futures. They provide support and outreach for their extended families and strive to make their futures bright and happy.

Significant Activities

Arms Around The Child UK work closely with our on-ground partners in India, South Africa and Ghana to support them in:

- Develop Fundraising initiatives
- Day to day administration
- Development
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Good working practices
- Raising awareness
- Advocating for the rights of children

Arms Around The Child focuses on: Community-based fundraising in the UK, grant applications and funding through one-off events and campaigns.

Projects in India

(Registered organisation Arms Around The Child India)

Faith Sansthan, Jaipur, India

Overview

Smriti Singh founded Faith as a safe home for HIV+ orphans and children affected by HIV/AIDS providing specialized care. The numbers of children she took in grew rapidly as there was no other care home who would take in HIV+ Orphans in Jaipur.

Application for Government Funding

Arms Around The Child India has applied for government funding to support Faith Sansthan homes for girls and for boys under the ICPS (Integrated Child Protection Scheme) and submitted an application to the Department of Child Rights at the Government of Rajasthan. The application has also been forwarded to the Ministry of Women and Child Development with the Government of India. We are waiting for the final decision but have been informed that the application is being considered.

Building A Home for Children Project

Arms Around The Child has supported Faith Sansthan with all the applications to fund the building of a permanent home for the children in the project in Jaipur. We are currently getting the completion and utilisation certificates sanctioned in order to release the final funds for the completion of the building in Jaipur.
Additionally, we have also coordinated with Shri Harvardhan Singh Ji (Hon'ble MP) for funding of 10 lakh rupees (approx. £10000) to support the construction of the first floor at a later date under the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme.

New Partnership

AATC India introduced the organisation Cienvidas (Spanish organization headed by Director Mr Antanasio Flores De Haro) to support two programmes. These are: 'Sponsorship for Education' and a project building a home for girls affected by HIV/AIDS in Alwar, India.

In preparation to move forward with the proposed building AATC India supported the land purchase (The title of the land is in Faith Sansthan's name.) Plans have been finalised and approved for the home. Currently, there are further contractual negotiations taking place and we are looking forward to an agreement being signed between Faith and Cienvidas to start the new build in 2021.

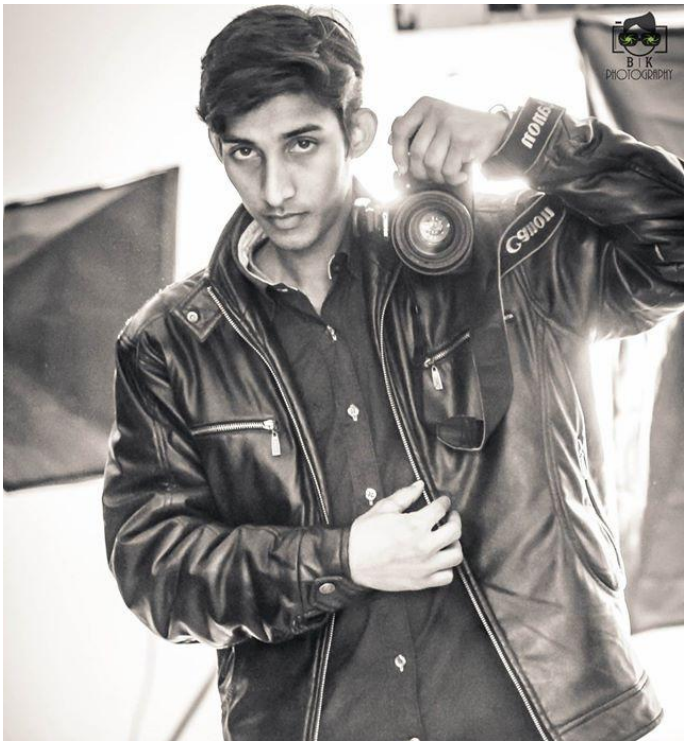
AATC India has received funds from Cienvadas through the UK website campaign 'Sponsor A Child' . These funds will cover all the educational needs of 5 of the girls at our Faith home in Jaipur.. We look forward to this relationship developing and sponsoring more children with their education.

After Care Support

Some of the children, who have been cared for at AATC funding sites in India, have turned 18 and have moved out. Some have moved in with their relatives and others have continued to receive support from us to live independently . AATC India representatives are in contact with the children who have now left the home and provide support with day to day living, job seeking, further training or education and to share their progress.

A group of boys from Faith (Jyoti, Bilal, Mohan, Kalidas and Deepak), who had reached the age limit for care in Jaipur, got together and with the support of one of their family members and our AATC Director in India, were able to connect with a factory to buy clothes, blue pottery and jewellery of Rajasthan. The team now exhibit and sell throughout Southern India where there is a demand for Rajasthani handicrafts. They have been very successful and, despite the lockdown, are expanding their team.

Shubham from Faith is following another former resident's footsteps and now has an apprenticeship at the same studio that Vivek works at. Vivek now successfully manages the studio which shoots for fashion magazines and Shubham is looking forward to learning all about the trade.



Vivek at his studio

Vatsalya Jalore



Daily yoga at Vatsalya home

Overview

Vatsalya Child Care Home and Care Centre is a residential home for boys affected by HIV/AIDS in the Narbada Colony, Jalore and is currently caring for 22 boys. Run by Jaipur Network for Positive People (JNP+) the organisation receives government funding for the home which was implemented through AATC India. There were 2 new admissions in the year 2020 and 6 in 2019.

All the children at Vatsalya Child Care Home attend school (virtually through the pandemic) and tutors also help them in their education. 6 children are attending skill development programmes run by other organizations with government support in the year 2020.
Food and nutrition is being provided as per the diet chart and being monitored by the staff. The adherence to Antiretroviral Treatment (ART) is being maintained with the support of staff.

Update

Sadly, Mr. Jagdish Saini, the founder of Vatsalya Child Care Home and JNP+ Jalore passed away in May, 2020. It has been such a great loss for everyone. Mr. Ramesh Kumar Gehalot has taken over JNP+ as President and continues to provide funding to the home along with the Government. JNP+ recently mobilised local support to build a boundary wall and put covering over the rear portion of the Vatsalya Home.

Covid Response

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic it has been essential to protect the children as most of them have compromised immune systems through HIV. The staff and children have all adhered to the government guidelines and were instructed on how to follow protocol. Schooling has predominantly been at the home throughout 2020.

4 boys from the home in Jalore reached the age of independence from the care home and have been encouraged and supported to find work or training. To give some examples, Ganpat is managing a clothes shop in Hyderabad, Naresh is a sales manager in a clothing shop in Surat and Deeraj has found work in Goa. Ashok is finishing his education in Delhi and will hopefully be joining the Government-run railways in a clerical position.#

The Skill Development Project

Overview

Arms Around The Child India has prepared a proposal for the Skill Development project CHEER (Children, Happy, Educated, Empowered and Responsible) which has been submitted to the AAVAS FOUNDATION for funding consideration. The proposal covers skills development for children at the homes in painting, photography, beauty and wellness, medicare, science, fashion, music, computer design including photoshop, computer basics, MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Corel (design) and Tally (accounting).



Arts and Crafts as part of the skills programme



Young women engaging in the skills programme

The Skills Centre has 10 computers, a printer, a projector located in the new home in Jaipur that should be fully completed by April 2021. The workshops will be delivered face to face once lockdown has eased. Currently, there have been workshops running online. Once the funding is in place we will be recruiting for the full delivery of the Skills Development Programme.

Technical Support to Partners

To comply with the Juvenile Justice Act 2015 AATC runs regular capacity building and training programmes for staff and caretakers to build skills and update them on institutional Care Provisions. We cover protection, survival, development and participation making sure we are providing safe and secure accommodation, meeting the needs of food nutrition and healthcare with a strong focus on adherence to ART and management of opportunistic infections, education and development and making sure that each child has a holistic development plan which is monitored on a regular basis. We coordinate project management through various committees, coordinate meetings with child welfare and facilitate monitoring visits by various Government agencies.

Covid-19

During the Covid-19 pandemic, AATC has helped Faith and other partners in following the guidelines issued by the Indian Government. AATC trained all staff on how to implement and follow the Covid-19 guidelines as the majority of the children in our care have compromised immune systems due to their HIV+ status. Strictly no visitors allowed, all supplies properly sanitized and only one staff member allowed to manage the daily food supplies and the collection of drugs for the children from ART Centre. The children and the staff were instructed on social distancing, use of masks and hand washing at regular intervals. To date, no members of staff and none of the children have been affected by Covid-19

During lockdown the children at the homes engaged in various extracurricular activities, cooking, kitchen gardening, computing, arts & crafts, music and dance, watching films and attended online classes on Photoshop along with all the academic classes which were also online.



Students engaging in online classes

Fund A Mom

Overview of the Project

The concept behind Fund a Mom is simple - to provide a universal basic income to mothers in need. AATC India has been instrumental in planning and implementing Fund A Mom in India.

The programme was created in 2018 with 25 destitute and vulnerable mothers from five slums of Jaipur City and already in 2020 we saw a huge difference in the mothers lives. They had regained their confidence, their children were in education, they felt safe knowing they could provide healthcare, food and nutrition for the family and were in a better position to buy clothes for their children and themselves.

At the end of 2019, some of the mothers started income generation initiatives with market stalls selling vegetables, fruits and clothing which they have been able to carry on through the pandemic.

During Covid-19 when the entire world was locked down, many daily wage earners lost their income overnight and had to fight for survival. These uncertain times made Fund A Mom essential for survival for the mothers involved in the project. AATC was in regular contact by phone with each mom and educated them around the guidelines and best practices to avoid infection.



One of the mothers, Pooja, with her two children.

New opportunities for the moms

The festival of Raksha Bandhan was approaching, a festival for which sisters of all ages tie a thread (the *rakhi*,) around the wrists of their brothers which symbolically protects them. Some of the Moms expressed an interest in making Rakhis and which they did beautifully. AATC purchased the materials for the project and the moms successfully sold all the *rakhis* in shopping malls and at exhibitions. The moms are planning to make items for other festivals throughout the year which will support their basic income.

Diwali Fundraiser



AATC India mobilized support to celebrate Diwali with the moms and developed ‘Happiness for 100 Mothers’ through crowdfunding. This was initially just for the moms we support but was so successful in raising funds for Diwali food parcels that we were able to extend to more needy households.

Narendra Jangid (AATC India Director) said “It was truly an amazing experience to see the happiness on their faces and to see the confidence to celebrate the light festival happily.”



The Moms receiving their food parcels

Fund A Mom Skills Building

With Fund A Mom in its third year in India, the moms have requested support with income generation initiatives. Based on a detailed consultation with the moms, to understand their areas of interest and feasibility, AATC have proposed the following three job roles for a skills-building programme.

1. **Domestic Worker**: Many of the mothers work or have worked part-time as a domestic worker in their neighbourhoods and there is ample opportunity to equip them with skills in a formal setup like using electronic devices including automatic washing machines, smart electrical goods, cookery skills, TV, toddler/baby/cradle care and care for elderly people.

2. **Gardener**: The settlement of slums is often nearby affluent areas and is the case in Jaipur City. There are large homes with good open space in the front and rear. This space can be developed into a kitchen garden for organic food products. This is a fast-developing concept and for the moms to have a basic knowledge of farming would be a great advantage.

3. **Self Employed Tailor**: Many mothers are skilled in domestic stitching, sewing and altering which takes many years to learn. The course will run for three months and will cover all the required skills for the mothers to use these skills for income.



Malti has started her own clothes stall

Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Programme

Overview

The majority of the moms we support are widowed and, unfortunately, this is mostly because their husbands had alcohol addictions and died due to alcohol related accidents or health complications.

AATC met with Dr D.S. Poonia, a psychiatrist who is knowledgeable in the field of addiction and wanted to help in some way. He galvanised a team to be available for 2 days and offered to support with free and subsidised medication.
Soot Mill was selected for a one year programme and the goal to rehabilitate 21 people in 2021 with the support of Dr Poonia, the community, health and social services.

The implementation strategies for the programme:

1. **Interaction with Individual:** for critical thinking and motivation for change.

2. **Family Support:** This is a disease and we must treat it like that. How can the family support a person? Discuss and prepare the family, this may include neighbours and relatives as well.

3. **Medical Intervention:** After the first two stages the patient visits the doctor who decides the line of treatment. The team follows up treatment and if there is any problem there is the contact number of the doctor available at every slip to contact with.

Dr Poonia has a mobile unit that will be at Soot Mill on the first and third Thursday of each month and will be activated in 2021.



As part of the programme several murals were painted around the Soot Mill area.
“I have started escaping the darkness of the bottle. I have started climbing the mountain of happiness”

Projects in Africa

Becky's Foundation, Senya Beraku, Ghana

Overview of the Project

Arms Around The Child works with Becky's Foundation, a care home for children in poverty. Offering orphaned children shelter, protection, support, and education.

Currently, there are 49 children in the care of Becky's Home in Senya Beraku, 30 male and 19 females. It has been a challenging year with the global COVID-19 pandemic. Schools have been closed for most of the year and the children have been isolated at the home.

The open space around the school has meant there has been plenty of space and time for outdoor activities and this year the children have been working under instruction to set up some land for farming and growing vegetables. The children have all been homeschooling with the support of the teachers from 'Happy Home' school and the care workers. Everyone has tried their very best to keep the children up to speed but there are always challenges keeping within the lockdown guidelines and the children safe. No-one at the home has been infected with COVID-19 and the children and staff continue to adhere to the protocol outlined by the Government.



Children from Becky's Foundation

Throughout the year 5 children have been repatriated with extended family. The uncle of 2 sisters who had lost both of their parents came from Germany and set up his other sister in Accra with work and support to take care of the 2 girls. A brother and sister who live in Senya Beraku had been at Becky's Home for some years while their parents were experiencing extreme poverty with ill health, no work, other children and extended family to look after. They have now both recovered their health and are working and able to care for both the children once again. The other boy has gone back to the Central Region supported by his Uncle to be with his mother as she is in ill health, he has enrolled in a school and will continue with his studies. Becky's Home keeps in contact with all the children who move on or are repatriated from the home.

Despite the erratic school year with the schools opening and closing 5 of the children (3 girls and 2 boys) are graduating and will be going to Senior High School in 2021.

Building A School

The school that the children from Becky's Home have been attending, 'Happy Home" school, has been constantly under repair and during the first major lockdown of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic has fallen into even further disrepair. The school was already suffering from the location under an electric pylon and on a hill which meant when it rained the water would flow through the school like a river. A decision was taken not to re-open the school. The children have all been allocated new schools within the area when the lockdown is lifted.

With the generous support of Christian Atsu, International Footballer we have been working on building a new school on land that was purchased again with Christians help. The urgency to complete the new school is paramount, however during the pandemic work came to a halt but resumed in September 2020, phase 3 was completed and we are looking forward to completing phase 4, the final phase. This incorporates all the woodwork for the roof frames, the roofing sheets, electrics, plumbing, ceilings, windows, doors, plastering, sanitation, decor and landscaping. The school building is expected to be finished in July 2021 subject to funds being available.



Plans for the new school building

Fund a Mom Ghana

Overview

In October 2020 we made an application to DFID to set up the Fund A Mom program in Senya Beraku, Ghana. Providing a monthly stipend to mothers in the village in order to support them with their children.
The team have identified 11 mothers who have children at Becky's home in Senya Beraku supported by Arms Around The Child who could have their children back living with them if they were on the Fund A Mom programme.

AATC was not successful with the recent application but are continuing to make other applications and are hopeful that the programme can start in 2021.

Ikageng Itireleng, Soweto, South Africa

Overview of the Project

Ikageng, the non-profit organisation, was founded by Carol Dyanti ("Mum Carol") in 2001 in Orlando West, Soweto. Through her work as a home-based care provider in Soweto, she saw an increasing number of children left to fend for themselves and knew she had to intervene.
Many of these children had lost their parents and guardians to HIV/AIDS and were now living in single parent-headed, grandparent-headed or child-headed households. This meant they were exposed to cramped living spaces, poor sanitary conditions, inadequate food, and rampant drug and alcohol abuse. By providing for all their basic needs, Ikageng relieved some of the pressure and despair faced by children who, having lost parents, are forced to take on adult roles.



Food parcels being delivered Ikageng

Ikageng's Unique Model

Instead of breaking families up, Ikageng provides the resources and services needed to maintain the family unit, keeping siblings together in their own homes. Based on the South African government's social policy of cluster homes, Ikageng's community-based model of care builds a strong family unit and ultimately ensures that the children have a stable support system to help sustain them through difficult times. 15,000 orphaned and vulnerable children and 3,500 families have been supported since Ikageng was established.

Arms Around The Child have been supporting Mum Carol for the past 12 years and continue to support Ikageng with development for staff training and policy implementation and the provision of food parcels for the child-headed households in Soweto, South Africa.

Operation Bobbi Bear, Durban, South Africa

Overview

Visionary Jackie Branfield created Operation Bobbi Bear over 24 years ago to rescue and uphold the rights of sexually abused children in South Africa. By using a cuddly colored Teddy Bear to help the victims indicate what they experienced, it changed the level of trauma that they had to go through while describing the horrific incidents they had no words for.

Covid-19 Reponse

2020 has been a very difficult year for Operation Bobbi Bear - especially since the Hard lockdown in March. Unfortunately, it was virtually impossible to achieve the goals set for the year. The lockdown and government guidelines including the curfew made it very difficult for the team to reach children in high-risk areas. They were unable to attend workshops and could only do educational toy presentations in schools for a short time before lockdown commenced. This was the same for their public awareness talks.

The work of Operation Bobbi Bear was further hampered by the closure of schools and the Rescue Centre (apart from the continued caregiving to the children who are living at the home.) Staff were unable to come to the office and instead have gone directly to the satellite offices, resulting in much higher taxi fees and no school talks or public awareness talks.

During the hard lockdown, there has been a huge increase in domestic violence with children, rape and murders. Families have been locked up together for long periods of time and huge numbers of workers lost their employment which led to high levels of depression and aggression among males who could no longer support their families, which affected females and children in the households.

Bobbi Bear staff have also been under a lot of strain having to work from their homes and not being able to travel after curfew unless a police van escort could be arranged which was very challenging. Not having any volunteers has affected the support to the staff and also the children in the care of Bobbi Bear at the Rescue Centre.

Bobbi Bear targets for 2021

- 95% of child rape and or sexual abuse cases supported by Bobbi Bear's Child Safety Officers (CSO's) will go to court and be successfully prosecuted.

- 230 local community members (teachers, caregivers, the tree ladies, mothers at the support group) per year to be sensitized and oriented on preventing and identifying child sexual abuse, positive parenting as well as HIV/AIDS.

Despite hard lockdown – Bobbi Bear still managed to give 300 children a Christmas Party with a small gift, cake, party pack and juice and continued to support and help child victims of abuse and rape resulting in the prosecution of the perpetrators.

Arms Around The Child's volunteer organisation, Vocational Impact, was able to send volunteers in the first part of 2020 but due to the lockdown we had to make sure that they returned home safely and for the remainder of 2020 Bobbi Bear has remained in lockdown and unable to take volunteers. Arms Around The Child has continued to send funds throughout the remainder of 2020 to support the running costs of Bobbi Bear and the various programmes run through the organisation.

Nkosi's Haven, Johannesburg, South Africa

Overview

Supporting Nkosi's Haven has mainly been through our Vocational Impact programme that sends University students to volunteer who are studying courses including Business or International Development, Psychology, Health and Social Care at graduate, post Grad, MA and PhD levels.The programme not only sends students to support the essential work of Nkosi's but uses the fees to support Nkosi's with donations throughout the year.

Nkosi's Haven provides a home for children who have been orphaned by AIDS. A safe home for over 100 children and about 25 mothers. The children receive a quality education, health care, good nutrition, housing and support. The right to education is often a challenge for children who are infected with HIV/AIDS. Getting a good quality education is of the utmost importance at Nkosi's Haven.

The children who live in Nkosi's Haven receive their education at schools inside the community. Nkosi's Haven is the dream project of Nkosi Johnson, to whom the International Children's Peace Prize was dedicated posthumously in 2015. In his short life, Nkosi advocated for the rights of children with HIV/AIDS. Nkosi's Haven was founded in 1999 by Gail Johnson, Nkosi's foster mother.

Global Initiatives

Sponsor a Child

Overview

The Arms Around The Child sponsor programme is dedicated to building a better and kinder environment for orphaned and abandoned children. The sponsorship programme gives children a healthy start in life and the donations have provided homes, health care, medications, food, and nutrition.

The sponsors are able to have a special relationship and build a lasting friendship with the sponsored child's community. By receiving photos, messages, and a handwritten letter, they can reply or (in normal times) even go and visit.

This special relationship encourages long term donations that make it possible to provide long term care and financial support to communities. By securing funding for our 'on the ground' partners in India and Africa we can ensure that sustainable, long term solutions are found.

The Sponsor a child programme has been successful and we look to continue to grow it in the coming years.



Children from Becky Foundation in Senya Beraku, Ghana

Vocational Impact



Overview of the Project

For over a decade, Arms Around the Child have been working with international volunteers from around the world who have invested in their important work. In January, February and March 2020, Vocational Impact Project (VIP) attended two university events to encourage students to sign up for volunteer placements in Ghana. Specifically for students studying in the medical field, as these students are required to complete a compulsory medical elective and this can be abroad.

Medical students can receive grants and internal university funding, so we continued to focus on tapping into these courses and these students. We attended an event at Bristol UWE and Portsmouth university. Vocational Impact recruited past-volunteers to help engage and sell placements to potential new volunteers. This personal touch increased our credibility and meeting directly with lecturers helped to develop relationships with university departments.

Changes due to Covid-19

In early March, we started to see universities swiftly change their travel policies, and we had various requests to cancel placements due to the evolving Covid-19 situation. By March 16th it was very apparent that Covid-19 was going to change international travel and we decided to postpone all of our placements, reaching out to all volunteers who had put a deposit down and explained a future date could be rescheduled.

Vocational Impact had to let go of our freelance staff with immediate effect, realising that we would not bring in any income and would miss our key sales period and prime volunteer dates between May-August, the university summer holidays. We had four volunteers on placement in South Africa as the travel restrictions gained momentum and countries locked their borders, they were all advised to leave immediately and return to their home countries.

New Objectives

In April, VIP supported the AATC Charity Commission audit request and provided accounts, compliance and key documentation requested. The commission were extremely happy with all the information supplied and were fully satisfied with all the outcomes.

A VIP career advice service was trialled, with hourly support offered on an individual basis to university students. However, as all VIP expenditures were cancelled, including the email marketing platform, ConvertKit, which meant there was no advertising applied.

During the summer, and as the Covid-19 situation seemed to be easing, we decided to take the opportunity to redesign and simplify operations and update the VIP website, with the aim to relaunch and attempt to pick up sales for summer 2021 placements. All digital content was reviewed, edited and uploaded, but before the redesign could take place, the second wave of Covid-19 started to take hold and once again international travel was halted and universities were no longer supporting or advertising international placements.

Despite the challenges, VIP received 271 applications in 2020 to participate in one of the volunteer placements.



A VIP Volunteer teaching a Lesson

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake in order to achieve its aims and objectives.
Arms Around The Child promotes public benefit by fundraising to support children and families whose lives have been affected by HIV/AIDS, children who have been abandoned, abused, who live in child-headed households, rescued from slavery & trafficking and orphaned and other associated projects.

Arms Around The Child does not discriminate against anyone who has been affected by HIV/AIDS and welcomes fundraising from any members of the public.

Achievements & Performance

AATC has worked closely with the Board of Trustees on strategy, budgeting, funding and grant applications for all of the sites that we support and are active in the support, development, training, finding and recruiting new board members and developing fundraising strategies within the communities of the sites we fund in South Africa, India and Ghana. AATC has outlined our achievements and performances with each site we support in the notes above as well as the information below outlining our UK fundraising achievements and performances.

Monitoring, Evaluation & Site Visits

Arms Around The Child aims to visit the sites and countries we work with at least once every 2 years. With the Vocational Impact students who are working at most of our supported organisations, we are able to connect more closely on a regular basis with the organisations. A similar trip was organised to India to visit the homes that we support and to devise a new programme for volunteers and also to follow up with the Fund A Mom project, however, due to the global lockdown, these plans have been put on hold and will hopefully be revisited in 2021. The COVID-19 pandemic during 2020 meant AATC were unable to directly visit the but were able to coordinate with other organisations on the ground who were able to visit the sites on AATC's behalf.

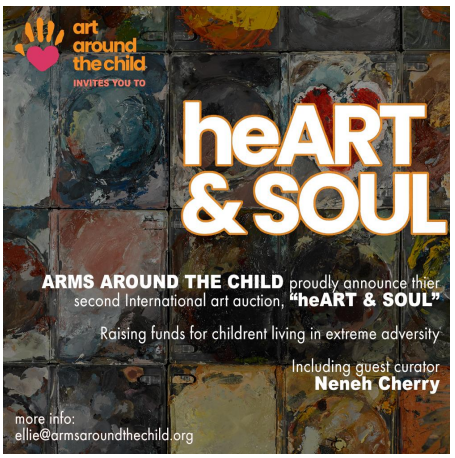
Funding

Donations

AATC was delighted to be the recipients of funds from The Cecil Rosen Charitable Trust. Additional Donations were received from The Tula Trust and The Christadelphian Samaritan Fund, Sono Global continues to support our work in Ghana. Christian Atsu continued to donate throughout 2020 to support the school building in Ghana. AATC has a database of regular monthly donors and gratefully received one off fundraising initiatives through Just Giving and other fundraising platforms including our platform through the website. Victorious Festival was unable to make a donation to AATC in lieu of us hosting The World Music Village as the event didn't go ahead but is due to be reinstated in 2021.

Art Auctions

After the cancellation of the 'heART & SOUL' Art Auction scheduled on 13th March 2020 at St. John's Waterloo AATC went ahead with an online Art Auction hosted by Paddle 8 and some of the art was sold. The remainder is being stored. AATC connected with Christies who are supporting the rescheduling of the Art Auction at their Auction House in London, hopefully Autumn 2021.



art around the child

Farm Feast Events

During a small window of opportunity within the country's lockdown Arms Around The Child were able to host 2 Farm Feasts on a farm in the South of England. Keeping within the lockdown guidelines of 30 people for restaurant-style dining and sponsored by Filippo Berio the event was hugely successful in raising funds for the charity. This was followed by The Hungry Herbivores hosting 2 lunch meze events where Arms Around The Child were the beneficiaries.



Christmas Online Auction

AATC partnered with Superstars online auction platform to deliver a successful Christmas Auction. Due to the lockdown and experiences being difficult to fulfil AATC were able to secure some exciting zoom connections with top music industry experts offering advice and guidance and how to get heard in the industry along with artists including RAMZ, Beverley Knight and Emeli Sande offering chats, advice and exclusive recordings of their music.



Pro Bono

We have received pro bono support for our Vocational Impact website building and maintenance and also support with Google Ad Words through Seb Weller (Trustee) through his company Weller Media Agency. We also receive pro bono support from Kandi London for AATC redesign and Fund A Mom website creation. design-build and all graphic design work including logo design.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial report for the year

A summary of the year's results can be found on page 27.

Total incoming resources amounted to £114,405 (2019: £220,076). All of this relates to charitable donations.

The balance sheet shows total funds of £48,079 (2019: £34,250).

Reserves policy

At the balance sheet date the unrestricted fund was £44,956 (2019: £34,250) the restricted fund was £3,123 (2019: £NIL). Last year the charity had net current assets of £34,250 of which £42,595 was held as cash at the bank. The bank balance at 12 December 2020 was £56,059.

The trustees are planning future fund raising events and exploring potential sponsorship opportunities. In addition, the trustees are reviewing the model for their fundraising events with the aim of reducing the costs involved in staging them, therefore ensuring an increase in the amounts raised for the charity's programmes.

The trustees' policy is to work towards building a sustainable level of reserves over the next five years to fund the charity's programmes and running costs for at least the following twelve months.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are appraised of their duties and obligations under charity law and Charity Commission guidelines and recommendations. The trustees adhere to corporate governance policies and are required to register and declare any potential conflicts of interest on a regular basis. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external courses to enable them to carry out their role.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

arms around the child

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number
1123038

Principal address
93 Festing Grove
Southsea
Hampshire
PO4 9QE

Trustees
Mr F Runge
Ms J E Milner
Ms R Cason-Marcus
Mr M Lyn
Ms H O'Brien
Ms K Sharma

Independent Examiner
Kevin Richards FCCA
Rothmans LLP
Chartered Accountants
Fryern House
125 Winchester Road
Chandlers Ford
Hampshire
SO53 2DR

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 26.04.2021 and signed on its behalf by:

F Runge

.....

Mr F Runge - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Arms Around The Child (UK)
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Arms Around The Child (UK) (the Trust) for the year ended 12 December 2020.

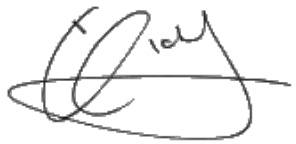
Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.



Kevin Richards FCCA
Rothmans LLP
Chartered Accountants
Fryern House
125 Winchester Road
Chandlers Ford
Hampshire
SO53 2DR

Date: 26/04/2021

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	**2020 Total funds £**	2019 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	**94,354**	**3,394**	**97,748**	161,347
Other trading activities	3	**16,656**	**-**	**16,656**	58,725
Investment income	4	**-**	**1**	**1**	4
Total		**111,010**	**3,395**	**114,405**	220,076
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	5	**13,817**	**413**	**14,230**	26,109
Charitable activities	6				
Raising awareness, campaigns and education		**12,390**	**14,446**	**26,836**	89,054
Grants to projects and associated costs		**59,510**	**-**	**59,510**	77,595
Total		**85,717**	**14,859**	**100,576**	192,758
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		**25,293**	**(11,464)**	**13,829**	27,318
Transfers between funds	12	**(14,587)**	**14,587**	**-**	-
Net movement in funds		**10,706**	**3,123**	**13,829**	27,318
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		**34,250**	**-**	**34,250**	6,932
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		**44,956**	**3,123**	**48,079**	34,250

The notes form part of these financial statements

ARMS AROUND THE CHILD (UK)

BALANCE SHEET
12 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank		**52,936**	**3,123**	**56,059**	42,595
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	**(7,980)**	-	**(7,980)**	(8,345)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**44,956**	**3,123**	**48,079**	34,250
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**44,956**	**3,123**	**48,079**	34,250
NET ASSETS		**44,956**	**3,123**	**48,079**	34,250
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				**44,956**	34,250
Restricted funds				**3,123**	-
TOTAL FUNDS				**48,079**	34,250

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 26/04/2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mr F Runge - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Going Concern
The trustees consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

At the balance sheet date the charity had net assets of £48,079 and reserves of £44,956. The trustees consider that it will be in a position to meet its obligation as they fall due.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Charitable activities
Costs of charitable activities includes grants made.

Allocation and apportionment of costs
Support costs have been allocated to costs of generating funds and then are apportioned between fund raising and generating voluntary income. Support costs have been apportioned based upon the income under each of these headings.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2020	2019
	£	£
Donations	**113,595**	182,685
Vocational Impact volunteer donations	**13,597**	37,391
	127,192	258,731

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2020	2019
	£	£
Fundraising events	**16,656**	58,725

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2020	2019
	£	£
Interest receivable	**1**	4

5. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

	2020	2019
	£	£
Consultancy	**1,928**	4,765
Event costs	**5,641**	14,790
Support costs	**1,984**	6,554
	9,553	26,109

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Grant funding of activities	Support costs (see note 7)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Raising awareness, campaigns and education	**24,856**	**-**	**1,980**	**26,836**
Grants to projects and associated costs	**-**	**59,510**	**-**	**59,510**
	24,856	**59,510**	**1,980**	**86,346**

Further information on grants made to projects is given in note 14.

7. SUPPORT COSTS

Support costs are allocated equally between fund raising activities and raising awareness, campaigns and education.

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

No trustees received remuneration or other benefits for their services as trustees of the charity for the year ended 12 December 2020 nor for the year ended 12 December 2019.

Ms E Milner received payment in respect of other services provide to the charity, further details are given in note 13.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 12 December 2020 nor for the year ended 12 December 2019.

9. EMPLOYEE NUMBERS

During the current and prior years the charity had no employees.

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	123,960	37,387	161,347
Other trading activities	58,725	-	58,725
Investment income	-	4	4
Total	182,685	37,391	220,076
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	23,373	2,736	26,109
Charitable activities			
Raising awareness, campaigns and education	32,572	56,482	89,054
Grants to projects and associated costs	77,595	-	77,595
Total	133,540	59,218	192,758
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	49,145	(21,827)	27,318
Transfers between funds	(21,827)	21,827	-
Net movement in funds	27,318	-	27,318
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	6,932	-	6,932
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	34,250	-	34,250

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2020	2019
	£	£
Trade creditors	6,540	5,945
Accruals and deferred income	1,440	2,400
	7,980	8,345

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 13/12/19	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 12/12/20
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	**34,250**	**25,293**	**(14,587)**	**44,956**
Restricted funds				
Vocational Impact	**-**	**(11,464)**	**14,587**	**3,123**
TOTAL FUNDS	**34,250**	**13,829**	**-**	**48,079**

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	**111,010**	**(85,717)**	**25,293**
Restricted funds			
Vocational Impact	**3,395**	**(14,859)**	**(11,464)**
TOTAL FUNDS	**114,405**	**(100,576)**	**13,829**

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 13/12/18	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 12/12/19
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	6,932	49,145	(21,827)	34,250
Restricted funds				
Vocational Impact	-	(21,827)	21,827	-
TOTAL FUNDS	6,932	27,318	-	34,250

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	182,685	(133,540)	49,145
Restricted funds			
Vocational Impact	37,391	(59,218)	(21,827)
TOTAL FUNDS	220,076	(192,758)	27,318

Restricted funds
Vocational Impact - Vocational Impact have a deep passion and drive to link professional volunteers and university students to the Arms Around the Child projects in Africa and India. With a core mission to drive international skills exchange and empowerment, they recognised the need of NGOs, and the skills university students can bring to them. During the year Volunteer Invest changed its name to Vocational Impact.

Each year the charity uses funds from the unrestricted fund to support the administrative costs incurred by the Vocational Impact fund.

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year the charity made payments to Ms E Milner, a member of the key management personnel of the charity and from 8 March 2019 a trustee of the charity.

The payments totalling £9,000 (2019: £45,620) were in respect of raising awareness of the charity and its aims, fundraising, management, event management services and payment of consultant fees to support AATC. In addition, during the year expenses directly relating to the activities of the charity and the running of the charity totalling £3,400 (2019: £Nil) were reimbursed to Ms E Milner.

14. GRANTS MADE TO PROJECTS

During the year the following grants were paid to support projects and individuals in India and South Africa;

Carmel Jyoti - the project provides nutritional support, medical care and education at a care home in Manipur, India for children affected by HIV/AIDS. During the year the charity provided funds of £NIL (2019: £NIL).

Faith Sansthan - the project supports care homes in Jaipur, india, which provide care for children affected by HIV/AIDS. During the year the charity provided funds of £15,560 (2019: £34,279).

Mr Narendra Kumar Jangid - Mr N K Jangid is the India Programmes Consultant, during the year the charity provided him with funding and expenses of £1,500 (2019: £5,649) to provide direct supervision to the charity's projects in India, making sure that project goals and objectives are met on a timely basis, and that projects are in compliance with the funding agreements.

Becky's Home - The project supports the running costs, education, food and staffing for 55 orphans rescued from Slavery and Trafficking in Senya Beraku, Ghana. During the year the charity provided funds of £31,880 (2019: £11,409)

Moya Family - The Charity funds and supports an extended family who were left orphaned having lost their parents and elder brother to AIDS and some of the family are HIV+. During the year the charity funded the family's rental costs totalling £NIL (2019: £Nil)..

Bobbi Bear Fund - the project in Durban, South Africa, provides support for children who are victims of abuse, abandonment and rape. During the year the charity provided funds of £9,470 (2019: £9,419) .

Ikageng Itireleng - the project in Soweto, South Africa, provides support and care for children affected by HIV/AIDS. During the year the charity provided funds of £1,000 (2019: £Nil).

14. GRANTS MADE TO PROJECTS - continued

Nkosi's Haven - Johannesburg, South Africa. During the year the charity provided funds of £Nil (2019: £796).

Friends Without Borders Refugee Children. During the year the charity provided funds of £100 (2019: £Nil).