

ROJ WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION – KURDISH & TURKISH WOMEN'S CENTRE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 1125572

**LONDON ACCOUNTANCY PRACTICE
SOJOURNER TRUTH CENTRE
161 SUMNER ROAD
LONDON SE15 6JL**

**ROJ WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (RWA) - KURDISH & TURKISH WOMEN'S
CENTRE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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ADMINISTRATIVE/LEGAL INFORMATION

REGISTRATION DETAILS:

ROJ Women's Association - Kurdish & Turkish

Women's Centre is an unincorporated organisation registered as a charity with registration number 1125572.

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

ROJ Women's Association - Kurdish & Turkish

Women's Centre is an unincorporated organisation

governed by the Charity Act 2011 and its constitution

REGISTERED OFFICE

ROJ Women's Association - Kurdish & Turkish
Women's Centre
Selby Centre
Selby Road
London N17 8JL

BANKERS

Barclays Bank
193 Camden High Street
London NW1 7PJ

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Sefaret Yaman.....Trustee
Salime Tasdemir.....Trustee
Rojda Sipan.....Trustee
Sultan CakirSignatorie
Lara Gun.....Signatorie

EMPLOYEES

Cansu Tibet
Zeynep Alasrawi
Fatos Usta
Cigdem Karaalioglu
Galina Dimitrova
Duygu Cantekin (Sessional Worker)
Ada Ayselmamoglu (Sessional Worker)
Ayse Tekagac (Sessional Worker)

VOLUNTEERS

RezhnaNaser
Halima Abdi

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS

London Accountancy Practice
Sojourner Truth Centre
161 Sumner Road
London SE15 6JL

ROJ WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION - KURDISH & TURKISH WOMEN'S CENTRE

REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Management Committee presented their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

RWA is a non-profit women's organisation that aims to support and empower Kurdish, Turkish, Cypriot, migrant, and refugee women living in the UK. Our beneficiaries are women and young girls who live in the poorest, marginalised, and disadvantaged areas of London, who come from various social, cultural, political, religious, and economic backgrounds.

RWA recognises the multiple forms of challenges that Kurdish and Turkish women face, including low income, economical dependency, language barriers, domestic violence, mental health challenges and isolation. These forms of complex issues require deeper understanding and culturally sensitive approaches. RWA services and activities are shaped and led through consultations conducted with its service users, they are encouraged to share their views and opinions during the scoping of all projects. By engaging and involving the beneficiaries with first-hand experience of the challenges they face we create projects with holistic approaches and meaningful interventions.

Roj Women's Association is very **grateful for the financial support from:**

London Community Foundation, Rosa, Mopac VAWG Grassroots Fund, City Bridge Trust, Salway Fund, Imkaan, Sport England and Public Voice.

We are equally grateful to our partners:

- Kurdish Community Centre
- Hackney CVS
- Selby Trust
- Solace Women's Aid
- Tottenham Hotspur
- London Alevi Federation
- Cemevi
- Healthwatch Haringey
- Haringey GP Federation
- Haringey, The Bridge Renewal Trust

- Edmonton Community Hub
- Enfield Community Hub

OUR PROJECTS AND SERVICES

We offer; advice, advocacy, wellbeing, and counselling services. Through building partnerships with other organisations, RWA assists women from disadvantaged groups with accessing support, education, training, English language classes, and employment opportunities.

We work with women and girls of all ages with a gender-diverse approach. We offer services in Kurdish, Turkish and English. Our free, women-only services offer a holistic response to women and girls who have experienced gender discrimination or are at risk of gender-based violence. Our work aims to create a safe, confidential, and non-judgmental space in which women and girls can get the support they need.

RWA has two project managers and three part-time staff members, assisted by three volunteers. Members of the Management Committee contribute to carry out the organisation's activities while managing the staff and making decisions related to strategy. We would like to express our most sincere gratitude to members of the Management Committee and volunteers who have worked tirelessly for RWA this year.

We are running the following projects and services:

Welfare Advice & Information

We provide a face-to-face, women-only advice and information service to Kurdish and Turkish speakers. Our services include advice to women facing many issues, such as domestic violence, welfare, housing, financial and health issues.

This has become a crucial service, especially in the context of the pandemic. During this period, we not only established our services but also adapted to the new way of working necessitated by COVID-19, offering outreach services to better serve our community.

Health & Wellbeing

We support women to take part in outdoor physical activities, socialise with other women to overcome everyday anxiety and stress. Help service users to develop a healthy lifestyle and combat mild mental health issues such as depression and anxiety.



(Link to the video <https://youtu.be/KStglPe4UAU>)

We empower women to engage in outdoor physical activities, fostering social connections that help overcome everyday anxiety and stress. We aim to assist service users in developing a healthy lifestyle and addressing mental health issues. This project has achieved great impact, participants reported improved social lives, healthier living, they were able to break isolation. The turnout is high for this service; the service users often continue to socialise beyond the exercise sessions. Many, if not all, have formed lasting friendships and spent time together outside of the scheduled sessions.

Feedbacks show that service users prefer our exercise sessions over traditional leisure centres, emphasising the success of our approach in creating a welcoming and effective environment.

Domestic Violence Support Service

This project was jointly funded by Rosa & London Community Foundation for Grassroots BAME Women Support Organisations starting from 2021. This project supports and empowers women survivors of domestic violence in London. The service is holistic, offering casework support to women and girls from all risk levels. Support includes; advocacy, referral and case presentation at the MARAC' in target boroughs, practical support to add security in homes and referral for therapeutic support as part of the DV specialist support package. We built relationships with other organisations and local authorities within the targeted boroughs for referral pathways and partnership works to reach out to more women who need our services.

We support victims/survivor of DV and abuse, sexual violence, forced marriage and other types of harmful practices. We ensure survivors have access to safe housing and are supported to rebuild their lives. Our specialist staff work closely with each

service user, every survivor is encouraged to be involved when building their support plan.

RWA became the main point of referral for most (if not all) local Kurdish and Turkish community centres, they referred young girls and women and victims of domestic violence. We have a strong community link with mostly Kurdish centres and have become a trusted organisation to support vulnerable women and girls. And, other agencies/ organisations contacted RWA and established a referral process for women such as Haringey GP Federation, Victim Support, Solace Women's Aid and many other women organisations.

Psychotherapy & Counselling

Funded by MOPAC VAWG. We provide psychotherapy and counselling service for Kurdish and Turkish women living in North London. The sessions are conducted face to face and online on a weekly basis. This service aims to help women facing mental health problems, difficult or traumatic life events and difficult emotions. The therapy approach presented is Cognitive Behavioural Therapy.

Feedback shows that the sessions have had a positive impact on service users' lives, they are able to socialise, speak out and seek help when they need it. Mothers have reported that their relationships with their children have improved, single mothers reported they were better able to manage challenges.

Majority of women feedback that they are more comfortable coming to us instead of therapy via GP services, as they can speak to someone directly and not to a therapist via a translator. They reported they were made to feel intimidated, either by their GPs or the translator mostly due the lack of understanding and cultural sensitivity.

Support for Over 50's

Funded by City Bridge Trust, we provide advice and support for women over 50's who are socially isolated. Our goal is to enhance the health and wellbeing of isolated and vulnerable women and help service users to have a healthier and happier life within the community. Through this project, service users aged 50 and above, with no support network, now feel more secure and confident to approach RWA, for support and assistance with various issues, including referral to GP's and hospitals. Service users express that they now have someone to turn to for support, they felt listened to and cared for. The feedback indicates that many of their overwhelming issues have been effectively addressed with the support they received from our services. We are also running breakfast clubs and day trips for the service users to reduce isolation.

Partnership with Healthwatch Haringey (HH) NCL CCG

RWA participated in collaborative efforts with Haringey voluntary sector organisations as part of a joint initiative led by the North Central London Clinical

Commissioning Group and Haringey Public Voice. The proposal, designed to support communities, involves action research to identify barriers to accessing health, social care, and other services. The goal is to pinpoint service gaps and propose potential solutions for improvement.

The aim was to engage with RWA service users in discussions related to health and social care, exploring their experiences and capturing feedback, to improve services for the underserved client group.

Healthwatch Haringey (HH) chose two themes for the joint work – GP services (Healthwatch Haringey choice) and mental health (a theme chosen by RWA). Together, we ran four focus groups, two on GP services, and two on mental health. The RWA focus groups were in person and held at the Selby Centre and the Kurdish Community Centre. We used interpreters in all the focus groups to ensure they were accessible to all our service users. Also, HH carried out two one-to-one interviews with our Peer Coordinator for Older Persons, who supported women over 50 Turkish or Kurdish speaking. The Peer Coordinator supported 18 women from Kurdistan, Cyprus, Turkey, Lebanon. The focus of those interviews was to document the experiences of people over 50's who were extremely vulnerable and scared to participate in any group work because of Covid-19 effects.

COVID-19 lockdown and ongoing impact on our services

The pandemic has significantly altered our service landscape, introducing challenges such as social isolation, anxiety, poverty, domestic violence, overcrowded accommodations, and homeschooling issues. These challenges have prompted the need for targeted interventions to support women, families, children, and the elderly, minimising the adverse effects of these implications.

Following the lockdown, we resumed our activities and adopted a flexible working approach, with the majority of our staff working remotely from home. Recognizing the surge in domestic violence cases during the pandemic, we heightened our efforts to remain accessible through phone helplines, proactive advertising, regular client follow-ups, and increased outreach activities within the community.

In response to the unprecedented needs of the community, we strategically redirected our resources to address the most pressing issues. While prioritising the safety and wellbeing of our staff, we adapted our working methods, allowing our team to work from home. Our existing services were reconfigured to provide direct Covid-19 crisis support, particularly offering information and advice in community languages. We disseminated crucial information through various channels, including WhatsApp groups, emails, and social and local media.

Recognizing the long-term implications of the pandemic, RWA proactively developed a five-year business plan and a comprehensive strategy to address the ongoing needs of the communities we serve. A copy of the strategy is available upon request. For further information, please feel free to contact RWA.

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Directors, also serving as the Management Committee of the Charity, are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year. These statements must present a true and fair view of the Charity's state of affairs at the end of the year and of its financial activities throughout the year. In preparing these financial statements, the Management Committee are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable standards and statement of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the project will continue in operation.

The directors/Management Committee are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose at any time the financial position of the Charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

ROJ WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION - KURDISH & TURKISH WOMEN'S CENTRE REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The results of the year's operation are set out in the attached financial statements. The net movement in funds for the year amounted to a surplus of £11,966. The retained reserves at 31 March 2023 amounted to £102,855.

The Management Committee has been aware of the need to comply with good practice guidelines on free reserves and ROJ WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION - KURDISH & TURKISH WOMEN'S CENTRE policy is included in the notes to the accounts.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Management Committee has examined the major risk which RWA - Kurdish & Turkish Women's Centre faces and believe that maintaining our free reserves at a reasonable level, combined with our annual review of the controls over key financial systems will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The Management Committee have also examined other operational and business risks which we face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS


The Charity does not have fixed assets.

FUNDS AVAILABLE

The present level of funding is adequate to support the continuation of the Charity's activities for the medium term, and the Management Committee considers the financial position of the Charity to be satisfactory.

VOLUNTEERS

ROJ WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION - KURDISH & TURKISH WOMEN'S CENTRE recognises the significant contributions made by volunteers.

Sign.......... Management Committee
Sefaret Yaman

**ROJ WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION - KURDISH & TURKISH WOMEN'S CENTRE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31st March 2023, which are set out on pages 12 to 15

Respective responsibilities of Management Committee and examiner

The Management Committee (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Management Committee considers that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

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

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as a Management Committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

.....*Ade Adebambo*.....
Ade Adebambo, MBA, ACG, CGMA, ACMA
For London Accountancy Practice
161 Sumner Road
London SE15 6JL


Date...*8th February 2024*.....

ROJ WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION				
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES				
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023				
	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023	2022
INCOMING RESOURCES	Fund	Fund	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Donations, Grants & Legacies	19,719	134,658	154,377	157,648
Total Incoming Resources	19,719	134,658	154,377	157,648
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Charitable Activities	15,115	127,296	142,411	143,203
Total Resources Expended	15,115	127,296	142,411	143,203
Net Incoming Resources	4,604	7,362	11,966	14,445
Prior Year Adjustment Deferred Income	3,685	28,019	31,704	0
Fund Balance Brought Forward	33,375	25,810	59,185	44,690
Fund Balance Carried Forward	41,664	61,191	102,855	59,135

ROJ WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION				
BALANCE SHEET				
AS AT 31 MARCH 2023				
		2023		2022
		£		£
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at Bank		107,538		97,581
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Creditors falling due within one year				
Deferred Income	0		31,704	
PAYE/HMRC /NIC	3,733		5,942	
Trade creditors	950		750	
	4,683	4,683		38,396
		102,855		59,185
Funds:				
Unrestricted funds		41,664		33,375
Restricted funds		61,191		25,810
TOTAL FUNDS		102,855		59,185

The financial statements were approved by the Management Committee on

.....07.02.2024.....and signed on its
behalf by Sefaret Yaman

Sign..........Management Committee.....

ROJ WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION - KURDISH & TURKISH WOMEN'S CENTRE
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

- (i) These accounts are the Accounts of ROJ Women's Association - Kurdish & Turkish Women's Centre.
- (ii) These accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis and include income and expenditure as they are earned or incurred, rather than as cash is received or paid.
- (iii) The recommendations of the Statement of Recommended Practice have been followed in the preparation of these accounts

(b) Fund Accounting

- (i) The Charity's general fund consists of funds, which the Charity may use for its purposes at its discretion.
- (i) The Charity's restricted funds are those where the donor has imposed restrictions on the use of the funds, which are legally binding.

(c) Voluntary Income

- (i) All voluntary income is included upon receipt.
- (ii) Grants receivable are credited to income immediately

(d) Investment Income

Credit is taken for interest when the interest falls due for payment.

(e) Administration Expenditure

Administration expenditure comprises costs incurred in running the Charity. Where applicable, some of these costs have been treated as direct charitable expenditure.

(f) CREDITORS	2023	2022		
			£	£
Accountancy Fees			950	750
PAYE/HMRC/NIC			3,733	5,942
Deferred Income			0	31,704
4,683				38,396

(g) All the deferred income in the previous accounts have now been recognised as income in this financial statements.

ROJ WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION				
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT				
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023				
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
Incoming Resources:	Fund	Fund	2023	2022
Donations, Grants and Legacies:	£	£	£	£
Main Grant Big Lottery	0	14,118	14,118	47,060
London Community Foundation	0	34,881	34,881	25,149
Inkaan Reg Charity	0	34,213	34,213	0
Rosa Fund	787	20,000	20,787	18,750
Haringey Council	4,644	0	4,644	0
City of London	0	21,550	21,550	52,340
Paddington Developments	0	0	0	11,988
ASDA Fund	1,500	0	1,500	0
Leather Sellers	1,000	0	1,000	0
Groundwork UK	0	0	0	500
Sport England Fund	0	9,896	9,896	0
Refund Virtus UK	227	0	227	362
Prism Gift Fund	5,000	0	5,000	0
Public Voice	1,500	0	1,500	1,500
Donations	5061	0	5061	0
Total incoming resources	19,719	134,658	154,377	157,649
RESOURCES EXPENDED:				
Charitable activities:				
Salaries	0	82,744	82,744	82,414
Tax / National insurance	0	12,046	12,046	16,595
Sessional workers	0	4,090	4,090	10,842
HR Process Training	6,308	0	6,308	0
Rent and rates	2,785	0	2,785	3,132
Volunteers Expenses	0	0	0	830
Healthy Living Project Expenses	0	0	0	2,580
Textile Project Expenses	0	6,054	6,054	10,369
Outreach	0	19,021	19,021	0
Workshop	0	830	830	0
Textile Project- Hall Hire	0	859	859	6,000
Insurane	0	1,302	1,302	1,065
Laptop	0	350	350	0
Telephone	587	0	587	597
E-mail space	1056	0	1,056	0
IT / Admin expenses	658	0	658	5,380
Website	150	0	150	1,850
Advertisement	156	0	156	0
Printing	912	0	912	0
Membershop	405	0	405	0
Accountancy	950	0	950	800
Payroll services	586	0	586	747
Sundries Expenses	562	0	562	0
Total Resources Expended	15,115	127,296	142,411	143,201