



Bridge of Hope Children's Ministry

Trustees Annual Report and Accounts

For the period 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024

Charity number 1126408



Trustees' annual report for the period

From: 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024

Charity name: Bridge of Hope Children's Ministry

Charity registration number: 1126408

Objectives and activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>We are a Christian Charity committed to social justice and the provision of care to the most vulnerable children regardless of religion or social background.</p> <p>Our charity's prime purpose is to benefit the public and enhance the lives of children and young people, by relieving the needs of those identified as suffering because of their youth, sickness, abandonment or financial hardship.</p> <p>These objectives are principally being achieved through the provision of support to help young people develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as mature and responsible adults.</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>Our charitable activities to date have focussed on the provision of support to the many orphaned and abandoned children who live in extreme poverty in the district of Rukungiri, South West Uganda. Whilst our purposes, aims and objectives are not geographically restricted, we consider this area of Uganda will continue to be the focus of our activities for the foreseeable future. The prime objectives are to alleviate the problems associated with orphans and abandoned children being homeless or unable to access education, therefore leaving them vulnerable to emotional, physical and sexual abuse on the streets.</p> <p>The focuses of our work are:</p> <p><u>The Children's Village</u> - The provision of two "Family Style Homes" for homeless and abandoned children.</p> <p><u>The Child Sponsorship Programme</u> - The sponsorship of children living in the community who are identified as</p>

		<p>being most in need.</p> <p><u>The Education Programme</u> - The provision of high quality Pre-School Nursery and Primary Education facilities with opportunities for students to progress to Senior School and Vocational Training.</p> <p><u>The Protected Springs Programme</u> - The provision of clean water to an acceptable level of purity.</p> <p><u>Bible Based Holiday Clubs</u> - The provision of two clubs run on separate sites during school holidays for children aged between 6 and 18 years.</p> <p><u>Youth Sports Development Programme</u> - The provision of sports activities to offer the poorest children the opportunity to gain skills.</p> <p><u>The Community Support Programme</u> - The provision of support for families in need; including crisis intervention.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	We confirm that we have fully complied with section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>We have no paid employees in the UK. Our charity could not operate effectively without the significant but unmeasurable contribution made by a group of committed volunteers in the UK. Together with the Trustees they undertake the many tasks associated with day-to-day activities which would otherwise be undertaken by paid staff. In addition to individuals who launch fundraising initiatives, we have seven Advocates and six Trustees who meet regularly and arrange fund raising events and help to make people aware of the work the charity is doing. In this connection, we understand our responsibilities in respect of fundraising. Taking note of Charity Commission guidance "Charity Fundraising: a guide to Trustee Duties (CC20)", we are satisfied that we comply with charity law and best practice. All events are overseen by trustees who are also actively involved.</p> <p>All Advocates and Trustees have been to Uganda, at</p>

		<p>their own expense, to see the work first-hand and to observe the development of the charity.</p> <p>Again, at their own expense, 63 supporters, including donors and sponsors, have joined one of our Mission Visits. We continue to offer this life changing opportunity to people.</p> <p>A founding trustee, who discharges all bookkeeping duties, is assisted by a volunteer when preparing the year end accounts and when claiming Gift Aid. Our unpaid Independent Examiner is also a volunteer and a supporter. However, she does not have a close relationship with any Trustee, nor is she involved in the day-to-day administration or decision making.</p>
--	--	---

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>Our charitable activities are delivered by an NGO which we formed specifically for that purpose. Two UK Trustees sit on the NGO board to help ensure that decisions made in the UK are followed through by the NGO Management Team and staff.</p> <p>Money is transferred from the UK to Uganda only when needed so the UK Trustees maintain control of funds as long as possible. Management Accounts, prepared by our NGO Manager are sent to the UK monthly and are supported by copies of the NGO Bank Account Statements. Trustees check the original records during their visits. To further control funds the two UK Trustees who sit on the NGO board are also signatories on the NGO Bank Account.</p> <p>We are aware of the ever-increasing incidences of fraud and appreciate we are not immune from the possibility of attack. Whilst not at all complacent, we have a robust system of controlling expenditure and at our Trustee meetings in the UK we visit the topic regularly. We remain aware of the possibility of cyber-crime but have concluded that our present system limits our vulnerability.</p> <p><u>The Children's Village</u> continues to provide 26 orphaned or abandoned children with a secure and loving home. Many of these children would have died without the medical, emotional and nutritional care they receive in our two Family Style Homes. Where possible we continue to maintain contact with a child's wider family to assess whether a reunification plan can be put in place. When a child reaches the age of 18 they are required by Ugandan Law to move out of</p>
---	-----------	--

		<p>the Children's Homes.</p> <p><u>The Moving On Programme</u> is a recently introduced initiative. In order to support and plan for the young people who have no family and reach the age of 18, we have constructed a small "Twin House" near our Children's Village. There we will offer these young people a period of transition with full support to ensure they can adjust to community living.</p> <p><u>The Child Sponsorship Programme</u> is currently supporting a further 141 children to live in the community. Many of these children are orphans living with elderly grandparents. Sponsorship improves their access to education, vocational training, nutritional food, sanitation programmes, and income generating activities. During our personal home visits, we have observed families who were formerly robbed of all hope be empowered to reach their God given potential and enabled to transform their lives. Bursaries have enabled children to progress to Secondary Education and complete Vocational training, thus providing them with income generating skills.</p> <p>When funds allow we also construct latrines for families that do not have this facility and have successfully managed to provide three more latrines this year. Thus further improving the hygiene of all these families.</p> <p><u>The Education Programme</u> was developed to benefit over four hundred and sixty children, who attend the BOHCM Nursery & Primary School. Bursaries enable the poorest children to access this good quality education so no child is ever turned away due to lack of ability to pay school fees. We remain a non-profit making school. A free meal is given daily to every child, which not only improves their health but enhances their ability to concentrate and learn. Sadly many of the children do not know when they will next receive a meal. The teachers and support staff all report the benefits of having a permanent job and the positive impact this has on their ability to care for their own families. Furthermore, other opportunities for work become available for local builders and carpenters who are employed as needed. Our Rain Water Harvesters have greatly improved our capacity to store water for the school.</p> <p><u>The Protected Springs Programme</u> is an essential initiative. To date we have constructed 47 clean</p>
--	--	---

		<p>water facilities with each one providing over 200 people with daily clean water. Access to clean water has not only improved general hygiene for these families but has significantly reduced water borne diseases such as Typhoid and Dysentery thus decreasing infant mortality rates. Our latest Protected Spring was constructed in February 2024 and is greatly appreciated by the local community.</p> <p><u>The Bible Based Holiday Club</u> which runs for children aged between 6 and 18 years during school holidays, is planned to recommence in December 2024. We look forward to a time when we can welcome up to 300 children to each of the sessions and to meet the parents and guardians who are always eager to attend the final day and see what their children have been enjoying.</p> <p><u>The Youth Sports Development Club</u> welcomes children every Sunday afternoon where they continue to develop many skills such as sharing, socialising, appropriate behaviour and sports skills. For these children who come from impoverished homes, the opportunity to gain skills, have fun and develop their self-esteem has proved invaluable.</p> <p><u>The Community Support Programme</u> is not a main focus of our work. However, our experience is that families who have benefitted from our initiatives such as replacement roofs, pit latrines or medical intervention, frequently require subsequent longer term assistance to enable them to become self-sufficient. We are pleased to report that our flexible and individual approach continues to improve the lives of many families; especially the children's.</p>
--	--	---

Financial review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>Our deficit has reduced from £29K to £8K. We are conscious of the need to return to a surplus but meanwhile are comforted by the total reserves held.</p> <p><u>Expenditure</u> Charitable Activities spend continues to be well in excess of 95% of our annual expenditure. The Trustees recognise that this has been made possible mainly because there are no paid staff in the UK. All work in the UK is undertaken by the Trustees and volunteers.</p> <p>Our Charitable Activities figure has decreased to £94K against £110K in 2023. An analysis by category</p>
---	-----------	---

		<p>of spend is included in the accounts to aid transparency.</p> <p>Last year's expenditure included some one-off items and investments for the future. This year we have sought to contain costs and with the exception of The Children's Village initiative, all categories show reductions. We have been aided by the stable exchange rate and the fact that Ugandan inflation fell to 4% and is projected to fall further.</p> <p>Building Work shows the most significant fall. Part of the fall is because some of the work is income dependant. Nevertheless, this year we built 3 latrines and a house for community families, a Staff Latrine at our School, and completed the construction of a Twin House as part of our new "Moving On Programme". (See page 4).</p> <p>Costs of Generating Voluntary Receipts is down by 44% to £1,430; largely because last year's figure included the cost of a new iPad and a new printer.</p> <p><u>Principal funding sources</u> Total income is very similar to last Year's figure. 88K against 84K. Our accounts show Gift Aid receipts separately from Donations.</p> <p>The Trustees continue to make donations according to their personal circumstances and this year have collectively donated £6.5K. These donations comfortably exceed the total of expenses claimed.</p> <p>Whilst our supporters continue to be affected by the increase in the cost of living, they number over 200. We are not reliant on any single donor, or group, to maintain income at an adequate level.</p> <p>We continue to appreciate the prayers and financial support from all our supporters.</p> <p>For the first time in years, we have seen a welcome increase in interest income, although we appreciate that rates are not forecast to continue at their present levels.</p> <p><u>Investment</u> It remains our practice to retain funds are in the UK until actually needed in Uganda. Money is held in Barclays Bank plus short-term notice accounts with UK institutions, authorised by the Prudential</p>
--	--	---

		Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. All UK accounts are FSCS protected.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	During our meetings, we discuss the need for a Reserves Policy. Whilst we are aware of Charity Commission guidance, we decided against having such a policy. However, we will keep this subject before us at future Trustees meetings. Meanwhile we believe the "amount of reserves held" figure is more than adequate based on our current and envisaged turnover.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£ 86K
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	None.
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	None.

Structure, governance and management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document: for example, trust deed, memorandum and articles of association etc	Para 1.25	When we founded the charity in 2008, we established it as a Charitable Company. Since 10 May 2019 it has been a CIO.
How is the charity constituted? for example limited company, unincorporated association, CIO	Para 1.25	As a CIO with effect from 10 May 2019. The Constitution is based on the Charity Commission Foundation Model
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Trustees are selected by invitation of existing trustees whenever a need arises. We have 6 trustees with the right mix of skills and experience. Four of these are founding trustees. All have visited Uganda and subscribe to the Statement of Faith*, as shown below.

Additional information

*Our Statement of Faith		<p>We believe in ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The one true God who lives eternally in three persons – the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. • The love, grace and sovereignty of God in creating, sustaining, ruling, redeeming and judging the world.
-------------------------	--	---

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The divine inspiration and supreme authority of the Old and New Testament Scriptures, which are the written Word of God – fully trustworthy for faith and conduct. • The dignity of all people, made male and female in God's image to love, be holy and care for creation, yet corrupted by sin, which incurs divine wrath and judgement. • The incarnation of God's eternal Son, the Lord Jesus Christ – born of the Virgin Mary, truly divine and truly human, yet without sin. • The atoning sacrifice of Christ on the cross: dying in our place, paying the price of sin and defeating evil, so reconciling us with God. • The bodily resurrection of Christ, the first fruits of our resurrection; his ascension to the Father and his reign and mediation as the only Saviour of the world. • The justification of sinners solely by the grace of God through faith in Christ. • The ministry of God the Holy Spirit, who leads us to repentance, unites us with Christ through new birth, empowers our discipleship and enables our witness. • The church, the body of Christ both local and universal, the priesthood of all believers – given life by the Spirit and endowed with the Spirit's gifts to worship God and proclaim the gospel, promoting justice and love. • The personal and visible return of Jesus Christ to fulfil the purposes of God, who will raise all people to judgement, bring eternal life to the redeemed and eternal condemnation to the lost, and establish a new heaven and new earth.
--	---

Reference and administrative details

Charity name	Bridge of Hope Children's Ministry
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1126408
Charity's principal address	10, Government Row, Enfield, EN3 6JN

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Mr G Skerratt		
Mrs B Skerratt	Chair	
Mr M Shennan		
Mrs M Wood		
Mrs L Murphy		
Mrs J Young		

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name	Dates acted if not for whole year
	None.

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity


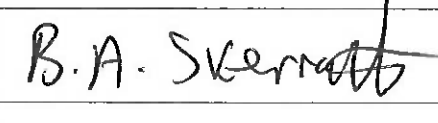
Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year
	None.

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None.
---	-------

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signature(s)		
Full Name(s)	LYNN MURPHY	BARBARA SKERRATT
Position	TRUSTEE	TRUSTEE
Date	9TH APRIL 2025	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Bridge of Hope Children's Ministry

On accounts for the year
ended

30 June 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1126408

Set out on pages

12-14

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30/06/2024.

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 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Diane Collins

Date:

19/3/25

Name:

Diane Collins

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

None

Address:

6 Elm Gardens


Enfield

EN2 0HS

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

None

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Bridge of Hope Children's Ministry		1126408		CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts				
	For the period from	1 July 2023	To	30 June 2024	
Section A Receipts and payments					
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Voluntary Receipts (Donations)	66,910	-	-	66,910	65,512
Activities for Generating Funds	7,739	-	-	7,739	6,292
Interest	1,911	-	-	1,911	322
HMRC Gift Aid	11,628	-	-	11,628	12,059
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	88,188	-	-	88,188	84,185
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	88,188	-	-	88,188	84,185
A3 Payments					
Charitable Activities (See attached)	94,008	-	-	94,008	109,632
Costs of Generating Voluntary Receipts	1,430	-	-	1,430	2,494
Fundraising Costs	778	-	-	778	654
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	96,216	-	-	96,216	112,780
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	96,216	-	-	96,216	112,780
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 8,028	-	-	- 8,028	- 28,595
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	93,989	-	-	93,989	122,584
Cash funds this year end	85,961	-	-	85,961	93,989

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Account	8,790	-	
	Savings accounts - Instant Access	27,171	-	
	Savings account - Notice Required	50,000	-	
	Total cash funds	85,961	-	
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))		OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details			
	Estimated Gift Aid to be claimed	11,500	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	None		-	
	We have given no guarantees		-	
	We have no debts outstanding		-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	J. V. Young	J. V. YOUNG	10.4.25	
	G. P. SKERRATT	G. P. SKERRATT	10.4.25	

Analysis of Charitable Activities Expenditure - 2023 - 2024

<u>Programme</u>	<u>£K</u>
Children's Village	18.5
Child Sponsorship Programme	21.3
Education Programme	21.1
Protected Spring Programme	1.4
Bible Based Holiday Club	0.7
Youth Sports Development Programme	0.6
Community Support Programme	4.7
Community Support Building work	6.7
NGO Manager & Field Staff Wages	9.8
Administration in Uganda	1.8
Truck & Transportation	2.7
Trustees' Expenses *	2.7
Other	2.0
Total	94.0

* Trustees donate funds to the charity which exceed expenses claimed