



Building and
Assisting Communities
with Education

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Registered charity number 1142445

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Trustee's Report

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the information contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the aims and objectives for BACE and in planning activities and setting policies for the year ahead.

Our objectives are:

1. To advance the education of the public in poor communities in The Gambia in particular but not exclusively by providing learning materials to established schools and building new schools where they do not currently exist.
2. The relief of sickness and the preservation of health amongst people residing permanently or temporarily, particularly but not exclusively in The Gambia, West Africa.

Significant activities

It's been another productive and positive year for our projects in The Gambia. I'm delighted to share the key developments and progress we've made across the various programs BACE supports.

Nursery School

The nursery school continues to thrive. With four full-time teachers now working across three classrooms, it's been encouraging to see the ongoing progress in both teaching quality and child development. This year, the teachers have participated in additional training, focused on effective lesson planning, and learning through play—an approach that is both enjoyable for the children and valuable in building their foundational skills.

Each class has also begun regular use of the new playground area, thanks to the successful installation of our climbing animals.

Mother Club Development - Our Head Teacher was instrumental in establishing a Mothers Club at the school. Every Monday, a group of mothers meets to discuss early years education and how best to support their children's development. Their involvement has been inspiring and is already making a difference in the home environment for our students. We hope the club will continue to grow and flourish, supporting a strong bridge between school and home.

We will be focusing a lot more on this in the next 12 months and during our trip in November 2025.

BACE Clinic

Ten and a half years ago, we opened the BACE Clinic, which now has three full-time staff working five days a week. In 2024 they cared for 5,126 patients and delivered 24 babies, several of whom are likely to attend the nursery school in the next two years.

We're incredibly proud that the clinic continues to serve the community with quality primary healthcare and that we're now expanding the range of services offered.

BACE Laboratory - Earlier in the year we received a donation to purchase the equipment to set up and open a laboratory on site. This will mean we can test patients' bloods, look for Haemoglobin and iron levels amongst other tests. A full-time technician is currently being recruited, and we hope to have this facility open in the next few months.

Volunteer contribution

Our volunteers are vital to the charity fund raising, raising awareness, and supporting across all our projects. In November 2024 we travelled out to The Gambia with 18 volunteers to support our projects, but also to attend a 10 year celebration from when we opened the health clinic. It was wonderful to be able to see former students at the Nursery school and meet the very first babies who were born 10 years ago in our clinic - Volunteer contributions, whether hands-on or behind the scenes, are vital to the success of our work. We're so grateful for their time, energy, and passion.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

It has been a year of growth and consolidation for BACE. Key achievements include the development of our new on-site laboratory, the ongoing success of our nursery school, and the preparations for another major container shipment. With a team of 22 volunteers preparing for our November 2025 trip, we are looking forward to continuing to support sustainable development and community empowerment in The Gambia.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The total income of the charity increased to £36,978 from £22,580 in 2023. This increase is largely due to more fundraising income during the year.

Expenditure during the year was £21,829 which was a decrease from the prior year of £26,491 largely as a result of lower running costs and a smaller exchange loss. As a result, our funds carried forward have increased to £73,820 from £58,339 and continue to meet our target reserves policy.

Reserves policy

The charity aims to build enough reserves to enable it to meet its objectives of advancing the education of the public in poor communities. In addition to help support with the relief of sickness and the preservation of health amongst people in The Gambia, by providing ongoing support with the staff salaries associated with the charity. The charity will also provide the necessary funds and support for the overall maintenance of Favour Preparatory Nursery School, the BACE Primary Health Care Clinic and other buildings funded by BACE to the required standard.

In addition, sufficient reserves will be maintained at a level, as deemed appropriate by the Trustees, to ensure the charity can meet its existing commitments. Currently the Trustees deem that the appropriate level of reserves should be a minimum of 12 months operating costs.

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 any future Trustees shall be appointed by a resolution of the Trustees passed at a special meeting.

In selecting persons to be appointed as Trustees, the Trustees shall take into account the benefits of appointing a person who through residence, occupation, employment or otherwise has a special knowledge of the area of benefit or who is otherwise able by virtue of his or her personal or professional qualifications to make a contribution to the pursuit of the object or the management of the charity.

Upon appointment each new Trustee will receive a copy of the trust constitution and a copy of the charity's latest report and statement of accounts.

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, error and volunteer's health and safety when supporting the charity. A risk analysis form is now in place and is utilised prior to any volunteer trips the charity are involved in.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Number

1142445

Principal Office

**3 Oakhill Cottage
Peasmarsh Road
Beckley
East Sussex
TN31 6TJ**

Trustees

**Mrs T Mendy MBE
Mr H Taylor
Miss C Barnett
Miss L Collier-Keywood
Dr Frances Warren
Mr Christopher Lilleystone
Mr Francis Mendy
Mrs Tanya Price (from 4th January 2024)**

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the trustees on 3 August 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Mrs Tracy Mendy MBE
Chairperson

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

INCOME FROM:	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Donations and legacies		23,452	15,846
Fundraising activities		9,610	1,956
Bank interest		2	2
Other income		3,914	5,199
 Total receipts		36,978	23,002
 EXPENDITURE ON:			
Raising funds	4	172	-
Charitable activities	5	20,354	23,985
Bank charges		76	104
Exchange loss		1,226	2,402
 Total payments		21,828	26,491
 NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		15,150	(3,489)
 <u>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</u>			
 Total funds brought forward		58,670	62,159
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		73,820	58,670

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
CASH FUNDS			
Cash at bank		69,844	51,409
Cash		-	-
OTHER MONETARY ASSETS			
Tax reclaim		3,976	7,261
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>73,820</u>	<u>58,670</u>
 LIABILITIES			
Amounts falling due within one year			
 NET ASSETS		<u>73,820</u>	<u>58,670</u>
 FUNDS			
Restricted funds			
Unrestricted funds		73,820	58,670
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>73,820</u>	<u>58,670</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 3rd August 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Laura Collier-Keywood
Treasurer

Notes to the accounts

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FRSSE), and the Charities Act 2011 and applicable regulations.

The financial statements have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

2. FUND ACCOUNTING

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charity objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

3. COST OF RAISING FUNDS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fundraising	172	-
Advertising (T-Shirts, leaflets etc.)	-	
Total	172	-

4. CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

	2024	2023
	£	£
Building and project costs	1,768	893
School running costs	3,952	5,244
Clinic running costs	2,692	6,808
Office costs	899	341
Gambian salaries and staff costs	10,567	10,654
Other costs	476	45
Total	20,354	23,985

5. TRUSTEE EXPENSES

Trustees' covered all out of pocket expenses personally.

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from employment with BACE.

6. STAFF

During the year we employed an average of 14 staff. All employees are based in The Gambia. There are currently 8 staff (2023: 8) who work in education and the running of the Nursery school, 5 (2023: 5) who work in health and the running of the clinic and 1 (2023: 1) staff who work in management and the day to day running of the charity.

There were no employees who received emoluments of more than £60,000.

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from employment with BACE.

7. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There have been no related party transactions during the reporting period.

8. AUDIT, INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION AND OTHER FINANCIAL SERVICES FEES

No fees have been paid in this reporting period for any audit, independent examination or other financial services.