Let the Children Hear

England & Wales · Charity number 1145080

Details

Other names	IAN HUTCHEON CLINIC FOR CHILDREN, IHCC, LTCH
Status	Registered
Legal form	Trust
Registered	2011-12-15
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	6 Yardley Park Road Tonbridge Kent TN9 1NE
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Website	www.letthechildrenhear.com

Activities

Objects: 1.TO RELIEVE POOR YOUNG PEOPLE (0-16 YEARS) WHO ARE DEAF OR HEARING IMPAIRED AND THEIR FAMILIES BY THE PROVISION OF A MOBILE CLINIC2.TO ADVANCE EDUCATION OF POOR YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE DEAF OR HEARING IMPAIRED BY THE PROVISION OF SPECIALIST FACILITIES AND HEALTH CARE SPECIALISTS3.TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF POOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES, HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS AND OUTREACH WORKERS IN THE EFFECTIVE PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF THE CAUSES OF HEARING IMPAIRMENT AND DEAFNESS.

Activities: LTCH works in developing countries helping to:-:Relieve deaf, hearing impaired, poor children(0-16 years) and their familiesEducate deaf or hearing impaired children by provision of specialist facilities and health care specialists. Educate young people, their families, health care professionals and outreach workers in prevention, treatment and management of hearing impairment and deafness.

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Uganda

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£21,523	£54,001	-	-
2023-12-31	£77,133	£47,514	-	-
2022-12-31	£52,760	£47,563	-	-
2021-12-31	£63,769	£40,106	-	-
2020-12-31	£60,649	£57,818	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
GEOFF ROBINS	Chair	2011-12-15
ELISABETH JILL CHOUDHURY Reg. Nurse		2011-12-15
Elspeth Russell SRN SCM DN		2015-12-01
PAUL CHOUDHURY		2011-09-17

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Let the Children Hear

England & Wales - Charity number 1145080

Accounts

Let the Children Hear
Clinics for Children in Uganda

UK Charity No 1145080 Ugandan NGO No 10054



Annual Report 23







www.letthechildrenhear.com info@letthechildrenhear.com

UK Registered Charity No: 1145080
Ugandan Registered NGO No: 10054

Our vision

Improved hearing outcomes for children aged 0-16 years in developing countries.

Our Mission

To improve the hearing outcomes of children in Uganda by adopting strategies which focus on the prevention and early intervention of childhood hearing loss, to aid social integration, speech and language development and access to education. From its inception, LTCH has created a clear vision, mission, goals and set of objectives which underpin its strategy with the aim of providing a strong foundation on which the project can grow and become sustainable long term.

Our objectives

- To educate health care workers and the public about childhood hearing loss and the importance of prevention and early intervention.
- To increase the number of Health Care Workers trained in the field of Ear and Hearing Care.
- To provide an accessible ear and hearing care service for children and their families.
- To leave a legacy by integrating the service into the country's health care system to provide for sustainability.
- To strengthen maternal and child health care to reduce the incidence and prevalence of childhood hearing loss.

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Welcome

Firstly, I would like to welcome you to our annual report for 2023.This year we have focused on strengthening of services for future sustainability by upskilling and training some of our permanent staff and audiologists.

2023 was a year in which we focused on capacity building of the infant screening programme and also to strengthen the audiology service for future sustainability.

At the beginning of 2023, we were visited in Kampala by Peter Harris from the Latter Day Saint Charities (LDSC) and Global Partners in Hearing Health (GPHH) USA.

In 2022 we worked in partnership on a screening and early intervention project and in 2023 Peter visited the clinic to see first-hand the impact of the project activities they had funded.

In the latter part of 2023, LTCH secured a second round of funding from LDSC and GPHH. The funded project continued to focus on capacity building of hearing screening and early intervention services in health facilities in Kampala. Newborn babies and children up to the age of six years were screened in four health facilities in Kampala.

With the emphasis now being place on screening children in health facilities, the school screening project was discontinued. This adaptation to the screening project in 2023 proved to be more cost effective compared to travelling to multiple school sites to screen children.

LTCH also continued its partnership with East Africa Children's Project (EACP) who funded our speech therapy project for 2023. Additional ring- fenced funding for training, hearing screening and hearing aids was received from various UK charitable trusts.

In addition to the increase in activities aimed at the direct beneficiaries, the indirect beneficiaries including parents and health care workers, benefitted from health education talks and training respectively.

Ongoing paediatric audiology training continued via joint clinics on Zoom with the UK volunteer audiologists mentoring the local audiologists in their clinics. This provided ongoing practical training and quality assurance of service delivery. In addition, our senior UK audiology adviser ,Pam Layton kindly agreed to go out to Kampala in November to work in the clinic and to train and upskill some of our permanent employees in screening and various aspects of audiology. The timing of her visit was very favourable as two of our audiologists were on maternity leave and appointments were in high demand.

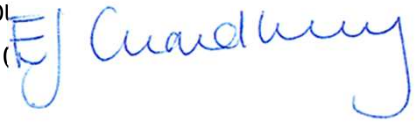
The parental support group expanded to support more new parents whose children have been fitted with hearing aids. Some of the older children also had the opportunity to come together to network with their hearing aid peers.

The growth of project activities in 2023 and successful outcomes could not have been achieved without the commitment of the Ugandan team and UK volunteers who have worked very hard throughout the year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all.

I would also like to say a big thank you to the LTCH board; Geoff, Paul, Elspeth, and Kevin. who have all worked hard for the charity over the past year.

Looking ahead to 2024 we are in the process of taking steps to build our UK team and recruit more trustees and team members to assist with operational activities and future growth of the charity. .

Liz Cho
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2023 IMPACT REPORT

Strengthening of service provision.

2023 was a year that saw strengthening of the project activities and the Ugandan team through training and upskilling .
The project activities reached out to more than 7,800 direct beneficiaries.
LTCH received a second year of funding from LDSC and GPHH USA for the Infant and Early Childhood Hearing Detection and Early Intervention Project for children 0-6 years. The second year of funding for this project commenced in November 2023 and will continue to October 2024.. It encompasses training, health education, screening, assessment , hearing aid fitting and rehabilitation.

The number of new referrals to the audiology clinic at Kisenyi Health Centre saw a 11,5% increase from 2022. 54 % of the referrals were direct and indirect beneficiaries of the US screening and early intervention project operated in the four health facilities.
There was a reduction in lost to follow up at the audiology clinic with a 50 % reduction compared to 2022. This may be attributed to good health education talks and follow up from our screeners, audiology team members and administrative staff who all participate in parental awareness and encouraging parents to engage with the cause and follow up of their children.

111 children were given hearing aids, of which 78 children were newly fitted compared to 54 new fittings in 2022.
Out of the 78 children that were newly fitted , 5 of these children were fitted with special bone anchored hearing aids (BAHA) which were generously donated by UK audiologists and sourced from UK hospitals.. These special hearing aids are issued for children with conductive hearing losses who are unable to wear conventional hearing aids that transmit sound through the ear. Instead they are worn on a soft band and transmit sound via bone conductiion. LTCH is the only paediatric clinic in Uganda that supplies and fits children with BAHA;s. Most of these children have abnormalities of the outer ear and the inner ear is normal but requires supporting with bone anchored hearing aids. All 5 children have benefitted from improved speech and language development as reported from the parental feedback from home and school..

When our UK Audiology Adviser visited the clinic in November and December, she provided further training and mentorship for four of our Ugandan Audiologists. In addition, LTCH wanted to empower and upskill some of our permanent core staff with additional audiology and screening skills. The aim of this strategy is to future proof services and to ensure clinics operate even in the absence of screeners and audiologists . This is not only beneficial for the direct beneficiaries of the services but also the staff involved who enjoy a greater level of job satisfaction and welcome such opportunities to develop additional skills for their career development.

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HEALTH EDUCATION

Increased knowledge and awareness provides better hearing outcomes for our beneficiaries

HEALTH EDUCATION

During the year, health education played an important part of our daily work. For every newborn baby and young child that was screened the accompanying parent/guardian received health education on childhood hearing loss. In addition all parents/guardians who attended the audiology clinic with their child also increased their knowledge and awareness through posters in the clinic and during consultation with the audiologist, hearing aid technician and speech therapist . This equates to more than 7,800 parents being exposed to health education relating to ear and hearing care.

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TRAINING

Vital component of our work –essential for capacity building of children's hearing health care services in Uganda

TRAINING

Supervision and mentoring of the Ugandan audiologists by the UK audiology team of volunteers continued throughout the year. The majority of this training was done remotely via Zoom During the Autumn we were lucky enough to have our UK Audiology Adviser, Pam Layton visit the audiology clinic in Kampala. She provided hands on training for the 4 audiologists and some additional training for our Audiology Assistant and our Project Assistant, All staff are encouraged to participate in a mix of clinic activities. This keeps clinics running smoothly and ensures that project targets are met. On a personal level it enhances career development and job satisfaction. The Audiology Assistant received training in basic hearing testing and trouble- shooting of hearing aids. Both members of staff were trained in hearing screening and successfully completed the National Centre for Hearing Assessment (NCHAM) Utah, US Hearing Screening Training online course and were awarded certificates of completion.







ACTIVITIES

TREATMENTS

In 2023 , the ear clinic was transferred and integrated into the main outpatient department of the health centre and is managed by Kampala Capital City Authority who have taken ownership of the service for future sustainability. It continues to be operated by LTCH trained nurse and provides medical treatments for common ear diseases for children and adults can also now access the service. . Data is now in the possession of the Ministry of Health, but approximately 200 children were seen and treated throughout the year.

NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING

Newborn hearing screening saw a slight fall in numbers screened. This was due to the fact that in January, we concluded the screening project for 'at risk' babies in Kawempe Hospital due to difficult screening conditions experienced by the screeners. LTCH adapted the newborn screening programme to screen babies at the following sites:

i) Screening of 6 day old babies at Kisenyi Health Centre. These babies attend for follow up health checks and immunisation. Hearing screening has been incorporated into the health checks and therefore the mothers are well motivated by the health care workers and attendance for screening is high.

ii) Screening of 'at risk' babies in the NICU AT St Francis Hospital Nsambya.

iii) Screening of babies 6 weeks and below at Naguru Hospital.

A total of 4,656 babies were screened. Babies screened at St Francis Hospital continued to be screened by their own screeners trained by LTCH.. The loan of the screening machine was extended for another year to give the hospital more time to raise the necessary funds to purchase their own machine..

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Providing the full pathway of hearing health care for children



ACTIVITIES

Providing the full pathway of hearing health care for children

EARLY INFANT HEARING SCREENING

In 2023, early infant screening continued at two hospital sites, Mulago National Referral Hospital, ENT Clinic and Naguru Hospital, Paediatric Outpatients Department. Children aged 6 weeks to 6 years were our target group of direct beneficiaries of the US funded early intervention project. However, in addition we had many indirect beneficiaries of the project. These were children who were outside the screening cohort but required referral to the audiology clinic due to parental concern regarding hearing loss. The total number of direct beneficiaries for the year was 2,052.

ASSESSMENTS & REMEDIATION

In 2023 , 357 new patients were seen in the Audiology Clinic at Kisenyi Health Centre which was a 11.5 % increase from 2022.

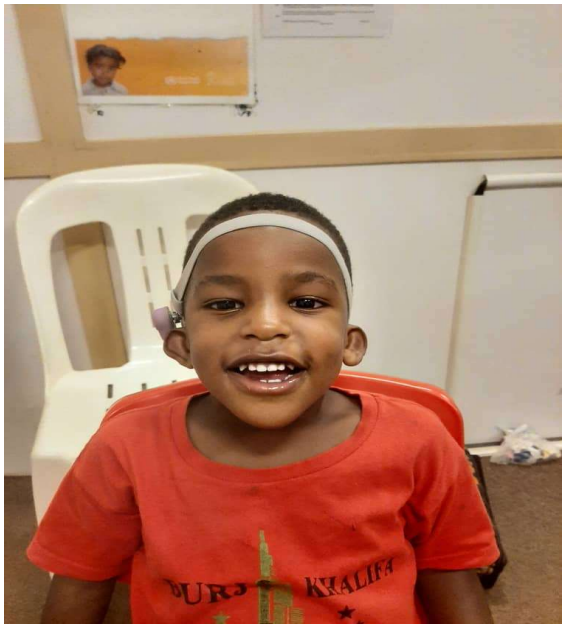
101 children were direct referrals from the screening project and 96 were indirect referrals from the screening sites. The remaining new referrals came from other health facilities and self- referrals. 119 children were diagnosed with normal hearing and 188 children were diagnosed with permanent disabling hearing loss which is greater than 35 decibels in the better ear.

1,097 audiology appointments were completed , 357 of these were new appointments and 740 were follow up appointments. Follow up rate also improved in comparison to 2022 with a 50% reduction in lost to follow up.

78 children were newly fitted with hearing aids which included the five children who were fitted with the special bone anchored hearing aids.

33 children had their hearing aids replaced either because they lost the aid, it was faulty or child required an upgrade of hearing aid.





REHABILITATION

Supporting children & their families

SPEECH THERAPY

The Speech therapy project continued to be supported by the East African Children's Project (EACP) and funding was provided for a second year. 6 children benefitted from the weekly sessions and each child had 12 individual sessions. All children who attended benefitted from better communication and listening skills and many parents reported better school performance. Speech therapy progress reports were shared by the Speech Therapist highlighting the impact of the project. In addition, beneficiary feedback was received from parents using videos and questionnaires.

SUPPORT GROUP

During 2023 the parental support group continued to support parents of children on the hearing aid programme. The Project Adviser organised eight sessions during the year and between 9-12 parents attended each session. They continue to provide an opportunity for parents to come together and share any experiences or challenges they may have regarding managing their child's hearing impairment and hearing aids etc.. Two of the sessions involved the children, who were split into two age groups. These sessions are beneficial for all the children as they provide an excellent opportunity for socialisation with other aided children and for the younger children this can help them to comply with them wearing their hearing aid/s. The older children found the sessions very useful for networking with their hearing- impaired peer group and sharing their personal experiences of their hearing disability. In between the sessions the parents are in contact with each other through the parents WhatsApp group. A few of the parents attend the social group regularly and are becoming strong ambassadors for the group, supporting the new parents that join. .







HIGHLIGHTS OF 2023












THE NUMBERS

4,656
New-born babies screened



2,052
infants and young children screened





111
children fitted with hearing aids





357 New cases seen in audiology clinic

740 Follow-up appts – in audiology clinic

THE NUMBERS

247 children diagnosed with hearing loss



188 children (76%) of children were diagnosed with severe to profound loss









6 children completed their 12-week speech therapy sessions



200 children were medically treated and managed for ear diseases



Financial review

2023 FINANCIAL REVIEW

Funding remains our biggest challenge

Incoming resources

LTCH's total income during the year was **£77,133** 2022: £52,760) a 46.2% Increase on 2022. Income, except for interest on funds held on deposit, was split between continuing US grant funding from The Church of Latter-Day Saints, voluntary donations, a new initiative with a professional fundraiser and fund-raising activities as shown in the following table:

	Year ended 31 December 2023			Year ended 31 December 2022		
	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £
Income						
UK Grants	**-**	-	-	**20,000**	-	20,000
US GRANT	**47,470**	-	47,470	**21,335**	-	21,335
Donation – general	**4,899**	4,899	-	**3,432**	3,432	-
Donations – restricted	**5,041**	-	5,041	**2,000**	-	2,000
Donations - fundraiser	**8,420**	8,420	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Fundraising activities	**11,211**	11,211	-	**5,950**	5,950	-
Interest	**92**	92	-	**43**	43	-
	77,133	**24,622**	**52,511**	**52,760**	**9,425**	**43,335**

A further breakdown of our general fundraising activities

	Year ended 31 December 2023			Year ended 31 December 2022		
Fundraising	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £
General fundraising	**9,853**	9,853	**-**	**5,950**	5,950	**-**
Charities Trust	**938**	938	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Gift Aid	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Fundraising events	**420**	420	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Miscellaneous			**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
	11,211	**11,211**	**-**	**5,950**	**5,950**	**-**

Our largest source of income, this year, was the continued grant from the US Church of Latter-Day Saints, organised by the Global Partnership for Hearing Health (GPHH). This continued funding allowed for the continuation of the previously expanded hearing programme in Kampala throughout 2023. General donations and fund-raising events decreased this year compared to the previous year's income as we concentrated on securing grant funding. Except for specific funding applications, we seek to raise grant funding on an unrestricted basis, so that it may be applied where most needed.

Donations from individuals have increased by 65.5% from the level in 2022.

We benefit from Gift Aid on most of the regular donations we receive via Just Giving.

2023 FINANCIAL REVIEW

Funding remains our biggest challenge

Resources expended

During the year, LTCH expended a total of **£47,514** (2022: 47,564) very similar to the expenditure in 2021, as shown in the following table:

	Year ended 31 December 2023			Year ended 31 December 2022		
E1penditure	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £
Ugandan Funding[1]	**36,457**	6,450	30,007	**40,445**	8,445	32,000
Fundraising costs	**1,805**	1,805	-	**90**	90	-
Administration costs	**1,317**	1,317	-	**2,063**	2,063	-
Trustee monitoring	**7,935**	7,935		**4,966**	4,966	-
	47,514	**17,507**	**30,007**	**47,564**	**15,564**	**32,000**

1.Including money transfer costs

As in most previous years, the bulk of expenditure is committed directly to the project in Kampala. Funding decreased (10%) this year. This was a result of adjustments made to our programme and staffing levels, in Uganda, to suit the level of funding. Core activities funded by The Church of Latter-Day Saints remained unaffected during the year.

Trustee visit costs increased significantly (60%) as the Medical Trustees were able to return to Uganda twice in the year as opposed to the single visit made during 2022.

Administration costs decreased (35%) during the year as there was reduced expenditure on equipment during the year. We are now better placed to apply for future direct grant funding and submitted a number of grant applications throughout the year.

As a small charity run entirely by volunteers, we strive to minimise our expenditure on items other than direct project costs. Our fundraising cost solely comprised service charges for Just Giving.

Our administration costs were only £178 for insurances, internet, and bank charges.

Inspection of accounts

As our income for the year exceeded £25,000, we are required to have our accounts inspected by an independent examiner. This service has been provided on a pro bono basis.

Reserves policy

LTCH's reserves policy is, subject to exceptional circumstances, to maintain a minimum reserve of £6,000 or three months anticipated committed expenditure, whichever is the lower. On 31 December 2023, we had unrestricted reserves of £16,388(2022: £16,296) held in a Virgin Money Interest Bearing Charity Account which is more than sufficient to cover three months of committed expenditure at current levels.

Surplus funds are held in the Virgin Charity Account and although interest rates are low, the Trustees do not consider it appropriate to invest funds where there is a risk of capital depreciation.

2023 FINANCIAL REVIEW

Fundraising

Fundraising has again remained a challenge but has improved from the previous year. We have still been concentrating on securing grant funding and received a grant of £47,469.80 from the US Church of Latter Day Saints.

We also started using a professional fund raiser who generated £8,420.00

General Fundraising and Ring Fenced Donations, throughout the year, raised £9,415

We would like to say a massive thank you to all these super humans and organisations who have donated and fundraised for us throughout the year as this really does make a huge difference to us.

Let the Children Hear
Receipts and Payments Account - Year Ended December 31 2023
Final Management Accounts

	Year ended Dec 31 2023 £	Year ended Dec 31 2022 £	Variance In period £	Comments
Receipts				
Donations, Allocated	5,041.00	2,000.00	3,041.00	
CAF Grant	0.00	20,000.00	-20,000.00	
US Grant Funding (Latter Day Saints)	47,469.80	21,334.66	26,135.14	
AUD Medical Grant	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	
Paul Woodcock Fundraiser Donations	8,420.00	0.00	8,420.00	
General Donations, Unallocated	4,840.76	3,431.84	1,408.92	
General fundraising -Just Giving	8,131.87	4,946.02	3,185.85	
General fundraising - Benivity	1,721.01	0.00	1,721.01	
General fundraising - UK Online Giving	58.14	0.00	58.14	
Tax credits on donations (Gift Aid)	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Charities Trust Donations	938.63	0.00	938.63	
Art Sale	175.00	0.00	175.00	
Lingerie Sales	70.00	0.00	70.00	
Shrap Sacks	175.00	0.00	175.00	
Amazon Smile	0.00	5.00	-5.00	
Trustee Expenses Refund	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Virgin Deposit Account Interest	92.02	42.72	49.30	
	77,133.23	**52,760.24**	**24,372.99**	
Payments				
Website,computer, Office 365	1,139.67	1,883.29	-743.62	
Data Protection Registration	35.00	0.00	35.00	
Insurance	142.80	142.80	0.00	
Just Giving charges	0.00	90.00	-90.00	
Fund Raising Fees	1,805.35	0.00	1,805.35	
Bank charges	0.00	37.00	-37.00	
Difid Refund	0.00	1,082.43	-1,082.43	
Media and marketing charges	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Room hire	0.00	0.00	0.00	
UK Funded Ugandan costs :				
Transfers to Uganda Operation	32,000.00	32,000.00	0.00	
Trustees/volunteers expenses	7,935.02	4,965.58	2,969.44	Includes equipment purchases
Ambulance,medical equipment & medicine	4,456.64	7,362.25	-2,905.61	
	47,514.48	**47,563.35**	**-48.87**	
Bank accounts as at December 31 2022	61,586.48	61,586.48		
Bank accounts as at December 31 2023	**91,205.23**			


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OMWANA WO AYINZA OBUTADAMU
OBULWADDE BWAMATU NATAA

The Future



Summary and Future Direction

2023 has been a successful year for LTCH in Uganda as we continued to strengthen our services for the benefit of our beneficiaries. We reached out to 7,811 children. The number of target beneficiaries was lower than 2022 (13.2%) due to the discontinuation of the school screening project. and newborn hearing screening at Kawempe Hospital

We continued to see a rise in the number of new children seen in the audiology clinic and the number of new children fitted with hearing aids. Referrals either direct or indirect from the screening sites contributed to 54% of referrals seen in the audiology clinic which clearly demonstrated the value of the screening project for both direct and indirect beneficiaries.

In 2023, LTCH formalised its partnership with Naguru China Friendship Hospital and signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the hospital. Local staff in the paediatric outpatients' department engaged well with the screeners, referring babies and children to be screened. Screening also continued at St Francis' Hospital Nsambya, Kisenyi Health Centre and Mulago Hospital Paediatric ENT outpatients' clinic. Newborn screening at Kawempe was discontinued in February due to lack of space and difficult screening conditions for the screeners. This resulted in a slight fall (8%) in the number of newborn babies screened. In 2023.

The highlights of 2023 can be summarised as follows .The joint clinics held remotely via Zoom between UK and Ugandan Audiologists. that has enabled children with additional complex needs to be seen and managed jointly. This included the five children who had malformations of the external ear/s and were fitted with bone anchored hearing aids (BAHA). This has led to the success of our BAHA programme in Uganda and the proficiency of our audiologists in learning how to manage these special hearing aids. The visit by Peter Harris from the US enabled us to demonstrate some of the impact and outcomes of the early intervention project which strengthened our partnership during 2023 and beyond. Another highlight was the visit to our audiology clinic in Kampala by our UK Audiology Adviser . In addition to providing training for our audiologists , two of our permanent staff members had the opportunity to acquire additional knowledge and skills .Our Audiology Assistant received training in screening, basic hearing testing and hearing aid trouble shooting. The Project Adviser was trained in hearing screening . Both staff are now able to provide support in the absence of screeners and audiologists to ensure clinics operate smoothly and targets are met. The other notable highlight of 2023, was the continued strengthening of the parental support group and the benefits it provided for the children and the parents.

Looking ahead to 2024, LTCH continues to explore the various options for integration and sustainability of the service in a hospital facility.

More importantly, LTCH is looking to capacity build its UK team , additional trustee/s with expertise and skills in marketing and communications, administration and finance.

Liz Choudhury
Project Advisor

Our Partners



A big thank you to our partners

The partnership between LTCH and Global Partnerships for Hearing Health (GPHH) and the Latter-Day Saints Charities (LDSC) continued in 2023 with further funding to continue newborn and infant screening and early intervention project.

LTCH also continued to work with the following key stakeholders in 2023 including the Ministry of Health, Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA), Mulago Hospital , Kisenyi Health Centre, St Francis Hospital Nsambya and Naguru China Friendship Hospital, all of whom continued to support the project activities. East African Children's Project (EACP) continue to fund the speech therapy project in 2023.

LTCH would like to thank our volunteer audiologists in the UK who have contributed to our success in 2023. Pam Layton, Keri Abbott and Anushri Patel. They have all worked tirelessly to provide mentorship for the Audiologists in Uganda enhancing their knowledge and skills to benefit our patients and families.

We would also like to thank all our donors, fundraisers, and supporters in 2023. Without their continued support, it would not be possible to sustain this project, hence LTCH would like to say a BIG thank you to everyone.



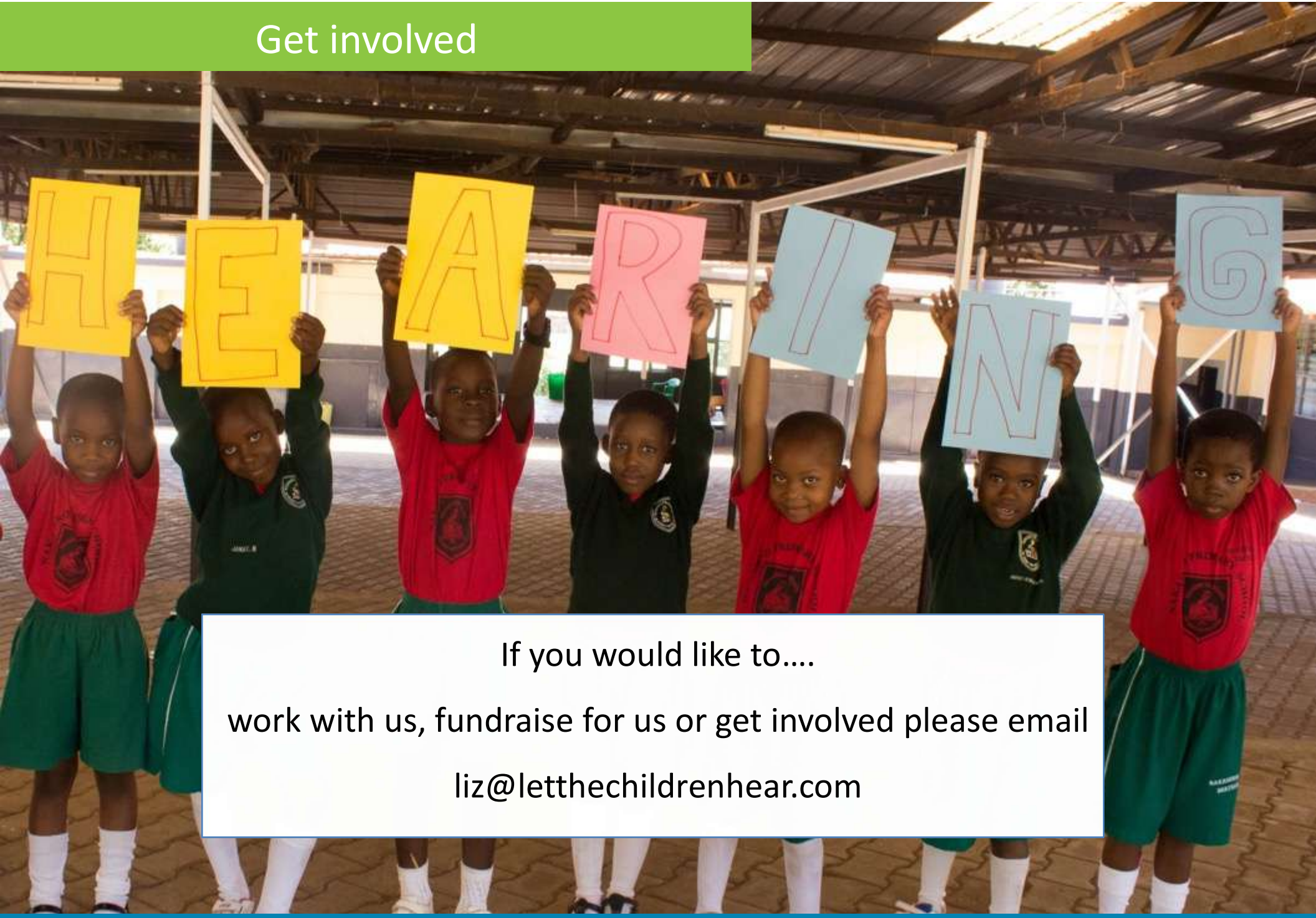
KCCA
KAMPALA CAPITAL CITY AUTHORITY
For a better City

THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR HEARING HEALTH

eacp
east africa children's project

Get involved



If you would like to….

work with us, fundraise for us or get involved please email

liz@letthechildrenhear.com

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name
Let the Children Hear

On accounts for the year ended | **December 2023** | **Charity no (if any)** | **1145080**

Set out on pages | **1**
(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2023** .

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 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: P Burnham **Date:** 29/07/2024

Name: PATRICIA ANN BURNHAM

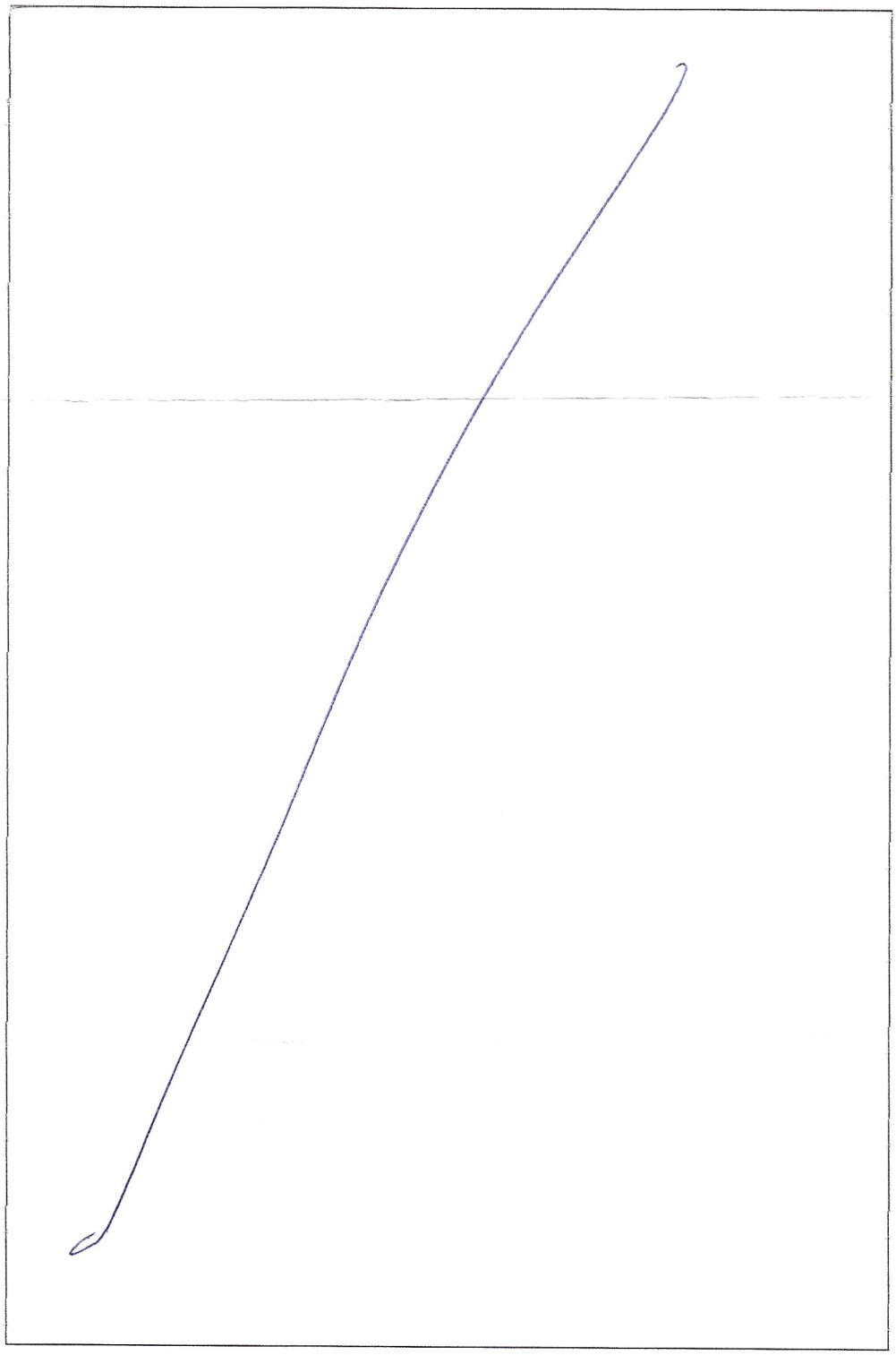
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): F.C.A
ICAEW

Address: 1 old Barn Mews, The Green
Croxley Green, Rickmansworth.
Herts WD3 3AH.

Section B Disclosure

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.



Let the Children Hear

England & Wales - Charity number 1145080

Accounts

Let the Children Hear

Clinics for Children in Uganda

UK Charity No 1145080 Ugandan NGO No 10054



Annual Report 22







www.letthechildrenhear.com info@letthechildrenhear.com

UK Registered Charity No: 1145080
Ugandan Registered NGO No: 10054

Our vision

Improved hearing outcomes for children aged 0-16 years in developing countries.

Our Mission

To improve the hearing outcomes of children in Uganda by adopting strategies which focus on the prevention and early intervention of childhood hearing loss, to aid social integration, speech and language development and access to education. From its inception, LTCH has created a clear vision, mission, goals and set of objectives which underpin its strategy with the aim of providing a strong foundation on which the project can grow and become sustainable long term.

Our objectives

- To educate health care workers and the public about childhood hearing loss and the importance of prevention and early intervention.
- To increase the number of Health Care Workers trained in the field of Primary Ear and Hearing Care.
- To provide an accessible ear and hearing care service for children and their families.
- To leave a legacy by integrating the service into the country's health care system to provide for sustainability.
- To strengthen maternal and child health care to reduce the incidence and prevalence of childhood hearing loss.

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Welcome

Firstly, I would like to welcome you to our annual report for 2022.The year has been one of recovery and growth for the charity post covid.

During 2022 the charity activities began to recover and grow post covid. At the back end of 2021,LTCH secured funding from a new partnership with Latter Day Saint Charities and Global Partners in Hearing Health USA. The project being funded in 2022 focused on capacity building of hearing screening and remediation activities in various health care settings and schools. The school screening project had been suspended for more than a year due to school closures and it was good to be able to resume this activity again in 2022.. LTCH also strengthened its partnership with East Africa Childrens Project (EACP) who funded our speech therapy project for 2022.. In addition to the increase in activities aimed at the direct beneficiaries, health education and training activities for indirect beneficiaries i.e. parents, health care workers and teachers also increased. A UK donor funded a UK Paediatric Audiologist to volunteer in our clinic in Uganda for 2 weeks. This provided further ongoing paediatric audiology training for the audiologists including our diploma audiology student. Joint clinics on Zoom continued in 2022 with the UK volunteer audiologists mentoring the local audiologists in their clinics. This provided ongoing practical training and quality assurance of service delivery. A parental support group was started in June 2022 to support parents whose children have been fitted with hearing aids. Some of the older children also had the opportunity to come together to share their experiences, challenges and the positive impact hearing aids have made to various aspects of their lives..

The growth of project activities in 2022 and successful outcomes could not have been achieved without the commitment of the Ugandan team and UK volunteers who have worked very hard throughout the year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all.

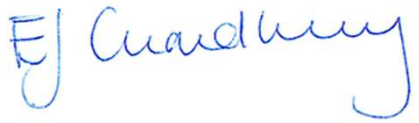
I would also like to say a big thank you to the LTCH board; Geoff, Elspeth, Jude and Kevin. who have all worked so hard for the charity over the past year.

Before Christmas, Kevin set off back to Africa to resume his charity bike ride which was suspended in 2020 due to the covid pandemic.

During the year we parted with our mobile clinic which has served us well over the past seven years reaching out to many children in community outreaches and schools. However, post covid it no longer proved cost effective to maintain .

At the end of November we were sorry to say goodbye to Jude our Chair of trustees for many years. Her invaluable expertise in the field of communications and marketing experience was put to good use at LTCH over the past 5 years.

Looking ahead, we now need to build our UK team and recruit more trustees and team members to assist with the operational activities and future growth of the charity. .



Liz Choudhury
Let the Children Hear

Our Storyline

2011

Four friends come together in the memory of their friend Ian Hutcheon to form a charity





2012

Our First trip to Uganda



Health talks to parents make it apparent that our services are much needed



2013

IHCC Let the children hear

Mobile clinic

- International Rotary fund a new mobile clinic
- Audiologist from UK visits and delivers training
- Kisenyi Clinic opens

















2014

First Clinic

- Kisugu Health Centre
- **Ear Clinic-244 beneficiaries**
- MOU with service provider KCCA
- Train 2 nurses & resource clinic







2015

Pilot New- Born Screening

- Audiologist from UK visits and trains screeners
- LTCH spoke at the Paediatric Conference in Kampala





2016

- Renamed to Let the Children Hear
- Partnership with Boston University saw student visit the clinic to develop a monitoring and evaluation plan
- MOU with MOH signed
- Newborn hearing Screening to start at Kawempe Hospital



2017

COVID IMPACT 21

CLINIC SHUT DURING LOCKDOWN -1MNTH
INCREASED COSTS
PATIENT NON-ATTENDANCE
CURFEW
TRAVEL BAN

- Two Ugandan audiologists are enrolled on Paediatric audiology online South African course
- One student enlisted on the Diploma Course in Kampala



- UK Aid budget is cut



2018

- **Ian Hutcheon Clinic for Children (IHCC) is formed**
- Fundraising commences
- Rotary Luton North becomes a big supporter
- Our first annual golf day
- Local schools fund raise
- Website is launched





IHCC let the children hear





Rotary

2019

- Outreaches
- Schools programme – students screened in our mobile clinic











- Communication drive and TV appearance

2020





UKaid from the British people



Capacity building with UK Aid Grant

- New-born screeners trained
- School Screener trained
- Paediatric Audiologist trained
- Recruitment – nine employees
- National Referral Hospital-Kawempe
- Data collection started
- MOH – resources-room and staff

2021

New Stakeholders-

- Mulago hospital'
- Naguru Hospital
- Nsambya Hospital
- **> 9,000 direct beneficiaries**

Our partners funded Hearing screening & Early Intervention Project Speech Therapy

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR HEARING HEALTH

eacp east africa children's project

2022

2022 IMPACT REPORT

Capacity building sums up 2022

2022 was a year that saw capacity building of the Ugandan team and project activities with the project reaching out to more than 9,000 direct beneficiaries. The grant funding from Global Partners in Hearing Health and Latter-Day Saints Charities.
funded an Infant and Early Childhood Hearing Detection and Early Intervention Project for children 0-6 years. This twelve-month project was delivered in over five different health facilities and KCCA primary schools
It encompassed training, health education, screening, assessment , hearing aid fitting and rehabilitation.

The impact of Covid-19 and the general economic situation continued to affect some of the project activities. In particular, high transport costs impacted on follow up rates in the screening, audiology and rehabilitation clinics and as a result many children were lost to follow up during the year. Schools remained closed for the first quarter of the year, finally opening in April after a two-year closure .Many children had been relocated to live with extended family in the villages during the covid period which also contributed to the high lost to follow up rate for children who required further intervention.

Despite the challenges around missed appointments and lost to follow up, 2022 was a very successful year for the charity in terms of awareness and capacity building of the screening, audiology and rehabilitation programmes.







HEALTH EDUCATION

Increased knowledge and awareness provides better hearing outcomes for our beneficiaries

HEALTH EDUCATION

During the project period, health education played an important part of our work. For every newborn baby and young child that was screened the accompanying parent/guardian received health education on childhood hearing loss. This equated to 7,124 persons.

In addition, 171 teachers and 650 pupils received health education talks in schools. Some of the pupils were nominated to be 'hearing heroes' and to share the impact of the health education talks on their knowledge and awareness of childhood hearing loss. Some of the teachers were also asked to provide beneficiary feedback on the sessions and this was captured in both instances via video recordings.

60 health care workers received health education during the year. This included health care workers from two of our screening sites-Nsambya Hospital where newborn screening was introduced and Baylor Paediatric HIV Clinic where targeted hearing screening was being carried out.

These sessions provided an opportunity to introduce the work of the charity, the team , how to refer children to our main centre at Kisenyi Health Centre and to increase knowledge and awareness around childhood hearing loss..









TRAINING

Vital component of our work –essential for capacity building of children's hearing health care services in Uganda

TRAINING

Supervision and mentoring of the Ugandan audiologists by the UK audiology team of volunteers continued throughout the year. During the summer we were lucky enough to have Keri Abott a paediatric audiologist from Manchester visit the audiology clinic in Kampala. She provided hands on training for the 4 audiologists. The South African online paediatric training course concluded in May 2022 and the two audiologists successfully completed the course and continued to work in the LTCH clinic to gain further experience in paediatric audiology during the mentored sessions.

At one of the screening sites –Watoto Children's Home, hearing screening training was given to health care workers who had previously been donated a hearing screening machine but had not be trained on how to use it. It is hoped that capacity building of screening services at the Watoto site will soon be implemented after the machine has been calibrated and the trainees have successfully completed a competency test.

At the beginning of the year and in preparation for the commencement of the early infant and childhood screening project, 8 screeners were trained. All screeners successfully completed the National Centre for Hearing Assessment (NCHAM) Utah, US Hearing Screening Training online course and were awarded certificates of completion. In addition, practical training was supervised by LTCH Lead New-born Screener and competency assessments were carried out periodically for quality assurance purposes.







ACTIVITIES

Providing the full pathway of hearing health care for children

TREATMENTS

Post covid, the ear clinic continued to operate on a small scale providing medical treatments for common ear diseases . High transport costs and lack of availability of clinic staff to run the clinic meant the number of new patients attending the clinic saw a 30% decline from the previous year with a total of 308 new patients seen. Follow up also remained a challenge. The plan for the future of the ear clinic is to train more health care workers to treat ear disease and integrate it into the Outpatients Department of Kisenyi Health Centre and this has been agreed by KCCA for 2023.

NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING

Newborn hearing screening was scaled up as part of the US funded hearing screening and early intervention project. This included:

i) Ongoing screening of 'at risk babies' in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) of Kawempe Hospital i.e , those babies who are classified as being more at risk of hearing loss due to various factors associated with time spent in NICU. For example, prematurity, jaundice, birth asphyxia.

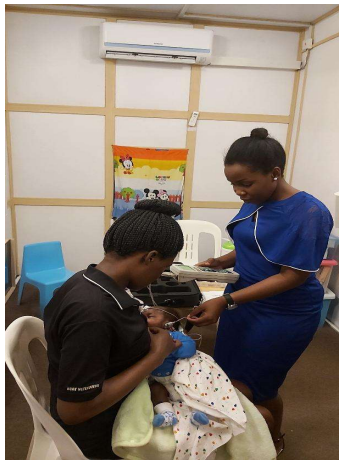
II) Screening of 6 day old babies at Kisenyi Health Centre. These babies attend for follow up health checks and immunisation. Hearing screening has been incorporated into the health checks and therefore the mothers are well motivated by the health care workers and attendance for screening is high.

III) Screening of 'at risk' babies in the NICU AT St Francis Hospital Nsambya.

A total of 5,069 babies were screened. Babies screened at St Francis Hospital were screened by their own screeners trained by LTCH whose role in this project was to support them to set up their own screening programme within the next two years. For this project period LTCH loaned a screening machine.

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ACTIVITIES

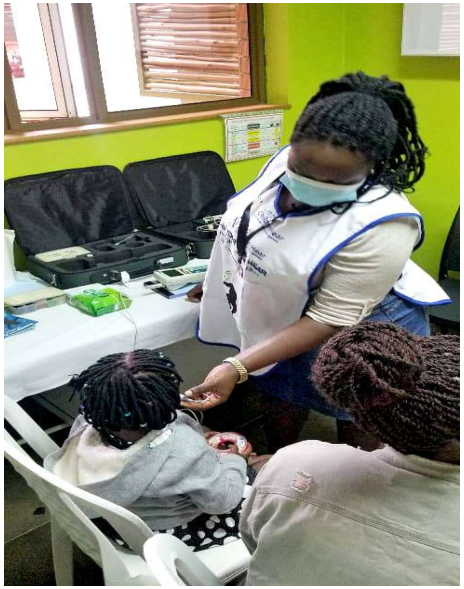
Providing the full pathway of hearing health care for children

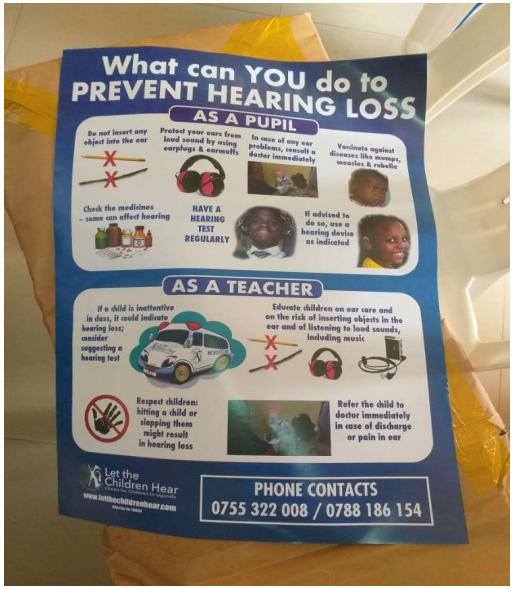
EARLY INFANT HEARING SCREENING

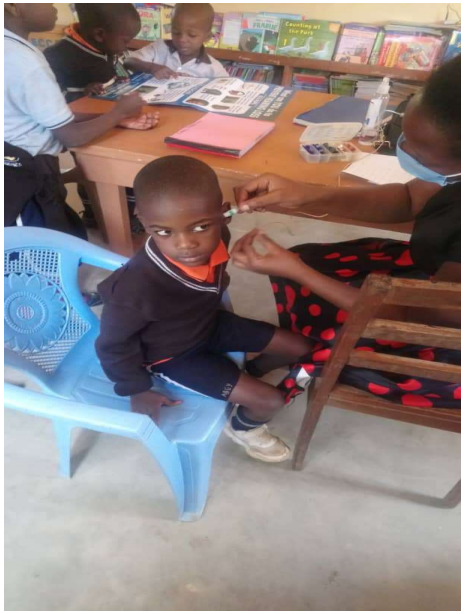
2022 was the first year that LTCH extended its hearing screening programme in hospitals to include infants and young children aged 6 years and below. This formed part of the US funded early intervention project. Three different hospital sites were used during the project period. Baylor Paediatric HIV Clinic, Mulago Paediatric ENT Clinic and Naguru Paediatric Outpatients Department. The HIV clinic and the Ent clinic were targeted screening sites due to hearing loss being more prevalent in children with HIV and in children attending the ENT clinic. Children and parents benefitted from access to screening and health education The direct beneficiaries were our target cohort of children 0-6 years. However, in addition we had many indirect beneficiaries of the project. These were children who were outside the screening cohort but required referral to the audiology clinic.

SCHOOL HEARING SCREENING

Schools re-opened in March following the covid outbreak.. 1,982 children were screened. The target beneficiaries were children aged 3-6 years in Nursey Schools, Primary Schools. and Children's Organisations. Alongside screening, health education played an important role in educating students, teachers and carers about hearing loss and services available at LTCH.







REMEDIATION & REHABILITATION

Supporting children & their families

ASSESSMENTS & REMEDIATION

The audiology clinic at Kisenyi Health centre saw an increase in the number of new referrals.There were 320 new referrals in total which was a 64% increase on the previous year..61% of these referrals were from the screening project and the various screening sites. 114 children were diagnosed with normal hearing .219 children were diagnosed with varying degrees of hearing loss of which 128 children (58%) had disabling hearing loss. This is defined as hearing loss >35 decibels in the better hearing ear as per World Health Organisation guidelines.

99 children had appointments for hearing aid fitting. 46 were new children fitted with a hearing aid and 8 children were given a second hearing aid. 45 children required a replacement hearing aid either due to requiring an upgrade or because the hearing aid was faulty or had been lost.

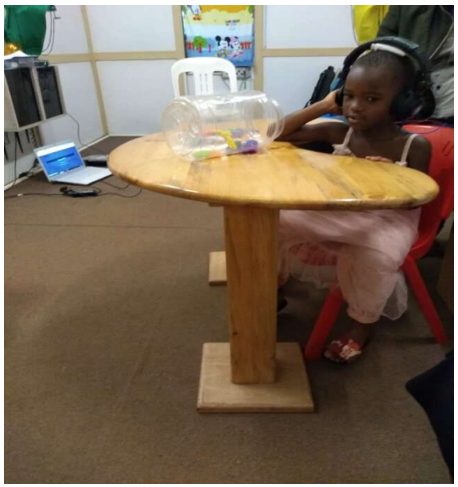
SPEECH THERAPY

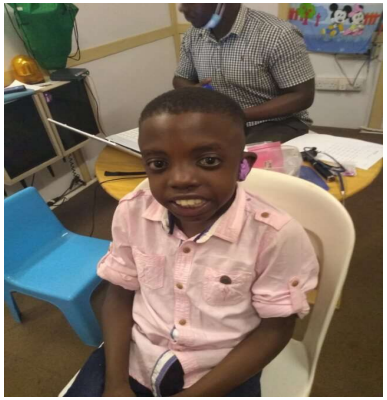
The Speech therapy project was funded in 2022 by the East African Childrens Project . 11 children were enrolled on the project which provided each child with 12 sessions. One child dropped out leaving 10 children who completed speech therapy. All children who attended benefitted from better communication and listening skills and many parents reported better school performance. Speech therapy progress reports were shared by the Speech Therapist highlighting the impact of the project. In addition, beneficiary feedback was received from parents using videos and questionnaires.



SUPPORT GROUP

In June 2022 a parental support group was set up. This group meets monthly and is formed of parents and children who are enrolled on the hearing aid programme. It has proved very beneficial in providing a platform for both parents and children to come together, share experiences and learn from each other. 60 beneficiaries were impacted by the project. Some sessions were parent led and informal. Other sessions were led by audiologists and speech therapists and discussed various topics for example the difference between hearing and listening. In addition to the meetings, a Whatsapp group was also created to provide a platform for ongoing support in between meetings.







THE NUMBERS

5,069
New-born babies screened



2,055
infants and young children screened





99
children fitted with hearing aids



1,982 pupils were screened for hearing loss



320 New cases seen in audiology clinic

555 Follow-up appts – in audiology clinic

THE NUMBERS

219 children were diagnosed with hearing loss



58% of children were diagnosed with disabling hearing loss









10 children completed their 12-week speech therapy sessions



351 children were medically treated and managed for ear diseases



Financial review

2022 FINANCIAL REVIEW

Funding remains our biggest challenge

Incoming resources

LTCH's total income during the year was **£52,760** 2021: £63,769) a 17% decrease on 2021. Income, except for interest on funds held on deposit, was split between a grant from the CAF and continuing US grant funding from The Church of Latter-Day Saints, voluntary donations and fund-raising activities as shown in the following table:

	Year ended 31 December 2022			Year ended 31 December 2021		
	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £
Income						
UK Grants	**20,000**	-	20,000	**5,741**	-	5,741
US GRANT	**21,335**	-	21,335	**22,215**	-	22,215
Donation – general	**3,432**	3,432	-	**10,095**	10,095	-
Donations – restricted	**2,000**	-	2,000	**13,430**	-	13,430
Fundraising activities	**5,951**	5,951	-	**12,266**	12,266	-
Interest	**43**	43	-	**22**	22	-

A further breakdown of our general fundraising activities

	Year ended 31 December 2022			Year ended 31 December 2021		
Fundraising	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £
General fundraising	5,946	5,946	-	9,029	9,029	-
Charities Trust	-	-	-	720	720	-
Gift Aid	-	-	-	0	-	-
Fundraising events	-	-	-	1,041	1,041	-
Miscellaneous	5	5	-	0	-	-
	12,266	**12,266**	**-**	**10,790**	**10,790**	**-**

Our largest source of income, this year, was from the US Church of Latter-Day Saints, organised by the Global Partnership for Hearing Health (GPHH) which replaced the DFiD grant which was previously discontinued due to UK Government cut-backs. The replacement funding allowed for the continuation of the expansion initiative in Kampala in 2022. Due to the discontinuation of the DFiD funding. Paul and Liz Choudhury, secured an additional grant from the CAF to fund specific initiatives, previously funded by DFiD. General donations and fund-raising events decreased this year compared to the previous year's income as we concentrated on securing grant funding. Except for specific funding applications, we seek to raise grant funding on an unrestricted basis, so that it may be applied where most needed.

Donations from individuals by regular standing order have declined slightly from the level in 2021.

We benefit from Gift Aid on most of the regular donations we receive via Just Giving.

2022 FINANCIAL REVIEW

Funding remains our biggest challenge

Resources expended

During the year, LTCH expended a total of **£47,564** (2021: 40,106) a reduction of 18% on 2021, as shown in the following table:

	Year ended 31 December 2022			Year ended 31 December 2021		
E1penditure	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £
Ugandan Funding[1]	**40,445**	8,445	32,000	**38,385**	19,214	19,171
Fundraising costs	**90**	90	-	**167**	167	-
Administration costs	**2,063**	2,063	-	**759**	759	-
Trustee monitoring	**4,966**	4,966		**795**	795	-
	47,564	**15,564**	**32,000**	**40,106**	**20,935**	**19,171**

1.Including money transfer costs and Dfid refund

As in most previous years, the bulk of expenditure is committed directly to the project in Kampala. Funding decreased (18%) this year. This has caused us to adapt and modify our programme and staffing levels, in Uganda, to suit the level of funding. Core activities funded by The Church of Latter-Day Saints remained unaffected during the year.

Trustee visit costs increased significantly following the end of Covid restrictions as the Medical Trustees were able to return to Uganda.

Administration costs increased during the year as we had to refund an overpayment to Dfid for previous grants and invested in new computer technology to enable better remote working and monitoring of the operation in Uganda. We are now better placed to apply for future direct grant funding and submitted a number of grant applications throughout the year.

As a small charity run entirely by volunteers, we strive to minimise our expenditure on items other than direct project costs. Our fundraising cost solely comprised service charges for Just Giving.

Our administration costs were only £160 for insurances, internet, and bank charges.

Inspection of accounts

As our income for the year exceeded £25,000, we are required to have our accounts inspected by an independent examiner. This service has been provided on a pro bono basis.

Reserves policy

LTCH's reserves policy is, subject to exceptional circumstances, to maintain a minimum reserve of £6,000 or three months anticipated committed expenditure, whichever is the lower. On 31 December 2021, we had unrestricted reserves of £16,296 (2021: £16,253) held in a Virgin Money Interest Bearing Charity Account which is more than sufficient to cover three months of committed expenditure at current levels.

Surplus funds are held in the Virgin Charity Account and although interest rates are low, the Trustees do not consider it appropriate to invest funds where there is a risk of capital depreciation.

2022 FINANCIAL REVIEW

Fundraising

Fundraising has again remained a challenge following Covid. We have been concentrating on securing grant funding. General Fundraising throughout the year raised £4,946.

General and Ring Fenced Donations raised £5,432 throughout the year.

We would like to say a massive thank you to all these super humans and organisations who have donated and fundraised for us throughout the year as this really does make a huge difference to us.

Let the Children Hear
Receipts and Payments Account - Year Ended December 31 2022
Draft Accounts

	Year ended Dec 31 2022 £	Year ended Dec 31 2021 £	Variance In period £
Receipts			
General Donations, Unallocated	3,431.84	10,095.00	-6,663.16
Ring Fenced Donations, Allocated	2,000.00	13,430.00	-11,430.00
Difid Receipts	0.00	5,741.34	-5,741.34
CAF Grant	20,000.00	0.00	20,000.00
US Grant Funding (Latter Day Saints)	21,334.66	22,214.84	-880.18
AUD Medical Grant	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
General fundraising (Just Giving Virgin Givingetc)	4,946.02	10,587.43	-5,641.41
Tax credits on donations (Gift Aid)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Charities Trust Donations	0.00	480.00	-480.00
Golf Day	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lingerie Sales	0.00	124.00	-124.00
Quiz Nights	0.00	0.00	0.00
Shrap Sacks	0.00	0.00	0.00
Aquaman	0.00	0.00	0.00
Amazon Smile	5.00	25.34	-20.34
PayPal refund	0.00	589.64	-589.64
Make up Evenings (Tropic etc)	0.00	380.00	-380.00
Gourmet Lux	0.00	30.00	-30.00
Soft Toys & Card sales	0.00	50.00	-50.00
Virgin Deposit Account Interest	42.72	21.56	21.16
	52,760.24	63,769.15	-11,008.91
Payments			
Golf Day	0.00	0.00	0.00
London Marathon Entry Fee & Sundry Costs	0.00	166.50	-166.50
Website,computer, Office 365	1,883.29	350.99	1,532.30
Data Protection Registration	0.00	40.00	-40.00
Insurance	142.80	142.80	0.00
Just Giving charges	90.00	216.00	-126.00
Virgin Giving	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bank charges	37.00	0.00	37.00
Difid Refund	1,082.43	0.00	1,082.43
Media and marketing charges	0.00	10.00	-10.00
Room hire	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transfers to Uganda	32,000.00	31,000.00	1,000.00
Ugandan costs :			
Trustees/volunteers expenses	4,965.58	794.50	4,171.08
Ambulance,medical equipment & medicine	7,362.25	7,385.18	-22.93
	47,563.35	40,105.97	7,457.38
Bank accounts as at December 31 2021	56,389.59	32,726.41	
Bank accounts as at December 31 2022	61,586.48	56,389.59	


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OMWANA WO AYINZA OBUTADAMU
OBULWADDE BWAMATU NATAA



The Future

Summary and Future Direction

2022 has been a very successful year of post covid recovery and growth and one which impacted over 9,000 direct beneficiaries.

LTCH engaged new stakeholders- namely Baylor Paediatric HIV clinic and ENT Paediatric Clinic at Mulago Hospital, Children outpatients Department at Naguru Hospital and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at St Francis' Hospital Nsambya.. In addition, LTCH continued to work with Kawempe Hospital to screen 'at risk' babies. Screening of I babies re-commenced at Kisenyi Health Centre after a break in 2021 due to covid restrictions and lack of funding.

Capacity building of screening services at these sites included: newborn and infant screening which resulted in a 200% increase in numbers screened in 2022 compared to 2021.

As a result, the number of new referrals requiring assessment at the audiology clinic in Kisenyi Health Centre increased by 64% .Notably, 61% of the new referrals to the clinic were from the screening project.

One of the highlights of 2022 was the new partnership with St Francis Hospital, Nsambya .LTCH worked in collaboration with Nsambya Hospital under a signed Memorandum of Understanding to support them with setting up their own newborn hearing screening programme. Help was given with training screeners and loan of equipment during the period. This is the first hospital in Kampala and possibly Uganda to initiate steps towards funding their own newborn hearing screening programme and therefore securing future sustainability and capacity building of the service to ultimately include all newborn babies.. LTCH will continue to support the hospital in 2023 as they transition to owning their own screening equipment and to making any refinements to the programme as needed. The screeners and data will continue to be monitored and evaluated by LTCH for quality assurance purposes. Any babies requiring further assessment will be referred to our clinic at Kisenyi Health Centre.

Similarly, hearing screening of children in the outpatient's department at Naguru Hospital during the second half of the year laid the foundation for future capacity building of hearing screening services at the hospital in 2023 .

Another notable achievement in 2022 was the launch of a parental support group for parents whose children are being supported on the hearing aid programme.. This was well overdue, and the monthly meetings were well attended.by both parents and children. It was lovely to be able to see the positive impact it has had in providing a platform for parents and children to connect with one another and share experiences.

In 2022, LTCH has continued to work towards laying the foundation for embedding and integrating the audiology services in a hospital setting.

Scoping the possibilities of integrating the audiology services in the Mulago National Referral Hospital continue. Other hospital sites are also being considered at this stage.

In 2023 it is hoped that the screening and early intervention project will continue and there are plans being put in place for capacity building of the project. In addition, LTCH is planning to send a minimum of four UK audiologists to Uganda to provide further training.in paediatric audiology.

Liz Choudhury
Project Advisor

Our Partners



A big thank you to our partners

The partnership between LTCH and Global Partnerships for Hearing Health (GPHH) and the Latter-Day Saints Charities (LDSC) was formally agreed prior to the commencement of the screening project in January 2022.

LTCH continued to engage its existing partners and key stakeholders including the Ministry of Health, Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA), Kawempe National Referral Hospital, Mulago Hospital and Kisenyi Health Centre all of whom continued to support the project activities. East African Children's Project (EACP) continue to fund the speech therapy project in 2022. Additional partnerships were created with two new stakeholders, namely, St Francis Hospital Nsambya and Naguru China Friendship Hospital. These two new hospitals became screening sites in 2022.

LTCH would like to thank our volunteer audiologists in the UK who have contributed to our success in 2022. Pam Layton, Keri Abbott and Anushri Patel. They have all worked tirelessly to provide mentorship for the Audiologists in Uganda enhancing their knowledge and skills to benefit our patients and families.

We would also like to thank all our regular donors, fundraisers, and supporters in 2022. Without their continued support, it would not be possible to sustain this project, hence LTCH would like to say a BIG thank you to everyone.



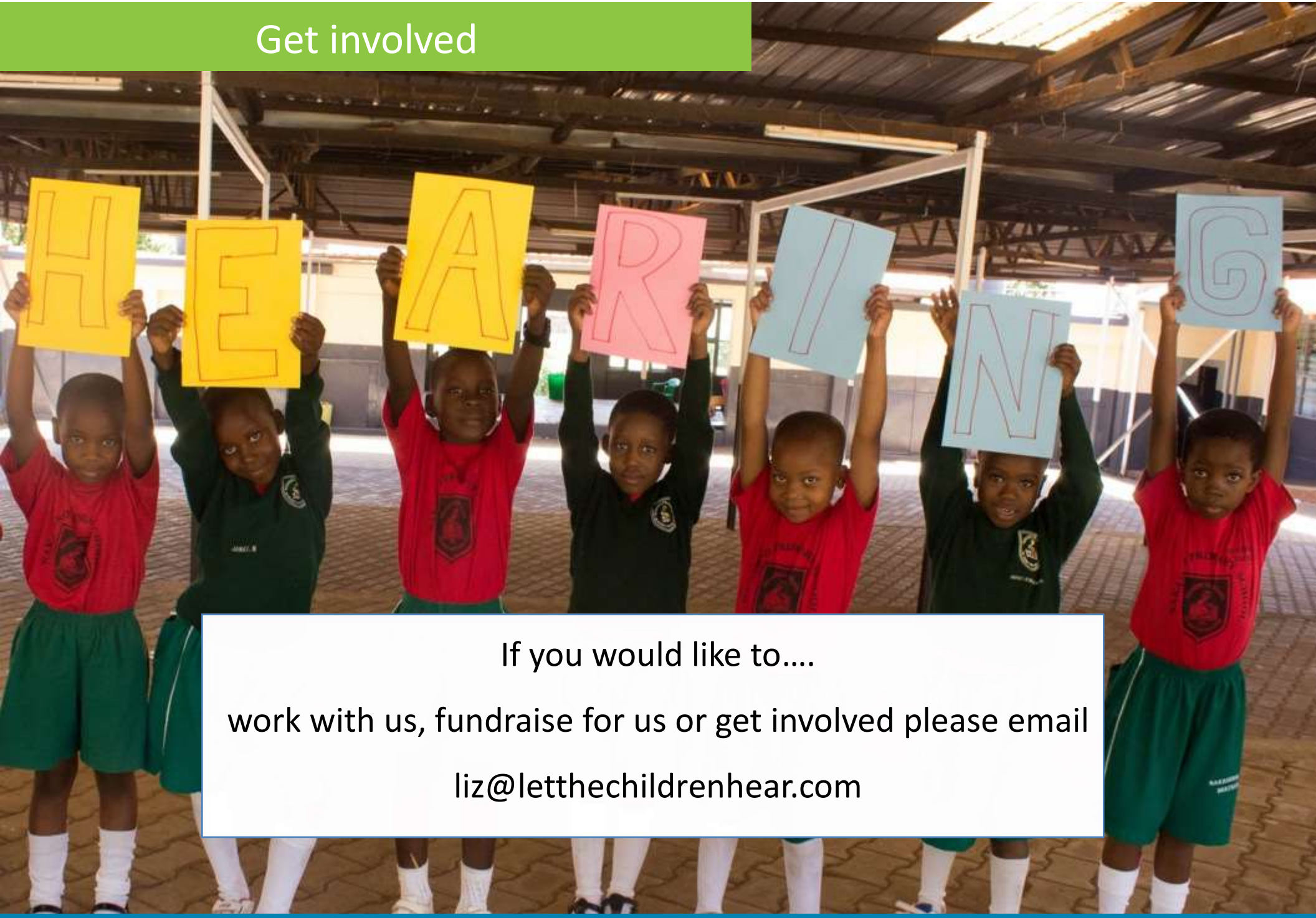
KCCA
KAMPALA CAPITAL CITY AUTHORITY
For a better City

THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR HEARING HEALTH

eacp
east africa children's project

Get involved



If you would like to….

work with us, fundraise for us or get involved please email

liz@letthechildrenhear.com

Let the Children Hear
Receipts and Payments Account - Year Ended December 31 2022
Draft Accounts

	Year ended Dec 31 2022 £	Year ended Dec 31 2021 £	Variance In period £	Comments
Receipts				
General Donations, Unallocated	3,431.84	10,095.00	-6,663.16	
Ring Fenced Donations, Allocated	2,000.00	13,430.00	-11,430.00	
Difid Receipts	0.00	5,741.34	-5,741.34	
CAF Grant	20,000.00	0.00	20,000.00	
US Grant Funding (Latter Day Saints)	21,334.66	22,214.84	-880.18	
AUD Medical Grant	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	
General fundraising (Just Giving Virgin Givingetc)	4,946.02	10,587.43	-5,641.41	
Tax credits on donations (Gift Aid)	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Charities Trust Donations	0.00	480.00	-480.00	
Golf Day	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Lingerie Sales	0.00	124.00	-124.00	
Quiz Nights	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Shrap Sacks	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Aquaman	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Amazon Smile	5.00	25.34	-20.34	
PayPal refund	0.00	589.64	-589.64	
Make up Evenings (Tropic etc)	0.00	380.00	-380.00	
Gourmet Lux	0.00	30.00	-30.00	
Soft Toys & Card sales	0.00	50.00	-50.00	
Virgin Deposit Account Interest	42.72	21.56	21.16	
	52,760.24	63,769.15	-11,008.91	
Payments				
Golf Day	0.00	0.00	0.00	
London Marathon Entry Fee & Sundry Costs	0.00	166.50	-166.50	
Website,computer, Office 365	1,883.29	350.99	1,532.30	
Data Protection Registration	0.00	40.00	-40.00	
Insurance	142.80	142.80	0.00	
Just Giving charges	90.00	216.00	-126.00	
Virgin Giving	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Bank charges	37.00	0.00	37.00	
Difid Refund	1,082.43	0.00	1,082.43	
Media and marketing charges	0.00	10.00	-10.00	
Room hire	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Transfers to Uganda	32,000.00	31,000.00	1,000.00	
Ugandan costs :				
Trustees/volunteers expenses	4,965.58	794.50	4,171.08	
Ambulance,medical equipment & medicine	7,362.25	7,385.18	-22.93	
	47,563.35	40,105.97	7,457.38	
Bank accounts as at December 31 2021	56,389.59	32,726.41		
Bank accounts as at December 31 2022	61,586.48	56,389.59		

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name: Let the Children Hear

On accounts for the year ended: December 2022

Charity no (if any): 1145080

Set out on pages: 1

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 / 12 / 2022**.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. *Delete [ ] if not applicable.*

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

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

Signed: P A Burnham **Date:** 6/9/2023

Name: PATRICIA ANN BURNHAM

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body FCA - ICAEW.

(if any):	
Address:	1 Old Barn Mews, The Green Croxley Green, Rickmansworth WD3 3AH

Section B	**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.	

Let the Children Hear

England & Wales - Charity number 1145080

Accounts

Let the Children Hear

Clinics for Children in Uganda

UK Charity No 1145080 Ugandan NGO No 10054



Annual Report 21







www.letthechildrenhear.com info@letthechildrenhear.com

UK Registered Charity No: 1145080
Ugandan Registered NGO No: 10054

Our vision

Improved hearing outcomes for children aged 0-16 years in developing countries.

Our Mission

To improve the hearing outcomes of children in Uganda by adopting strategies which focus on the prevention and early intervention of childhood hearing loss, to aid social integration, speech and language development and access to education. From its inception, LTCH has created a clear vision, mission, goals and set of objectives which underpin its strategy with the aim of providing a strong foundation on which the project can grow and become sustainable long term.

Our objectives

- To educate health care workers and the public about childhood hearing loss and the importance of prevention and early intervention.
- To increase the number of Health Care Workers trained in the field of Primary Ear and Hearing Care.
- To provide an accessible ear and hearing care service for children and their families.
- To leave a legacy by integrating the service into the country's health care system to provide for sustainability.
- To strengthen maternal and child health care to reduce the incidence and prevalence of childhood hearing loss.

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Our story	4
Impact report	5
The numbers	7
Education	8
Financial review	10
The Future	14
Our partners	16
Thanks, and get involved	17



Welcome

Firstly I would like to welcome you to our annual report for 2021. The past year has been one of change and challenge for the charity.

We were buoyant after the progress and growth of the charity that was made during 2020 mainly, in part, to the securing of a Small Charities Grant from UK AID. In January 2021 last year everything was looking positive, with a second year of funding from DFiD approved and we were in the process of completing the final judiciary review. The UK Government had mooted in the Autumn of 2020 that they were cutting UK Aid but we really didn't believe they would not honour the commitment made as we were just a week away from signing the agreement when they halted all charity projects while they underwent a review of funding.

In May we found out that we had lost the funding. This presented us with some big challenges and tough decisions. We had to drastically scale back the operation, letting some staff go and reducing the hours the clinic was open. We then looked for new funding streams and we showed a great deal of resilience and by working with new partners we ended the year on a more positive note.

Through this period we did continue with our training program, supporting two audiologist who undertook a South African course in Paediatric Audiology. We also have a student who started the audiology diploma. These students have been further supported by a team of expert UK audiologists and hearing specialists who donate their time to mentor and train our staff in Kampala.

We have grown our relationship with the team at Global Partnership for Hearing Health (GPHH) they are now funding our screening programmes across three hospitals. We are also nurturing a new relationship with Pieter at East Africa Children's Project.

We are nothing without the staff and volunteers who have worked hard and remained loyal during this difficult time. I would like to say a big thank you to the LTCH board. Geoff, Elspeth, Kevin and especially Liz and Paul, you have all worked so hard for the charity over the past year. We are a small board and would welcome new members so if you would like to join us please get in touch.

Jude Chapman,
Let the Children Hear









Our story Timeline

2011

Four friends come together in the memory of their friend Ian Hutcheon to form a charity





2012

Our First trip to Uganda

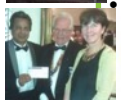



Health talks to parents make it apparent that our services are much needed




2013

- **Ian Hutcheon Clinic for Children (IHCC) is formed**
- Fundraising commences
- Rotary Luton North becomes a big supporter
- Our first annual golf day
- Local schools fund raise
- Website is launched



2014





Mobile clinic

- International Rotary fund a new mobile clinic
- Audiologist from UK visits and delivers training
- Kisenyi Clinic opens










2015

First Clinic

- Kisugu Health Centre
- Maternity and other outpatients' services
- MOU with service provider KCCA
- Trained two staff and resourced clinic






2016




- Out reach
- Schools programme – students screened in our mobile clinic










- Communication drive and TV appearance

2017




New Born Screening Trial

- Audiologists from UK visit and train screeners
- New waiting room is built at Kisenyi thanks to a local businessman
- LTCH spoke at the Hearing conference in Kampala



2018







Capacity building with UK Aid Grant

Kawempe Hospital, Uganda

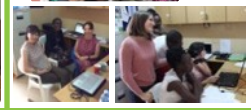
- New-born screeners trained
- School Screener trained
- Paediatric Audiologist trained
- Recruitment – nine employees
- National Referral Hospital-Kawempe
- Data collection started
- MOH – resources-room and staff



2019

- Renamed to Let the Children Hear
- Screener training programme sponsored by Rotary Club
- Partnership with Boston University saw students visit the clinic to develop a monitoring and evaluation plan





2020

COVID IMPACT 21
CLINIC SHUT DURING LOCKDOWN -1MNTH
INCREASED COSTS
PATIENT NON-ATTENDANCE
CURFEW
TRAVEL BAN

- Two Ugandan audiologists are given Paediatric audiology training and complete South African course
- One student enlisted on the Diploma Course in Kampala
- UK Aid budget is cut



2021

Mulago hospital ENT Department

- Facilities for sedation
- Access to screen Children in Mulago
- Future inclusion in the ENT Dpt

Screening programme funding is taken up by

Covid proved a challenge but we met it with innovation and a fantastic team.

2021 was a year of mixed fortunes. There was a sudden halt in grant funding from a major donor and the impact of covid continued which affected project activities throughout the year.

On the upside, emphasis was placed on capacity building of local audiologists for the future expansion of LTCH services and the growth of paediatric audiology in Uganda.

The UK Aid 12 month grant for 2020 was successfully concluded in March 2021. The second year of approved funding was abruptly withdrawn due to the cut in the UK foreign aid budget. As a result of this sudden withdrawal of funding, some project activities had to be terminated such as school screening and others were scaled back. The number of employees was also reduced.

The impact of Covid-19 continued to affect project activities. Activities were reduced due to the continuing curfew in Uganda and all activities were suspended for a month during the second lockdown. Schools remained closed for the second year which resulted in hearing screening of school age children being adapted and carried out in Kisenyi Health Centre and some children's organisations. Many children had been relocated and remained living in the villages where the cost of living is cheaper. Transport costs remained high. All these combined factors continued to affect the numbers of children accessing the screening, audiology and rehabilitation services leading to an increase in the number of children lost to follow up.

From April 2021 onwards following completion of the UK Aid 2020 grant, the project activities that continued were, medical treatments for common ear conditions, health education, newborn hearing screening, training of audiologists, audiology assessments, hearing aid fitting and rehabilitation.

TREATMENTS

The ear clinic continued to operate on a smaller scale. The number of new patients attending the clinic saw a 11% decline with a total of 447 new patients seen. However when it came to follow up appointments, attendance remained low, as in the previous year, due to the impact of covid and high transport costs.

HEALTH EDUCATION

During the project period, health education continued. There was increased knowledge and awareness on childhood hearing loss mainly among health care workers (HCWs) and mothers whose babies were screened . This was mainly influenced by the health education talks among HCW's and 2,451 mothers (of which 80% prior to the talks had never known of hearing screening tests). The talks covered topics such as common causes and possible prevention of childhood hearing loss and increased awareness on the availability and relevance of the services being provided by LTCH and the referral pathways. HCW's serve as our main referral points within the health facilities we are working with so these health talks empower them with knowledge to correctly refer.



NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING

Newborn hearing screening was scaled back to include screening 'at risk babies' in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) of Kawempe Hospital. These babies are babies that spend time in the intensive care unit due to various risk factors that also make them more susceptible to hearing loss, for example, severe jaundice and birth asphyxia. 2,451 babies were screened during this reporting period.

AUDIOLOGY ASSESSMENTS

The audiology clinic continued to operate on a part time basis. LTCH's experienced paediatric audiologist worked with the younger cohort of children aged 0-4 years, who required advanced knowledge and skills in audiological assessment. Children aged 5 years and above were seen by two part time audiologists and mentored via Zoom by volunteer UK paediatric audiologists.

195 new cases were seen during the year which was a decline of 45% on the previous year,2020. This was a direct result of the reduction in funding and hence project activities. This in addition to the impact of covid, had an impact on the number of children fitted with hearing aids. A total of 17 new children were fitted during the year.

SPEECH THERAPY

Speech therapy attendance during the year fluctuated and was interrupted during the period of lockdown. However during the last 5 months of the year the attendance improved and 10 children in total, benefitted from improved communication skills.

ICLOUD TECHNOLOGY

During 2021, LTCH made the transition from paper-based records to an electronic medical record system (EMR). The outreach EMR is a charitable organisation formed by a group of UK GP's. The system is for use in developing countries and is free of charge.

This transition has streamlined the patient record system and has complemented the zoom trainings and mentoring of audiologists, making it easier to discuss individual cases and their management. It also enables remote scrutiny of records by the UK audiology and medical team for quality assurance purposes.

In addition to the EMR system, the appointment system also went digital. This can also be accessed remotely by the UK team for monitoring and reporting purposes.

Both systems are free of charge; have provided very cost-effective patient management systems for LTCH and have transformed and improved the management of patient data. Not all patient data has been transferred to the EMR system immediately, only some of the audiology clinic patients. This is very time consuming and is generally done by some of the UK audiologists and Project Adviser when time permits. All audiologists, clinic clerks and project managers have received initial training. Further training and additions to the system are ongoing.

Liz Choudhury
Operation Advisor



THE NUMBERS

2,451 New-born babies screened



447 children managed and treated for ear infections



17 New fittings for hearing aids



1,294 pupils were screened for hearing loss



195 New cases and

317 Follow-ups – Children assessed for hearing loss and appropriate intervention given



Education

Health Talks & Training

2021 EDUATION & TRAINING

Training Audiologist and screeners is vital for us to grow a robust hearing clinic in Uganda

During this project period, there was a lot of emphasis put on training of Audiologists both internally via zoom with support of the UK audiology team and externally through the various sponsorship programmes.

Prior to 2021, LTCH only had one full time trained paediatric audiologist and this restricted the number of patients that could be seen. She was supported by other audiologists who worked on a locum basis. The clinic has many younger children attending for assessment and they have additional complex medical needs that requires audiologists to have paediatric skills in assessing them. Many of the locally qualified audiologists have little paediatric knowledge and lack experience in paediatric audiology.

One audiologist and One speech therapist were sponsored for a 6-month paediatric audiology course with Eduplex training Institute in Pretoria, South Africa. The course received sponsorship from the ENT UK Global Health Grant and The Oswal Pharmacists, UK. This training provided a robust six-month online theory component and later a practical component in Pretoria. This training has capacity built the number of audiologists working in the clinic and most importantly built the confidence and equipped the audiologists with knowledge and skills in paediatric audiology to better manage and handle the increasing number of younger children attending the clinic.

Internal training and mentoring by UK Audiologists continued throughout this period. 1 diploma level audiology student sponsored via LTCH started her 18 month course and is doing her internship with LTCH. She attended the clinic one day a week for practical training and mentoring via zoom. On completion of her training in 2022 and as part of her sponsorship agreement, she will work for LTCH for 2 years.

Ongoing mentoring and joint clinics via zoom with all the audiologists continued on a regular basis. This provided practical and theoretical support during the clinic sessions. In addition, it enabled assessment of the services being provided for the purposes of quality assurance.





Financial review

2021 FINANCIAL REVIEW

Funding remains our biggest challenge

Incoming resources

LTCH's total income during the year was **£63,769** 2020: £60,648) a 5% increase on 2020. Income, except for interest on funds held on deposit, was split between the residual UK Government funding which has now been discontinued, new US grant funding from The Church of Latter-Day Saints, voluntary donations and fund-raising activities as shown in the following table:

	Year ended 31 December 2021			Year ended 31 December 2020		
	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £
Income						
DFiD Grant	**5,741**	-	5,741	**44,550**	-	44,550
US GRANT	**22,215**	-	22,215	**-**	-	-
Donation – general	**10,095**	10,095	-	**5,229**	5,229	-
Donations – restricted	**13,430**	-	13,430	**-**	-	-
Fundraising activities	**12,266**	12,266	-	**10,790**	10,790	-
Interest	**22**	22	-	**80**	80	-
	63,769	**22,383**	**41,386**	**60,649**	**16,099**	**44,550**

A further breakdown of our general fundraising activities

	Year ended 31 December 2021			Year ended 31 December 2020		
Fundraising	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £
General fundraising	10,587	10,587	-	9,029	9,029	-
Charities Trust	480	480	-	720	720	-
Gift Aid	-	-	-	0	-	-
Fundraising events	584	584	-	1,041	1,041	-
Miscellaneous	615	615	-	0	-	-
	12,266	**12,266**	**-**	**10,790**	**10,790**	**-**

Our largest source of income, this year, was from the US Church of Latter-Day Saints, organised by the Global Partnership for Hearing Health (GPHH) which replaced the DFiD grant which was discontinued due to UK Government cut backs. This replacement funding will allow for the continuation of the expansion initiative in Kampala in 2022. Due to the discontinuation of the DFiD funding, Paul and Liz Choudhury, secured additional replacement monies to fund specific initiatives, previously funded by DFiD. The result of this being that overall funding for the year increased by 5% (£3,121) on the previous year. General donations and fund-raising events also increased this year compared to the previous year's income following the end of the Covid restrictions. Except for specific funding applications, we seek to raise grant funding on an unrestricted basis, so that it may be applied where most needed.

Donations from individuals by regular standing order have declined slightly from the level in 2020.

We benefit from Gift Aid on most of the regular donations we receive via Just Giving.

2021 FINANCIAL REVIEW

Funding remains our biggest challenge

Resources expended

During the year, LTCH expended a total of **£40,106** (2020: £57,818) a reduction of 30% on 2020, as shown in the following table:

	Year ended 31 December 2021			Year ended 31 December 2020		
Expenditure	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £
Ugandan Funding[1]	**38,385**	19,214	19,171	**49,169**	10,169	39,000
Fundraising costs	**167**	167	-	**444**	444	-
Administration costs	**759**	759	-	**3,311**	3,311	-
Trustee monitoring	**795**	795		**4,894**	4,894	-
	40,106	**20,935**	**19,171**	**57,818**	**18,818**	**39,000**

1.Including money transfer costs

As in most previous years, the bulk of expenditure is committed directly to the project in Kampala. Funding decreased considerably (30%) this year due to the withdrawal of the UK Dfid grant. This has caused us to temporarily reduce our programme and staffing levels, in Uganda whilst we waited for the new funding from The Church of Latter-Day Saints. This funding came in towards the end of the year and will enable us to again expand our programme in 2022.

Fund raising and Trustee visit costs declined significantly due to the impact of Covid.

Administration costs were lower than the previous year as we used the hiatus caused by Covid, in the previous year, to overhaul the charities website and branding. We are now better placed to apply for future direct grant funding and submitted a number of grant applications throughout the year.

As a small charity run entirely by volunteers, we strive to minimise our expenditure on items other than direct project costs. Our fundraising cost solely comprised the entrance fee for The London Marathon.

Other than the costs for media and marketing our administration costs were only £759 for insurances, Just Giving subscriptions, internet, and bank charges.

Inspection of accounts

As our income for the year exceeded £25,000, we are required to have our accounts inspected by an independent examiner. This service has been provided on a pro bono basis.

Reserves policy

LTCH's reserves policy is, subject to exceptional circumstances, to maintain a minimum reserve of £6,000 or three months anticipated committed expenditure, whichever is the lower. On 31 December 2021, we had unrestricted reserves of £16,253 (2020: £16,231) held in a Virgin Money Interest Bearing Charity Account which is more than sufficient to cover three months of committed expenditure at current levels.

Surplus funds are held in the Virgin Charity Account and although interest rates are low, the Trustees do not consider it appropriate to invest funds where there is a risk of capital depreciation.

2021 FINANCIAL REVIEW

Fundraising

Fundraising has remained a challenge with covid making many of our large events virtually impossible. We again didn't hold out golf day or the Bollywood night. These plans are still in the pipeline. However some people came forward and took on great personal challenges to raise funds for us.

Nathan Choudhry ran the London Marathon in October and Sam Wilson, Mike Lewis and Andrea Dragoescu ran the Virtual Marathon. Between them they raised over £5,200.

Kevin Davey, who is never far from his trusty bike, devised his own challenge and not wishing to just put himself through this test of endurance he dragged Toni along. The challenge was to see how far they could cycle in 24 hours. Kevin and Toni departed from London and ended in Sheringham via Windsor, Leamington and East coast travelling an amazing 279 miles and raising £1,681.25.

On behalf of the charity, I would like to say a massive thank you to all these super humans for not only their **hard work,** grit and determination but also for raising funds for us it really does make a huge difference.

Unfortunately, for 2022 the London marathon has decided not to run its charity Ballot so we will not be able to enter any candidates into it.

	Year ended Dec 31 2021 £	Year ended Dec 31 2020 £	Variance In period £
Receipts			
General Donations, Unallocated	10,095.00	5,229.10	4,865.90
Ring Fenced Donations, Allocated	13,430.00	0.00	13,430.00
Dfid Receipts	5,741.34	44,550.03	-38,808.69
US Grant Funding (Latter Day Saints)	22,214.84	0.00	22,214.84
General fundraising (Just Giving Virgin Givingetc)	10,587.43	9,028.81	1,558.62
Tax credits on donations (Gift Aid)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Charities Trust Donations	480.00	720.00	-240.00
Lingerie Sales	124.00	0.00	124.00
Quiz Nights	0.00	630.00	-630.00
Amazon Smile	25.34	11.55	13.79
PayPal refund	589.64	0.00	589.64
Make up Evenings (Tropic etc)	380.00	337.60	42.40
Gourmet Lux	30.00	0.00	30.00
Soft Toys & Card sales	50.00	62.00	-12.00
Trustee Expenses Refund	0.00	0.00	0.00
	63,747.59	60,569.09	3,178.50
Virgin Deposit Account Interest	21.56	79.42	-57.86
	63,769.15	**60,648.51**	**3,120.64**

	Year ended Dec 31 2021 £	Year ended Dec 31 2020 £	Variance In period £
Payments			
London Marathon Entry Fee & Sundry Costs	166.50	444.00	-277.50
Website,computer, Office 365	350.99	248.86	102.13
Data Protection Registration	40.00	0.00	40.00
Insurance	142.80	155.80	-13.00
Just Giving charges	216.00	216.00	0.00
Virgin Giving	0.00	180.00	-180.00
Bank charges	0.00	10.00	-10.00
Media and marketing charges	10.00	2,500.00	-2,490.00
Transfers to Uganda	31,000.00	39,000.00	-8,000.00
Ugandan costs :			
Trustees/volunteers expenses	794.50	4,894.44	-4,099.94
Ambulance,medical equipment & medicine	7,385.18	10,168.53	-2,783.35
	40,105.97	**57,817.63**	**-17,711.66**
Bank accounts as at December 31 2020	32,726.41	29,895.53	
Bank accounts as at December 31 2021	**56,389.59**	**32,726.41**	


IS NOT T
OMWANA WO AYINZA OBUTADAMU
OBULWADDE BWAMATU NATAA

The Future



Summary and future direction

2021 had been a challenging year due to various restrictions namely a major funding cut and the impact of covid. Because of this the project had to adapt and operate at a reduced capacity. However, LTCH's project model is based on future sustainability and integration of the audiology service within the national health care system of Uganda. This was very much the focus of direction in 2021 through capacity building of audiologists which in the short term will service LTCH clinic but in the long term will increase the pool of paediatric audiologists available to work in other health facilities in Uganda.

LTCH continued to provide an ongoing paediatric audiological training programme for local audiologists which was very successful. These audiologists continued to work in the clinic on a part time basis during the year to gain further experience and enhance their skills. Mentoring of their clinics was ongoing and they were very well supported by the various UK audiologists.

As a result of partnership with Mulago National Referral hospital through the MOU with the Ministry of Health, LTCH was able to secure space and extend the audiology services to the ENT paediatric clinic operating every Tuesday. This close working relationship has increased the number of referrals LTCH is receiving from Mulago Hospital. The LTCH audiologist also had access to the hospital theatre which provided support in handling difficult cases where sedation was required prior to audiological assessment. Such cases could not be managed in Kisenyi Health Centre.

In 2022, LTCH will be working with Mulago Hospital to resource a new audiology centre. Integration of the project with support of the hospital administration and the entire ENT department of Mulago Hospital is key to ensuring success and future sustainability.

The future plan over the next 5 -6 years is to embed and integrate the audiology services in the main hospital. In addition by collaborating with government and professional leaders, and by sharing LTCH screening and audiology data, it is hoped that a realistic national plan for implementing hearing screening and a capacity building programme for paediatric audiology in Uganda can be developed.

The introduction of iCloud based technology in the form of an electronic patient medical records system and an appointment system has been very beneficial It's use is still in its infancy but there is scope to maximise its potential in terms of data management and project reporting. With further training, this will be refined over the next year.

At the conclusion of 2021, LTCH secured a grant from Global Partnerships for Hearing Health and Latter-day Saint Charities (LDSC) of USA . This grant was for an infant and early childhood hearing screening programme commencing in 2022.

In summary, 2021 started well but was then followed by a few setbacks in the second quarter of the year.

In the last half of the year progress was being made and there was an upturn as covid restrictions began to relax and some new funding came in for the start of 2022.

In 2022 it is hoped that project activities will increase and the number of new patients will see a steady increase back to pre-covid levels

Paul Choudhury
Medical Advisor

Our Partners



A big thank you to our partners

LTCH continued to manage and engage it's existing partners and key stakeholders including the Ministry of Health, Mulago National Referral Hospital, KCCA and Kawempe National Referral Hospital maintaining continued support for the project activities. This was strengthened through MOUs that were signed with these stakeholders and provision of space in these health facilities to implement the programmes. An additional MOU was created with Nsambya Hospital a not-for-profit hospital who are interested in commencing a newborn screening programme in 2022 for babies in their hospital.



A new partnership was created between LTCH and Global Partnerships for Hearing Health (GPHH) and the Latter Day Saints Charities (LDSC) to work together on an initial 12 month screening project.

LTCH would like to thank our volunteer audiologists in the UK who have contributed to our success in 2021 Pam Layton, Fatima Hashim, Keri Abbott and Vicky Jordan.

We also like to thank all our regular donors, fundraisers, and supporters. Without their continued support, it would not be possible to sustain this project, hence LTCH would like to say a BIG thank you to everyone.

KCCA
KAMPALA CAPITAL CITY AUTHORITY
For a better City

Rotary Club of Kampala

Rotary

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR HEARING HEALTH

eacp
east africa children's project

Get involved



If you would like to....

work with us, fundraise for us or get involved please

email liz@letthechildrenhear.com

Let the Children Hear
Receipts and Payments Account - Year Ended December 31 2021
Draft Accounts

	Year ended Dec 31 2021 £	Year ended Dec 31 2020 £	Variance In period £	Comments
Receipts				
General Donations, Unallocated	10,095.00	5,229.10	4,865.90	
Ring Fenced Donations, Allocated	13,430.00	0.00	13,430.00	
Dfid Receipts	5,741.34	44,550.03	-38,808.69	
US Grant Funding (Latter Day Saints)	22,214.84	0.00	22,214.84	
General fundraising (Just Giving Virgin Givingetc)	10,587.43	9,028.81	1,558.62	
Tax credits on donations (Gift Aid)	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Charities Trust Donations	480.00	720.00	-240.00	
Golf Day	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Lingerie Sales	124.00	0.00	124.00	
Quiz Nights	0.00	630.00	-630.00	
Shrap Sacks	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Aquaman	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Amazon Smile	25.34	11.55	13.79	
PayPal refund	589.64			
Make up Evenings (Tropic etc)	380.00	337.60	42.40	
Gourmet Lux	30.00	0.00	30.00	
Soft Toys & Card sales	50.00	62.00	-12.00	
Trustee Expenses Refund	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Virgin Deposit Account Interest	21.56	79.42	-57.86	
	63,769.15	60,648.51	2,531.00	
Payments				
Golf Day	0.00	0.00	0.00	
London Marathon Entry Fee & Sundry Costs	166.50	444.00	-277.50	
Website,computer, Office 365	350.99	248.86	102.13	
Data Protection Registration	40.00	0.00	40.00	
Insurance	142.80	155.80	-13.00	
Just Giving charges	216.00	216.00	0.00	
Virgin Giving	0.00	180.00	-180.00	
Bank charges	0.00	10.00	-10.00	
Media and marketing charges	10.00	2,500.00	-2,490.00	
Room hire	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Transfers to Uganda	31,000.00	39,000.00	-8,000.00	
Ugandan costs :				
Trustees/volunteers expenses	794.50	4,894.44	-4,099.94	
Ambulance,medical equipment & medicine	7,385.18	10,168.53	-2,783.35	
	40,105.97	57,817.63	-17,711.66	
Bank accounts as at December 31 2020	32,726.41	29,895.53		
Bank accounts as at December 31 2021	56,389.59	32,726.41		

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Let the Children Hear		
On accounts for the year ended	December 2021	**Charity no (if any)**	1145080
Set out on pages	1		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2020.

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 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: P A Burnham **Date:** 5/8/2022

Name: PATRICIA ANN BURNHAM

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

Address: 1 Old Barn Mews, The Green, Croxley Green, Rickmansworth, Herts WD3 3AH

Let the Children Hear

England & Wales - Charity number 1145080

Accounts

Let the Children Hear

Clinics for Children in Uganda

UK Charity No 1145080 Ugandan NGO No 10054



Annual Report 20







www.letthechildrenhear.com

info@letthechildrenhear.com

UK Registered Charity No: 1145080
Ugandan Registered NGO No: 10054

Our vision

Improved hearing outcomes for children aged 0-16 years in developing countries.

Our Mission

To improve the hearing outcomes of children in Uganda by adopting strategies which focus on the prevention and early intervention of childhood hearing loss, to aid social integration, speech and language development and access to education. From its inception, LTCH has created a clear vision, mission, goals and set of objectives which underpin its strategy with the aim of providing a strong foundation on which the project can grow and become sustainable long term.

Our objectives

- To educate health care workers and the public about childhood hearing loss and the importance of prevention and early intervention.
- To increase the number of Health Care Workers trained in the field of Primary Ear and Hearing Care.
- To provide an accessible ear and hearing care service for children and their families.
- To leave a legacy by integrating the service into the country's health care system to provide for sustainability.
- To strengthen maternal and child health care to reduce the incidence and prevalence of childhood hearing loss.

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Welcome

Firstly I would like to welcome you to our annual report for 2020. We have had a transformative year and I am very happy to say that we have a wonderful report for you.

At the very beginning of 2020 it would have been hard to image the events that would unfold over the next twelve months.

January 2020 was a very exciting time for the Charity. The team were working in partnership with UK Aid to secure a Small Charities Challenge Fund this allowed us to extend our services, funding more equipment, expand our team and invest in diploma training of one more audiologist.

However, by the end of the March UK lockdown came into force, followed by Ugandan Lockdown which saw the closing of our clinics in Kampala a month later in April. Our Project Adviser will update you on how the charity has faired and the amazing achievements despite the challenges a global pandemic presents.

The year was unprecedented to say the least but even though the schools remained shut we still screened school age children in children's homes and health centre around Kampala. We have trained and worked with some fantastic people over the year and I am cannot praise highly enough the hard work our staff and volunteers have put in.

Always at the centre of what we do is the children we see and treat. Hearing impairment places Ugandan children at a huge disadvantage in comparison to their hearing peers. Early detection and intervention is paramount in ensuring they get the best start in life, can learn to communicate, go to school and realise their true potential.
We are working very hard with the local authority to establish a national paediatric hearing centre in Uganda which will eventually be taken on, funded and run by the local authorities. We are not there yet but UK aid funding has allowed us to make great strides towards it.

Funding remains a challenge for a grass roots charity like our own and we are very fortunate to have had some very generous donations by individuals and organisation over the years. I would like to this opportunity to thank all of those who help us to continue our work in Kampala. I can assure you that the charity spends donations wisely and every penny goes where it is most needed.









Our story Timeline

2011

Four friends come together in the memory of their friend Ian Hutcheon to form a charity







2012

Our First trip to Uganda



Health talk to parents make it apparent that our services are much needed





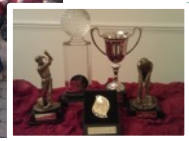
2013

- **Ian Hutcheon Clinic for Children (IHCC) is formed**
- Fundraising commences
- Rotary Luton North becomes a big supporter
- Our first annual golf day
- Local schools fund raise
- Website is launched





IHCC
let the children hear





2014

IHCC
Let the children hear

Mobile clinic

- International Rotary fund a new mobile clinic
- Audiologist from UK visits and delivers training
- Kisenyi Clinic opens





















2015

First Clinic

- Kisugu Health Centre
- Maternity and other outpatients' services
- MOU with service provider KCCA
- Trained two staff and resourced clinic









2016





- Out reach
- Schools programme – students screened in our mobile clinic











- Communication drive and TV appearance

2017





New Born Screening Trial

- Audiologists from UK visit and train screeners
- New waiting room is build a Kisenyi thanks to a local businessman
- LTCH spoke at the Hearing conference in Kampala







2018

Let the Children Hear
Clinics for Children in Uganda

- Renamed to Let the Children Hear
- Screener training programme sponsored by Rotary Club
- Partnership with a Boston University saw students come to the clinic to develop a monitoring and evaluation plan









2019





UKaid
from the British people

Capacity building with UK Aid Grant
Kawempe Hospital, Uganda

- Newborn screeners trained
- School Screener trained
- Paediatric Audiologist trained
- Recruitment – 9 employees
- National Referral Hospital-Kawempe
- Data collection started
- MOH – resources-room & staff



Covid proved a challenge but we met it with innovation and a fantastic team.

The award of the UK Aid grant in 2020 enabled the charity to increase its resources to achieve the outcome of increased access to quality ear and hearing health services for children. An additional 3 members of staff were employed, and 4 pieces of vital equipment were purchased for the audiology clinic.

The emergence of the Covid pandemic meant that the charity had to revise its targets in some areas. The programme was suspended for two months during lockdown in Uganda. With the schools being closed for most of the year the charity adapted the school screening programme to screen a smaller number of school age children in children's homes and health facilities. High transport costs post lockdown also affected access to the clinics. However, in most project areas the targets exceeded expectations. This was attributed to the hard work of the team in Uganda under the direction of the Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant. The new-born hearing screening programme performed particularly well. Started at Kawempe National Referral Hospital it included babies in the Neonatal Intensive Care, thereby targeting those babies most at risk of hearing loss.

Overall the two hearing screening programmes saw a large cohort (7,004) children having access to early intervention services. 3,376 new-born babies were screened and 2,562 school aged children were screened.

From the screening programmes, 119 babies and 47 school aged children were referred to the Audiology Clinic for further audiological assessment. 426 new cases in total were referred to the Audiology Clinic with most of the remaining referrals coming from other health facilities including Mulago National Referral Hospital. 32 children were fitted with hearing aids and 25 demonstrated a combination of improved hearing levels, behaviour change and improved school performance.12 children were supported with speech therapy and 9 demonstrated improved auditory skills, clear articulation, and phonation. 8 children were supported with sign language therapy and 6 demonstrated improved confidence, social interaction and communication skills and some have been enrolled into deaf schools.

640 new cases attended the Ear Clinic and were managed and treated for ear infections and other common ear diseases. Health education is a component of all programme activities particularly at the point of screening. 3,376 new mothers received health education in addition to health education talks for 89 health care workers 55 teachers and 243 school children. The outcome of health education has seen a positive behaviour change among key stakeholders as verified by the increased number of referrals to the audiology clinic, earlier intervention, and a good follow up rate of 67% for babies referred from new-born screening to the clinic for further assessment.



The training programme included new-born hearing screening and paediatric audiology training. Four new-born hearing screeners were trained in new-born hearing screening. All passed as competent screeners at the end of the course and were subsequently employed as new-born screeners in Kawempe Hospital and Kisenyi Health Centre.

Five audiologists were trained in paediatric audiology and four were able to have exposure and practical hands-on experience in audiological assessment of children and were retained to work as part of the team. As one of the strategies of increasing the local capacity in terms of trained audiologists, one student has been sponsored to study the 18 month Diploma Course in Audiology in Kampala and is being supported and mentored by the charity to develop her knowledge and practical skills in paediatric audiology. Following completion of the course she will work for the charity to gain further experience.

2020 saw the development of additional partnerships with key stakeholders, namely, the Ministry of Health and Kawempe National Referral Hospital to work towards future sustainability and integration of the new-born hearing screening programme within the health care system of the hospital.

In conclusion, 2020 was a milestone in the development of the charity. It was a very successful year not only in terms of project activities but also in respect to the structure, governance and operational systems of the organisation which were all strengthened to enable us to become a more effective and efficient small grassroots charity.

Liz Choudhury
Operation Advisor









THE NUMBERS

3,376 New-born babies screened



640 children managed and treated for ear infections

89 Healthcare works, **55** teachers, **243** pupils and **3,376** mothers received health education



426 children assessed for hearing loss and appropriate intervention provided

2,562 pupils were screened for hearing loss



7,004 direct beneficiaries, 6,052 (86.41%) vulnerable and marginalized including 240 persons with disabilities, 72 refugees, 3,150 rural poor and 2,590 Peri-urban poor.



Education

Health Talks & Training

2020 EDUATION & TRAINING

HEALTHCARE TALKS

At the end of the project, there was increased knowledge and awareness on childhood hearing loss among the various beneficiaries including health care workers (HCWs), mothers, teachers, and pupils. This was mainly influenced by the health education talks among 89 HCWs, 55 teachers, 243 pupils and 215 mothers (of which 80% prior to the talks had never known of hearing screening tests). The talks covered topics such as common causes and possible prevention of childhood hearing loss and increased awareness on the availability and relevance of the services being provided by LTCH and the referral pathways.

SCREENERS

In addition LTCH saw a number of key stakeholders including the Ministry of Health, Mulago National Referral Hospital and Kawempe National Referral Hospital establishing buy-in and coming on board to support the project activities. This was strengthened through MOUs that were signed with these stakeholders and provision of space in these health facilities to implement the programmes. LTCH trains not only their own screeners but also staff at these hospitals so they can develop their screening programmes with the support of equipment from LTCH.

AUDIOLOGIST

In addition to screeners LTCH has funded a Diploma Student to study Audiology. The two year course will prepare them for joining the clinic as a junior audiologist.

We hope to start a second student next year to future proof our operation. However lockdown delayed the commencement of the course by over six months so we are now behind with this sponsorship programme.

Training Audiologist and screeners is vital for us to grow a robust hearing clinic in Uganda





Healthcare talks to teachers and parents are a big part of our awareness education

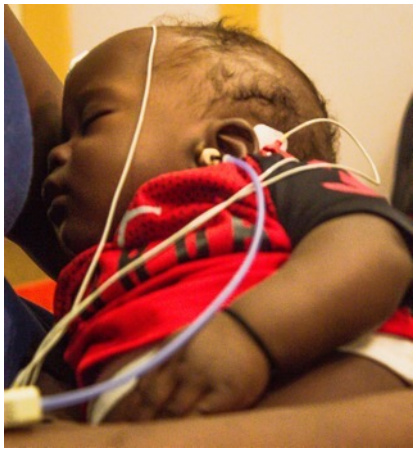




Screening

New-born baby at Kawempe Hospital.

EARLY INTERVENTION



Tendo Frida
Age: 3 months

She has 2 older brothers.

One of the brothers is deaf and dumb

Tendo's mother, Mpirwa Rhoda explains…

"At the age of 5 months, Tendo's older brother hardly responded to sound in the way a normal children of his age did. For example, if I call to sooth him he would continue to cry however, if touched he would stop. When I informed his father, he rubbished it saying the child was still young.

By the time I sought medical attention at Mulago national referral hospital he was about 10 months. At Mulago, several tests were done, and I was asked to return after 2 weeks. When I returned, he was about 11 months, Mulago then referred us to a private medical facility in Wandegeya.

At the private clinic, I was asked for some money to have tests done and when I asked my husband for the money, he declined to give it to me. While I was seeking help for our son, the community had learnt that our son had a hearing challenge and had already labelled him deaf and dumb. This was worsened by my husband's peers who kept on telling him that we should stop spending money because once one is deaf and dumb nothing can be done.

We ended up taking him to the school of children with disabilities in Entebbe and that is where he is to date. In spite of noticing his challenge at an early age, hearing loss myths coupled with financial challenges did our son a disservice.

At this point I was so heart broken, depressed, and immediately developed fear of giving birth again. It took me 7 years to conceive our little girl Tendo. However when Tendo was an month old I noticed she had a similar challenge as her elder brother. When crying, however much I would clap or call her, she would not respond. By 3 months, I bought hand shakers, however much I would shake them she would not stop crying but the moment I would touch her, she would keep quiet. At this point, my memories came back. My heart was racing but this time I was determined to have solutions early enough."



EARLY INTERVENTION continued

One day while doing shopping in downtown Kampala, I saw 'Let The Children Hear' (LTCH) ambulance with information about child hearing loss.

I was then directed to the clinic. The new-born hearing screener asked me a lot of question about Tendo. I also disclosed that her brother had similar signs and he is currently deaf and dumb. Several tests were done, and I was asked to return after one week.

Further tests were done by LTCH Audiologist confirming that Tendo had hearing loss but she was quick to encourage me not to worry because something was going to be done about her situation. At this point she informed me that she was going to give Tendo hearing aids and that I should continue to be speaking to her while monitoring her responses to sound.

Furthermore, she asked me to bring our her brother for assessment, a request that I accepted and once they got holidays, I made sure that I brought him.

As of today, there is some noticeable changes she responds by moving her head when called. I believe the small change am noticing right now is because of the hearing aids. I am going to continue monitoring her as well as informing the clinic about her progress.

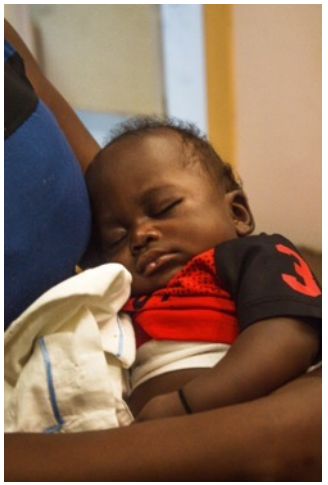
My husband's reaction this time was very positive and supportive to the extent that he turned up at the clinic and we received the news about Tendo's condition together.

I encourage parents to seek medical help and take their children to be assessed immediately after birth.



Before visiting LTCH, I thought that children's hearing can only be screened from at least 5 months, but now am informed it can be from birth.

Finally, I would like to thank the staff of LTCH for caring and being patient. They are good at making follow ups, honouring appointments and are supportive with offering transport and a free service which is not the case with other health facilities.





Rehabilitation

Speech Therapy and Sign Language

Speech Therapy



Jeremiah Jalapa
Age: 9 years

He has one sister and two brothers and he is the third child

Jalapa's mother, Judith Mugoda, explains…

"Jeremiah was born with multiple disabilities. At the age of 9 months, I noticed that he could hardly hear or made any noise, even when crying you would only notice tears rolling.

He hardly spoke to the extent that even at my workplace the school management had asked me to stop taking him along with me but rather take him to 'the school of the dumb and deaf where he belonged'.

While we managed to raise funds to have his flat feet operated upon in Entebbe, we could not afford the money requested to have his hands operated too. Then when I was out I saw the LTCH ambulance so I approach the team. They asked me a lot of questions including my child's birth history and there after I was requested to visit their Kisenyi clinic for tests to be conducted.

When I got to Kisenyi, a number of tests were done by the Audiologist and I was required to return for further tests but I unfortunately a problem meant I had to leave Kampala, along with Jeremiah, and go back my village for a period of 5 years. When we returned in 2020, his father contacted the clinic again and LTCH gave us another opportunity for the child to be helped. More tests were done, and we were informed that he had a hearing challenge. The audiologist then informed us that he was going to be given hearing aids and enrolled for speech therapy free of charge to enable him not only to hear but also be able to develop speech.

But now I thank God that through speech therapy, Jeremiah has greatly improved. He is social, speaks loudly, calls his siblings by name, can name animals among other things. He is a more confident child. I brought Jeremiah once a week to the clinic for speech therapy.

I encourage parents to love their children because all children are a gift from God. I was patient and never gave up on my child. When I gave birth, people turned up under the pretext of coming to congratulate me upon giving birth, but the truth was they came to see and wonder what I had given birth too. A lot was being spoken in the community about my child. It was heart breaking but I believed in my child and I was not prepared to turn a blind eye irrespective of his disabilities.

SIGN LANGUAGE



Maria Nakibule Age: 7 Years

Maria's grandmother, Viola Nakyanzi, explains…

MARIA was born a very small girl weighing about 1 kg. At the age of 2 years, she was assessed for hearing in a private facility and diagnosed with hearing loss, however her mother was unable to afford the hearing aids.

Then she made 5 years, her mother brought her at my place and requested me to find her a school for the deaf and dumb.

Maria did not know anything about sign language. Communication was a challenge. She was using local sign language to signal what she wanted.

In addition, she was shy and introvert.

A friend referred me to one of the schools around Mulago and we were asked to pay UGX: 250,000 which we did not have. So while she was staying home, I kept on looking for opportunities/good Samaritans to support her education.

Someone then referred me to a certain gentleman in Lubaga (Director of the Deaf Development Foundation). This gentleman supported us a lot including referring us to LTCH.

When I got to LTCH clinic at Kisenyi, the staff were very hospitable. I was asked about the child's medical history including my residence. Tests were then carried out and I was informed that Maria is profoundly deaf and that she was going to be enrolled for sign language therapy, an opportunity that I consented to. I was also requested to join the sessions.

The results, including any problems encountered and how they were overcome.

Through sign language sessions, Maria has learnt and expanded her sign language vocabulary. She can even enrol for P.1. when resources are availed (scholastic materials including school fees). She is now familiar with sign language. She can read alphabets using sign language from A-Z, same to naming animals and requesting for any support.

I implore parents not to discriminate against such children because there is help available and Maria is a testament to that.



Financial review

2020 FINANCIAL REVIEW

Funding remains our biggest challenge

Incoming resources

LTCH's total income during the year was **£60,648** (2019: £15,138). Income, except for interest on funds held on deposit, was split between UK Government funding, voluntary donations and fund-raising activities

	Year ended 31 December 2020			Year ended 31 December 2019		
	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £
Income						
Dfid Grant	44,550	-	44,550	0	-	-
Donations	5,229	5,229	-	237	237	-
Fundraising activities	10,790	10,790	-	14,781	14,781	-
Interest	80	80	-	120	120	-
	60,649	**16,099**	**44,550**	**15,138**	**15,138**	**-**

A further breakdown of our general fundraising activities

	Year ended 31 December 2020			Year ended 31 December 2019		
Fundraising	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £
General fundraising	9,029	9,029	-	9,793	9,793	-
Charities Trust	720	720	-	720	720	-
Gift Aid	0	-	-	30	30	-
Fundraising events	1,041	1,041	-	4,064	4,064	-
Miscellaneous	0	-	-	174	174	-
	10,790	**10,790**	**-**	**14,781**	**14,781**	**-**

Our largest source of income, this year, was from the DFID government grant for the expansion initiative in Kampala.
General donations and fund-raising events declined this year compared to the previous year's income due to the impact of Covid.
Except for specific funding applications, we seek to raise grant funding on an unrestricted basis, so that it may be applied where most needed.

Donations from individuals by regular standing order continued at a similar level to 2019.

We benefit from Gift Aid on most of the regular donations we receive.

2020 FINANCIAL REVIEW

Funding remains our biggest challenge

Resources expended

During the year, LTCH expended a total of **£57,818** (2019: £37,556)

	Year ended 31 December 2020			Year ended 31 December 2019		
Expenditure	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £
Ugandan Funding	49,169	10,169	39,000	27,620	27,620	-
Fundraising costs	444	444	-	1,244	1,244	-
Administration costs	3,311	3,311	-	1,630	1,630	-
Trustee monitoring	4,894	4,894		7,062	7,062	-
	57,818	**18,818**	**39,000**	**37,556**	**37,556**	**-**

As in most previous years, the bulk of expenditure is committed directly to the project in Kampala. The funding increased considerably (78%) this year thanks to the UK funding that allowed us to expand the programme in Uganda. Fund raising and Trustee visit costs declined significantly due to the impact of Covid.

Administration costs were higher than the previous year due to increased marketing and media costs. We took the decision to use the hiatus caused by Covid to overhaul the charity's website and branding to enable us to be better placed to apply for future direct grant funding.

As a small charity run entirely by volunteers, we strive to minimise our expenditure on items other than direct project costs.
Our fundraising cost solely comprised the entrance fee for The London Marathon.

Other than the costs for media and marketing our administration costs were only £811 for insurances, Just Giving subscriptions, internet, and bank charges.

Inspection of accounts

As our income for the year exceeded £25,000, we are required to have our accounts inspected by an independent examiner. This service has been provided on a pro bono basis. The inspector's report is available on request

2020 FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

LTCH's reserves policy is, subject to exceptional circumstances, to maintain a minimum reserve of £6,000 or three months' committed expenditure, whichever is the lower. On 31 December 2020, we had unrestricted reserves of £16,310 (2019: £16,152) held in a Virgin Money Interest Bearing Charity Account which is more than sufficient to cover three months of committed expenditure at current levels.

Surplus funds are held in the Virgin Charity Account and although interest rates are low, the Trustees do not consider it appropriate to invest funds where there is a risk of capital depreciation.

	Year ended Dec 31 2020 £	Year ended Dec 31 2019 £	Variance In period £
Receipts			
Donations	5,229.10	237.30	4,991.80
Dfid Receipts	44,550.03	0.00	44,550.03
General fundraising (Just Giving Virgin Givingetc)	9,028.81	9,792.56	-763.75
Tax credits on donations (Gift Aid)	0.00	29.98	-29.98
Charities Trust Donations	720.00	719.25	0.75
Golf Day	0.00	2,520.00	-2,520.00
Fashion Show (Lingerie show)	0.00	437.00	-437.00
Quiz Nights	630.00	0.00	630.00
Shrap Sacks	0.00	150.00	-150.00
Aquaman	0.00	702.08	-702.08
Amazon Smile	11.55	13.55	-2.00
Make up Evenings (Tropic etc)	337.60	242.20	95.40
Soft Toys & Card sales	62.00	0.00	62.00
Trustee Expenses Refund	0.00	174.00	-174.00
	60,569.09	15,017.92	45,551.17
Virgin Deposit Account Interest	79.42	120.46	-41.04
	60,648.51	15,138.38	45,510.13

	Year ended Dec 31 2020 £	Year ended Dec 31 2019 £	Variance In period £
Payments			
Golf Day	0.00	1,244.00	-1,244.00
London Marathon Entry Fee	444.00	0.00	444.00
Website,computer, Office 365	248.86	596.43	-347.57
Data Protection Registration	0.00	40.00	-40.00
Insurance	155.80	129.80	26.00
Just Giving charges	216.00	511.75	-295.75
Virgin Giving	180.00	0.00	180.00
Bank charges	10.00	302.00	-292.00
Media and marketing charges	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00
Room hire	0.00	50.00	-50.00
Transfers to Uganda	39,000.00	26,398.00	12,602.00
Ugandan costs :			
Visits from trustees/volunteers	4,894.44	7,062.00	-2,167.56
Ambulance,equipment & medicine	10,168.53	1,221.59	8,946.94
	57,817.63	37,555.57	20,262.06
Bank accounts as at December 31 2019	29,895.53	52,312.72	
Bank accounts as at December 31 2020	32,726.41	29,895.53	


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The Future



Summary and future direction

The charity's project model is based on future sustainability and integration of the paediatric screening, audiology, and rehabilitation services within the national health care system of Uganda.

Paediatric audiology is a specialist area of health care and as such should be integrated within the ENT dept of a hospital alongside rehabilitation services such as speech and language therapy.

A Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Ministry of Health in 2020 has facilitated talks with Mulago National Referral Hospital in Kampala. The future aim is for the charity to work in partnership with the hospital to plan a strategy for developing a paediatric audiology and rehabilitation centre within the ENT department of the hospital over the next 2-5 years. Currently there are no paediatric audiology services available at the hospital and children are only able to access quality audiology services within the community health care setting i.e Kisenyi health centre.

Capacity building of screeners and audiologists will continue in line with this expansion and future external funding will be sought in addition to some funding coming from within the hospital.

In 2021 it is hoped that the charity will establish new partnerships with grant funders.

One such partnership which has been confirmed is with Global Partners for Hearing Health (GPPH). This grant will focus on expansion of new-born hearing screening and school screening and for the extension of screening services to include early infants 0-3 yrs.

In addition to the screening programmes, the partnership proposal will also involve the charity and GPPH collaborating with government and professional leaders to develop a national plan for implementing hearing screening for all infants and young children in Uganda.









Our Partners



A big thank you to our partners

The Government of Uganda (GoU) LTCH is working with local government, Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) and the Ministry of Health (MOH) to implement the project in various health care facilities and schools. This has provided an excellent platform for delivery of our services. We hope that this will pave the way for future expansion and consequently sustainability of the project through the integration of policies and services within the national health care system of Uganda.

UK AID and the British People – your funding this year has enable us to have a big impact even in a global pandemic

Luton Rotary North
With special thanks to Paul Denton for continued support and guidance.

Our volunteer Audiologist Pam Layton and Elham Hashim.

To Pat Burnham who audits our accounts at no cost!

To Stephanie and Michael for their continued support and encouragement.

To Ros Thomas for her generous donation of £5,000.

ENT UK ,The Oshwal Pharmacists (TOP) and the Sule family for their generous donations.

To all our other fundraisers, sponsors and supporters your generosity make a huge difference.

Our Trustees who work give their time freely and work tirelessly for the charity.

To our friends at The Global Partnership for Hearing Health we look forward to growing our partnership over the coming years.

KCCA KAMPALA CAPITAL CITY AUTHORITY For a better City

UKaid from the British people

Rotary Club of Kampala

Rotary

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR HEARING HEALTH

Get involved



If you would like to....

work with us, fundraise for us or get involved please

email info@letthechildrenhear.com

Let the Children Hear
Receipts and Payments Account - Year Ended December 31 2020
Final Accounts

	Year ended Dec 31 2020 £	Year ended Dec 31 2019 £	Variance In period £	Comments
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CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name Let the Children Hear		
On accounts for the year ended	December 2020	**Charity no (if any)**	1145080
Set out on pages	1 (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2020.

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 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:	PABurnham.	**Date:**	28/06/2021
Name:	PATRICIA ANN BURNHAM		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	FCA Institute of Chartered Accountants in England + Wales		
Address:	1 Old Bath Mews, The Green Croxley Green Rickmansworth, WD3 3AH		