

DORCAS INTERNATIONAL

England & Wales · Charity number 1149559

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Trust

Registered 2012-10-31

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Earsham Lodge
Church Road
Earsham
Bungay
Suffolk
NR35 2TJ

Phone 07853896665

Activities

Objects: THE RELIEF OF POVERTY FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT THROUGH THE PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE TO POOR PEOPLE IN AFRICA.

Activities: Dorcas International works with partners in Africa who work with disadvantaged people to enable them to improve their health and livelihoods, maintain a healthy and independent life and keep their children in school. It does not give grants to other organisations and unsolicited applications may not receive a response.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** AFRICA
- Ghana
- Malawi
- Oxfordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£0	£12,206	-	-
2023-12-31	£0	£6,740	-	-
2022-12-31	£0	£6,740	-	-
2021-12-31	£552	£2,661	-	-
2020-12-31	£32,613	£30,766	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr Polly Mitchell	Chair	2019-06-06
Ruth Evans		2019-06-06

DORCAS INTERNATIONAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1149559

Accounts

Dorcas International

Accounts

For The Year Ended 31 December 2020

**Dorcas International
Reference and Administrative Details**

Charity Name	Dorcas International
Charity number	1149559
Principal Address	Earsham Lodge Church Road Earsham Bungay Suffolk NR35 2TJ
Trustee's	Dr Polly Mitchell Ruth Evans
Accountant	Community Accounting Services Ltd 7 Napoleon Drive Shrewsbury SY3 5PH

**Trustees' Report
of Dorcas International
on the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 2020**

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities published in 2005.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission and is run in accordance with the declaration of Trust.

Trustee selection methods

The Trustees are appointed by existing Trustees.

Objectives and Activities

The main purpose of the charity is the relief of poverty for the public benefit through the provision of assistance to poor people in Africa.

The charity has a partnership with Malawi Girl Guides to promote menstrual health improvements for Guides in Malawi.

The charity also implements networking and educating on behalf of improved menstrual health for poor women in Africa.

The charity does not make grants to individuals or other organisations except where a specific partnership has been formed.

The charity is run by volunteers and uses both volunteer and paid consultants where necessary.

Achievements and Performance in the year

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic limited the opportunities for Dorcas International to continue its work distributing menstrual cups and menstrual health educational work in Malawi — our ongoing project in Malawi Security Prison had to be put on hold and further work in schools or with the Girl Guides was not possible. However, Dorcas International was able to contribute some funds to the Association of Persons with Albinism in Malawi (APAM), in order to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 within and by this very disadvantaged group of people and their families.

Dorcas International focussed its efforts in 2020 on work that could be completed remotely and digitally. We received a significant grant from the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) to carry out a research project into Menstrual Language. This project aimed to find out how language is used around menstruation in three different UN languages – French (in Europe and West Africa), Spanish (in Europe and South America) and English (in UK, South Asia and East Africa) – in order to assess general knowledge, linguistic associations and social attitudes to menstrual health. 1633 people were surveyed, and the research was designed and facilitated by an international team of researchers. The findings of this research can be used by Dorcas International and other organisations working in the area of menstrual health to inform their future work and communications. The final report can be found here: <https://menstrualcupcoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Menstrual-Language-Report-20-04-21.pdf>.

Summary of key findings:

- Women across the world use the colloquial words “règles” (French), “regla” (Spanish) and “period” (English) to refer to menstruation. Communication from menstrual health organisations and charities should use these words rather than more formal language in their communication.
- Women across the world do not understand the acronyms commonly used by menstrual health organisations. These should be avoided in communications where possible.
- The language of “menstrual health” has more positive associations than “menstrual hygiene” which can imply that periods are dirty.
- There is limited awareness of menstrual cups outside of Europe and particularly in Africa. Information about all period products, including cups, should be included in menstrual health education.

The report will be disseminated and publicised by the Menstrual Cup Coalition, and the work will be presented at the British Academy conference "Menstruation: sharing experiences from the global north and south". The findings will be used by Dorcas International to inform our future menstrual health work in Africa.

Reserves Policy

The charity aims to keep in reserve funds which are expected to be spent on its activities over the following 12 months. There is no minimum amount kept in reserves.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Dr Polly Mitchell
Chair

Polly Mitchell

Ruth Evans

Ruth Evans

Date

28/10/21

**Independent Examiner's Report to the
Management Committee of Dorcas International
on the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 2020**

Basis of independent examiner's report

We report on the accounts of Dorcas International for the year ended 31 December 2020.

The Group's officers are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Group's officers consider that an audit is not required for this year and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts
- to follow the general directions for the conduct of an independent examination
- to state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

Our examination was carried out in accordance with general directions for an independent examination. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the committee and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as a committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep appropriate accounting records; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with applicable financial reporting standardshave not been met; or
2. to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Community Accounting Services Ltd

**Community Accounting Services Ltd
7 Napoleon Drive
Shrewsbury
SY3 5PH**

Date: 27/10/2021

Dorcas International
Income & Expenditure Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2019 £
Income					
WSSCC grant		32,423	-	32,423	-
Donations		190	-	190	28,723
Gift aid		-	-	-	350
Total Income		32,613	-	32,613	29,073
Expenditure					
Running costs					
Research costs		29,749	-	29,749	-
Monitoring & evaluation		-	-	-	5,317
Capacity building		-	-	-	500
International conferences & research		-	-	-	1,787
APAM project		1,007	-	1,007	-
Malawi project - other		-	-	-	300
Malawi project - in country		-	-	-	900
Bank charges		10	-	10	-
Total Expenses		30,766	-	30,766	8,804
Net Incoming Resources Before Transfers		1,847	-	1,847	20,269
Transfer Between Funds		-	-	-	-
Net Incoming Resources		1,847	-	1,847	20,269
Fund balance brought forward at 1 January 2020		32,891	-	32,891	12,622
Fund Balance Carried Forward at 31 December 2020		34,738	-	34,738	32,891

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

**Dorcas International
Balance Sheet
as at 31 December 2020**

Note	2020	2019
	£	£
Current Assets		
Bank	34,738	32,891
	34,738	32,891
Net Assets	34,738	32,891
 Represented by Funds		
Unrestricted fund	34,738	32,891
Restricted funds	-	-
	34,738	32,891

The Trustees approve the accounts which comprise of the SOFA, the Balance Sheet and the related notes and acknowledge their responsibility for the accounts, including the appropriateness of the applicable financial reporting framework, and for providing Community Accounting Services Ltd with all information and explanations necessary for their compilation.

Dr Polly Mitchell
Chair

Mary Mitchell

Ruth Evans

Ruth Evans

Date

28/10/21