

**Dorcas International**

**Accounts**

**For The Year Ended 31 December 2020**

**Dorcas International  
Reference and Administrative Details**

<b>Charity Name</b>	Dorcas International
<b>Charity number</b>	1149559
<b>Principal Address</b>	Earsham Lodge Church Road Earsham Bungay Suffolk NR35 2TJ
<b>Trustee's</b>	Dr Polly Mitchell Ruth Evans
<b>Accountant</b>	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**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds 2020 £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds 2020 £</b>	<b>Total Funds 2020 £</b>	<i>Total Funds 2019 £</i>
<b>Income</b>					
WSSCC grant		32,423	-	32,423	-
Donations		190	-	190	28,723
Gift aid		-	-	-	350
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>32,613</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32,613</b>	<b>29,073</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
<b>Running costs</b>					
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	-
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>30,766</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>30,766</b>	<b>8,804</b>
<b>Net Incoming Resources Before Transfers</b>		<b>1,847</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,847</b>	<b>20,269</b>
<b>Transfer Between Funds</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net Incoming Resources</b>		<b>1,847</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,847</b>	<b>20,269</b>
Fund balance brought forward at 1 January 2020		32,891	-	32,891	12,622
<b>Fund Balance Carried Forward at 31 December 2020</b>		<b>34,738</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>34,738</b>	<b>32,891</b>

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
	£	£
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Bank	34,738	32,891
	<u>34,738</u>	<u>32,891</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<u>34,738</u>	<u>32,891</u>
<b>Represented by Funds</b>		
Unrestricted fund	34,738	32,891
Restricted funds	-	-
	<u>34,738</u>	<u>32,891</u>

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*