FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1160027

Details

Other names	FWA
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2015-01-19
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

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Activities

Objects: TO EMPOWER DISADVANTAGED WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN OLDHAM TO IMPROVE THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE.TO PROVIDE AND ASSIST IN THE PROVISION OF EDUCATION, TRAINING AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN THE BOROUGH OF OLDHAM.

Activities: To empower disadvantaged women and children in Oldham in order to improve their quality of life. To provide and assist in the provision of education, training and recreational activities for women and children in the Borough of Oldham.Strategic Aims and Objectives are:Education/TrainingHealth and WellbeingActivities for children and young people

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin

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Geography

- Oldham

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£198,497	£202,563	-	-
2024-03-31	£193,036	£161,931	-	-
2023-03-31	£158,130	£217,476	-	-
2022-03-31	£240,509	£199,807	-	-
2021-03-31	£186,660	£177,453	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
PARVEEN AKHTAR	Chair	2025-11-14
Aisha Munir		2025-11-18
MARIA NESSA		2016-02-25
NASREEN SHABIR		2015-01-09
Rahela Khatun		2025-11-18
SAMINA IQBAL		2006-11-09
SYLVIA AKRAM		2017-02-02
TABASUM KAUSAR		2015-01-09

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FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1160027

Accounts

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

34th Annual Report

September 2024 – August 2025



Marlborough Resource Centre
Marlborough Street • Glodwick • Oldham • OL4 1EG
0161 627 3109

www.fatimawomens.org.uk

Charitable Incorporated Organisation Number 1160027

INTRODUCTION

Aims

Fatima Women's Association (FWA) is committed to improving the lives of women, young people, children and families across Oldham, particularly in the areas of Glodwick, Alexandra, Roundthorn, and surrounding communities. Our aim is to create opportunities that empower them, promote equality, and help individuals and families to thrive.

We achieve this by:

- Providing training and educational courses that support women and young people to build new skills, increase confidence, and progress into further learning.
- Offering health and wellbeing sessions that encourage healthier lifestyles, emotional resilience, and stronger support networks.
- Organising recreational and leisure activities that bring people together, reduce isolation, and promote community cohesion.
- Offering activities to children and young people.
- Creating volunteering and employment opportunities by working with local partners, offering hands-on experience, and supporting pathways into the workplace.

Our work is made possible through the employment of committed staff, strong partnerships with other agencies, and the invaluable contribution of volunteers from the local community.

Over the past 12 months, FWA has continued to grow as a hub for women, young people, children and families. We have successfully created an environment that is inclusive, welcoming, and reflective of the diverse cultural and social needs of our communities.



Chairperson's Report

As the Chair of Fatima Women's Association (FWA), it gives me immense pleasure to present our 34th Annual Report, reflecting on the progress of our organisation and the new initiatives we have undertaken during the past year.

The journey of the past twelve months has been both challenging and rewarding. Despite the difficulties that our communities and the voluntary sector continue to face, FWA has grown stronger and more resilient. Thanks to the commitment of our management committee, dedicated staff, and tireless volunteers, we have been able to improve and expand our services, ensuring that we continue to meet the needs of women, young people, and families in Oldham.

This year has been particularly eventful and inspiring. We have delivered a range of new and innovative projects, many of which have been developed in direct response to the voices of our community. Listening to our members remains at the heart of everything we do, and their feedback has helped shape services that are both relevant and impactful.

Some of the highlights of the year include:

- The introduction of new training and educational courses, enabling women and young people to enhance their skills, pursue further qualifications, and gain better access to volunteering and employment opportunities.
- A wider variety of health and wellbeing sessions, which have encouraged healthier lifestyles, promoted positive mental health, and helped reduce isolation.
- An expansion of recreational and children's activities, ensuring that families can access safe, supportive, and enjoyable opportunities to learn, grow, and connect.
- The strengthening of partnerships with local agencies, allowing us to pool resources, reach more people, and deliver services more effectively.

We are proud that Fatima Women's Association has once again demonstrated its ability to adapt, innovate, and thrive, even in times of challenge. Our organisation has continued to act as a safe, welcoming, and inclusive space where women of all backgrounds can find support, encouragement, and inspiration.

Looking ahead, our focus remains on sustainability, growth, and deeper community impact. We will continue to develop new initiatives, expand our outreach, and provide opportunities that empower women, build confidence, and improve quality of life for families across Oldham.

For the latest updates on our activities, please visit our website at www.fatimawomens.org.uk, which is regularly updated with information on current and upcoming projects. We warmly encourage you to register your interest in our training programmes, educational courses, health and wellbeing sessions, and children's activities.

On behalf of Fatima Women's Association, I extend my heartfelt thanks to all our members, staff, volunteers, partners, and supporters who have contributed to another successful year. Together, we are building stronger futures, not just for women, but for the wider community.

Strengthening Communities



At Fatima Women's Association (FWA), we believe that strong partnerships are the foundation of strong communities. Over the past year, our team have placed significant focus on building and strengthening relationships across the voluntary sector, community groups, the NHS, educational establishments, and statutory services.

By working together, we have not only enhanced the quality of existing provision but also created integrated networks of support that bring together diverse skills, resources, and expertise. This collaborative approach has enabled us to design and deliver services that are more responsive to the needs of our beneficiaries, ensuring that women, young people, children and families can access the right support at the right time.

A key part of this partnership work has been our monthly consortium meetings, hosted at FWA. These meetings provide a valuable platform for organisations to share best practice, coordinate services, and develop new initiatives collectively. By fostering open dialogue and joint planning, we are helping to reduce duplication, fill service gaps, and maximise the reach and impact of community resources.

We are proud to work in close partnership with a wide range of organisations, including:

- Local and regional voluntary and community groups such as Action Together, Positive Steps, Fresh Belief, Peshkar Productions and the Centre of Wellbeing, Training and Culture.
- Educational and training providers including Get Oldham Working, Oldham Lifelong Learning, The Oldham college, Greater Manchester Violence Reduction Unit and The University of Manchester, who support pathways into education, skills, and employment.
- Health and wellbeing partners such as The Christie NHS Foundation, Xperthealth, Answer Cancer Manchester, Turning Point, and Horizon LGA Greater Manchester, who help us improve physical, medical and mental health outcomes.
- Sports, arts, and cultural organisations including Oldham Greenhill Community Sports and Recreation Club, and Lancashire Cricket Foundation, who support recreation, engagement, and creativity.
- Statutory and interfaith bodies such as Oldham Council's Get Oldham Working initiative, Oldham Interfaith Forum, Faith Action, and Salford CVS, who help us address wider social challenges and promote inclusion.

Through these partnerships, FWA has been able to:

- Widen access to services and opportunities for local women and families.
- Strengthen community resilience by building networks of support across different sectors.
- Provide holistic services that address not just education and employment, but also health, wellbeing, recreation, and cultural needs.
- Ensure sustainability by pooling resources and working collectively to deliver greater impact.

Looking forward, FWA is committed to deepening these partnerships and forging new ones, with the shared vision of building stronger, healthier, and more inclusive communities across Oldham and beyond.

Activities/Training

We are committed to ensuring that all of our projects and services are shaped by the community for the community. Over the past year, we have actively engaged in consultations with local women, young people, and children, as well as regular networking with partner agencies. This ongoing dialogue has enabled us to design and deliver new projects that truly reflect the needs and aspirations of the communities we serve.

Building on our past experience and successes, the FWA team continues to refine and expand our programmes, helping the organisation move closer to its full potential as a hub of learning, wellbeing, and empowerment.

Membership and Participation

Our reach and engagement remain strong. During the past year:

- 470 adults and 108 young people and children completed membership forms to join FWA.
- Across a 52-week period, an average of 165 individuals accessed our sessions each week, highlighting the consistent demand for our services.
- FWA was supported by 20 dedicated volunteers over a 12-month period, who contributed their time, skills, and enthusiasm to enrich the delivery of our programmes.

Range of Activities

Our activities and training sessions have spanned a wide variety of themes, designed to address educational, social, health, and recreational needs. These have included:

- Training and educational courses that improve skills, open pathways into further education, and increase employability prospects.
- Health and wellbeing programmes focusing on fitness, mental health awareness, nutrition, and self-care.
- Creative and recreational activities such as arts, crafts, and cultural events that encourage self-expression and social connection.
- Youth and children's sessions, providing safe, engaging opportunities for younger members to learn, play, and grow.

Impact

The success of our activities is not only measured by numbers but also by the positive changes in participants' lives. Women have reported greater confidence and motivation, young people have expressed new aspirations for education and employment, and families have benefited from strengthened relationships and reduced social isolation.

Our volunteers have also experienced personal growth, gaining valuable skills, confidence, and in many cases progressing towards further opportunities in education and employment.

Funding

It has been another successful year for Fatima Women's Association (FWA) in raising the funds required to deliver high-quality projects, carry out community research and consultations, run workshops, maintain our overheads and resources, and sustain staff positions. We are proud to report that the new projects undertaken this year have met their outcomes and, in many cases, exceeded expectations. These projects have not only strengthened our core delivery but also created a wider impact across the community, ensuring that our work continues to make a meaningful difference to the lives of women, young people, and families in Oldham.

Looking Ahead: The Funding Landscape

As we move into 2025/2026, we are conscious that it will be a challenging year for fundraising. At present, FWA relies on a balanced mix of long-term and short-term grants, alongside small-scale commissioning and contracts. Our fundraising strategy has historically been successful, allowing us to build a strong reputation for delivering value and impact. However, the funding landscape is shifting, presenting new hurdles to sustaining FWA.

In recent years, many major funders have refined their criteria and priorities, with an increasing emphasis on:

- Domestic violence and safeguarding initiatives
- Systemic or structural change programmes
- Large-scale advocacy and campaigning work

While these are critical and valuable areas, they do not fully reflect the core focus of FWA, which is providing grassroots, community-led education, training, health and wellbeing programmes, recreational activities, and practical support that responds directly to the everyday needs of local women and families. This means that opportunities which previously would have been a good fit are no longer as accessible.

Our Response and Strategy

To address these changes, FWA is actively reviewing and adapting our fundraising strategy. We are focusing on:

- Strengthening relationships with existing funders, ensuring they continue to see the value and impact of our work.
- Diversifying income streams through social enterprise opportunities, community fundraising, and exploring sponsorships from local businesses.
- Building collaborative bids with partner organisations, particularly in areas where our work overlaps with current funding priorities, such as health, wellbeing, and youth engagement.
- Demonstrating long-term impact by strengthening our monitoring and evaluation systems, ensuring we can provide funders with clear evidence of outcomes, value for money, and community transformation.
- Investing in sustainability by seeking multi-year grants that provide greater security and allow us to plan and deliver with confidence.

Commitment to the Community

Despite the challenges ahead, FWA remains deeply committed to ensuring that no woman, young person, child or family is left behind. Our resilience as an organisation is rooted in the trust we have built within the community over three decades, the dedication of our staff and volunteers, and our ability to respond creatively to changing needs and circumstances.

With continued determination, collaboration, and support from our funders, partners, and the wider community, we are confident that FWA will adapt to the changing funding environment and continue to deliver services that empower women, strengthen families, and build thriving communities.

FWA would like to thank the following for their financial support from April 2024 to March 2025:

- Breast Cancer
- Cancer & Inequalities
- Cost of Living Crisls Greater Manchester
- Costco & United Way UK
- Faith Action
- Garfield Weston Foundation
- Greater Manchester Crime Reduction, Violence Reduction Unit
- John Mason Family Trust
- Manchester University
- MMR Campaign
- NHS Greater Manchester
- One Oldham Fund Children & Young People
- Postcode Neighbourhood Trust
- Skipton Building Society Charitable Foundation
- The National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund

On behalf of the Management Committee, I would like to extend our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all members of staff for their tireless dedication, commitment, and enthusiasm throughout the year. Their hard work continues to be the driving force behind the success and growth of Fatima Women's Association.

A special and heartfelt thank you must also go to our trustees and volunteers, whose generosity of time, skills, and spirit has been invaluable. Their consistent and loyal support enables us to reach further, deliver more, and continue building meaningful connections within the community. Without their contribution, much of what we achieve would simply not be possible.

It is with immense pleasure and pride that I present to you the 34th Annual Report of Fatima Women's Association, covering the period from September 2024 to August 2025. This report not only reflects the achievements of the past year but also stands as a testament to the resilience, creativity, and strength of our organisation and the communities we serve.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to our vision of empowering women, young people, children, strengthening families, and fostering inclusive communities. With the continued support of our trustees, volunteers, staff, partners, funders, and community members, we are confident that FWA will continue to grow, adapt, and thrive, delivering positive change for many more years to come.

Tabassum Kousar
Chairperson

Our Strategic Objectives

Education and Training

Empowering Women Through Education

In 2024/2025, FWA experienced a landmark year in our education and training work. Our students continued to demonstrate outstanding commitment, and our dedicated educators played a vital role in cultivating a supportive and engaging learning environment. With the integration of innovative teaching methods, personalised learning approaches, and advanced technology, we continue to see a steady rise in student achievement year after year.

Our curriculum remains rooted in real-life application, ensuring that lessons are meaningful, relevant, and accessible to all learners. By fostering critical thinking and personalised support, we ensure that each individual receives the attention needed to thrive academically and personally.

The individual focus groups were a turning point for many women. They provided a safe, supportive space to learn about self-examination and screening for breast and cervical cancer. Simple, easy-to-follow videos explained mammograms and smear tests, helping to demystify the process.

Small, age-tailored groups made everyone feel more at ease, encouraging open discussion and questions. Language barriers weren't a problem, we used simplified English, hand-raising for questions, short videos, and interpreters to ensure everyone felt included and informed.



Delivery and Engagement

Over the course of the year, we delivered 183 educational sessions, directly supporting more than 75 women. Of these, 108 sessions focused on Pre-Employment Skills, providing learners with the tools necessary to take their next steps towards further education, volunteering, work placement or employment. While around 20% of women withdrew within the first few sessions, the majority remained engaged for 12 weeks or more. In total, we delivered 366 hours of learning.

These courses are designed not only to boost employability but to support learners holistically. Many women have developed foundational skills that have allowed them to progress to our numeracy, IT, sewing sessions, while others are now preparing to transition to Oldham College and Oldham lifelong learning.

Courses Delivered and Participation

We delivered a wide range of targeted sessions, ensuring learners received well-rounded development opportunities.

Core Educational Programs

- Driving Theory: 30 participants
- British Citizenship: 20 participants
- Employability Skills: 35 participants
- Presentation Skills: 22 participants
- Reading, Writing & Speaking Skills: 28 participants
- Support to Succeed (Manchester Athena): 15 participants

Progression to Further Learning

- Advanced to Numeracy Class (WEA): 13 learners
- Progressed to IT Class (WEA): 14 learners
- Enrolled in Courses at Oldham Lifelong Learning: 10 learners
- Joined English Classes at Oldham College: 5 learners

Excursions & Cultural Engagement

- Liverpool Museum Visit and Dock Tour: 49 participants
- Manchester Christmas Market & Job Search Activity: 20 participants

Conclusion

Through holistic, personalised education and diverse learning experiences, FWA continues to equip women with the confidence, skills, and knowledge to transform their lives. Whether through traditional classroom learning, creative expression, volunteering, or real-world excursions, our programs have created pathways for learners to grow academically, socially, and professionally.

Volunteering & Community Engagement

- Introduction to Volunteering Workshop, through Action Together: 20 participants
- Ripple Effect Performance: 13 volunteer performers, over 200 attended the event
- MMR Campaign Event: 100 total attendees
- Upper GI Cancer Awareness Event: 110 total attendees



Pre-Employment Skills Outcomes & Future Plans

Skills and Confidence Improvements

A total of 64 learners completed the Pre-Employment Skills Programme in 2024/2025, with results reflecting significant growth across various areas.

Key achievements include:

72% reported gaining new or improved skills

69% saw an increase in confidence

35% noted better job prospects

73% experienced improved English and/or maths skills

34% enhanced their IT skills

66% gained the ability to apply new skills outside of the course

56% reported improvements in health and well-being

50% received information about further learning opportunities

33% saw an increase in their ability to support their children's learning and development

Specific skill enhancements include:

17% improved their CV writing

22% developed better letter-writing skills

38% practised answering interview questions



22% presented a topic in front of the group

44% gained a better understanding of key personal qualities and transferable skills

Post-Course Actions and Progression

When asked what learners plan to do once the course finishes, the responses show a clear intention to continue learning and pursuing new opportunities:

59%
plan to enrol in a more advanced course in the same subject

52%
are considering taking a different course in a new subject

16%
intend to apply for volunteering roles

8%
will apply for jobs

14%
have already secured employment in a caring role



Additionally, 15% of participants have been referred for further career advice, and 17% are exploring volunteer opportunities to continue their personal and professional development.



Conclusion

The outcomes from the Pre-Employment Skills Programme are testament to the effectiveness of FWA's approach in building critical life and career skills. The percentage of learners continuing onto further study or securing employment shows the real-world impact of the courses offered. By equipping learners with tangible skills and boosting their confidence, FWA continues to make significant strides in fostering personal empowerment and long-term success.

Case Study: Rebuilding Life Through Language and Community Support

Background

Seven years ago, I relocated from Pakistan to the United Kingdom, settling in Leicester. Shortly after arriving, I began experiencing verbal abuse from my husband and in-laws. Hoping the situation would improve, I remained silent. Unfortunately, the abuse escalated to physical violence. Fear and uncertainty prevented me from contacting the police, and without family in the UK, I felt completely isolated.

Crisis and Turning Point

The abuse intensified over time, and my husband began staying out all night. During this period, I became pregnant, despite my husband and in-laws expressing that they did not want children. After the birth of my son, the violence continued. One day, during a particularly brutal incident, my neighbour heard my screams and called the police. Their swift response led to my relocation to a women's shelter in Birmingham for safety.

Transition to Independence

After 18 months in the shelter, I was assigned housing in Oldham. Everything was unfamiliar, and my limited English made communication extremely difficult. I felt emotionally overwhelmed and isolated, struggling with severe depression. With the help of social workers, I was able to attend medical appointments and access essential support services.

A Life-Changing Encounter

One day at the park, I met a kind woman and shared my story. She referred me to the Fatima Women's Association, a turning point in my journey. At FWA, I received holistic support that addressed both my emotional and practical needs.

Empowerment Through Education and Community

FWA encouraged me to join their English classes and participate in the Tea and Toast Hub, which included fitness sessions. Over the past eight months, I've experienced remarkable growth:

- Language Skills: My reading, writing, and speaking have improved significantly.
- Social Connections: I've made friends and feel part of a supportive community.
- Confidence: I can now enjoy tea and conversation with others, something I never thought I would before.
- Self-Worth: The emotional support from FWA staff has helped me rebuild my confidence and sense of identity.

Looking Ahead

I plan to continue attending classes at FWA. My goal is to secure employment and support my child's education and homework. I now feel hopeful about the future and empowered to build a better life for myself and my son.

Building Confidence & Language Skills

Our classes promote the development of English language skills through differentiated learning strategies tailored to individual learner needs. Tutors work closely with students to establish personalised goals in a supportive, confidence-building environment.

One tutor focused on enhancing confidence and motivation. A learner who initially doubted her English ability gradually overcame her fears. Over seven weeks, she learned how to:



Search and apply for jobs online

Analyse job adverts

Evaluate job suitability



Learning Through Experience and Creative Expression

Learners on the Pre-Employment Skills Programme also gained valuable experience through creative and community-led initiatives. Notably, many participants took part in the Ripple Effect drama production, which was performed before an audience of over 200 women. The performance addressed crime awareness in Oldham and significantly boosted participants' self-esteem and public speaking abilities. The Chief Executive and Leader of Oldham Council presented certificates in to the performers, recognising their achievement.

Additionally, learners improved their communication and listening skills through active participation in cancer awareness sessions, including topics such as upper gastrointestinal and breast cancer. Learners engaged by asking questions and discussing health topics confidently in English.

Supporting Learner Progress & Impact in the Community

Individualised Support and Progression

At FWA, learners consistently report high satisfaction with the guidance and support they receive. Our staff provide clear, tailored advice about course options and progression pathways, enabling participants to make informed decisions. We maintain high standards in Information, Advice, and Guidance (IAG), with staff excelling in delivering support across diverse needs.

Progress is tracked through Individual Learning Plans (ILPs), allowing us to evaluate each learner's journey and ensure personalised goals are met. Attendance is also carefully monitored to assess engagement and the effectiveness of our programs.

FWA's impact extends beyond academic outcomes, our programmes help learners:

- Build confidence and social skills
- Support their children's education
- Strengthen family communication
- Prepare for volunteering, work placement or employment
- Re-engage with lifelong learning opportunities

Experiential Learning & Excursions

FWA incorporates real-world learning opportunities into the curriculum. A standout example includes a visit to the Manchester Christmas Market, where learners:

- Navigated the tram system independently
- Practised purchasing tickets
- Attended a lesson on the high street, exploring local job opportunities

Excursions like this help build learners' independence, awareness of regional employment opportunities, and functional English skills.



Collaboration & Growth

Our impact was greatly enhanced through collaboration with external organisations, including:

- University of Manchester
- Christie's Hospital
- WEA
- Wythenshawe Hospital
- Prevent Cancer, Answer Cancer, Cancer and Inequalities
- ICE
- NHS England
- Manchester Athena
- Action Together

These partnerships not only broadened our curriculum but also strengthened FWA's reputation across Greater Manchester and nationally. Funding and engagement through these networks have allowed us to expand our capacity, improve stability, and contribute to Oldham's local economy.

We also submit quarterly reports to our Board of Trustees and meet regularly to ensure transparency, accountability, and alignment with our strategic goals.

Confidence, Communication, and Community

Beyond formal learning, our education program has also helped women build confidence and improve interpersonal and communication skills.

Many participated in events co-hosted with our partner organisations, including:

- Cancer Awareness and Health Inequality Events (Answer Cancer, Cancer and Equalities)
- Volunteering Opportunities (Action Together)
- Healthy Eating, Numeracy, and Employability Support (Manchester Athena)

Through these sessions, women were encouraged to step beyond their comfort zones, form new social networks, and engage with their wider community. Participation in these events not only enriched their learning but also helped reduce social isolation and foster a deeper sense of belonging.

Celebrating Achievements

A significant highlight of the year was The Ripple Effect, a drama performance written and performed by 13 community volunteers with no professional theatre experience.

The play addressed familial issues, community challenges, and crime, and was met with praise from attendees, including:

- The Leader of the Council
- The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
- The Deputy Leader of the Council
- The Director of the Science Department at the University of Manchester

This performance marked a turning point in community engagement. Many women who do not usually attend daytime activities joined the evening event, and several expressed interest in volunteering as a result.



Engagement & Feedback

Our commitment to community-driven education was further strengthened at our Annual General Meeting, where 60 women received the annual report and engaged in discussions about future programming. We value feedback deeply and use it to shape our upcoming offerings, ensuring they better meet the needs of our learners.

We continue to promote our training and courses through social media, open days, and targeted outreach, drawing participants from across Oldham. Our goal is to ensure every woman has the opportunity to re-engage with learning in a way that's empowering, inclusive, and sustainable.

Looking Ahead

Building on our successes in 2024/2025, we plan to further expand our programs through:

- New collaborative opportunities
- Innovative learning models
- Targeted outreach to reach underserved groups

Our work this year has laid a strong foundation for continued growth, deeper partnerships, and long-term community impact.

Basic Essential Skills Project: Empowering Women for Economic and Social Progress

The Basic Essential Skills Project was designed to deliver immediate and short-term outcomes by nurturing non-cognitive skills among disadvantaged women in Oldham. Through targeted support in areas such as confidence-building, behaviour change, and digital literacy, the project laid the foundation for long-term transformation, enhancing employability, educational attainment, and social mobility.

Short-Term Impact

- Confidence & Engagement Boost: Women reported feeling more self-assured, empowered in decision-making, and capable of forming friendships across cultural boundaries.
- Skill Development: Participants improved their English, IT, and numeracy skills—essential for job applications, internet navigation, and workplace readiness.
- Tailored Support: One-on-one guidance helped learners overcome barriers, especially those with limited English or writing skills.
- Creative Learning: Math was taught through garment-making, making abstract concepts more accessible and practical.
- Self-Employment Pathways: Some learners chose entrepreneurial routes for financial independence, while others pursued traditional employment.
- Success to Succeed: Eating on a Budget

Ten women progressed to the Eating on a Budget program, gaining confidence and exposure to new environments. Trainers from Manchester Athena and The Growth Company introduced diverse teaching methods, enriching the learning experience. The air fryer initiative was particularly successful, as it blended practical life skills with financial literacy.

A celebration event showcased participants' achievements in front of 28 peers and the director of Manchester Athena, an empowering moment that reinforced their progress and potential.

Long-Term Effects on Economic Growth & Employment

1.

Improved Mental and Physical Health

Enhanced well-being enables participants to pursue meaningful employment, contributing to a healthier, more productive workforce.

2.

Development of Employment Skills & Confidence

Learners gain the self-confidence needed to seek employment or start their own businesses, thereby reducing unemployment and increasing workforce participation.



3.

Pathways to Further Education

Many participants are now pursuing further qualifications, enhancing their long-term employability.

4.

Career Opportunity Sessions

Collaborations with organisations like Action Together provide access to voluntary work and career guidance, stimulating regional economic growth.

Long-Term Effects on Social Progression

1.

Enhanced Confidence & Social Skills

Participants now engage more effectively with peers, educators, and the wider community.

2.

Commitment to Diversity & Inclusivity

The program welcomed women from Pakistani, Bangladeshi, refugee, migrant, and long-established immigrant communities, fostering cultural exchange and mutual respect.



3.

Development of Friendships

Shared experiences led to lasting friendships, reducing isolation and strengthening community bonds.

4.

Community Engagement

Active participation in local events has increased, enhancing identity, purpose, and civic involvement.

5.

Platform for Open Dialogue

Women are now empowered to discuss issues affecting their lives, promoting critical thinking and collaborative solutions for social progress.

This project is a shining example of how targeted interventions can spark lasting change, both economically and socially.

Health & Wellbeing

Warm Hub - A Lifeline of Comfort, Connection, and Care

Project Overview

The Warm Hub Project provides essential support to women and older adults, enabling them to save money, build confidence, and enhance their overall well-being. Through weekly sessions in a welcoming, heated space, participants reduce their electricity and gas costs while accessing a range of services designed to uplift and empower them.

Key Services & Support

Service Type	Description
Energy Saving	*Warm facilities reduce home heating costs*
Career Guidance	*Personalized advice for women seeking employment*
Telephone Outreach	*Remote support for those unable to attend in person*
Emotional Support	*Compassionate guidance for women facing domestic challenges*

Dementia Hub Tailored care and activities for older adults

- Hand Massage Sessions: 25 women benefited from relaxing treatments
- Fitness Classes: Promoting physical health and mental clarity
- Luncheon Club: Weekly hot, nourishing meals foster connection and joy
- Tea & Coffee Corner: A comforting space for conversation and companionship

"I come for the warmth, but I stay for the kindness." Said a Warm Hub Participant

Support for Older Adults

Dementia Hub Sessions:

- 10 women participated
- Enjoyed hot refreshments and tailored activities
- Received practical support and emotional care
- Felt valued, included, and connected to their community

Emotional Impact

- 5 women received critical emotional support during domestic crises
- Staff provided compassionate listening and guidance, helping participants regain strength and confidence
- Outreach efforts encouraged previously hesitant individuals to visit the centre independently

"I didn't think I could come alone. Now I feel safe and supported." said the First-time visitor

Overall Impact

The Warm Hub Project has become a lifeline for its participants, offering:

- Practical assistance
- Emotional support
- Social engagement
- Nourishing meals
- Wellness activities
- Accessible outreach

Together, these elements create a holistic support system that enriches lives and strengthens community bonds.

50-Plus Women's Well-being

Introduction

This report highlights the initiatives undertaken to support women aged 50 and above in the local community. The project aimed to:

- Reduce isolation
- Foster social engagement
- Promote mental and physical well-being

Activities included fitness sessions, massage therapy, mental health and dementia awareness training, laughter therapy, and cancer awareness events, all delivered in a warm and inclusive environment.

Social Inclusion & Well-being Activities

Over 40 individuals attended 36 sessions throughout the year. Volunteers supported the sessions and a warm meal was provided at each session.

"Spending time with others who shared common experiences provided emotional support and comfort." Said a participant

Physical Wellness: Fitness & Massage Therapy

Fitness Sessions:

- Delivered by a qualified trainer
- 10 sessions attended by 15 to 18 women
- Focused on movement, strength, and confidence

Massage Therapy:

- Each participant received a 10-minute hand massage
- Promoted relaxation and stress relief



Laughing Therapy:

- 5 sessions attended by 18 women
- Boosted mood and emotional resilience

Due to overwhelming positive feedback, FWA arranged 10 additional health-focused sessions.

"I feel wide awake and fresh."

"This has relieved my stress."

Mental Health & Dementia Awareness

Facilitated by TOG Mind

- 5 interactive sessions combining education and poetry
- 25 women participated
- Many requested one-on-one follow-up support

"The poetry made it easier to talk about difficult things." Said an attendee

Cancer Awareness Events

- Focus Areas: Breast and Upper GI Cancer
- Attendance: 20 women
- Topics Covered: ***Recognizing symptoms***
  Early detection
  Preventative measures

Community Engagement & Social Connection

The project culminated in a group outing to a local restaurant, where women strengthened friendships and celebrated their progress.

"Before attending these classes, I was becoming less and less active. I missed a tram and chose to walk two miles instead. I felt a great sense of achievement." Said a participant

Case Study: A Journey Toward Healing and Independence

With each session, the confidence of one participant steadily grew. Initially anxious and withdrawn, she began speaking with other women, forming friendships, and expressing herself more openly. Over time, she felt empowered enough to travel independently to the centre by tram, something she had previously feared.

Her transformation was not only emotional but also visible. She began dressing more brightly, smiling more often, and radiating a renewed sense of self-worth. She shared:

> *"I am getting better. These sessions have helped me reflect on my past, and I have learned that it's okay to move forward. I don't feel alone anymore."*

This case exemplifies the profound impact of compassionate support, community connection, and structured group activities in helping individuals heal, grow, and reclaim their independence.

Outcomes Achieved

Outcome	Result
Improved physical & mental well-being	**100%**
Increased confidence	**100%**
Formed new friendships	**70%**
Transitioned to dementia support group	**25%**

Key Impact Areas

- **Improved Mental Well-being**
  Emotional support, confidence-building, and mental health education
- **Improved Physical Health**
  Participation in fitness, massage therapy, and disease prevention workshops
- **Enhanced Social Inclusion**
  Stronger peer connections, reduced isolation, and community engagement

Conclusion

The 50-Plus Women's Well-being Project has played a crucial role in enhancing the lives of women in our community. Through a blend of physical activities, emotional support, and social engagement, participants have experienced:

- Renewed confidence
- Improved health
- Meaningful friendships
- A sense of belonging

The overwhelmingly positive response underscores the importance of continued investment in programs that support women's well-being. These initiatives are not just services, they are lifelines.



Case Study: Rebuilding Confidence Through Compassion and Community

Supporting a 60-Year-Old Woman Through Depression and Loneliness

A 60-year-old woman was referred to the 50-Plus Group by her GP due to severe depression and anxiety. She described feeling profoundly lonely and lacked the confidence to travel alone by bus or tram. Initially, she attended sessions accompanied by a friend, hesitant and emotionally withdrawn.

During her first visit, she confided in a staff member at FWA. Her husband had left and remarried, a traumatic experience that left her feeling abandoned and emotionally shattered. Now living with her son and daughter-in-law in a small house, she felt like a stranger in her own home, without personal space or emotional connection. She often cried and struggled to accept the changes in her life.

Immediate Support & Gentle Encouragement

FWA staff responded with compassion, offering emotional support and gently encouraging her to participate in group activities. She began with small steps, attending hand massages, fitness sessions, and enjoying hot lunches in a warm, welcoming environment.

Gradual Transformation

With each session, her confidence grew. She started speaking with other women, forming friendships, and expressing herself more openly. Eventually, she felt empowered enough to travel to the centre independently by tram, an achievement that once felt impossible.

Her transformation was not only emotional but also visible:

- She dressed more brightly
- Smiled more often
- Showed clear signs of emotional recovery

"I am getting better. These sessions have helped me reflect on my past, and I have learned that it's okay to move forward. I don't feel alone anymore."

Impact

This case illustrates the profound effect of:

- Compassionate staff support
- Structured group activities
- A safe and inclusive community space

Together, these elements helped her reclaim independence, rebuild confidence, and rediscover joy.

Reclaiming Confidence After Loss

A 60-year-old woman was referred to the 50-plus group by her GP due to severe depression and anxiety. She had:

- Lost her husband to remarriage
- Moved in with her son and daughter-in-law
- Felt emotionally displaced and lacked personal space
- Was unable to travel alone or engage socially



Support Provided

- Immediate emotional support from FWA staff
- Encouragement to join group activities
- Gradual participation in hand massage, fitness, and lunch sessions
- Built friendships and began attending regularly

Conclusion

The 50-Plus Women's Well-being Project has proven to be a transformative initiative, offering:

- Emotional healing
- Physical empowerment
- Social inclusion
- Health education
- Renewed confidence

"I used to cry every day. Now I look forward to Thursdays. I feel like I belong again." said Case Study Participant

The Ripple Effect:

Empowering Women and Young People Through Creative Expression



In one of our most impactful interventions to date, The Ripple Effect brought together 19 local women and 9 young people through a series of 12 workshops, 2 rehearsal sessions, and 4 fashion-focused workshops. The initiative culminated in a vibrant community event attended by 210 women and girls, marking a milestone in our mission to raise awareness, build resilience, and foster emotional well-being.

Building Confidence Through Drama



At the outset, many participants were hesitant, lacking confidence and knowledge about the complex issues affecting their community. Most joined to support scriptwriting, unsure about performing. However, through encouragement, open dialogue, and shared vulnerability, they developed a passion for creating change for future generations.

The workshops became a sanctuary, where laughter, storytelling, and emotional release replaced isolation and silence. Women shared personal struggles, supported one another, and explored topics such as:

- Mental health
- Family conflict
- Drug misuse
- Peer pressure
- Generational misunderstandings
- Raising emotionally healthy families

They contributed through reading, writing, singing, dancing, and reflecting on their own behaviours and family dynamics. Friendships blossomed, and the group became a source of strength and inspiration. This creative journey not only empowered the women to speak out but also equipped them to educate others on recognising the early warning signs of criminal behaviour and crisis. Confidence soared, voices were amplified, and a powerful messages were highlighted.

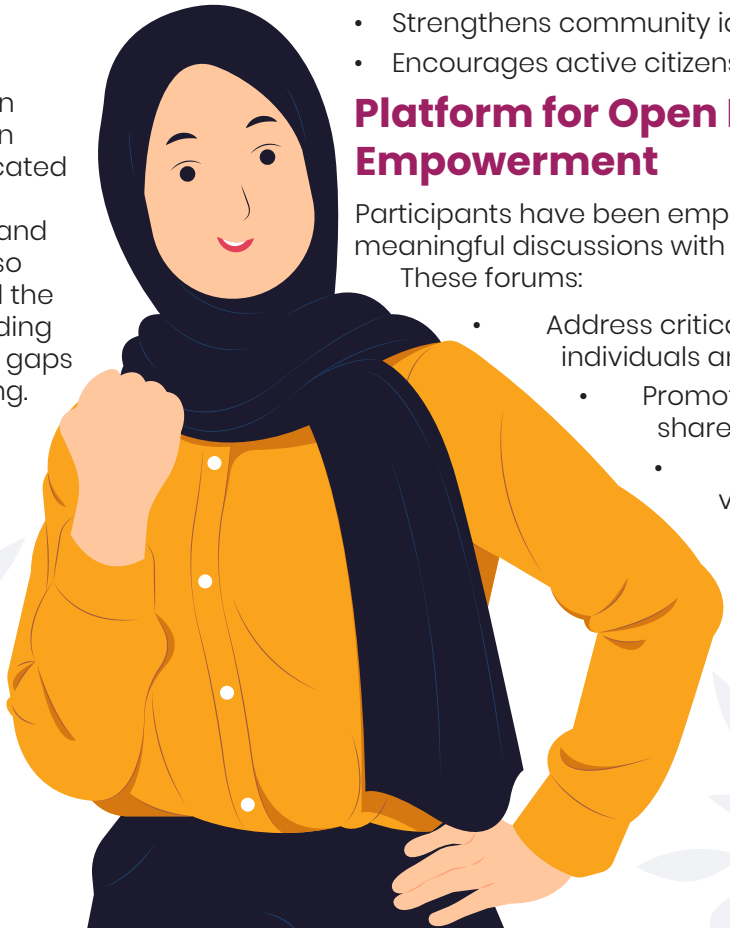
The culmination of this work was The Ripple Effect, a community event held in May that drew an audience of over 200 people. The evening featured a compelling drama performance and a vibrant fashion show led by young girls, designed to boost self-esteem and presentation skills.

The response was overwhelming, audience members praised the event's creativity, emotional depth, and relevance. Professionals and locals alike described it as "powerful," "moving," and "unforgettable." The impact rippled through the community, sparking conversations and strengthening bonds for weeks afterward.

This initiative didn't just raise awareness, it changed lives. It proved that when women are given the stage, they don't just perform, they lead.

Empowering Young People

Nine young girls participated in a confidence-boosting fashion show, supported by four dedicated workshops. Their involvement helped develop presentation and communication skills, while also addressing peer pressure and the dangers of vaping. Team-building activities helped bridge social gaps and foster a sense of belonging.



Lasting Impact

The Ripple Effect didn't just entertain, it educated, empowered, and united. It sparked dialogue, strengthened community ties, and created safe spaces for healing and growth. The legacy of this project endures in the friendships formed, the confidence gained, and the lives transformed.

Community Engagement and Empowerment

Engagement in Community Events and Activities

FWA has actively encouraged participants to engage in local events and initiatives, fostering a sense of belonging and purpose. This involvement:

- Reduces social isolation
- Strengthens community identity
- Encourages active citizenship

Platform for Open Discussion and Empowerment

Participants have been empowered to take part in meaningful discussions with educators and peers. These forums:

- Address critical issues affecting individuals and communities
- Promote collaboration and shared learning
- Inspire a collective vision for social progress

Cancer Awareness and Support Initiatives

Cancer Project Impact

The cancer project has played a pivotal role in FWA's organisational development by:

- Strengthening internal capacity
- Expanding the network of strategic partnerships
- Enhancing program effectiveness and outreach

Upper GI Cancer Program

This initiative has positively influenced participants' interpersonal and communication skills, particularly among women. Confidence-building activities included attending events organized in collaboration with key partners:

Key Collaborations:

- **Answer Cancer:** Hosted awareness events to educate the community about cancer prevention and early detection.
- **Cancer and Equalities:** Partnered to address health disparities and promote equitable access to care.
- **Christie Hospital:** Joint initiatives to raise awareness and provide support; learners actively participated.
- **Manchester Athena – Support to Succeed:** Empowerment programs focused on personal development.
- **Action Together:** Delivered sessions on volunteering opportunities to foster civic engagement.

Cancer Awareness & Screening Engagement

- **Community Sessions:** 5 sessions held, each with 16 participants (total: 80 women).
- **Focus:** Breast & cervical cancer awareness, self-examination techniques, and screening education.
- Tools used to overcome language barriers:

  Simple educational videos
  Interpreters (Urdu & Bengali)
  Interactive hand-raising activities
- Some sessions included professional input
- **Outcome:** Increased understanding and encouragement for screening participation.

Public Engagement, stall at the Oldham Library

Date: 28 August – Family Health Event

- Approx. 50 conversations, including 4 men, focused on breast cancer awareness.
- Promoted FWA's cancer project and distributed information.



Major Event, FWA Cancer Awareness Day

Date: 17 October

Attendance: Over 90 individuals

Features:

- 5 informational stands
- 4 interactive workshops

Presentations by professionals from:

- Answer Cancer
- The Christie
- Prevent Breast Cancer
- Other health experts

Support provided:

- Urdu & Bengali interpretation
  Comfortable, welcoming environment
- Feedback: Highly positive from both community



Despite these challenges, ongoing conversations, focus groups, and events have helped shift perceptions. More women now understand the importance of early detection and are choosing to attend screenings to protect their health and stay with their loved ones longer.

Overall Outreach Impact

Activity Type	Conversations Held	Focus Areas
Focus Groups	**80**	Breast & cervical screening
Library Stall	**50**	Breast cancer awareness
FWA Event	**70**	General cancer education
Total	**200**	Mammograms, smear tests, symptoms

Case Study: Breaking the Silence

"My family has a history of cancer. Out of the 8 sisters, two of my eldest sisters have breast cancer, and my aunt has it too. This is something in our community we don't talk about as everyone is afraid of the 'C' word, predominantly a female being diagnosed in their feminine area of their body. We couldn't afford checks in Pakistan, if you got it, then you got it.

Since moving to the UK, I've been attending my breast screening, annually. At first, it was very uncomfortable. My husband's ex-wife died of breast cancer, so he was very supportive and encouraged me to attend. He takes me to my appointments. Although the screening can be painful and uncomfortable, I know it's better than getting cancer.

Although breast cancer screening can be a little painful and uncomfortable, especially when my breasts are pressed onto the machine, I know it's a small price to pay compared to the risk of developing cancer. The nurses at Tameside Hospital are always kind and do their best to make the experience as gentle as possible. While I initially requested a location closer to home, I've come to accept the distance. The entire appointment, including travel time, takes approximately an hour.

One of my sisters was hesitant to attend her appointments, but I encouraged her and even accompanied her to her first screening. She's beginning to understand how important it is to prioritise our health. Attending the event at FWA also helped, it gave her the confidence and motivation to take that first step.

Sadly, my eldest sister passed away four months ago. Her loss has deepened my commitment to raising awareness. I urge all the women in our community: please get checked, learn the symptoms, and take action. Early detection truly can save lives."



Creating Comfort Through Care

The women particularly enjoyed the workshops, not just for the valuable health information, but also for the thoughtful touches that made them feel truly cared for. Free face and hand massages were offered, helping everyone feel comfortable and relaxed. These small acts of kindness created a calming atmosphere, which in turn encouraged more open participation and engagement.

By combining education with genuine care, the workshops became more than just informative, they became empowering experiences that nurtured both body and mind.

Sewing Sessions



Throughout the year on average 40 women benefitted from learning basic sewing techniques, garment construction, alterations and customisation, creative skills and practical applications.

The impact of sewing classes at FWA goes far beyond just learning a craft:

Economic Empowerment

- Women gain skills that can lead to self-employment or income generation through tailoring, alterations, or selling handmade items
- It opens doors to further education or vocational training, increasing employability

Confidence & Self-Esteem

- Learning a new skill boosts self-worth and independence.
- Many women report feeling more capable and motivated to pursue other goals

Social Connection

- Classes provide a safe, inclusive space for women to meet others, share experiences, and build friendships.
- This helps reduce isolation, especially for those new to the UK or facing language barriers

Mental Health & Wellbeing

- Engaging in creative activities like sewing has therapeutic benefits.
- Women often report feeling less stressed, more active, and emotionally supported

Cultural Integration

- FWA supports women from diverse backgrounds including Pakistani, Eastern European, African, and refugee communities.
- Sewing classes help bridge cultural gaps and promote community cohesion

Women's Group Trips, Highlights and Reflections



Scarborough



A group of 50 women embarked on a memorable trip to Scarborough, where they spent quality time exploring the town and its scenic surroundings. From strolling along the seafront to enjoying the attractions, the trip offered a refreshing escape. Many appreciated the chance to relax, connect, and take in the coastal charm.

Morecambe



Another group of 50 women visited Morecambe, with several experiencing the seaside for the very first time. The beach was a highlight, walking along the shore, soaking up the sunshine, and enjoying the fresh sea breeze created a joyful atmosphere. The beautiful weather added to the sense of freedom and fun, making it a truly uplifting day.

Birmingham

13 women headed to Birmingham for a vibrant shopping experience. They explored a variety of shops and indulged in a wide range of cuisines, trying new foods and sharing meals. The trip was a delightful blend of retail therapy and culinary adventure.

Bradford

Another group of 13 women visited Bradford, where they enjoyed shopping at Cannon Mills and the Plaza. The outing was not only about finding great deals, it was also a chance to bond, laugh, and form new friendships. The shared experience brought a sense of community and connection.

Hull Residential Caravan Retreat

13 women participated in a residential retreat in Hull, staying in caravans nestled in the countryside. Over several days, they explored three different seaside locations, cooked and shared meals, and gathered each evening to exchange life stories. These heartfelt conversations fostered deep understanding and mutual learning. The retreat significantly reduced feelings of isolation and loneliness, helping participants build lasting friendships and a stronger sense of belonging.



Children & Young People

Overview

This year, All United delivered a dynamic and inclusive programme of workshops, activities, and excursions tailored to the diverse needs of children and young people. Our initiatives focused on:

- Skill development
- Confidence building
- Mental and physical well-being

Through age-appropriate and culturally sensitive programming, we created safe spaces for growth, creativity, and connection. Collaborating with trusted partners, we ensured high-quality sessions that nurtured essential life skills and empowered participants to thrive.

Partners

We proudly collaborated with Oldham Greenhill community sports and recreation centre (OGCSRC), Chai Project, Dynamo Sports, Early Break, JJ Knife Crime, Oak Project, KOGS, BAME Connect, Peshkar Productions, Oldham Library, Lancashire Cricket Club, Every Child is a Filmmaker, OPAG, and Alchemy Arts.

Workshops & Activities

Category	Activities Included
Creative & Practical Skills	Arts & Crafts, Drama, Photography, Filming, Hair & Beauty
Life Skills	First Aid, Food Hygiene, Digital Skills, Sewing, Budgeting, Transport Navigation
Sports & Physical Activity	Taekwondo, Martial Arts, Multisport, Cricket, Outdoor Adventures
Awareness & Wellbeing	Mental Health, Healthy Eating, Environmental Workshops, Crime Awareness

Other Key Themes

Recycling, Cultural Education Trips & Excursions

We enriched learning and well-being through visits to:

- Alexandra Park, Heart's Head Pike, Dovestones, Crocky Trail and Southport
- Trafford Centre, Ice Rink, Ashton Bowling and Indoor Rock Climbing
- Northern Roots, Heaton Park, Odeon Cinemas the Escape Rooms, Manchester
- Gourmet Restaurant, Café East

Celebrations

We marked cultural milestones and achievements with community-wide events:

- Eid, Ramadan, Easter, Christmas and New Year
- End-of-Project Celebrations
- Achievement Ceremonies featuring local and national partners



Children (Ages 5–11)

Split into cohorts (5–8 and 8–11), children engaged in:

- Creative Exploration: Painting, recycled crafts, environmental awareness
- Sports Engagement: 8 cricket sessions with Lancashire Cricket Club (35 children attended)
- First Aid & Safety: Basic first aid courses
- Special Highlights:

  2 children delivered the ball at Trafford Cricket Ground during national competition

  50 children and parents attended a certificate ceremony with local leaders

  15 children participated in the Young Digital Festival at Oldham Library

Trendy Teens (Ages 11–18)

Teens explored identity, leadership, and wellness through:

- Active Lifestyle: Dodgeball, hiking, dance, cricket
- Healthy Living: Cooking, body image discussions
- Fashion & Self-Esteem: Fashion shows, public performance
- Environmental Impact: Cleanliness, crime reduction workshops
- Cultural & Artistic Growth:

  Photography & nature workshops

  Silver Arts Award with celebratory meal

  14 participants in "Every Child is a Filmmaker"
- Life Skills for Girls: Sewing, budgeting, flat-pack assembly, transport navigation
- Leadership & Volunteering:

  Public speaking at an event, organised by FWA where 200 women attended

  8 youth progressed onto becoming community champions
- Crime & Safety Education: Bullying, grooming, substance abuse, healthy relationships
- Seasonal Activities: Ice skating and group outings

Programme Highlights

- 17 young people earned Bronze/Silver Arts Awards
- 2 children honoured at a major cricket event
- 8 young leaders recognised as community champions
- 14 youth engaged in ongoing film/media project

Evaluation

Total Participants: **108 children and young people**

Outcome	% Achieved
Improved confidence	**100%**
Learned new skills	**100%**
Improved physical activity	**80%**
Enjoyed sports	**70%**
Enjoyed arts & recreational activities	**95%**
Enjoyed group discussions	**60%**
Enjoyed outdoor activities	**100%**
Improved social skills & made new friends	**100%**

Case Study: Transformative Journeys Through Creative & Physical Engagement

Y & Z: From Resistance to Resilience

Initially, Y and Z were difficult to engage. Both girls struggled with short attention spans and found it challenging to connect with others in the group. However, they gradually discovered enjoyment and purpose through taekwondo sessions, using the physical activity as a healthy outlet for their frustrations.

During arts and crafts workshops, they voiced concerns about the easy accessibility of vaping among peers, an issue that prompted deeper conversations around conflict resolution and recognising criminal behaviours. These sessions became a turning point, offering them tools to navigate peer pressure and interpersonal challenges.

Structured team-building activities played a vital role in fostering group cohesion. Over time, Y and Z began to interact more positively with others, contributing to a shift in group dynamics. Their personal growth had a ripple effect, more young people from their community began accessing youth services, and several mothers were inspired to enrol in English classes.

"I feel stronger now. I know how to speak up and help my friends too." Said Z

X: Finding Her Voice Through Poetry

X is a brilliant, talented, and creative young individual. During poetry sessions, she engaged deeply in discussions and courageously shared her feelings of loneliness. These workshops were designed to help young people express emotions indirectly, offering a safe and supportive space for self-reflection.

Recognising signs of emotional distress, staff sensitively communicated concerns to X's parents, ensuring she received appropriate support. The completion and public presentation of her poem at the **Digital Arts Festival** marked a significant milestone. Her peers applauded her work, and she formed new friendships through the project.

X's transformation was profound. She was later entrusted with a **leadership role**, supporting and encouraging other reserved individuals in the classroom. She embraced this responsibility with maturity and continues to demonstrate exceptional leadership qualities. X has completed all tasks for her **Silver Arts Award.**

"Poetry helped me say things I didn't know how to say. Now I help others find their words too." said X.

15+ Girls Group

Empowering young people through Creativity, Confidence & Accreditation

Group Overview

Programme	Details
Registered Members	**18 young people**
Average Weekly Attendance	**14 participants**
Session Schedule	**Thursday evenings (2.5 hours)**

Project Summary



This year-long initiative engaged young women aged 15+ with a passion for entrepreneurship and the creative arts. Delivered in partnership with Peshkar Productions, the program offered a pathway to the Gold Arts Award, which carries 16 UCAS points, a powerful motivator for participants to take ownership of their learning and creative journeys.

Recruitment was achieved through:

- Digital media outreach
- WhatsApp parent groups
- Word-of-mouth within the community

Participants included both newcomers and those progressing from the Silver Arts Award.



Programme Highlights

- Creative Pathways: Jewellery making, photography, digital art, and visual art
- Skill Development: Leadership, communication, project management, critical thinking
- Long-Term Commitment: Weekly sessions + independent portfolio tasks
- Social Impact: Strong peer bonds, safe space for expression and growth

Outcomes & Impact

Outcome	Result
Confidence & Creativity	**Significantly increased**
Leadership & Teamwork	**Enhanced through collaborative projects**
Social Inclusion	**New friendships formed, reducing isolation**
Academic & Career Readiness	**UCAS-accredited qualifications gained**
Future Aspirations	**Greater engagement with education & business**

Participants Feedback

"This break was needed after stressful exams."
"I love coming here to meet my friends."
"I never knew I was so creative."
"I want to start my own business."



Case Study: X's Journey to Confidence

Background

X is a homeschooled young person who faced isolation and anxiety in social settings. After discovering our program via social media, she expressed interest to her mother and joined the Gold Arts Award group.

Transformation

Since joining, X has flourished:

- Developed a passion for jewellery making
- Gained confidence and social ease
- Integrated with her peer group
- Preparing to start college in September

"I feel like I've found my place. I'm excited for college now." Said X

Challenges

- Initial Engagement: Busy schedules and social anxiety can hinder participation
- Outreach: Communicating long-term benefits to new audiences remains a challenge
- Balancing Objectives: Aligning social interests with accredited learning through co-designed activities

Conclusion

- This project provides a transformative platform for young people to explore their creativity, acquire qualifications, and develop self-confidence. The safe, inclusive environment nurtures emotional well-being while equipping participants with transferable life skills and a renewed sense of purpose.



Summary of financial activities, April 2024 to Match 2025

INCOME	£
Action Together, various funds	2,938
Breast Cancer	225
Cancer & Inequalities	4,951
Cost of living Crises Greater Manchester	5,000
Costco & United Way UK	1,500
Faith Action	1,250
Garfield Weston	10,000
Greater Manchester Crime Reduction VRU	15,000
GMCA WEA Community Grants Strand 1	34,722
John Mason Family Charitable trust	2,000
MMR Campaign	5,000
NHS Greater Manchester	3,000
One Oldham Fund Children & young people	972
Postcode neighbourhood trust	25,000
The National Lottery Reaching Communities	80,230
The Tudor Trust	48
Other Small Funds	3,043
Activities for generating funds	3,618
Total Income	**198,497**

EXPENDITURE	
Events/Trips/Projects	34,115
Insurance	874
Management and Finance	16,185
Miscellaneous	41
Office & Communication Costs	8,547
Payroll Service and Index	1,390
Property Expenses	11,296
Training	532
Travel	1,209
Staff Costs	124,787
Volunteers	3,587
Total Expenditure	**202,563**
Total Surplus/ (Deficit)	**(4,066)**
Balance brought forward FWA 01/04/24	**164,111**
Restricted Funds at 31/03/25	**91,902**
Unrestricted Funds at 31/03/25	**68,143**





Staff Members

Fauzia Chaudhry
MANAGING DIRECTOR

Uzma Khaliq
FINANCE OFFICER/FUNDRAISER

Farhanda Qadeer
WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT WORKER

Shabana Parveen
CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT WORKER

Arjam Sadiq
CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG PEOPLE SUPPORT WORKER

Farhanda Qadeer
CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG PEOPLE SUPPORT WORKER

Management Committee Members

Tabasum Kausar
CHAIRPERSON

Farzana Aziz
VICE CHAIRPERSON

Samina Iqbal
TREASURER

Sylvia Akram
SECRETARY

Shamim Akhtar
Nasreen Shabir
Parveen Akhtar
Maria Nessa





Fatima Women's Association is extremely interested in recruiting new Management Committee Members and volunteers. Interested individuals should contact F.W.A for further information.

Please visit our web page

www.fatimawomens.org.uk

for up-to-date information.

COMMUNITY FUND

POSTCODE NEIGHBOURHOOD TRUST

GMCA GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY

Charity Registration Number: 1160027

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ending 31st March 2025

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

Registered Charity Name	Fatima Women's Association
Charity Number	1160027
Registered Office	Marlborough Resource Centre Marlborough Street Oldham OL4 1EG
Trustees	Mrs N Shabir Mrs P Akhtar Mrs S Akhtar Mrs F Aziz Ms S Akram Mrs S Iqbal Mrs T Kausar Ms M Nessa
Accountants	Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C. Foxfields 9 Norley Close Chadderton Oldham OL1 2RA
Bankers	Virgin Money 47 Market Place Oldham OL1 3AB

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2025

The trustees present their annual report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 March 2025.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Fatima Women's Association is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, CIO, registered charity number 1160027.

Recruitment and Training of Trustees

The trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the annual general meeting held each October. Interested parties can request an application form from staff to join the Management Committee. The current Management Committee members will shortlist and either invite successful applicants to the Annual General Meeting or co-opt individuals as stated below.

The Committee shall consist of at least 8 members elected by and from the representatives of the area of benefit. The Officers and Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve until the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting next after their appointment.
The Committee shall have the power to co-opt persons having special knowledge or experience, provided that the number of co-opted members shall not exceed one-third of the total membership of the Committee. They shall hold office until the end of the Annual General Meeting following their co-option.

The Committee may invite any person to attend its meeting as an observer but without the power to vote. Trustees are advised to attend relevant training when and if required.

Organisational Management

Fatima Women's Association is managed by a Management Committee who is elected at the Annual General Meeting by the members of Fatima Women's Association. There are currently 8 elected members on the Board of Trustees. Regular staff meetings take place with the manager who submits a written report on the work of the association every 6 to 8 weeks at the management committee meetings.

Group Structure and Relationships

Fatima Women's Association has 8 trustees on the management board. It has 1 full time staff and 5 part time staff employed, subject to funding. It has a pool of 22 active volunteers and work experience students. The staff attend the staff meetings to inform the manager of the work conducted and future project planning. The minutes of the staff meeting are submitted at the regular board meetings.

Public Benefit

The objects of Fatima Women's Association are:

- To empower disadvantaged women, young people, and children in Oldham to improve their quality of life.
- To provide and assist in the provision of education, training and recreational activities for women, young people, and children in the Borough of Oldham.

In planning our activities for the year we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustees' meetings. The focus of our activities remains around education, training, social and leisure activities.

To capacity build and empower disadvantaged women, young people, and children in Oldham, by building their confidence, self-esteem, social and educational skills through the provision of a range of demand led, quality controlled and fit for purpose educational training programmes.

To improve the health, wellbeing of disadvantaged women, young people and children who may be experiencing isolation, poor physical and mental health, and domestic abuse by providing a variety of educational, social and leisure opportunities.

To further develop the skills, health and social wellbeing of all vulnerable, disadvantaged children and young people enabling them to reach their full potential in terms of education, economic and social contribution, health, and wellbeing.

Risk Management

Regular disclosure and barring service checks take place with every individual that works with children and vulnerable adults in line with statutory requirements.

Objectives, Aims and Activities

Charitable Objectives

The Charitable Objectives of Fatima Women's Association, as set out in the Constitution of the CIO are:

Education/Training:

To capacity build and empower disadvantaged women in Oldham, by building their confidence, self-esteem, social and educational skills through the provision of a range of demand led, quality controlled and fit for purpose educational training programmes.

Health and Wellbeing:

To improve the health, wellbeing of disadvantaged women and their children who may be experiencing isolation, poor physical and mental health, and domestic abuse by providing a variety of educational, social and leisure opportunities.

Activities for children and young people:

To further develop the skills, health and social wellbeing of all vulnerable, disadvantaged children and young people enabling them to reach their full potential in terms of education, economic and social contribution, health and wellbeing.

Principle Activities

The principal activities continued to be education, training, social and leisure activities as listed in the detailed Annual Report 2024/25.

Review of Achievements and Performance for the Year

Operational Performance

Under education FWA delivered Phonics, Speaking and listening, Creative English, communication, reading and writing basic and intermediate level, English Language, Numeracy and IT skills.

Under training FWA delivered pre- employment skills programme, Greater Manchester crime reduction unit programme (Violence reduction unit), Basic First Aid, Fire Safety, British Citizenship, driving theory, Confidence building and Life in the UK test.

Under health and wellbeing FWA delivered the older women's group, tea/toast hub, mental health awareness, dementia awareness, diabetes awareness, cancer awareness, breast cancer awareness, menopause, menstrual cycle and periods, women's resilience, health and wellbeing groups, fitness, Zumba, yoga, Pilates, art and craft, creating internal strength, beauty and wellness, massage, knitting, drama production, fashion and design, sewing, advice surgeries and trips. Collaborating with the communities to improve health and wellbeing, preventing illnesses and overcoming mental health related challenges. We have delivered to women of all ages the walking, exercise and health and wellbeing sessions. In May 2025, FWA held a Ripple Effect event where over 200 individuals attended. During the event the members, volunteers, young people took part in a drama production, fashion show and the dance competition. In the drama production, the message was about family relationships, parenting, cultural expectations, communication, friendships, grooming, drugs awareness, services to access for support and advice, to name a few.

Under activities for children and young people FWA delivered sessions on drama, film making, photography, Taekwondo, dodgeball, pot planting, gardening, recycling, hairdressing, indoor games, art and craft, sewing, canvas painting, learning about the environment and healthy cooking. Various trips took place, Lancaster Farm, Primrose centre, Northern Roots, outdoor activity parks, Crocky Trails, Bowling, Go Karting, and to local heritage destinations. The older people volunteered to hold the Iftar event and took part in the Fashion show at The Ripple Effect event.

Awareness raising and discussions on bullying and harassment, internet grooming, depression, positive attitudes, drugs and cultural awareness. FWA has had the impact of reducing inequality and building resilience across Oldham's communities, reducing poverty and helping people get back on their feet.

22 volunteers attended the annual volunteer celebration event.

We have regularly reviewed and revised the programmes with the tutor to meet the needs of the learners and the organisation. Project updates have been submitted regularly to the management board. The project workers played a key role in building partnerships with other organisations to deliver programmes to meet the needs of the community. Working with other organisations has helped to enhance our existing provisions. FWA is part of the Oldham positive action network (OPAN), the women's network, the community centres network, and attend the Oldham Community Explorers meetings, all facilitated by Action Together.

Fundraising Performance

The association is pleased to announce it has sustained the projects for the forthcoming year due to raising additional funds from The National Lottery awards for all, WEA GMCA Community Grant Strand 1, other small trusts and foundations, which is going to have a positive impact on the sustainability of the association in 2025/2026. The association is already looking to apply for funds to sustain the work of the association beyond September 2026. Therefore, FWA continues to increase or decrease staffing hours based on projects approved throughout the year.

Our main sources of funding have been grant funding and small donations from trust, foundations, NHS, PCN, government commissioning and procurement programmes.

Reserves Policy

To maintain the cost of redundancies if the inevitable happens and redundancies must be made.

Plans

Based on the current staffing commitment on a yearly basis Fatima Women's Association wants to be able to sustain an income of £120,000. This is through the request for continuation funding from The National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund and submitting funding applications to other funders, commissioning and procurement, researchers and consultation providers.

The sources of funding can be spread over a range of sources from the Local government, national government schemes, international government schemes, private trusts, and foundations and local fundraising activities. Trusts and foundations have played a noticeably big part in the sustainability of F.W.A. We shall endeavour to conduct applying for further funding from the great networks that F.W.A has achieved over the past few decades.

There is a great need in the community to further improve the English language, Pre-employability skills, numeracy and information technology to enable women to become independent and integrate within the wider community. This could potentially lead on to gaining work experience, volunteering, or employment.

We have developed a fundraising strategy which will be in line with the Business Plan 2025 to 2030. This is a working document.

The Trustee's Annual Report was approved by the Board of Trustee's and signed on their behalf:

Signed.....

Name..Tabassum Kausar..... Date..21/8/2025.....

Trustee Chair Person.

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2025

I report on the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2025 set out on pages 8-11.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees consider an audit is not required for this year under s144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under s145 of the 2011 Act
- Follow the procedure laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under s145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Opinion

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items of disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiners Statement

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

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
   - To keep accounting records in accordance with s130 of the 2011 Act; and
   - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

JBird 4th September 2025

Miss Jacqueline Bird F.M.A.A.T.
Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C.
Foxfields
9 Norley Close
Chadderton
Oldham
OL1 2RA

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
RECEIPTS					
Grants & Donations	*2*	-	194,879	194,879	186,462
Activities for Generating Funds		3,618	-	3,618	6,574
TOTAL RECEIPTS	*3*	**3,618**	**194,879**	**198,497**	**193,036**
PAYMENTS					
Salaries & Pensions		-	124,787	124,787	95,602
Management & Finance		-	16,185	16,185	15,004
Travelling		-	1,209	1,209	1,500
Telephone & Internet		-	961	961	1,124
Events, Projects & Trips		-	34,115	34,115	28,712
Service Charge		-	10,991	10,991	3,535
Room Hire		-	197	197	434
Insurance		-	874	874	923
Cleaning Costs		-	108	108	-
Stationary, Printing & Postage		-	2,398	2,398	2,276
Volunteers		-	3,587	3,587	3,090
Payroll, Accounts & HR		-	1,390	1,390	1,313
Consultancy		-	-	-	-
Training		-	532	532	1,287
IT Software		-	1,809	1,809	1,973
Equipment		-	3,379	3,379	5,158
Miscellaneous		41	-	41	-
TOTAL PAYMENTS		**41**	**202,522**	**202,563**	**161,931**
Net of receipts/(payments)		3,577	(7,643)	(4,066)	31,105
Cash funds at 1st April 2024		65,193	98,918	164,111	133,006
Transfer of Funds		(627)	627	-	-
Cash funds at 31 March 2025	*4*	**68,143**	**91,902**	**160,045**	**164,111**

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITES

AS AT 31ST MARCH 2025

	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
ASSETS		
Cash Funds	162,635	164,111
Debtors	-	-
	162,635	164,111
LIABILITIES		
Creditors	2,590	-
	2,590	-
TOTAL NET ASSETS/LIABILITIES	**160,045**	**164,111**
Additional Liabilities		
Independent Examination Fee	**910**	**910**

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Signed.....

Name..Tabassum Kausar..... Date.....21/8/2025.....

Trustee chair person

1. Receipts and payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

2. Grants and Donations

	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Action Together:		
Warm Hub Investment	938	-
Oldham Vaccination Programme	1,500	-
Answer Cancer	-	8,000
Awards For All	-	10,000
Breast Cancer	225	2,525
Cancer & Inequalities	4,951	-
Central District Councillors Grant	-	1,725
Cost of Living Crisis Greater Manchester	5,000	-
Costco & United Way UK	1,500	-
Faith Action Creative English	1,250	5,744
Garfield Weston	10,000	10,000
GMCA Community Grants (Strand 1)	34,722	-
Grace Trust	-	1,000
Greater Manchester Crime Reduction Unit	15,000	21,750
John Mason Family Trust	2,000	2,000
MMR Campaign	5,000	-
Magic Little Grants	-	500
NHS Greater Manchester	3,000	-
One Oldham Fund Children & Young People Grant	972	-
One Oldham Fund Micro Grants	-	1,000
Oldham Poverty Action Network	-	941
Postcode Neighbourhood Trust	25,000	-
Reaching Communities	80,230	77,571
Skipton Building Society	-	1,500
Small Other Funds	3,043	5,039
Tudor Trust	48	36,667
Volunteer Celebration Fund	500	500
	194,879	**186,462**

3. Activities for Generating Funds

	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
General Funds	3,618	6,574
	3,618	**6,574**

4. Fund Analysis

Fund Name	Balance as at 1 April 2024 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfer of Funds £	Balance as at 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted Funds	**65,193**	**3,618**	**(41)**	**(627)**	**68,143**
Restricted Funds:					
Action Together:					
Warm Hub Investment	-	938	(986)	48	-
Oldham Vaccination Programme	-	1,500	(1,500)	-	-
Answer Cancer	7,920	-	(7,960)	40	-
Awards For All	3,636	-	(3,862)	226	-
Breast Cancer	1,423	225	(1,648)	-	-
Cancer & Inequalities	-	4,951	(5,005)	54	-
Central District Councillors Grant	344	-	(344)	-	-
Cost of Living Crisis Greater Manchester (COLC GM)	-	5,000	(3,283)	-	1,717
Costco & United Way UK	-	1,500	(1,552)	52	-
Dementia**	-	-	(3,420)	-	(3,420)
Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund	2,000	-	(1,360)	-	640
Faith Action Creative English	1,464	1,250	(2,714)	-	-
Garfield Weston	10,000	10,000	(11,343)	-	8,657
GMCA Community Grants (Strand 1)	-	34,722	(34,725)	3	-
Grace Trust	1,000	-	(1,003)	3	-
Greater Manchester Crime Reduction Unit	-	15,000	(13,039)	-	1,961
John Mason Family Trust	1,130	2,000	(1,421)	-	1,709
MMR Campaign	-	5,000	(5,035)	35	-
NHS Greater Manchester	-	3,000	(3,040)	40	-
One Oldham Fund Children & Young People Grant	-	972	(1,098)	126	-
One Oldham Fund Micro Grants	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
Postcode Neighbourhood Trust	-	25,000	(11,914)	-	13,086
Reaching Communities	13,334	80,230	(80,408)	-	13,156
Skipton Building Society	1,090	-	(1,090)	-	-
Small Other Funds	17,271	3,043	-	-	20,314
Tudor Trust	37,306	48	(3,272)	-	34,082
Volunteer Celebration Fund	-	500	(500)	-	-
	98,918	**194,879**	**(202,522)**	**627**	**91,902**
TOTAL FUNDS	**164,111**	**198,497**	**(202,563)**	**-**	**160,045**

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1160027

Accounts

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Marlborough resource centre
Marlborough Street Glodwick Oldham OL4 1EG
0161 627 3109
www.fatimawomens.org.uk



33rd Annual Report
September 2023 – August 2024

Charitable Incorporated Organisation Number 1160027

INTRODUCTION

Aims

Fatima Women's Association aims to meet the needs of women from the surrounding areas of Glodwick, Alexandra, Roundthorn and other parts of Oldham. We provide and assist in the provision of training, educational courses, health and wellbeing sessions, recreation and leisure activities for women, young people, and children. We also meet our aims through the employment of staff, the development of partnerships with other agencies and using volunteers.

Within the last year FWA has created an environment, which appeals to and caters for the needs of the different local communities.

Through running numerous training sessions and courses FWA have succeeded in encouraging and supporting many women and young people in making the decision to go into further education and increase their qualifications, gain volunteer opportunities, chances of paid employment and improvement in their quality of life.

Chairperson's Report

As the chair of Fatima Women's Association, it gives me immense pleasure to submit this 33rd annual report on the progress of the organisation and the new initiatives undertaken during the past year.

The progress of Fatima Women's Association in the past year has been challenging, encouraging and highly positive, improving services in the community immensely due to the focused management committee members, volunteers, and staff.

It has been an extremely eventful year where the association has delivered a range of new and innovative projects in response to what the community members have told us they need. For up-to-date information please go online at www.fatimawomens.org.uk. This website will be updated regularly. Please visit FWA to register your interest in any of the training courses, educational courses, health and wellbeing sessions and children's activities that are being delivered.

Strengthening communities

The manager has focused on the partnerships, particularly between the voluntary, community and the statutory sector. Working together has helped to enhance existing provision and has brought different sets of skills together to provide improved networks of services for beneficiaries. Furthermore, we host monthly consortium meetings at FWA. We work in close partnership with

Action Together, Oldham Lifelong Learning, Positive Steps, Bethel Church, Oak project, Get Oldham Working (Oldham Council), KOGGS, Faith Action, Greater Manchester Violence Reduction Unit, Lancashire cricket foundation, Peshkar productions, Salford CVS, The Christie NHS foundation, Ice Creates, Oldham interfaith forum, Saheli women's group, The University of Manchester, Xperthealth, Answer Cancer Manchester, Fresh Belief and Centre of wellbeing, training and culture.

Activities/Training

FWA has been involved in consultation with local women, young people and children and networking with other agencies on an on-going basis to design and run new projects reflecting the needs of the community.

We as a team have continued to build on our past experiences to develop FWA towards its full potential.

We had 274 adults and 175 young people and children's membership forms completed. Over a 52-week period the average number of participants accessing the sessions was 128 individuals per week. F.W.A has had 20 different volunteers throughout a 12-month period.

Every year, thanks to the funding from the One Oldham Fund, The Volunteer celebration fund, we celebrate the commitment from the board of trustees and the volunteers for their hard work, dedication and feedback each year. We celebrate in a variety of ways, e.g. by awarding certificates, presenting gift vouchers, taking part in team building adventures, having a meal, bowling or going to the cinema.



Volunteer celebration

Funding

It has been another successful year for FWA in raising funds to run projects, maintain overheads, resources, and staff positions. We are extremely pleased that new projects taken on by FWA are meeting their outcomes and that they have an enhanced impact on our core delivery.

The association has sustainability for the next 2 years. Each year we are very successful in bringing in new projects that benefit the community e.g. Answer Cancer to run a cancer awareness programme, Breast cancer awareness, Greater Manchester Crime Reduction Unit to talk about crime and parental awareness, One Oldham fund small grants to deliver 50 plus luncheon Club and many more. This is amazing news which would not have been possible without the hardwork and commitment given by the management, staff and volunteers.

FWA would like to thank the following for their financial support from April 2023 to March 2024:

Answer Cancer
Breast Cancer
Central district councillors
Faith Action
Garfield Weston Foundation
Grace Trust
Greater Manchester Crime Reduction, Violence Reduction Unit
John Mason Family Trust
Local giving magic little grants
One Oldham Fund Micro
One Oldham Fund Volunteer Celebration Fund
Oldham poverty action network, Action Together
Skipton building society charitable foundation.
The National Lottery Awards for All
The National Lottery Reaching Communities
Tudor Trust

On behalf of the Management Committee, I would like to extend our appreciation and an excessively big thank you to all members of staff for their arduous work, commitment, and enthusiasm and all the volunteers of Fatima Women's Association, for their consistent and loyal support.

It is with immense pleasure that I present to you the 33rd Annual Report of Fatima Women's Association September 2023 to August 2024.

Samina Iqbal
Chairperson



Interfaith Forum Event

Our Strategic Objectives

Education/Training:

To capacity build and empower disadvantaged women in Oldham, by building their confidence, self esteem, social and educational skills through the provision of a range of demand led, quality controlled and fit for purpose educational training programmes.

This year, our project has brought about remarkable transformations in the lives of individual women. Each has not only achieved significant personal and professional milestones but also demonstrated a commendable level of growth. We take immense pride in their progress and our project's positive impact on them.

Through our efforts, our learners have experienced a significant boost in confidence and independence. For many, the ability to break free from financial and personal dependence and pursue their desired life has been a driving force in their dedication to the courses and their subsequent progress. These transformations are a testament to the power of our projects and the potential they hold for future learners.

The participants, which included a rich mix of Pakistani, Bangladeshi, refugees, migrants, and members of more settled immigrant communities, truly reflected our commitment to inclusivity and diversity. This diverse mix allowed learners from different countries to learn cooperatively together and develop positive relationships with each other, fostering a sense of community and mutual respect.

At FWA, we place significant importance on collaboration, recognising its pivotal role in meeting the diverse needs of our community. Our project workers were instrumental in developing partnerships with other organisations to effectively design and deliver programs tailored to community needs. These partnerships were transactional and built on shared goals and mutual respect. Our projects were very well structured to

ensure alignment with our objectives. Each initiative is carefully crafted to maximize its impact and relevance to our communities. This structured approach and effective collaboration enabled us to achieve meaningful outcomes and drive positive change.

Feedback is not just a part of our continuous improvement efforts; it is at the heart of it. Our tutors regularly take opinions from learners regarding project effectiveness, which are then thoughtfully discussed with management. This feedback loop ensures that our projects remain responsive and relevant to the evolving needs of our participants. We value their feedback and consider it integral to our success. Communication with the community is paramount to us. We operate under an open-door policy, welcoming individuals to engage with any available staff members at their convenience. Verbal feedback was encouraged and valued as it provided immediate insights into community sentiments and concerns.

FWA has built social networks and friendships with other organizations in Greater Manchester area. FWA has encouraged women to:
Develop many new skills.
Improved physical, emotional, and mental wellbeing.
Accessing mainstream services and have the support they need.
Increased knowledge and confidence to create their solutions and plans.
Increased social networks and connections in their community.
Provided 1:1 support to vulnerable women experiencing domestic issues.

The association receives referrals from Jobcentre Plus, partly due to changes in Universal Credit and the benefit cap. The centre's location allows participants to walk to the classes, reducing their reliance on family members or public transport. New members continually join the sessions throughout the year; however, due to the training room's capacity, we can only accommodate up to 12 individuals despite significantly higher demand for these sessions.

FWA has improved leadership/governance. Including a review of board/committee policy and practice, Trustee training, involving users at the AGM. FWA has Improved strategic planning/policy, Including business planning, fundraising strategies, income generation, policy, and procedure reviews.

We devised several strategies to address challenges, particularly the linguistic diversity among women from various backgrounds. The high demand for training and activities strained our financial resources and limited our capacity to recruit more tutors. In response, we sought alternative solutions by recruiting six dedicated volunteers who generously offered language support and began teaching English classes. Three of these volunteers are actively delivering English classes, significantly alleviating the strain on our resources.

Volunteers

The involvement of volunteers from the Bangla community has been instrumental in addressing specific issues faced by this demographic. Their expertise has shed light on barriers and challenges, leading to increased participation from the Bangla community. We continually welcomed new volunteers from diverse backgrounds, enriching our talent pool and perspectives. Our committee members, drawn from the community, serve as invaluable advisors, offering insights and guidance that shape our strategic direction. Their input is deeply valued, underscoring our commitment to community-led decision-making processes. Our approach to community involvement is holistic and inclusive, rooted in the belief that collaboration is the cornerstone of meaningful change. By actively engaging with and listening to the voices of the community, we strive to create programs and initiatives that genuinely make a difference.

Goals

Our main goal has always been to boost the self-esteem and confidence of our students. We designed our projects with this goal and created an environment where participants felt encouraged to pursue their goals and share personal stories. We aimed to empower and unleash the full potential of everyone. With our pre-employability skills program, we aligned our efforts with both local and national needs. We actively supported learners at every stage of their journey, assisting them in their pursuits, and celebrated their progress. Our project has significantly increased women's motivation to learn, leading to greater engagement among this demographic.



Presentation of certificates

A project-based approach allowed learners to work in small groups, research, and visit places of interest, such as Bolton Abbey and Skipton Castle. Women presented about each place, allowing them to engage directly with local community members and share their learning with the broader community.

Sessions focused on practicing communication skills, both written and spoken. Learners engaged in role-playing, reading aloud, and reading comprehension tasks. They practiced spelling unfamiliar words and enhanced their understanding of English grammar. These activities were integrated into the course objectives and occurred in every session.

Communication skills and confidence building, higher level class:

The Spoken English program has been successfully running for many years, offering classes twice weekly during term time. The initiative has seen remarkable success, regularly benefiting those attending classes consistently.

Many young mothers have reported that they can now better help their children with homework and attend parents' evenings at their child's school.

Pre-Employability Skills programme:

Job search skills, learners studied their selected topics, including school education in the UK and the available jobs within this sector. They better understood how children are taught in schools and the roles of teachers, teaching assistants, and midday supervisors. Additionally, they enhanced their understanding of the structure of the school system in the UK. Learners actively searched for jobs within the education sector and analysed various job descriptions. They had the opportunity to meet with Home Organisation officers, who represent a charitable organisation providing volunteering opportunities. During these meetings, they learned about the requirements for becoming a volunteer with this organisation and how to apply for volunteer positions.

Driving theory sessions with literacy:

At the request of our learners, we have introduced driving theory sessions because they cannot afford private tutors. Many aim to work in the care industry but must improve d their limited English and lack of driving skills. They have pointed out that other learning centres charge unreasonably high fees for similar courses, putting them out of reach. Furthermore, some learners need internet access, which highlights the importance of including this support in our Pre-Employability Skills program. As a result, we have adjusted our curriculum to seamlessly incorporate these driving theory sessions into our reading and writing class.



Student presentation

Eight women have passed the driving theory test. During the sessions, students focused on understanding the rules of driving theory and improving their English language skills related to the topic. They familiarised themselves with driving regulations and safety and studied road signs and markings. They began by observing their neighbourhood's road signs and markings and practicing with short tests. Additionally, some of the learners started practical driving lessons.

ESOL:

ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) lessons enhance communication skills, build confidence, and promote independence. They aim to remove communication barriers through carefully planned and customised instruction. Students who have attended these sessions have indicated that they become more independent and confident and often find it easier to progress to higher-level classes. It enabled them to communicate with professionals within schools, the NHS, public transport system etc.

Life in the UK:

Due to high demand, the Life in the UK preparation course has been delivered. The course sessions focus on studying the topics required to pass the Life in the UK test. Participants learn the vocabulary and information necessary to become knowledgeable members of the local community and British citizens. Additionally, they delve into the history of Great Britain. Many women passed their tests.

Case study 1

One learner, X, said, she needed to pass the Life in the UK test but could not study alone. The volume of information was too much, and she couldn't motivate herself to start studying. It was too difficult. X became more familiar with the topics covered during the course and later said, "I can understand some of the information now. I feel I can do it. With the

help of the teacher, I will be able to pass the test. I learned many words and started reading Life in the UK."

Case study 2

Learner Y shared, "I came to the centre because my friend recommended the course. Initially, I hesitated, but my friend encouraged me to try it. I was worried that I wouldn't be able to understand the teacher because my English isn't perfect."
After joining the class, Y worked hard and completed her homework assignments. She made progress and started feeling more confident. She began to believe that "I can do it." Y successfully completed all the sessions in the course and is eager to continue her studies. She now feels more confident and motivated to pass her test in the future. Additionally, she has applied to volunteer at Home Start.

Case study 3

X came from Pakistan and spoke very little English. She could not read, write, or speak English, and had very low confidence. However, she was eager to learn. After attending classes for a year, she stated that her reading, writing, and speaking skills had improved. She could now go shopping, make appointments, and answer questions. This progress has motivated her to look for a job. She plans to attend more classes to become more financially independent and transition from receiving benefits to working.

Bolton Abbey:

40 learners with their children from FWA visited Bolton Abbey near Skipton in Yorkshire. They wandered around the area, exploring the priory ruins. Some of them visited the church building. We discussed the age of these buildings, the historical events that took place there, and the condition of the structures. The learners also strolled through the nearby cemetery, observing the old graves. It was an exciting and educational brief history lesson.

Skipton Castle:

40 learners from FWA and their children visited Skipton Castle in Skipton, Yorkshire. This 900-year-old building was once the residence of local lords. During the visit, they explored the dungeon, wine cellar, kitchens, some of the chambers, and banquet halls. The group discussed the purpose of such a building and its role in the local community. They imagined the conditions of life and how people lived during that time. Following the trip, the learners researched the castle's history and shared their experiences. This exciting lesson allowed the students to experience some of England's history.

400 individuals attended a variety of courses from across Oldham	**76%** Had a good experience	**91 %** Have gained better job prospects	**100%** Improved spoken English	**86%** Made new friends	**83%** Enjoyed Learning about History
Educational training courses **356 sessions delivered**	**88%** Gained confidence	**80%** Improved writing skills	**70%** Happy with the teaching Method	**100%** Impressed with the teacher	**93%** Loved the environment
Health and Well-being **100 sessions delivered**	**80%** Learned new things	**90%** Improved driving theory skills	**99%** Increased Knowledge	**100%** Improved vocabulary	**90%** Improved Mental well being

Health and Wellbeing:

To improve the health, wellbeing of disadvantaged women and their children who may be experiencing isolation, poor physical and mental health, and domestic abuse by providing a variety of educational, social and leisure opportunities.

Recognising the complex nature of the issues faced by our participants, including poverty and domestic challenges, we took steps to provide holistic support. Our existing staff played a crucial role in offering emotional support, leveraging their understanding of Asian culture to better connect with and assist our participants. These strategies underscore our adaptability and commitment to overcoming challenges in our community development project. Our program encompassed a variety of health and well-being initiatives, including the "Colourful Mind" project, which four dedicated volunteers supported. These volunteers attended sessions as needed, providing valuable assistance and engagement.

Colourful Minds:

Through the "Colourful Mind" program, we discovered that many women in the BME communities consume high cholesterol levels in their daily diets. This dietary habit contributes to a range of health issues, including coronary heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, migraines, arthritis, and various other short- and long-term illnesses.

To address these health concerns and promote overall well-being, weight management, and health improvement, we organized and delivered the following weekly sessions:

1. Nutritional education and cooking classes focused on low-cholesterol diets.
2. Physical activity and exercise programs tailored to different fitness levels.
3. Stress management and mental health workshops.
4. Regular health screenings and check-ups.
5. Support groups and community discussions on health and well-being.

These sessions aimed to empower women in the BME communities with the knowledge and tools they need to lead healthier lives. The women thoroughly enjoyed attending the Tea & Toast Hub, finding it a safe and welcoming space to connect with other women and openly discuss their issues. They appreciated gaining knowledge from various health talks from professionals in different fields. The fact that it is an all-women's hub allowed them to discuss women-specific issues confidently.

Initially, some women hesitated to join due to a lack of confidence and unfamiliarity with social and well-being groups. However, from the first day, they felt welcomed and were delighted with their decision to attend. They quickly formed connections and friendships and eagerly anticipated each Tea & Toast session to reunite with other attendees. They also exchanged healthy recipes, shared their weight loss journeys, and discussed their new low-fat lifestyles.

The women enjoyed the outdoor activities and walks, which, when weather permitted, took place in our local "Alexandra Park" and various countryside areas that many women were unaware of. When the weather was less favourable, activities were held indoors in our main hall. They loved the combination of indoor exercises and outdoor walking sessions, finding it an effective way to work on all parts of the body. The indoor five-mile walking sessions were enjoyable, and many women achieved the goal of 10,000 steps, while others gradually increased their steps each week.

In the BME community, it is often challenging for women to find places to exercise and socialise in a women-only environment. Many feel vulnerable walking outdoors alone. Thanks to the funding provided, we are delighted to offer this platform to the community. As an organisation, we have witnessed a positive impact on women's minds, bodies, souls, overall well-being, and increased confidence.

The women are immensely grateful for the support and opportunities provided by the Tea & Toast Hub.





Older women's group:

Our 50+ Wellbeing Project aims to address the needs of women over 50, reducing social isolation and loneliness. We have conducted 30 leisure and social activity sessions for older women in the Oldham area, involving 40 women. These activities help them stay fit, have fun, and meet new people. We emphasise helping older individuals become more active, both physically and mentally. Our social activities include gentle exercise sessions to luncheon clubs, to help the women to feel energised. We collaborate with volunteers to offer various activities while addressing social isolation and promoting health-related activities and lifestyle changes. The women have attended mental health and dementia awareness sessions delivered by Mind

Oldham, with the main emphasis on breaking down isolation and providing an opportunity to socialise.



50 plus Laughing Yoga

Positive feedback and increased attendance are clear indicators of our success in reducing anxiety and depression and improving communication skills. This is a testament to the effectiveness of our approach and the value we bring to our participants. In addressing social isolation and domestic abuse, we observed improvements in overall well-being, family life, and community engagement.



Health awareness Open day

Health Awareness Open day:

60 women attended the Measles, Mumps, and Rubella event.
We promoted awareness at various events, including having a personal stand at the Oldham Healthy and Wellbeing event day. Additionally, we organized a leading event through FWA, which coincided with the Eid celebrations to

capture a wider audience. The event also featured support from a pharmacist who was available to answer questions and provide interpretation services for attendees from a Bangladeshi background.
FWA received strong support from ICE CREATS colleagues, which helped keep the project's goals on track. Through this initiative, we have been able to network and collaborate with various organizations across the Northwest region. This has enabled FWA to continue building strong relationships with external organisations such as The Oldham Council and Public Health.
Initially, there were many reservations about the vaccines within the community, and I received a significant amount of negative feedback, due to misinformation. However, by actively listening to the community and addressing their concerns, it became clear from the events that women were engaged with the MMR vaccine and eager to learn more. We have had many positive conversations with community members and have fostered a culture of acceptance for the MMR vaccine. Overall, we received positive feedback on how the main event was delivered. Attendees appreciated having access to healthcare professionals in familiar surroundings, which made them feel comfortable and enabled open, honest conversations without feeling judged.

Creative English and Health Programme:

Creative English for Health is a literacy program that empowers people with limited English language skills to access the health care support they and their families need.



Visit to the Oldham library

Case Study 1
X arrived in the UK from Pakistan three years ago and was initially found isolated as a homemaker. However, after discovering Creative English from a neighbour, she decided to join the program. From the very first session, she seamlessly integrated into the learning environment. She said that “role plays, enable her to navigate daily life independently. She has learned to make appointments, recognize symptoms, identify body parts, and engage in

meaningful conversations with healthcare professionals. The newfound knowledge boosted her self-sufficiency and instilled a sense of empowerment.

Case Study 2

Y, who came from Afghanistan and resided in the UK for the past two years, faced social challenges and hesitancy in joining community activities. Her friend encouraged her to participate in the Creative English Health program, Y decided to enrol and attend 12 sessions. Over this period, Y said "my confidence soared, particularly in the context of the NHS sector. The curriculum covered vocabulary improvement, pronunciation skills, and a comprehensive understanding of vaccination benefits. I have gained confidence in making informed decisions about my baby's vaccinations, showcasing a remarkable transformation in self-assurance."



Health conversations

Case Study 3

Z, who arrived from Spain five years ago, struggled with extended family responsibilities, leading to isolation and fatigue. Seeking a remedy, she discovered FWA classes through a friend. She said, "The course proved to be a comprehensive source of information, covering various vaccinations and their benefits." Beyond the educational aspect, Z experienced improvements in both English vocabulary and overall confidence. Engaging in role-plays provided joy and laughter, significantly reducing feelings of isolation. The course broadened Z's knowledge and positively impacted physical and mental well-being, offering a holistic transformation.

Activities for children and young people, All United

To further develop the skills, health and social wellbeing of vulnerable, disadvantaged children and young people enabling them to reach their full

potential in terms of education, economic and social contribution, health and wellbeing.

The aim is to increase confidence of the children and young people, enhance their mental and physical health and wellbeing, and develop their skills through various consultations, activities and workshops.

At FWA, we prioritise compassion and understanding, creating a safe and comfortable environment for children and young people to express their problems and challenges. Our staff will continue participating in training sessions to ensure they can offer the best help and advice when needed. We are responsive to their needs and strive to provide them with new courses and opportunities to enhance their knowledge.

We focus on reaching out to children and young people in underprivileged communities to help them build confidence and self-esteem and improve their mental and physical well-being.

Throughout the year, we noticed a need for activities in a different area of the borough. As a result, we offered children the opportunity to participate in multisport sessions in a nearby location. This 14-week program aimed to engage children in physical activities and various sports.

We had organised a variety of activities for different age groups, ranging from 5-7 to 8-11. Additionally, we ran a Friday evening club for young people aged 11 to 17. We recruit children and young people for various projects throughout the year, focusing on activities that enhance their well-being through recreational activities and sports, promoting positive engagement and informed decision-making.

Young people signed up for the Silver Arts Award and Bronze Arts Award as a progression from their previous involvement with Pushkar Productions, where they completed their first Bronze Award. The program lasted 28 weeks, and all participants successfully completed their awards. This challenging program required hard work and determination and allowed them to acquire various skills, ranging from poetry and digital arts to performance arts, visual arts, and play production. The young people produced some outstanding pieces of poetry and drama and had the opportunity to meet inspirational poets and artists.



Digital arts festival

We conducted workshops on drug misuse and the effects of antisocial behaviour. The young participants demonstrated various cultural talents, including henna art, and sewing skills. Emphasising these abilities provided them with validation and acknowledgment, thereby enhancing their confidence. We also encouraged the youth to cultivate entrepreneurial skills.



Creative arts display

Certain young children require emotional support and motivation through sports activities. We adjust to cater to the specific needs of each group and age bracket.

We organised activities and challenges for children to take home to help them develop stronger relationships with their parents. We allowed some free play for the children to build relationships within the group without structured

activities, which gave them a sense of choice and ownership in their social environment, helping them make positive decisions.

With the support of partner organisations, we provided environmental activities and promoted healthy lifestyle skills. Additionally, we educated young children on resilience, development, and coping with various situations.

We conducted culinary activities to help young people learn about budgeting and adapting to changes. They also learned how to cook cultural food that promotes well-being on a restricted budget.

Young females, who are culturally restricted from attending mixed gatherings, were able to meet their friends in a safe and secure environment while learning new skills. Participation in cookery classes, which were requested by their parents and the young people, opened doors for discussions around the table. These sessions brought up stories and issues that we addressed within the group, and we referred young people and parents to appropriate organisations for further support with mental health.

During other sessions, the young participants learned to design and dye their t-shirts, create canvases using acrylic paints, and craft flowerpots from recycled towels and cement. They then painted the pots and used them for planting herbs.

Trips were organised to various locations, including Alexandra Park, Tandle Hill Park, Trafford Centre, cinemas, Northern Roots, Dovestone Reservoir, Bounce Nation, Odeon, Contact Theatre, the South Asian Museum, Blackpool, Southport, Hearts head pike, Escape room, and Crocky Trail. These trips helped the children and young people build confidence and integrate with wider communities. They also learned new skills, such as using public transport, which improved their social skills. The outdoor trips provided positive social activities and stimulated the young people both physically and mentally. Additionally, they learned about road safety and appropriate behaviour in public areas. The children also participated in a local digital arts festival celebration in partnership with Peshkar Productions, where they presented their poetry to a public audience at the Oldham Library.

Highlights:

Seventeen individuals worked extremely hard to achieve their Bronze/Silver Arts Awards. They performed at the local library. A group of 12 young people performed at the Oldham Library for the Digital Arts Award, in front of a public audience.

Eighteen young people who were unable to attend their school proms, due to cultural restrictions were provided with an opportunity to organise a first-time limousine experience and felt privileged about it.

We delivered 8 sessions of cricket to 35 individual children aged 5 to 11 years old in partnership with Lancashire cricket club. 2 children with their mother were given the honours and were invited through FWA to carry the ball to the pitch for a cricket match at Trafford cricket ground.

We participated in Glodwick move more event and promoted our activities. 8 young people volunteered in distributing our leaflets and talking to general public about FWA and our programmes.

We took young people and a mother to Violence Reduction Unit Launch event and showcased our plans for the forthcoming VRU delivery.

We had 80 children and young people and parents who came to the certificate ceremony on Saturday the 7th of September. We invited the local councillors, Peshkar productions, Oldham Mayor, and a representative from Lancashire cricket club.



Presentation of certificates



Presentation of T-shirts by Lancashire Cricket Foundation

Activities for children	Age	Number of sessions	Average attendance per week
Multi sports	5-11	20	16
Cookery	5-11	4	13
Arts and craft	5-11	4	14
Trips	5-11	6	16
Digital festival	5-11	1	12
Outdoor environmental workshops	5-11	6	13
Certificate ceremony	5-11	1	40
Celebration	5-11	2	26

Activities for Young People	Age	Number of sessions	Average attendance per week
Reducing crime workshops	11-16	2	18
Arts and drama silver arts award and bronze art award	*11-16*	28	16
Design and stitch	*11-16*	4	12
Henna art	*11-16*	2	13
Trips/ social skills	*11-16*	5	
Pyjama party/limo ride	11-16	1	18
Baking	*11-16*	1	15
Health and hygiene	*11-16*	2	16
Henna art	*11-16*	2	18
Certificate ceremony	*11-16*	1	16
Celebration	*11-16*	2	18

Children and young people from the same background have diverse needs and thrive on exciting new adventures. They need a platform to explore activities and skills that broaden their interests.

Case Studies:

Siblings X and Y, who come from a disadvantaged background, were recently diagnosed with ADHD. Their challenging and hyperactive behaviour was disruptive to the group, posing a risk to their peers when together. We had to manage their attendance and implement time-outs from their favourite activities when they misbehaved. Their mother expressed concerns about her own mental health and the challenges of coping with both children and their father, who also had additional needs.

We involved X and Y in performance art, which they enjoyed and through which they felt their opinions were valued. Their attitude towards the group changed significantly, and they acquired valuable communication skills

through drama workshops. We also educated the group on various forms of bullying and self-reflection, which had a positive impact on them.

Z is a highly intelligent young person, talented, and creative. In poetry, many discussions surfaced, and she expressed her loneliness. We delivered workshops that allowed young people to indirectly draft poems about their thoughts and feelings. We addressed her mental health and spoke to the parents about our concerns. Upon completing her poem and presenting it at the digital festival, she looked happier. All her peers praised her work, and she made new friends through the project. She has been given a leadership role to support other individuals who are reserved in the classroom. She has taken her role seriously and shows good leadership skills. Z has completed all her tasks for the Silver Arts Awards.

Our Strengths:

Our entire team is comprised of dedicated local individuals who possess a profound understanding of the community and the unique cultural challenges faced by children, young people, and women. Our approach is focused on addressing the specific needs of each group and empowering them to make positive choices. In addition to their experience, our staff members are bilingual, which facilitates seamless communication between parents, young person and children.



Working on the Silver Arts programme

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR APRIL 2023 TO MARCH 2024

INCOME

	£
Answer Cancer	8,000
Breast Cancer	2,525
Central district councillors	1,725
Faith Action	5,744
Garfield Weston Foundation	10,000
Grace Trust	1,000
Greater Manchester Crime Reduction VRU	21,750
John Mason Family Charitable trust	2,000
Magic Little grants	500
Oldham poverty action network	941
One Oldham Fund Micro grant	1,000
The National Lottery Reaching Communities	77,571
The National Lottery Awards for All	10,000
Skipton building society charitable foundation	1,500
Tudor Trust	36,667
Volunteer celebration fund	500
Other Small Funds	5,039
Activities for generating funds	6,574
Total Income	**193,036**

EXPENDITURE

Events/Trips/Projects	28,712
Management and Finance	15,004
Miscellaneous	5,158
Office & Communication Costs	6,296
Payroll Service and Index	1,313
Property Expenses	3,969
Training	1,287
Travel	1,500
Staff Costs	95,602
Volunteers	3,090
Total Expenditure	**161,931**
Total Surplus/ (Deficit)	**31,105**
Balance brought forward FWA 01/04/23	**133,006**
Restricted Funds at 31/03/24	**98,918**
Unrestricted Funds at 31/03/24	**65,193**

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Staff Members

Fauzia Chaudhry	Manager/Development Worker
Uzma Khaliq	Finance Officer/Fundraiser
Farhanda Qadeer	Outreach/Development Worker
Shabana Parveen	Children's Co-ordinator
Arjam Sadiq	Children's Project Worker
Farhanda Qadeer	Children's Project Worker

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Samina Iqbal	Chairperson
Farzana Aziz	Vice Chairperson
Shamim Akhtar	Treasurer
Tabasum Kausar	Secretary
Nasreen Shabir	
Parveen Akhtar	
Maria Nessa	
Sylvia Akram	

Fatima Women's Association is extremely interested in recruiting new Management Committee Members and volunteers. Interested individuals should contact F.W.A for further information.

Please visit our web page www.fatimawomens.org.uk for up-to-date information.

COMMUNITY FUND
We support people and communities to thrive.
The National Lottery Community Fund

the Tudor trust

Charity Registration Number: 1160027

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ending 31st March 2024

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

Registered Charity Name	Fatima Women's Association
Charity Number	1160027
Registered Office	Marlborough Resource Centre Marlborough Street Oldham OL4 1EG
Trustees	Mrs N Shabir Mrs P Akhtar Mrs S Akhtar Mrs F Aziz Ms S Akram Mrs S Iqbal Mrs T Kausar Ms M Nessa
Accountants	Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C. Foxfields 9 Norley Close Chadderton Oldham OL1 2RA
Bankers	Virgin Money 47 Market Place Oldham OL1 3AB

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2024

The trustees present their annual report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 March 2024.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Fatima Women's Association is a CIO (registered charity number 1160027) and was registered as a CIO on 19 January 2015.

Recruitment and Training of Trustees

The trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the annual general meeting held each October. Interested parties can request an application form from staff to join the Management Committee. The current Management Committee members will shortlist and either invite successful applicants to the Annual General Meeting or co-opt individuals as stated below.

The Committee shall consist of at least 8 members elected by and from the representatives of the area of benefit. The Officers and Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve until the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting next after their appointment.

The Committee shall have the power to co-opt persons having special knowledge or experience, provided that the number of co-opted members shall not exceed one-third of the total membership of the Committee. They shall hold office until the end of the Annual General Meeting following their co-option.

The Committee may invite any person to attend its meeting as an observer but without the power to vote. Trustees are advised to attend relevant training when and if required.

Organisational Management

Fatima Women's Association is managed by a Management Committee who is elected at the Annual General Meeting by the members of Fatima Women's Association. There are currently 8 elected members on the Board of Trustees. Regular staff meetings take place with the manager who submits a written report on the work of the association every 6 to 8 weeks at the management committee meetings.

Group Structure and Relationships

Fatima Women's Association has 8 trustees on the management board. It has 1 full time staff and 5 part time staff employed, subject to funding. It has a pool of 19 active volunteers and work experience students. The staff attend the staff meetings to inform the manager of the work conducted and future project planning. The minutes of the staff meeting are submitted at the regular board meetings.

Public Benefit

The objects of Fatima Women's Association are:

- To empower disadvantaged women, young people, and children in Oldham to improve their quality of life.
- To provide and assist in the provision of education, training and recreational activities for women, young people, and children in the Borough of Oldham.

In planning our activities for the year we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustees' meetings. The focus of our activities remains around education, training, social and leisure activities.

To capacity build and empower disadvantaged women, young people, and children in Oldham, by building their confidence, self-esteem, social and educational skills through the provision of a range of demand led, quality controlled and fit for purpose educational training programmes.

To improve the health, wellbeing of disadvantaged women, young people and children who may be experiencing isolation, poor physical and mental health, and domestic abuse by providing a variety of educational, social and leisure opportunities.

To further develop the skills, health and social wellbeing of all vulnerable, disadvantaged children and young people enabling them to reach their full potential in terms of education, economic and social contribution, health, and wellbeing.

Risk Management

Regular disclosure and barring service checks take place with every individual that works with children and vulnerable adults in line with statutory requirements.

Objectives, Aims and Activities

Charitable Objectives

The Charitable Objectives of Fatima Women's Association, as set out in the Constitution of the CIO are:

Education/Training:

To capacity build and empower disadvantaged women in Oldham, by building their confidence, self-esteem, social and educational skills through the provision of a range of demand led, quality controlled and fit for purpose educational training programmes.

Health and Wellbeing:

To improve the health, wellbeing of disadvantaged women and their children who may be experiencing isolation, poor physical and mental health, and domestic abuse by providing a variety of educational, social and leisure opportunities.

Activities for children and young people:

To further develop the skills, health and social wellbeing of all vulnerable, disadvantaged children and young people enabling them to reach their full potential in terms of education, economic and social contribution, health and wellbeing.

Principle Activities

The principal activities continued to be education, training, social and leisure activities as listed in the detailed Annual Report 2023/24.

Review of Achievements and Performance for the Year

Operational Performance

Under education FWA delivered Spoking and listening, Creative English and health programme, communication, reading and writing basic and intermediate level, English Language and IT skills.

Under training FWA delivered pre- employment skills programme, Greater Manchester crime reduction unit programme (Violence reduction unit), Get Oldham working NHS Programme, social media and IT, First Aid, Fire Safety, British Citizenship, driving theory, Confidence building and Life in the UK test.

Under health and wellbeing FWA delivered the 50+ Group, mental health, dementia awareness, diabetes awareness, cancer awareness, breast cancer awareness, women's resilience, health and wellbeing group, fitness, Zumba, yoga, pilates, art and craft, creating internal strength, beauty and wellness, massage, knitting, drama production, fashion and design, sewing, advice surgeries and trips. Collaborating with the communities to improve health and wellbeing, preventing illnesses and overcoming mental health related challenges. We have delivered to women of all ages, tea/toast hub, walking, exercise and health and wellbeing sessions.

The annual volunteer celebration event was attended by 22 volunteers.

Under activities for children and young people FWA delivered sessions on drama, photography, kayaking, Taekwondo, dodgeball, pot planting, gardening, recycling, indoor games, art and craft, sewing, canvas painting, learning about the environment and healthy cooking. Various trips took place, Lancaster Farm, Orienteering at Castleshaw outdoor centre, Primrose centre, Northern Roots, outdoor activity parks, Crocky Trails, Go Ape, Harvest Festival and to local heritage destinations. Young people achieved bronze and silver arts award.

Awareness raising and discussions on bullying and harassment, internet grooming, depression, positive attitudes, drugs and cultural awareness. FWA has had the impact of reducing inequality and building resilience across Oldham's communities, reducing poverty and helping people get back on their feet.

One of the highlights has been, 8 women passed their driving theory tests.

12 women secured education/training with external providers.

Over the past year many women have secured job interviews and 2 women have gained employment. Another individual went on and secured volunteering with an external organisation.

We have regularly reviewed and revised the programmes with the tutor to meet the needs of the learners and the organisation. Project updates have been submitted regularly to the management board. The project workers played a key role in building partnerships with other organisations to deliver programmes to meet the needs of the community. Working with other organisations has helped to enhance our existing provisions.

FWA is part of the The Oldham Poverty Action Network, the women's network, and attend the Oldham Community Explorers meetings, all facilitated by Action Together.

Fundraising Performance

The association is pleased to announce it has sustained the project for the forthcoming years due to raising funds from The National Lottery Reaching Communities fund and the Tudor Trust, 2021 to 2026, which is going to have a positive impact on the sustainability of the association. The association continues to increase or decrease staffing hours based on projects approved throughout the year.

Our main sources of funding have been grant funding and small donations from trust, foundations and government commissioning and procurement programmes.

Financial Review

Reserves Policy

To maintain the cost of redundancies if the inevitable happens and redundancies must be made.

Impact of Coronavirus Pandemic

We continue to contain the spread of Covid-19 in Oldham and safeguarding and supporting our most vulnerable residents.

Plans

Based on the current staffing commitment on a yearly basis Fatima Women's Association wants to be able to sustain an income of £120,000 which should be achieved. This is through the 5-year funding from The National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund, the offer of an additional one-off grant of £36,667.00 towards FWA's organisation's core costs from The Tudor Trust, other financial commitments from other small funders and research and consultation providers.

The sources of funding can be spread over a range of sources from the Local government, national government schemes, international government schemes, private trusts, and foundations and local fundraising activities. Trusts and foundations have played a noticeably big part in the sustainability of F.W.A. We shall endeavour to carry out applying for further funding from the great networks that F.W.A has achieved over the past few decades.

There is a great need in the community to further improve the English language, Pre-employability skills, numeracy and information technology to enable women to become independent and integrate within the wider community. This could potentially lead on to gaining work experience, volunteering, or employment.

We are developing a fundraising strategy post 2025 which will be in line with the Business Plan 2025 to 2030.

The Trustee's Annual Report was approved by the Board of Trustee's and signed on their behalf:

Signed..... Samina .....

Name..... SAMINA IQBAL Date..... 03/07/2024

Trustee

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2024

I report on the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2024 set out on pages 8-11.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees consider an audit is not required for this year under s144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under s145 of the 2011 Act
- Follow the procedure laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under s145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Opinion

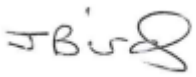
My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items of disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiners Statement

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

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
   - To keep accounting records in accordance with s130 of the 2011 Act; and
   - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



10th September 2024

Miss Jacqueline Bird F.M.A.A.T.
Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C.
Foxfields
9 Norley Close
Chadderton
Oldham
OL1 2RA

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
RECEIPTS					
Grants & Donations	*2*	-	186,462	186,462	146,820
Activities for Generating Funds		6,574	-	6,574	11,310
TOTAL RECEIPTS	*3*	**6,574**	**186,462**	**193,036**	**158,130**
PAYMENTS					
Salaries & Pensions		-	95,602	95,602	127,303
Management & Finance		-	15,004	15,004	18,736
Travelling		-	1,500	1,500	853
Telephone & Internet		-	1,124	1,124	1,114
Events, Projects & Trips		570	28,142	28,712	27,311
Activities (Social Action Fund)		-	-	-	14,881
Service Charge		-	3,535	3,535	4,379
Hub Overheads		-	-	-	2,050
Room Hire		-	434	434	3,690
Insurance		-	923	923	884
Cleaning Costs		-	-	-	-
Stationary, Printing & Postage		-	2,276	2,276	2,815
Volunteers		-	3,090	3,090	3,150
Payroll, Accounts & HR		-	1,313	1,313	1,371
Consultancy		-	-	-	264
Training		-	1,287	1,287	714
IT Software		-	1,973	1,973	1,476
Equipment		-	5,158	5,158	6,485
Miscellaneous		-	-	-	-
TOTAL PAYMENTS		**570**	**161,361**	**161,931**	**217,476**
Net of receipts/(payments)		6,004	25,101	31,105	(59,346)
Cash funds at 1st April 2023		59,419	73,587	133,006	192,352
Transfer of Funds		(230)	230	-	-
Cash funds at 31 March 2024	*4*	**65,193**	**98,918**	**164,111**	**133,006**

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITES

AS AT 31ST MARCH 2024

	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
ASSETS		
Cash Funds	164,111	134,366
Debtors	-	-
	164,111	134,366
LIABILITIES		
Creditors	-	1,360
	-	1,360
TOTAL NET ASSETS/LIABILITIES	**164,111**	**133,006**
Additional Liabilities		
Independent Examination Fee	**910**	**795**

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Signed..... Samina .....

Name..... SAMINA IQBAL Date..... 03/07/2024

Trustee

1. Receipts and payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

2. Grants and Donations

	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Answer Cancer**	8,000	-
Awards For All	10,000	-
Breast Cancer	2,525	-
Cost of Living Crisis Greater Manchester	-	5,000
Central District Councillors Grant	1,725	-
Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund	-	2,000
Faith Action Creative English	5,744	-
Garfield Weston	10,000	-
Grace Trust	1,000	-
Greater Manchester Crime Reduction Unit	21,750	15,000
John Mason Family Trust	2,000	2,000
Magic Little Grants	500	500
Manchester Guardian Society Charitable Trust	-	1,000
Oldham Poverty Action Network	941	-
One Oldham Fund Cost of Living Crisis Support Grant	-	1,000
One Oldham Fund Small Grants	-	1,080
One Oldham Fund Children & Young People Grant	-	1,000
One Oldham Fund Micro Grants	1,000	-
Ideas Fund	-	4,538
Reaching Communities	77,571	75,006
Skipton Building Society	1,500	-
Small Other Funds	5,039	3,196
Tudor Trust	36,667	35,000
Volunteer Celebration Fund	500	500
	186,462	**146,820**

3. Activities for Generating Funds

	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Answer Cancer**	-	10,064
General Funds	6,574	1,246
	6,574	**11,310**

***** Answer Cancer :*** *Funds of £8,000 were received this year, being restricted as the service is to be delivered over the next year. Last year £10,064 was received, where £5,622 was spent, and the unspent balance of £4,442 was transferred in to 'Small Other Funds' for use on various other projects.*

4. Fund Analysis

Fund Name	Balance as at 1 April 2023 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfer of Funds £	Balance as at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted Funds	**59,419**	**6,574**	**(570)**	**(230)**	**65,193**
Restricted Funds:					
Answer Cancer	-	8,000	(80)	-	7,920
Awards For All	-	10,000	(6,364)	-	3,636
Breast Cancer	-	2,525	(1,102)	-	1,423
Cost of Living Crisis Greater Manchester (COLC GM)	4,527	-	(4,528)	1	-
Central District Councillors Grant	-	1,725	(1,381)	-	344
Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund	2,000	-	-	-	2,000
Faith Action Creative English	-	5,744	(4,280)	-	1,464
Garfield Weston	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Grace Trust	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Greater Manchester Crime Reduction Unit	(5,412)	21,750	(16,392)	54	-
John Mason Family Trust	1,111	2,000	(1,981)	-	1,130
Magic Little Grants	-	500	(590)	90	-
Manchester Guardian Society Charitable Trust	1,000	-	(1,004)	4	-
Oldham Poverty Action Network	-	941	(1,022)	81	-
One Oldham Fund Children & Young People Grant	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
One Oldham Fund Micro Grants	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Reaching Communities	16,378	77,571	(80,615)	-	13,334
Skipton Building Society	-	1,500	(410)	-	1,090
Small Other Funds	12,232	5,039	-	-	17,271
Tudor Trust	40,751	36,667	(40,112)	-	37,306
Volunteer Celebration Fund	-	500	(500)	-	-
	73,587	**186,462**	**(161,361)**	**230**	**98,918**
TOTAL FUNDS	**133,006**	**193,036**	**(161,931)**	**-**	**164,111**

Charity Registration Number: 1160027

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ending 31st March 2024

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

Registered Charity Name	Fatima Women's Association
Charity Number	1160027
Registered Office	Marlborough Resource Centre Marlborough Street Oldham OL4 1EG
Trustees	Mrs N Shabir Mrs P Akhtar Mrs S Akhtar Mrs F Aziz Ms S Akram Mrs S Iqbal Mrs T Kausar Ms M Nessa
Accountants	Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C. Foxfields 9 Norley Close Chadderton Oldham OL1 2RA
Bankers	Virgin Money 47 Market Place Oldham OL1 3AB

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2024

The trustees present their annual report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 March 2024.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Fatima Women's Association is a CIO (registered charity number 1160027) and was registered as a CIO on 19 January 2015.

Recruitment and Training of Trustees

The trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the annual general meeting held each October. Interested parties can request an application form from staff to join the Management Committee. The current Management Committee members will shortlist and either invite successful applicants to the Annual General Meeting or co-opt individuals as stated below.

The Committee shall consist of at least 8 members elected by and from the representatives of the area of benefit. The Officers and Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve until the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting next after their appointment.

The Committee shall have the power to co-opt persons having special knowledge or experience, provided that the number of co-opted members shall not exceed one-third of the total membership of the Committee. They shall hold office until the end of the Annual General Meeting following their co-option.

The Committee may invite any person to attend its meeting as an observer but without the power to vote. Trustees are advised to attend relevant training when and if required.

Organisational Management

Fatima Women's Association is managed by a Management Committee who is elected at the Annual General Meeting by the members of Fatima Women's Association. There are currently 8 elected members on the Board of Trustees. Regular staff meetings take place with the manager who submits a written report on the work of the association every 6 to 8 weeks at the management committee meetings.

Group Structure and Relationships

Fatima Women's Association has 8 trustees on the management board. It has 1 full time staff and 5 part time staff employed, subject to funding. It has a pool of 19 active volunteers and work experience students. The staff attend the staff meetings to inform the manager of the work conducted and future project planning. The minutes of the staff meeting are submitted at the regular board meetings.

Public Benefit

The objects of Fatima Women's Association are:

- To empower disadvantaged women, young people, and children in Oldham to improve their quality of life.
- To provide and assist in the provision of education, training and recreational activities for women, young people, and children in the Borough of Oldham.

In planning our activities for the year we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustees' meetings. The focus of our activities remains around education, training, social and leisure activities.

To capacity build and empower disadvantaged women, young people, and children in Oldham, by building their confidence, self-esteem, social and educational skills through the provision of a range of demand led, quality controlled and fit for purpose educational training programmes.

To improve the health, wellbeing of disadvantaged women, young people and children who may be experiencing isolation, poor physical and mental health, and domestic abuse by providing a variety of educational, social and leisure opportunities.

To further develop the skills, health and social wellbeing of all vulnerable, disadvantaged children and young people enabling them to reach their full potential in terms of education, economic and social contribution, health, and wellbeing.

Risk Management

Regular disclosure and barring service checks take place with every individual that works with children and vulnerable adults in line with statutory requirements.

Objectives, Aims and Activities

Charitable Objectives

The Charitable Objectives of Fatima Women's Association, as set out in the Constitution of the CIO are:

Education/Training:

To capacity build and empower disadvantaged women in Oldham, by building their confidence, self-esteem, social and educational skills through the provision of a range of demand led, quality controlled and fit for purpose educational training programmes.

Health and Wellbeing:

To improve the health, wellbeing of disadvantaged women and their children who may be experiencing isolation, poor physical and mental health, and domestic abuse by providing a variety of educational, social and leisure opportunities.

Activities for children and young people:

To further develop the skills, health and social wellbeing of all vulnerable, disadvantaged children and young people enabling them to reach their full potential in terms of education, economic and social contribution, health and wellbeing.

Principle Activities

The principal activities continued to be education, training, social and leisure activities as listed in the detailed Annual Report 2023/24.

Review of Achievements and Performance for the Year

Operational Performance

Under education FWA delivered Spoking and listening, Creative English and health programme, communication, reading and writing basic and intermediate level, English Language and IT skills.

Under training FWA delivered pre- employment skills programme, Greater Manchester crime reduction unit programme (Violence reduction unit), Get Oldham working NHS Programme, social media and IT, First Aid, Fire Safety, British Citizenship, driving theory, Confidence building and Life in the UK test.

Under health and wellbeing FWA delivered the 50+ Group, mental health, dementia awareness, diabetes awareness, cancer awareness, breast cancer awareness, women's resilience, health and wellbeing group, fitness, Zumba, yoga, pilates, art and craft, creating internal strength, beauty and wellness, massage, knitting, drama production, fashion and design, sewing, advice surgeries and trips. Collaborating with the communities to improve health and wellbeing, preventing illnesses and overcoming mental health related challenges. We have delivered to women of all ages, tea/toast hub, walking, exercise and health and wellbeing sessions.

The annual volunteer celebration event was attended by 22 volunteers.

Under activities for children and young people FWA delivered sessions on drama, photography, kayaking, Taekwondo, dodgeball, pot planting, gardening, recycling, indoor games, art and craft, sewing, canvas painting, learning about the environment and healthy cooking. Various trips took place, Lancaster Farm, Orienteering at Castleshaw outdoor centre, Primrose centre, Northern Roots, outdoor activity parks, Crocky Trails, Go Ape, Harvest Festival and to local heritage destinations. Young people achieved bronze and silver arts award.

Awareness raising and discussions on bullying and harassment, internet grooming, depression, positive attitudes, drugs and cultural awareness. FWA has had the impact of reducing inequality and building resilience across Oldham's communities, reducing poverty and helping people get back on their feet.

One of the highlights has been, 8 women passed their driving theory tests.

12 women secured education/training with external providers.

Over the past year many women have secured job interviews and 2 women have gained employment. Another individual went on and secured volunteering with an external organisation.

We have regularly reviewed and revised the programmes with the tutor to meet the needs of the learners and the organisation. Project updates have been submitted regularly to the management board. The project workers played a key role in building partnerships with other organisations to deliver programmes to meet the needs of the community. Working with other organisations has helped to enhance our existing provisions.

FWA is part of the The Oldham Poverty Action Network, the women's network, and attend the Oldham Community Explorers meetings, all facilitated by Action Together.

Fundraising Performance

The association is pleased to announce it has sustained the project for the forthcoming years due to raising funds from The National Lottery Reaching Communities fund and the Tudor Trust, 2021 to 2026, which is going to have a positive impact on the sustainability of the association. The association continues to increase or decrease staffing hours based on projects approved throughout the year.

Our main sources of funding have been grant funding and small donations from trust, foundations and government commissioning and procurement programmes.

Financial Review

Reserves Policy

To maintain the cost of redundancies if the inevitable happens and redundancies must be made.

Impact of Coronavirus Pandemic

We continue to contain the spread of Covid-19 in Oldham and safeguarding and supporting our most vulnerable residents.

Plans

Based on the current staffing commitment on a yearly basis Fatima Women's Association wants to be able to sustain an income of £120,000 which should be achieved. This is through the 5-year funding from The National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund, the offer of an additional one-off grant of £36,667.00 towards FWA's organisation's core costs from The Tudor Trust, other financial commitments from other small funders and research and consultation providers.

The sources of funding can be spread over a range of sources from the Local government, national government schemes, international government schemes, private trusts, and foundations and local fundraising activities. Trusts and foundations have played a noticeably big part in the sustainability of F.W.A. We shall endeavour to carry out applying for further funding from the great networks that F.W.A has achieved over the past few decades.

There is a great need in the community to further improve the English language, Pre-employability skills, numeracy and information technology to enable women to become independent and integrate within the wider community. This could potentially lead on to gaining work experience, volunteering, or employment.

We are developing a fundraising strategy post 2025 which will be in line with the Business Plan 2025 to 2030.

The Trustee's Annual Report was approved by the Board of Trustee's and signed on their behalf:

Signed..... Samina .....

Name..... SAMINA IQBAL Date..... 03/07/2024

Trustee

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2024

I report on the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2024 set out on pages 8-11.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees consider an audit is not required for this year under s144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under s145 of the 2011 Act
- Follow the procedure laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under s145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Opinion

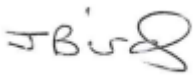
My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items of disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiners Statement

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

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
   - To keep accounting records in accordance with s130 of the 2011 Act; and
   - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



10th September 2024

Miss Jacqueline Bird F.M.A.A.T.
Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C.
Foxfields
9 Norley Close
Chadderton
Oldham
OL1 2RA

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
RECEIPTS					
Grants & Donations	*2*	-	186,462	186,462	146,820
Activities for Generating Funds		6,574	-	6,574	11,310
TOTAL RECEIPTS	*3*	**6,574**	**186,462**	**193,036**	**158,130**
PAYMENTS					
Salaries & Pensions		-	95,602	95,602	127,303
Management & Finance		-	15,004	15,004	18,736
Travelling		-	1,500	1,500	853
Telephone & Internet		-	1,124	1,124	1,114
Events, Projects & Trips		570	28,142	28,712	27,311
Activities (Social Action Fund)		-	-	-	14,881
Service Charge		-	3,535	3,535	4,379
Hub Overheads		-	-	-	2,050
Room Hire		-	434	434	3,690
Insurance		-	923	923	884
Cleaning Costs		-	-	-	-
Stationary, Printing & Postage		-	2,276	2,276	2,815
Volunteers		-	3,090	3,090	3,150
Payroll, Accounts & HR		-	1,313	1,313	1,371
Consultancy		-	-	-	264
Training		-	1,287	1,287	714
IT Software		-	1,973	1,973	1,476
Equipment		-	5,158	5,158	6,485
Miscellaneous		-	-	-	-
TOTAL PAYMENTS		**570**	**161,361**	**161,931**	**217,476**
Net of receipts/(payments)		6,004	25,101	31,105	(59,346)
Cash funds at 1st April 2023		59,419	73,587	133,006	192,352
Transfer of Funds		(230)	230	-	-
Cash funds at 31 March 2024	*4*	**65,193**	**98,918**	**164,111**	**133,006**

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITES

AS AT 31ST MARCH 2024

	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
ASSETS		
Cash Funds	164,111	134,366
Debtors	-	-
	164,111	134,366
LIABILITIES		
Creditors	-	1,360
	-	1,360
TOTAL NET ASSETS/LIABILITIES	**164,111**	**133,006**
Additional Liabilities		
Independent Examination Fee	**910**	**795**

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Signed..... Samina .....

Name..... SAMINA IQBAL Date..... 03/07/2024

Trustee

1. Receipts and payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

2. Grants and Donations

	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Answer Cancer**	8,000	-
Awards For All	10,000	-
Breast Cancer	2,525	-
Cost of Living Crisis Greater Manchester	-	5,000
Central District Councillors Grant	1,725	-
Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund	-	2,000
Faith Action Creative English	5,744	-
Garfield Weston	10,000	-
Grace Trust	1,000	-
Greater Manchester Crime Reduction Unit	21,750	15,000
John Mason Family Trust	2,000	2,000
Magic Little Grants	500	500
Manchester Guardian Society Charitable Trust	-	1,000
Oldham Poverty Action Network	941	-
One Oldham Fund Cost of Living Crisis Support Grant	-	1,000
One Oldham Fund Small Grants	-	1,080
One Oldham Fund Children & Young People Grant	-	1,000
One Oldham Fund Micro Grants	1,000	-
Ideas Fund	-	4,538
Reaching Communities	77,571	75,006
Skipton Building Society	1,500	-
Small Other Funds	5,039	3,196
Tudor Trust	36,667	35,000
Volunteer Celebration Fund	500	500
	186,462	**146,820**

3. Activities for Generating Funds

	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Answer Cancer**	-	10,064
General Funds	6,574	1,246
	6,574	**11,310**

***** Answer Cancer :*** *Funds of £8,000 were received this year, being restricted as the service is to be delivered over the next year. Last year £10,064 was received, where £5,622 was spent, and the unspent balance of £4,442 was transferred in to 'Small Other Funds' for use on various other projects.*

4. Fund Analysis

Fund Name	Balance as at 1 April 2023 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfer of Funds £	Balance as at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted Funds	**59,419**	**6,574**	**(570)**	**(230)**	**65,193**
Restricted Funds:					
Answer Cancer	-	8,000	(80)	-	7,920
Awards For All	-	10,000	(6,364)	-	3,636
Breast Cancer	-	2,525	(1,102)	-	1,423
Cost of Living Crisis Greater Manchester (COLC GM)	4,527	-	(4,528)	1	-
Central District Councillors Grant	-	1,725	(1,381)	-	344
Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund	2,000	-	-	-	2,000
Faith Action Creative English	-	5,744	(4,280)	-	1,464
Garfield Weston	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Grace Trust	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Greater Manchester Crime Reduction Unit	(5,412)	21,750	(16,392)	54	-
John Mason Family Trust	1,111	2,000	(1,981)	-	1,130
Magic Little Grants	-	500	(590)	90	-
Manchester Guardian Society Charitable Trust	1,000	-	(1,004)	4	-
Oldham Poverty Action Network	-	941	(1,022)	81	-
One Oldham Fund Children & Young People Grant	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
One Oldham Fund Micro Grants	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Reaching Communities	16,378	77,571	(80,615)	-	13,334
Skipton Building Society	-	1,500	(410)	-	1,090
Small Other Funds	12,232	5,039	-	-	17,271
Tudor Trust	40,751	36,667	(40,112)	-	37,306
Volunteer Celebration Fund	-	500	(500)	-	-
	73,587	**186,462**	**(161,361)**	**230**	**98,918**
TOTAL FUNDS	**133,006**	**193,036**	**(161,931)**	**-**	**164,111**

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1160027

Accounts

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Marlborough resource centre
Marlborough Street Glodwick Oldham OL4 1EG
0161 627 3109
www.fatimawomens.org.uk



Annual Report
September 2022 – August 2023

Charitable Incorporated Organisation Number 1160027

INTRODUCTION

Aims

Fatima Women's Association aims to meet the needs of women from the surrounding areas of Glodwick, Alexandra, Roundthorn and other parts of Oldham. We provide and assist in the provision of training, educational courses, health and wellbeing sessions, recreation and leisure activities for women, young people, and children. We also meet our aims through the employment of staff, the development of partnerships with other agencies and using volunteers.

Within the last year FWA has created an environment, which appeals to and caters for the needs of the different local communities.

Through running numerous training sessions and courses FWA have succeeded in encouraging and supporting many women and young people in making the decision to go into further education and increase their qualifications, gain volunteer opportunities, chances of paid employment and improvement in their quality of life.

Chairperson's Report

As the chair of Fatima Women's Association, it gives me immense pleasure to submit this 32nd annual report on the progress of the organisation and the new initiatives undertaken during the past year.

The progress of Fatima Women's Association in the past year has been challenging, encouraging and highly positive, improving services in the community immensely due to the focused management committee members, volunteers, and staff.

It has been an extremely eventful year where the association has delivered a range of new and innovative projects in response to what the community members have told us they need. For up-to-date information please go online at www.fatimawomens.org.uk. This website will be updated regularly. Please visit FWA to register your interest in any of the training courses, educational courses, health and wellbeing sessions and children's activities that are being delivered.

Strengthening communities

The manager has focused on the partnerships, particularly between the voluntary, community and the statutory sector. Working together has helped

to enhance existing provision and has brought different sets of skills together to provide improved networks of services for beneficiaries. The manager developed a focus group with ex-students who are now in their professions, to involve them in empowering young people to aspire to be the best they can be through the VRU project. FWA also joined the Develop Glodwick local consortium in submitting future funding applications. Furthermore, we host monthly consortium meetings at FWA. We work in close partnership with Greater Manchester Support for South Asian Women, BAME project, Action Together, Oldham Lifelong Learning, Positive Steps, Bethel Church, Oak project, Get Oldham Working (Oldham Council), Koggs, Answer Cancer Manchester, Bethel Church, Fresh Belief and many more.

Activities/Training

FWA has been involved in consultation with local women, young people and children and networking with other agencies on an on-going basis to design and run new projects reflecting the needs of the community.

We as a team have continued to build on our past experiences to develop FWA towards its full potential.

We had 293 adults and 175 young people and children's membership forms completed. Over a 52-week period the average number of participants accessing the sessions was 128 individuals per week. F.W.A has had 22 different volunteers throughout a 12-month period.

Funding

It has been another successful year for FWA in raising funds to run projects, maintain overheads, resources, and staff positions. We are extremely pleased that new projects taken on by FWA are meeting their outcomes and that they have an enhanced impact on our core delivery.

The association has sustainability for the next 2 to 3 years. Each year we are very successful in bringing in new projects that benefit the community e.g. Answer Cancer to run a cancer awareness programme, Greater Manchester Crime Reduction Unit to talk about crime and parental awareness, One Oldham fund small grants to deliver 50 plus luncheon Club and many more. This is amazing news which would not have been possible without the hardwork and commitment given by the management, staff and volunteers.

On behalf of the Management Committee, I would like to extend our appreciation and an excessively big thank you to all members of staff for their arduous work, commitment, and enthusiasm and all the volunteers of Fatima Women's Association, for their consistent and loyal support.

It is with immense pleasure that I present to you the 32nd Annual Report of Fatima Women's Association September 2022 to August 2023.

Farzana Aziz
Chairperson

FUNDING

FWA would like to thank the following for their financial support from April 2022 to March 2023:

Answer Cancer
Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund
Greater Manchester Crime Reduction, Violence Reduction Unit
Local giving magic little grants
John Mason Family Trust
Manchester Guardian Society Charitable Trust
One Oldham Fund Children and young people
One Oldham Fund Cost of living crises support fund
Reaching Communities
Tudor Trust
Other small funders

***Social Action Fund, Oldham Cares, BAME Connect**
Funds received from The Social Action Fund are from the consortium bid grant. Fatima Women's Association are managing this fund on behalf of The Social Action Fund, and as such do not directly benefit from this funding.

The Oldham BAME Consortium is made up of the following organisations:

Oak Community Development Project
Pakistani Community Centre
Fatima women's association
Vision
Westwood and Coldhurst women's association
GP Cluster

The overall aim of this project is to reduce loneliness and social isolation by involving, engaging, and supporting socially isolated and lonely individuals into meaningful activities and empowering them to take initiative-taking action in improving their health and wellbeing. Thereby, reducing health inequalities that are experienced by Bangladeshi/ Pakistani heritage communities in Oldham.

Our Strategic Objective
Education/Training:

To capacity build and empower disadvantaged women in Oldham, by building their confidence, self esteem, social and educational skills through the provision of a range of demand led, quality controlled and fit for purpose educational training programmes.

Pre-employbility Skills Programme



Certificate of participation

It has been another very beneficial year for the organisation and our learners. We have continued to provide high standard of teaching and evaluated the work we do to reach students' full potential. The project has benefitted 85 individual women during the 108 sessions delivered. Our learners feel more confident and more independent. Being dependent on others not only financially but also personally and being unable to live the life they wanted was one of the reasons they stayed on the course and made significant progress. The amended programme enabled learners and tutors to close the gap and promoted good learning habits among women. When we asked our learners 'What did the course help you with?' they agreed they are more independent and feel more in control of their lives. Having done learners' consultations, later in the academic year we decided to change the topics of our classes. This year we first ran employability courses which taught job searching and job application skills. Later, following the consultations, we switched to wider understood employability and provided courses covering the topics required by learners. These topics relate to skills that will be helpful in getting and retaining a job: driving theory for learners with higher command of English and ESOL sessions for English beginners.

The programme was well structured to achieve the programme objectives. We have had referrals from the Job Centre Plus, Social Services and the Early Intervention Team from Positive Steps. Women from different ethnicities

across Oldham were now changing their lives with us. Working with other organisations has helped to enhance our existing provisions and use the community strengths like diversity, flexibility, and commitment to improve the way we work. We have focused on the partnerships, particularly between the voluntary, community and the statutory sector. Working together has helped to enhance existing provision and has brought different sets of skills together to provide improved networks of services for beneficiates. engaging women in learning. Many women cannot attend classes due to childcare issues. If we have more resources, we will consider running the class from the schools. We would like to reach out to more women who need improving English and the Employability Skills.



Oldham Library

The project's aim was to reduce barriers to learning and make a difference in the learners' lives. Many of our learners have a very limited social life. They mainly spend their time at home looking after their families and not themselves. We promote self -care and encourage women to make time for themselves without feeling guilty by going on trips to explore Manchester and practise English. We have taken them on a trip to the Oldham Library where they could explore the place and learn how to use it. After the trip we visited a local café whey students could try Asian cuisine. Learners have also visited the Science and Industry Museum in Manchester and went on a trip to the Arndale Shopping Centre where they learnt how to buy a tram ticket and use touch screen. After a long day they were taken to McDonalds for ice-cream. They enjoyed the trips and doing new things which increases their confidence and self-esteem.



Science and Industry Museum

Another important aspect of our work is to increase students' self- esteem and confidence. We plan our lessons in a way that enables them work on it and achieve their full potential by sharing stories and talking about our dreams and aspirations.

We notice changes in learners' behaviour that lead to staying in education and later getting jobs. They are also able to be more independent which makes them attend appointments on their own and help children with homework. This makes us immensely proud of them and the work we do. Below are case studies confirming students' progress.

Case Studies

Y came from Ukraine. She is 60 years old and lives with her daughter and three grandchildren. She is very upset about the situation in her country but tries to stay positive. She enjoys coming to class because she can meet new people and practise English. In the past she never learnt English so after the initial assessment she was allocated to a Pre-Entry class.

'I left Ukraine because of war. At first, I couldn't understand a word but now I have a job and understand people more.'

Before joining the course X came to our centre for the first time. She didn't know what to expect and whether she would be able to join any courses. Based on her assessment, she was allocated a place in the Entry 1 class. Initially X was a timid and withdrawn student. She struggled to speak to others, especially in English. She blamed it on her low English level. After a few sessions, X started to open up. She made some friends and started to take a more active role in the class. She also started helping others. Later she said **'I saw others needed help, I felt I needed to do it. It made me happy.'** X finished the class and achieved all her goals. She is happy to continue her studying and would like to get a job in the future.

At the beginning of the course A had good reading skills. She struggled with spelling and was afraid to speak to others in English. She said, '**Speaking is the most difficult because I can't build correct sentences**.' One of her goals was to speak using correct sentences. While in class A often took part in speaking and listening practice, frequently volunteering for role playing activities. A also decided to prepare a presentation and present her topic to the whole group at the end of the course. She learned how to prepare a presentation and gathered the required materials and presented vintage dresses, she'd started to sew some time earlier. She told us the story behind it and that she started charging for it. The dresses were beautiful and other learners suggested a Facebook page to promote her new business! A presented her dresses on the International Women's Day event at FWA.

Z joined the English for Driving Theory class because she wanted to learn to drive and become independent in the future. With a driving licence, she said **it would be easier to find a job in the care sector.** Z struggled with written English. She could not read more complex texts and struggled with spelling of less common words. We practised reading sentences and developed reading comprehension skills. To understand driving theory texts, Z has been learning new specialist vocabulary. Towards the end of the course, Z started using the vocabulary she'd been practising and was able to complete many driving theory questions correctly. She felt very happy because, as she said - '**I will be able to pass my driving theory test soon'.**



Karak Chai visit to gain communication, reading and writing skills



Job search skills

Step up programme

Women have attended three sessions of the Step-up Programme to reflect on themselves. It was delivered by Get Oldham Working. It aims to help overcome barriers that are restricting learners from employment and growth. It focuses on helping learners to achieve the following milestones:

-To change negative mindset, encourage positive and proactive approach in life.

-To promote self-esteem and overcome psychological barriers to employment.

-To inspire and promote self-development

The sessions were highly beneficial to our learners because they discussed personal barriers which our students could work on in the future.

Conversation club

The learners at FWA struggle to communicate which impacts their confidence and prevents them from accessing the curriculum. Our weekly new conversation class delivered by the volunteer teacher provides extra support for our ESOL learners to improve their English language skills in an interactive, fun and social environment. Conversation club engages learners in purposeful conversation on topics related to living in the UK, careers, and culture. Fifteen learners took part in the class and said it was very beneficial. Volunteers play a very important role in the classroom experience. Three students from the higher-level group have loved their experience so much that they have applied to be volunteer classroom assistants for the next academic year. They will work with Pre-Entry and Entry 1 students.



Conversation Club

Valuing our volunteers

FWA relies on the support of over 22 volunteers. The majority of FWA's volunteers support all our programmes but we also offer a wide range of volunteering opportunities, including volunteering in our main offices. We focused on being a great place to volunteer and keep volunteers safe and well.

International women's day

FWA has celebrated Women's International Day to bring women from a wide range of communities together to celebrate culture and diversity. Women took part in various activities and enjoyed participating in different workshops, interacting with women from diverse backgrounds and sharing identity and culture. Workshops were organized to integrate the women to have fun, increase social interactions and increase greater sense of community

belonging. From the evaluations we found that women enjoyed the event and integrated with women who they may not have been able to previously. The event provided opportunities for personal development thereby increasing self- esteem, self-awareness, self-confidence. Planning and running the event together has developed more positive relationships between local women and different community groups and therefore increase community capacity. This has encouraged volunteering, which has improved cross-community relationships. 100 women attended the event.

Greater Manchester Violence reduction unit: Community led approaches programme

This programme is about working with communities to find solutions to problems that exist in their area. To develop and deliver solutions that communities define and decide. The key priority is about building trust with communities and acting upon their challenges and ideas. The key focus of the programme is ensuring that young people and stakeholders in a place come together, focussing on a strength-based approach in the pilot sites to identify what's going on, what's not happening and to develop ideas from within the community to develop projects and activities.

FWA under community consultation delivered the following:

3 cohorts of parenting sessions with Oldham lifelong learning where women learned how to manage challenging behaviour. The tutor was working with Turning Point and discussed drug related issues in families.

10 sessions on life skills, makeup, self-care, budgeting, and DIY. Young girls had a voice, and they were given a safe space to talk about local issues. Working with partners, girls learned about different drugs, violence and grooming.

They learned how to be safe and avoid peer pressures. We worked with partners to deliver numerous workshops where information was shared. They built confidence, were inspired by positive role models and offered career advice and support with university applications.

22 workshops through Arts and Environment



Arts and Environment

Children and young people learned numerous skills on recycling and improving the community environment. They learned about drugs and their effects. They had awareness sessions covering vape pens, ballooning and peer pressure. They took part in cohesion work with Bethel Church where they revived a raised bed and planted flowers.



Presentation of environmental project

Children took part in presentation in which they talked about what they learned and enjoyed. This boosted their confidence and self-esteem. Parents enjoyed the presentation and gave excellent feedback.

2 workshops for women on Managing challenges where the key focus was on self-reflection, how to respond to challenging behaviours and how to tackle crime and violence from a religious perspective.



Photoshoot

10 sessions about British culture and Values where young people learned new skills around photography. They were introduced to entrepreneurial skills and taught the importance of valuing historical spaces so that it does not attract crime. This was facilitated by Peshkar productions with a final professional photo shoot.

10 sessions about crime prevention open to women and children that focused on mental and physical wellbeing, food sustainability, composting, being self-sufficient and using gardening as a coping tool. Families were given access to spaces where they can begin to take ownership of their community contributions and were taught about the importance of fresh air,

light exercise and where to access food banks when in financial difficulties, avoiding theft and criminal damage.



Parenting skills

London trip for adults, children and young people. They wanted to explore central London and went for a boat ride. They went to Buckingham palace and St James Park. This was to support cohesion and to build confidence in social skills. It was good for mental health. We took 2 individuals with high special needs, who were extremely happy for the opportunity.



London

Children and young people had a final celebration with a presentation of their contributions, learnings and a workshop in which discussion took place about misunderstanding causing problems in family units and the importance of good communication.

291 total direct participation

<u>The Oldham Poverty Action Network Focus group facilitated by Action Together</u>

The Oldham Poverty Action Network aims to:

- Build relationships and trust between local people and civic leaders that increase understanding of poverty

- Prompt changes in policy and practice within organisations
- Provide a positive example of co-production that Oldham can reference
- Develop new skills for all participants which can be applied to other programmes
- Maximise on the Local Motion investment by putting forward actions using the devolved budget.

This network space is one of action and intention, a space where VCFSE organisations can form solutions that they would be unable to achieve on their own, a space where strength in numbers can influence system change. The Network meets regularly, shares insight, informs decision making and works collectively.



Focus Group

Our Strategic Objective
Health and Wellbeing:

To improve the health, wellbeing of disadvantaged women and their children who may be experiencing isolation, poor physical and mental health, and domestic abuse by providing a variety of educational, social and leisure opportunities.

50 + Group



The 50 plus group were taken to local café for breakfast



Breakfast Club



Yoga and Pilates

Our 50+ wellbeing project aims to respond to the support needs of people over 50 to reduce social isolation and loneliness. We have delivered 42 sessions of leisure and social activities for older people in the Oldham area. Activities have helped them to keep fit, have fun, and meet new people. 40 women have participated in activities. We have helped older people to become more active both physically and mentally. Our social activities keep them full of life, we work with volunteers to offer a range of activities from gentle exercise sessions to luncheon club. We place great emphasis on addressing social isolation whilst aiming to promote health related activities and lifestyle changes. Women have attended mental health session and Dementia awareness session delivered by Mind Oldham We like to get every old person out, instead of them sitting at home looking at four walls. No one must be lonely. Get together are something to look forward to.



Dementia awareness

Women in the community were worried about the impact of energy bills and cost of living crisis in their daily lives. The project had a very positive impact on women and their families who have developed positive attitude to take home and ripple amongst members of family and the community, making more positive choices about saving money from different aspects. FWA provided 3 hours warm and safe place to older women to socialise and share their feelings with the likeminded women in the group. We delivered keep fit session in a big spacious warm hall. We provided the hot meal and hot drinks in every session so don't need to cook at home and save money on the gas and electric bills. More than 30 women attended the sessions. We aimed to engage isolated older women who do not often attend any activities in their daily life. As a result of that we provided an environment which they have enjoyed, met other people from the community, feel relaxed, discuss all aspects of life. During some of the sessions external agencies were invited e.g., Mind, Diabetes lead nurse, to present talks to the women about topics that affect their daily lives e.g., mental health, dementia, women's safety, healthy eating, healthy lifestyles, cancer, diabetes and bipolar mental health.

FWA took a 53-seater coach trip to Llandudno. The women listened to music on their journey. They all sat at the pier, ate together and took photos to make beautiful memories.

Colourful Minds Project

Through our "Colourful Mind" programmes we identified that the women in the BME communities use a lot of Fat in their daily diets which leads to coronary heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, migraines, arthritis and many other long- and short-term illnesses. To improve the health and well-being and improve weight management and other health related issues we planned and delivered the following sessions every week.

WEDNESDAY
Yoga, Massage, Multi Sports, Weight Management and Health Talk

THURSDAY
Zumba in the evenings for working & none working mothers

FRIDAY
Walking the way to Health sessions

In total we have 59 individual women enrolled and registered onto our "Colourful Mind" Project. The programme covered various health and well-being programmes. We also have 2 volunteers who support our 'Colourful Mind' project. They attend the sessions whenever they are needed.
The fitness trainer delivering the exercise sessions made it fun and enjoyable for ladies of all ages. The women who attended the class were from the age of 18yrs to 50+yrs old.

We weighed and measured women who joined our weight management sessions. Few women who applied healthy eating in their diet and attended the keep fit and walking sessions had seen results and had lost weight. In the final week we offered a prize to the person who had lost the most weight which motivated the women to lose weight.

The women enjoyed the walks we delivered. We did most walks at our local Alexandra Park and around different local countryside area's which the women didn't know had existed at their doorstep.

We ran 3 'Mini Bang' events which took place at Fatima Women's Association. The events were full of entertainment and activities for women of all ages. The events were held in the evenings to allow working women to attend.

No cameras were allowed which allowed the women to sing and dance freely. It was nice to see the ladies come out of their comfort zone and show their singing and dancing talents.

1st event - 49 women attended.
2nd event - 49 women attended.
3rd event - 65 women attended.

Cervical Cancer Screening Programme





Telephone calls

Oldham Central PCN was given a unique opportunity to work in partnership with Answer Cancer and a local community organisation called Fatima Women's Association (FWA). The aim was to deliver on a Population Health

Management objective to increase cervical screening within our local community by making calls to previous non-responders for cervical screening. The project involved five local GP practices, Greenbank, Hopwood House, Alexandra Medical Practice, Sun Valley and Jarvis. The aim of the project was to contact 1,500 patients and have 500 conversations and book 250 patients in for cervical screening.

Five colleagues from FWA completed the following training:

- Fire Safety
- Equality and Diversity
- Information Governance
- Confidentiality
- Conflict Resolution
- Accessible Information standard.
- EMIS training in Greenbank Practice
- Focussed call making training delivered by Answer Cancer trainers who visited FWA.

The project began in November 2022 when the GP practices identified patients who were eligible for screening but were reluctant to attend for various reasons.

The Calls

The calls commenced and Greenbank practice and then moved to Hopwood, Alexandra, Sun Valley and Jarvis. Whilst this was a daunting task for the colleagues from FWA they all soon settled into a routine supported by each other and confidence in the conversations grew.

During the calls FWA identified that some of the women did not attend due to language barriers and lack of knowledge of the reasons for having it.

Colleagues initially experienced refusals due to the previous poor experience but FWA were able to overcome language barriers and explain matters in a clearer way and build relations helping to reassure them. Once people started to relate to FWA and understood the info was held in confidence they welcomed being telephoned instead of receiving text messages.

Colleagues from FWA were thanked for their friendly positive attitude from people. As they were sat together, they were able to support each other to make the calls more effective.

The Results

Targets	Achieved
1,500 calls to be made	2,423
500 conversations	1,080
250 bookings	504

Children's and Young People Sessions, All United

Our Strategic Objective
Activities for children and young people

To further develop the skills, health and social wellbeing of vulnerable, disadvantaged children and young people enabling them to reach their full potential in terms of education, economic and social contribution, health and wellbeing.

The aim is to increase confidence of the children and young people, enhance their mental and physical health and wellbeing, and develop their skills through various activities.

The goal was to increase confidence of the children and young people, enhance their mental and physical health and wellbeing, and develop their skills through numerous activities and workshops.

Over the year approximately 82 children and young people registered and benefitted from the activities delivered weekly.

Consultations

Children and young people are encouraged to speak and voice opinions during group consultations. They are asked about their needs, challenges and requirements . This gives them a sense of value and belonging.

Consultation resulted in young people recognising gaps and need of the young Muslim women provision in the community. They had reflected and analysed wellbeing issues and lack of social time in their schedules. There was a high demand for outdoor trips and social activities to support mental wellbeing.

We have discussions with children and young people about the environment and get them to foster positive attitude about their surroundings. Many issues are discussed e.g., bullying and harassment, internet grooming, depression, positive attitude, Racism, drugs and cultural awareness, financial difficulties, crime and violence.

Parents want their children to become active and get involved in activities to stimulate their mind and bodies. They were concern about the lack of confidence and language barriers between the generations. Parents were struggling to get their children and young people away from screens and phones.

Multisport

Children and young people have participated in weekly multi sports. They took part in various sports activities e.g., football, dodge ball, rounder's, cricket, cycling, taekwondo, hiking and other ball games. These activities enhanced their physical and mental wellbeing. We played games with children and young people to encourage communication, presentation skills and boost confidence. Outdoor trips were enjoyable physical activities. They help to support their social skills enhancing their confidence and mental wellbeing.







Arts and Craft

Children and young people developed many skills through art and craft. They created cards, t-shirt tie and dye designs, canvas painting, Calligraphy, and face painting.

Through performance art, we supported children and young people in increasing skills e.g., teamwork, communication, presentation skills, enhanced their confidence, whilst developing their creative side and having fun with their peer groups.

They took part in recycling and environmental programmes in which they were given information on drugs and violence. They shared their views and stories related to issues in the community and visibility of common drugs and canisters in the area used by the youth. Young people were educated about sexual exploitation and internet safety through various art forms.





Cookery

We delivered 12 weeks of cookery projects in Bethel Church. Young people really enjoyed learning about cultural food e.g., kneading flour and making healthy salads etc. They were introduced to new ingredients and encouraged to work with family members. They were given responsibilities and enhanced their knowledge of various products. This class was very popular. Through these activities we talked about issues at home and school. Young people shared difficulties they face because of the cultural differences. Through making and eating food it gave individuals a chance to bond with staff and other members in a safe environment.

Celebrations

Throughout the year we celebrate occasions such as Eid, Easter and end of projects, mental health week etc. They celebrated annual events and end of Ramadan with a party. Food was provided, Children and young people shared food and played games. They shared their home experience of Eid and family times.

During Ramadan most young people fast for over 4 weeks. We deliver a session where they come together at time of breaking the 18 hours fast, provide food, sing hymns and share religious views, positively e.g., caring and compassion. It is a social gathering for the young people where they break away from daily Ramadan routine and have fun with friends.

Partnership work

Working with other organisations or partners is always welcomed. We have delivered many projects in partnership. We worked with Peshkar Productions and completed the bronze arts award. We worked with Oldham Coliseum, Oldham Libraries, Northern roots. Through partnership we can deliver diverse projects to benefit children and young people in many forms of art and environment. We have delivered workshops with Point about drugs and alcohol. KOGS came to work with young people on internet safety and grooming. LAG Horizon Takwondo delivered taster workshops at Primrose Centre for sports and Fresh Beleaf partnered up for nature focused workshops.



Trips

We take children and young people on trips during school holidays. The trips help to build positive skills like communication, integration, social skills, behaviour management skills in public, and boost mental wellbeing. Children and young people get the opportunity to learn about travel and the costs involved.

- London
- Summit up indoor climbing
- Tandlehill park
- Castleshaw
- Caving
- Archery
- Orienteering
- Dovestones
- Oldham coliseum
- Oldham library
- Manchester museum
- Northern Roots
- Kushi festival
- Alexandra Park
- Odeon Cinemas
- Lancaster Farm
- Fishing
- Blackpool





Case studies

X is a young person who joined 2 years ago and was extremely shy. Over the year she has completed bronze arts award in digital arts, took part in theatre performance and is now volunteering to help children with sports activities. She has flourished and become a very pleasant and motivated young lady who shares excellent values with her peer group. X has shown interest in further arts projects.

Y is a sibling of 4 with autistic and none verbal. He is known to be violent around his home with parents and especially around his baby brother. Mother was desperate for us to allow him to come and join the club. As we are open to all communities, with the support of his support worker, he attended the arts and craft workshops. Y adapted to the group and observed the children calmly. He would join in the activity where it was possible. His mother and support worker said he loves coming weekly and looks forward to the arts and craft. His time away from family was benefitting his sibling and X himself mentally.

Other quotes:

"My daughters' personality has changed ever since she's started coming to your group".

"I love Friday evening. It's a break from daily house chores and boring family".

"I did not want to join the club but now I'm glad I did".

"Sports is my favourite activity especially football".

The Greater Manchester Combined Authority Violence Reduction Unit (VRU)






This is a project that targeted Women, young people and children from the Glodwick area to reduce crime and violence. We outreached and recruited mothers to take part in in parenting and managing challenging behaviour courses. 36 participants completed the course over 3 cohorts of 5 workshops. The last cohort was delivered at Glodwick Primary School to engage the mothers of children attending the school. This was delivered by tutors from Lifelong Learning. It was an excellent opportunity for mothers to self-reflect and learn about challenging behaviours and how to positively manage them.

Young people

Young people were recruited for life skills and self-care sessions. We delivered workshops alongside the makeup sessions on drugs, internet safety, grooming, self-harm, abuse, financial abuse, fire safety, hate crime and many other crime related subjects. Young people were taught entrepreneur skills, life skills and self-care. They made friends and talked about society, media, and peer pressures. It mirrored the problems the youth were facing in the local area. They had this opportunity to learn about misuse of social media and the impact of bullying. They learned how to recognize criminal activities and how to report them in safe manner.

10- to 14-year-old Children

Children were recruited for arts and environment project for 12 weeks which was delivered on Saturday afternoons. Children enjoyed learning recycling and planting skills. They created a green space in the corner of the car park. Through these workshops they were made aware of drugs and nitrox oxide misuse. Children were educated about the effected of ballooning and long-term health impacts of various drugs. Children learned about creating positive spaces in their areas and volunteering for community. They took part in revamping a raised bed at the local Church and made it pretty with new plants and flowers.



Trips

We took some mothers for a breakfast consultation where they reflected on what they learned and how they implement their new skills in their family unit. Took 21 Young people to Rochdale via Tram to teach them how to travel on public transport and they took part and played mini-Golf. We treated them to ice cream on their way back.

45 mothers, young people, and children went to London for a day trip on a Coach.

Summary of Activities Completed:

Activity	Number of participants
Sewing and entrepreneur skills	18
Parenting skills	36
Art Skills	14
Trip to London	45
Motivational talks	60
Arts and Environment	21
Celebration	60

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR APRIL 2022 TO MARCH 2023

INCOME

	£
Cost of living crises Greater Manchester	5,000
Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund	2,000
Greater Manchester Crime Reduction Unit	15,000
John Mason Family Charitable trust	2,000
Magic Little grants	500
Manchester guardian society charitable trust	1,000
One Oldham Fund small grants	1,080
One Oldham Fund Children and young people	1,000
One Oldham Fund Cost of living crises	1,000
Ideas Fund	4,538
Reaching Communities	75,006
Small funds Other	3,196
Tudor Trust	35,000
Volunteer celebration fund	500
Activities for generating funds	11,310
Total Income	**158,130**

EXPENDITURE

Staff Costs	98,128
Property Expenses	8,953
Office & Communication Costs	11,355
Events/Trips/Projects	27,311
Payroll Service and Index	1,371
Volunteers	3,150
Travel	853
Training	714
Management Cost	5,490
Social Action Fund	60,151
Total Expenditure	**217,476**
Total Surplus/ (Deficit)	**59,346**
Balance brought forward FWA 01/04/22	**132,201**
Balance brought forward SAF 01/04/22	**60,151**
Restricted Funds at 31/03/23	**73,587**
Restricted Funds Social Action Fund 31/03/23	**0**
Unrestricted Funds at 31/03/23	**59,419**

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Staff Members

Fauzia Chaudhry	Manager/Development Worker	38 hours
Uzma Khaliq	Finance Officer/Fundraiser	23 hours
Farhanda Qadeer	Outreach/Development Worker	28 hours
Shabana Parveen	Children's Co-ordinator	22 hours
Arjam Sadiq	Children's Sessional Worker	9 hours
Farhanda Qadeer	Children's Sessional Worker	9 hours

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Farzana Aziz	Chairperson
Samina Iqbal	Treasurer
Shamim Akhtar	Secretary
Tabasum Kausar	Vice Chairperson
Nasreen Shabir	
Parveen Akhtar	
Maria Nessa	
Sylvia Akram	

Fatima Women's Association is extremely interested in recruiting new Management Committee Members and volunteers. Interested individuals should contact F.W.A for further information.

Please visit our web page www.fatimawomens.org.uk for up-to-date information.

COMMUNITY FUND
We support people and communities to thrive.
The National Lottery Community Fund

the Tudor trust

Charity Registration Number: 1160027

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ending 31st March 2023

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

Registered Charity Name	Fatima Women's Association
Charity Number	1160027
Registered Office	Marlborough Resource Centre Marlborough Street Oldham OL4 1EG
Trustees	Mrs N Shabir Mrs P Akhtar Mrs S Akhtar Mrs F Aziz Ms S Akram Mrs S Iqbal Mrs T Kausar Ms M Nessa
Accountants	Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C. Foxfields 9 Norley Close Chadderton Oldham OL1 2RA
Bankers	Virgin Money 47 Market Place Oldham OL1 3AB

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2023

The trustees present their annual report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 March 2023.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Fatima Women's Association is a CIO (registered charity number 1160027) and was registered as a CIO on 19 January 2015. The assets of the unincorporated charity named Fatima Women's Association (registered charity number 1039603) were transferred to the CIO on 1 April 2015. The unincorporated charity named Fatima Women's Association (registered charity number 1039603) was removed from Charity Commission website in November 2016.

Recruitment and Training of Trustees

The trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the annual general meeting held each October. Interested parties can request an application form from staff to join the Management Committee. The current Management Committee members will shortlist and either invite successful applicants to the Annual General Meeting or co-opt individuals as stated below.

The Committee shall consist of at least 8 members elected by and from the representatives of the area of benefit. The Officers and Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve until the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting next after their appointment.

The Committee shall have the power to co-opt persons having special knowledge or experience, provided that the number of co-opted members shall not exceed one-third of the total membership of the Committee. They shall hold office until the end of the Annual General Meeting following their co-option.

The Committee may invite any person to attend its meeting as an observer but without the power to vote. Trustees are advised to attend relevant training when and if required.

Organisational Management

Fatima Women's Association is managed by a Management Committee who is elected at the Annual General Meeting by the members of Fatima Women's Association. There are currently 8 elected members on the Board of Trustees. Regular staff meetings take place with the manager who submits a written report on the work of the association every 6 to 8 weeks at the management committee meetings.

Group Structure and Relationships

Fatima Women's Association has 8 trustees on the management board. It has 8 part time staff employed, subject to funding. It has a pool of 25 active volunteers and work experience students. The staff attend the staff meetings to inform the manager of the work conducted and future project planning. The minutes of the staff meeting are submitted at the regular board meetings.

Public Benefit

The objects of Fatima Women's Association are:

- To empower disadvantaged women, young people, and children in Oldham to improve their quality of life.
- To provide and assist in the provision of education, training and recreational activities for women, young people, and children in the Borough of Oldham.

In planning our activities for the year we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustees' meetings. The focus of our activities remains around education, training, social and leisure activities.

To capacity build and empower disadvantaged women, young people, and children in Oldham, by building their confidence, self-esteem, social and educational skills through the provision of a range of demand led, quality controlled and fit for purpose educational training programmes.

To improve the health, wellbeing of disadvantaged women, young people and children who may be experiencing isolation, poor physical and mental health, and domestic abuse by providing a variety of educational, social and leisure opportunities.

To further develop the skills, health and social wellbeing of all vulnerable, disadvantaged children and young people enabling them to reach their full potential in terms of education, economic and social contribution, health, and wellbeing.

Risk Management

Regular disclosure and barring service checks take place with every individual that works with children and vulnerable adults in line with statutory requirements.

Objectives, Aims and Activities

Charitable Objectives

The Charitable Objectives of Fatima Women's Association, as set out in the Constitution of the CIO are:

Education/Training:

To capacity build and empower disadvantaged women in Oldham, by building their confidence, self-esteem, social and educational skills through the provision of a range of demand led, quality controlled and fit for purpose educational training programmes.

Health and Wellbeing:

To improve the health, wellbeing of disadvantaged women and their children who may be experiencing isolation, poor physical and mental health, and domestic abuse by providing a variety of educational, social and leisure opportunities.

Activities for children and young people:

To further develop the skills, health and social wellbeing of all vulnerable, disadvantaged children and young people enabling them to reach their full potential in terms of education, economic and social contribution, health and wellbeing.

Principle Activities

The principal activities continued to be education, training, social and leisure activities as listed in the detailed Annual Report 2022/23.

Review of Achievements and Performance for the Year

Operational Performance

Under education FWA delivered Spoken English, English Language Pre-entry, entry 1, 2 and 3, Elementary English, communication skills, reading and writing and IT skills.

Under training FWA delivered pre- employment skills programme, Greater Manchester crime reduction unit programme (Violence reduction unit), Get Oldham working NHS Programme, social media and IT, First Aid, Fire Safety, British Citizenship, ESOL and Life in the UK test.

Under health and wellbeing FWA delivered the 50+ Group, dementia awareness, women's resilience, health and wellbeing group, yoga, pilates, art and craft, creating internal strength, beauty and wellness, massage, knitting, drama production, advice surgeries and trips. Collaborating with the communities to improve health and wellbeing, preventing illnesses and overcoming mental health related challenges.

Cancer awareness by making telephone calls to GP patients, through the Answer Cancer Programme.

One of the biggest highlights was A celebration of women and Eid, a big bang evening of entertainment where 270 women attended. The drama production, produced by staff and volunteers was around the Covid-19 Pandemic and coming out of it. Staff and volunteers were paramount in the success of the evening.

The annual volunteer celebration event at Sanah's restaurant was attended by 21 volunteers.

Under activities for children and young people FWA delivered sessions on drama, pot planting, gardening, recycling, indoor games, art and craft, sewing, canvas painting, learning about the environment and healthy cooking. Various trips took place, Northern Roots, outdoor activity parks, Crocky Trails, Go Ape, Harvest Festival and to local heritage destinations. Young people took part in a drama production at the Kushi Festival, Oldham. 18 young people achieved the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award.

Awareness raising and discussions on bullying and harassment, internet grooming, depression, positive attitudes, drugs and cultural awareness. FWA has had the impact of reducing inequality and building resilience across Oldham's communities, reducing poverty and helping people get back on their feet.

Over the past year many women have secured job interviews and 10 women have gained employment which is an amazing achievement.

We have regularly reviewed and revised the programmes with the tutor to meet the needs of the learners and the organisation. Project updates have been submitted regularly to the management board. The project workers played a key role in building partnerships with other organisations to deliver programmes to meet the needs of the community. Working with other organisations has helped to enhance our existing provisions.

Fundraising Performance

The association is pleased to announce it has sustained the project for the forthcoming years due to raising funds from The National Lottery Reaching Communities fund and the Tudor Trust, 2021 to 2026, which is going to have a positive impact on the sustainability of the association. The association continues to increase or decrease staffing hours based on projects approved throughout the year.

Our main sources of funding have been grant funding and small donations from trust, foundations and government commissioning and procurement programmes.

Financial Review

Reserves Policy

To maintain the cost of redundancies if the inevitable happens and redundancies must be made.

Impact of Coronavirus Pandemic

We continue to contain the spread of Covid-19 in Oldham and safeguarding and supporting our most vulnerable residents.

Plans

Based on the current staffing commitment on a yearly basis Fatima Women's Association wants to be able to sustain an income of £120,000 which should be achieved through the 5-year funding from The National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund, The Tudor Trust, and other small funders.

The sources of funding can be spread over a range of sources from the Local government, national government schemes, international government schemes, private trusts, and foundations and local fundraising activities. Trusts and foundations have played a noticeably big part in the sustainability of F.W.A. We shall endeavour to carry out applying for further funding from the great networks that F.W.A has achieved over the past few years.

There is a great need in the community to further improve the English language, Pre-employability skills and information technology to enable women to become independent and integrate within the wider community. This could potentially lead on to gaining work experience, volunteering, or employment.

The Trustee's Annual Report was approved by the Board of Trustee's and signed on their behalf:

Signed.....

Name.....FARZANA ATKI..... Date.....31/07/2023.....
Trustee

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2023

I report on the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2023 set out on pages 8-11.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees consider an audit is not required for this year under s144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under s145 of the 2011 Act
- Follow the procedure laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under s145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Opinion

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items of disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

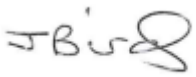
Independent Examiners Statement

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

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
   - To keep accounting records in accordance with s130 of the 2011 Act; and
   - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

3.



11th August 2023

Miss Jacqueline Bird F.M.A.A.T.
Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C.
Foxfields
9 Norley Close
Chadderton
Oldham
OL1 2RA

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	The Social Action Fund 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
RECEIPTS						
Grants & Donations	*2*	-	146,820	-	146,820	232,057
Activities for Generating Funds		11,310	-	-	11,310	8,452
TOTAL RECEIPTS		**11,310**	**146,820**	**-**	**158,130**	**240,509**
PAYMENTS						
Salaries & Pensions		5,622	92,506	29,175	127,303	105,851
Management & Finance		-	5,490	13,246	18,736	20,515
Travelling		-	853	-	853	218
Telephone & Internet		-	1,114	-	1,114	697
Events, Projects & Trips		1,126	26,185	-	27,311	14,654
Activities		-	-	14,881	14,881	34,053
Service Charge		-	4,379	-	4,379	1,489
Hub Overheads		-	-	2,050	2,050	5,086
Room Hire		-	3,690	-	3,690	950
Insurance		-	884	-	884	688
Cleaning		-	-	-	-	852
Stationary, Printing & Postage		-	2,815	-	2,815	2,283
Volunteers		-	3,150	-	3,150	2,077
Payroll, Accounts & HR		-	1,371	-	1,371	1,221
Consultancy		-	-	264	264	-
Training		-	714	-	714	1,000
IT Software		-	1,476	-	1,476	1,193
Equipment		-	5,950	535	6,485	6,943
Miscellaneous		-	-	-	-	37
TOTAL PAYMENTS		**6,748**	**150,577**	**60,151**	**217,476**	**199,807**
Net of receipts/(payments)		4,562	(3,757)	(60,151)	(59,346)	40,702
Cash funds at 1st April 2022		59,434	72,767	60,151	192,352	151,650
Transfer of Funds		(4,577)	4,577	-	-	-
Cash funds at 31 March 2023	*3*	**59,419**	**73,587**	**-**	**133,006**	**192,352**

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITES

AS AT 31ST MARCH 2023

	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
ASSETS		
Cash Funds	134,366	174,368
Debtors	-	42,282
	134,366	216,650
LIABILITIES		
Creditors	1,360	24,298
	1,360	24,298
TOTAL NET ASSETS/LIABILITIES	**133,006**	**192,352**
Additional Liabilities		
Independent Examination Fee	**795**	**795**

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Signed.....

Name.....FAKZANA AZIZ..... Date.....31/07/2023.....
Trustee

1. Receipts and payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

2. Grants and Donations

	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Cost of Living Crisis Greater Manchester	5,000	-
Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund	2,000	-
Greater Manchester Crime Reduction Unit	15,000	-
John Mason Family Charitable Trust	2,000	-
Magic Little Grants	500	500
Manchester Guardian Society Charitable Trust	1,000	-
Near Neighbours	-	2,500
One Oldham Fund Cost of Living Crisis Support Grant	1,000	-
One Oldham Fund Small Grants	1,080	9,901
One Oldham Fund Children & Young People Grant	1,000	-
Ideas Fund	4,538	-
Reaching Communities	75,006	72,743
Small Other Funds	3,196	4,594
Tudor Trust	35,000	35,000
Volunteer Celebration Fund	500	500
	146,820	**125,738**
The Social Action Fund*	-	106,319
TOTAL	**146,820**	**232,057**

***** Funds received from The Social Action Fund were from the consortium bid grant. Fatima Women's Association are managing this fund on behalf of The Social Action Fund, and as such do not directly benefit from this funding.
The project for this fund came to an end during this financial year.

3. Fund Analysis

Fund Name	Balance as at 1 April 2022 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfer of Funds £	Balance as at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted Funds	**59,434**	**11,310**	**(6,748)**	**(4,577)**	**59,419**
Restricted Funds:					
Foyle Foundation	1,239	-	(1,239)	-	-
Cost of Living Crisis Greater Manchester (COLC GM)	-	5,000	(473)	-	4,527
Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
Grace Trust	377	-	(380)	3	-
Greater Manchester Crime Reduction Unit	-	15,000	(20,412)	-	(5,412)
John Mason Family Trust	1,306	2,000	(2,195)	-	1,111
Magic Little Grants	-	500	(500)	-	-
Manchester Guardian Society Charitable Trust	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
One Oldham Fund Cost of Living Crisis Support Grant (COLCSG)	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
One Oldham Fund Small Grants	5,255	1,080	(6,467)	132	-
One Oldham Fund Children & Young People Grant	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Ideas Fund	-	4,538	(4,538)	-	-
Reaching Communities	16,508	75,006	(75,136)	-	16,378
Small Other Funds	4,594	3,196	-	4,442	12,232
Tudor Trust	43,488	35,000	(37,737)	-	40,751
Volunteer Celebration Fund	-	500	(500)	-	-
	72,767	**146,820**	**(150,577)**	**4,577**	**73,587**
The Social Action Fund (Restricted Funds)	**60,151**	**-**	**(60,151)**	**-**	**-**
TOTAL FUNDS	**192,352**	**158,130**	**(217,476)**	**-**	**133,006**

Charity Registration Number: 1160027

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ending 31st March 2023

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

Registered Charity Name	Fatima Women's Association
Charity Number	1160027
Registered Office	Marlborough Resource Centre Marlborough Street Oldham OL4 1EG
Trustees	Mrs N Shabir Mrs P Akhtar Mrs S Akhtar Mrs F Aziz Ms S Akram Mrs S Iqbal Mrs T Kausar Ms M Nessa
Accountants	Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C. Foxfields 9 Norley Close Chadderton Oldham OL1 2RA
Bankers	Virgin Money 47 Market Place Oldham OL1 3AB

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2023

The trustees present their annual report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 March 2023.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Fatima Women's Association is a CIO (registered charity number 1160027) and was registered as a CIO on 19 January 2015. The assets of the unincorporated charity named Fatima Women's Association (registered charity number 1039603) were transferred to the CIO on 1 April 2015. The unincorporated charity named Fatima Women's Association (registered charity number 1039603) was removed from Charity Commission website in November 2016.

Recruitment and Training of Trustees

The trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the annual general meeting held each October. Interested parties can request an application form from staff to join the Management Committee. The current Management Committee members will shortlist and either invite successful applicants to the Annual General Meeting or co-opt individuals as stated below.

The Committee shall consist of at least 8 members elected by and from the representatives of the area of benefit. The Officers and Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve until the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting next after their appointment.

The Committee shall have the power to co-opt persons having special knowledge or experience, provided that the number of co-opted members shall not exceed one-third of the total membership of the Committee. They shall hold office until the end of the Annual General Meeting following their co-option.

The Committee may invite any person to attend its meeting as an observer but without the power to vote. Trustees are advised to attend relevant training when and if required.

Organisational Management

Fatima Women's Association is managed by a Management Committee who is elected at the Annual General Meeting by the members of Fatima Women's Association. There are currently 8 elected members on the Board of Trustees. Regular staff meetings take place with the manager who submits a written report on the work of the association every 6 to 8 weeks at the management committee meetings.

Group Structure and Relationships

Fatima Women's Association has 8 trustees on the management board. It has 8 part time staff employed, subject to funding. It has a pool of 25 active volunteers and work experience students. The staff attend the staff meetings to inform the manager of the work conducted and future project planning. The minutes of the staff meeting are submitted at the regular board meetings.

Public Benefit

The objects of Fatima Women's Association are:

- To empower disadvantaged women, young people, and children in Oldham to improve their quality of life.
- To provide and assist in the provision of education, training and recreational activities for women, young people, and children in the Borough of Oldham.

In planning our activities for the year we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustees' meetings. The focus of our activities remains around education, training, social and leisure activities.

To capacity build and empower disadvantaged women, young people, and children in Oldham, by building their confidence, self-esteem, social and educational skills through the provision of a range of demand led, quality controlled and fit for purpose educational training programmes.

To improve the health, wellbeing of disadvantaged women, young people and children who may be experiencing isolation, poor physical and mental health, and domestic abuse by providing a variety of educational, social and leisure opportunities.

To further develop the skills, health and social wellbeing of all vulnerable, disadvantaged children and young people enabling them to reach their full potential in terms of education, economic and social contribution, health, and wellbeing.

Risk Management

Regular disclosure and barring service checks take place with every individual that works with children and vulnerable adults in line with statutory requirements.

Objectives, Aims and Activities

Charitable Objectives

The Charitable Objectives of Fatima Women's Association, as set out in the Constitution of the CIO are:

Education/Training:

To capacity build and empower disadvantaged women in Oldham, by building their confidence, self-esteem, social and educational skills through the provision of a range of demand led, quality controlled and fit for purpose educational training programmes.

Health and Wellbeing:

To improve the health, wellbeing of disadvantaged women and their children who may be experiencing isolation, poor physical and mental health, and domestic abuse by providing a variety of educational, social and leisure opportunities.

Activities for children and young people:

To further develop the skills, health and social wellbeing of all vulnerable, disadvantaged children and young people enabling them to reach their full potential in terms of education, economic and social contribution, health and wellbeing.

Principle Activities

The principal activities continued to be education, training, social and leisure activities as listed in the detailed Annual Report 2022/23.

Review of Achievements and Performance for the Year

Operational Performance

Under education FWA delivered Spoken English, English Language Pre-entry, entry 1, 2 and 3, Elementary English, communication skills, reading and writing and IT skills.

Under training FWA delivered pre- employment skills programme, Greater Manchester crime reduction unit programme (Violence reduction unit), Get Oldham working NHS Programme, social media and IT, First Aid, Fire Safety, British Citizenship, ESOL and Life in the UK test.

Under health and wellbeing FWA delivered the 50+ Group, dementia awareness, women's resilience, health and wellbeing group, yoga, pilates, art and craft, creating internal strength, beauty and wellness, massage, knitting, drama production, advice surgeries and trips. Collaborating with the communities to improve health and wellbeing, preventing illnesses and overcoming mental health related challenges.

Cancer awareness by making telephone calls to GP patients, through the Answer Cancer Programme.

One of the biggest highlights was A celebration of women and Eid, a big bang evening of entertainment where 270 women attended. The drama production, produced by staff and volunteers was around the Covid-19 Pandemic and coming out of it. Staff and volunteers were paramount in the success of the evening.

The annual volunteer celebration event at Sanah's restaurant was attended by 21 volunteers.

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Over the past year many women have secured job interviews and 10 women have gained employment which is an amazing achievement.

We have regularly reviewed and revised the programmes with the tutor to meet the needs of the learners and the organisation. Project updates have been submitted regularly to the management board. The project workers played a key role in building partnerships with other organisations to deliver programmes to meet the needs of the community. Working with other organisations has helped to enhance our existing provisions.

Fundraising Performance

The association is pleased to announce it has sustained the project for the forthcoming years due to raising funds from The National Lottery Reaching Communities fund and the Tudor Trust, 2021 to 2026, which is going to have a positive impact on the sustainability of the association. The association continues to increase or decrease staffing hours based on projects approved throughout the year.

Our main sources of funding have been grant funding and small donations from trust, foundations and government commissioning and procurement programmes.

Financial Review

Reserves Policy

To maintain the cost of redundancies if the inevitable happens and redundancies must be made.

Impact of Coronavirus Pandemic

We continue to contain the spread of Covid-19 in Oldham and safeguarding and supporting our most vulnerable residents.

Plans

Based on the current staffing commitment on a yearly basis Fatima Women's Association wants to be able to sustain an income of £120,000 which should be achieved through the 5-year funding from The National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund, The Tudor Trust, and other small funders.

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There is a great need in the community to further improve the English language, Pre-employability skills and information technology to enable women to become independent and integrate within the wider community. This could potentially lead on to gaining work experience, volunteering, or employment.

The Trustee's Annual Report was approved by the Board of Trustee's and signed on their behalf:

Signed.....

Name.....FARZANA ATKI..... Date.....31/07/2023.....
Trustee

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2023

I report on the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2023 set out on pages 8-11.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees consider an audit is not required for this year under s144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under s145 of the 2011 Act
- Follow the procedure laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under s145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Opinion

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items of disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

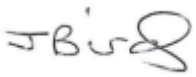
Independent Examiners Statement

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

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
   - To keep accounting records in accordance with s130 of the 2011 Act; and
   - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

3.



11th August 2023

Miss Jacqueline Bird F.M.A.A.T.
Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C.
Foxfields
9 Norley Close
Chadderton
Oldham
OL1 2RA

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	The Social Action Fund 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
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Activities for Generating Funds		11,310	-	-	11,310	8,452
TOTAL RECEIPTS		**11,310**	**146,820**	**-**	**158,130**	**240,509**
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Volunteers		-	3,150	-	3,150	2,077
Payroll, Accounts & HR		-	1,371	-	1,371	1,221
Consultancy		-	-	264	264	-
Training		-	714	-	714	1,000
IT Software		-	1,476	-	1,476	1,193
Equipment		-	5,950	535	6,485	6,943
Miscellaneous		-	-	-	-	37
TOTAL PAYMENTS		**6,748**	**150,577**	**60,151**	**217,476**	**199,807**
Net of receipts/(payments)		4,562	(3,757)	(60,151)	(59,346)	40,702
Cash funds at 1st April 2022		59,434	72,767	60,151	192,352	151,650
Transfer of Funds		(4,577)	4,577	-	-	-
Cash funds at 31 March 2023	*3*	**59,419**	**73,587**	**-**	**133,006**	**192,352**

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITES

AS AT 31ST MARCH 2023

	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
ASSETS		
Cash Funds	134,366	174,368
Debtors	-	42,282
	134,366	216,650
LIABILITIES		
Creditors	1,360	24,298
	1,360	24,298
TOTAL NET ASSETS/LIABILITIES	**133,006**	**192,352**
Additional Liabilities		
Independent Examination Fee	**795**	**795**

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Signed.....

Name.....FAKZANA AZIZ..... Date.....31/07/2023.....
Trustee

1. Receipts and payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

2. Grants and Donations

	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Cost of Living Crisis Greater Manchester	5,000	-
Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund	2,000	-
Greater Manchester Crime Reduction Unit	15,000	-
John Mason Family Charitable Trust	2,000	-
Magic Little Grants	500	500
Manchester Guardian Society Charitable Trust	1,000	-
Near Neighbours	-	2,500
One Oldham Fund Cost of Living Crisis Support Grant	1,000	-
One Oldham Fund Small Grants	1,080	9,901
One Oldham Fund Children & Young People Grant	1,000	-
Ideas Fund	4,538	-
Reaching Communities	75,006	72,743
Small Other Funds	3,196	4,594
Tudor Trust	35,000	35,000
Volunteer Celebration Fund	500	500
	146,820	**125,738**
The Social Action Fund*	-	106,319
TOTAL	**146,820**	**232,057**

***** Funds received from The Social Action Fund were from the consortium bid grant. Fatima Women's Association are managing this fund on behalf of The Social Action Fund, and as such do not directly benefit from this funding.
The project for this fund came to an end during this financial year.

3. Fund Analysis

Fund Name	Balance as at 1 April 2022 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfer of Funds £	Balance as at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted Funds	**59,434**	**11,310**	**(6,748)**	**(4,577)**	**59,419**
Restricted Funds:					
Foyle Foundation	1,239	-	(1,239)	-	-
Cost of Living Crisis Greater Manchester (COLC GM)	-	5,000	(473)	-	4,527
Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
Grace Trust	377	-	(380)	3	-
Greater Manchester Crime Reduction Unit	-	15,000	(20,412)	-	(5,412)
John Mason Family Trust	1,306	2,000	(2,195)	-	1,111
Magic Little Grants	-	500	(500)	-	-
Manchester Guardian Society Charitable Trust	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
One Oldham Fund Cost of Living Crisis Support Grant (COLCSG)	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
One Oldham Fund Small Grants	5,255	1,080	(6,467)	132	-
One Oldham Fund Children & Young People Grant	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Ideas Fund	-	4,538	(4,538)	-	-
Reaching Communities	16,508	75,006	(75,136)	-	16,378
Small Other Funds	4,594	3,196	-	4,442	12,232
Tudor Trust	43,488	35,000	(37,737)	-	40,751
Volunteer Celebration Fund	-	500	(500)	-	-
	72,767	**146,820**	**(150,577)**	**4,577**	**73,587**
The Social Action Fund (Restricted Funds)	**60,151**	**-**	**(60,151)**	**-**	**-**
TOTAL FUNDS	**192,352**	**158,130**	**(217,476)**	**-**	**133,006**

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1160027

Accounts

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Marlborough resource centre
Marlborough Street Glodwick Oldham OL4 1EG
0161 627 3109
www.fatimawomens.org.uk



Annual Report
September 2021 – August 2022

Charitable Incorporated Organisation Number 1160027

INTRODUCTION

Aims

Fatima Women's Association aims to meet the needs of women from the surrounding areas of Glodwick, Alexandra, Roundthorn and other parts of Oldham. We provide and assist in the provision of training, educational courses, health and wellbeing sessions, recreation and leisure activities for women, young people, and children. We also meet our aims through the employment of staff, the development of partnerships with other agencies and using volunteers.

Within the last year FWA has created an environment, which appeals to and caters for the needs of the different local communities.

Through running numerous training sessions and courses FWA have succeeded in encouraging and supporting many women and young people in making the decision to go into further education and increase their qualifications, gain volunteer opportunities, chances of paid employment and improvement in their quality of life.

Chairperson's Report

As the chair of Fatima Women's Association, it gives me immense pleasure to submit this 31st annual report on the progress of the organisation and the new initiatives undertaken during the past year.

The progress of Fatima Women's Association in the past year has been challenging, encouraging and highly positive, improving services in the community immensely due to the focused management committee members, volunteers, and staff.

It has been an extremely eventful year where the association has delivered a range of new and innovative projects in response to what the community members have told us they need. For up-to-date information please go online at www.fatimawomens.org.uk. This website will be updated regularly. Please visit FWA to register your interest in any of the training courses, educational courses, health and wellbeing sessions and children's activities that are being delivered.

Strengthening communities

The manager has focused on the partnerships, particularly between the voluntary, community and the statutory sector. Working together has helped to enhance existing provision and has brought different sets of skills together

to provide improved networks of services for beneficiaries. The manager developed a focus group with student volunteers to involve them in future planning and programme development. FWA also joined the Develop Glodwick local consortium in submitting the bid to Greater Manchester on reduction of crime and violence. Furthermore, we host monthly consortium meetings at FWA. We work in close partnership with Greater Manchester Support for South Asian Women, BAME project, Action Together, Oldham Lifelong Learning, Positive Steps, Bethel Church, Oak project, Get Oldham Working (Oldham Council), Koggs, Answer Cancer Manchester, Bethel Church, Fresh Belief and many more.

Activities/Training

FWA has been involved in consultation with local women and networking with other agencies on an on-going basis to design and run new training courses reflecting the needs of the community.

We as a team have continued to build on our past experiences to develop FWA towards its full potential.

We had 249 adults and 115 young people and children's membership forms completed. Over a 52-week period the average number of participants accessing the sessions was 135 individuals per week. F.W.A has had 25 different volunteers throughout a 12-month period.

Funding

It has been another successful year for FWA in raising funds to run projects, maintain overheads, resources, and staff positions. We are extremely pleased that new projects taken on by FWA are meeting their outcomes and that they have an enhanced impact on our core delivery.

The association has sustainability for the next 4 years. Each year we are very successful in bringing in new projects that benefit the community e.g. Local giving magic little grants to deliver emotional resilience programme, one Oldham fund small grants to deliver boxercise, bhangrasize, yoga and put on an entertainment evening and various other small grants. This is amazing news which would not have been possible without the hardwork and commitment given by the management, staff and volunteers.

Covid-19 Pandemic

Since the centre has reopened demand for the classes have seen a great increase. We have limited places and sessions are oversubscribed. Many referrals from all communities have been received from the job centre plus and other agencies. There is a waiting list for women, children and young people. During this year we have enabled those adversely impacted by Covid-19 to access the help they need. We continue to contain the spread of Covid-19 in Oldham and safeguarding and supporting our most vulnerable residents.

I would like to thank all the organisations and individuals who have supported and encouraged us over the past year and look forward to a lot more teamwork and many new and challenging initiatives.

On behalf of the Management Committee, I would like to extend our appreciation and an excessively big thank you to all members of staff for their arduous work, commitment, and enthusiasm and all the volunteers of Fatima Women's Association, for their consistent and loyal support.

It is with immense pleasure that I present to you the 31st Annual Report of Fatima Women's Association September 2021 to August 2022.

Farzana Aziz
Chairperson

FUNDING

FWA would like to thank the following for their financial support from April 2021 to March 2022:

Local giving magic little grants
Near Neighbours
NLDCF
One Oldham Fund Small grants
Reaching Communities
Tudor Trust
Other small funders

***Social Action Fund, Oldham Cares, BAME Connect**
Funds received from The Social Action Fund are from the consortium bid grant. Fatima Women's Association are managing this fund on behalf of The Social Action Fund, and as such do not directly benefit from this funding.

The Oldham BAME Consortium is made up of the following organisations:

Oak Community Development Project
Pakistani Community Centre
Fatima women's association
Vision
Westwood and Coldhurst women's association
GP Cluster

The overall aim of this project is to reduce loneliness and social isolation by involving, engaging, and supporting socially isolated and lonely individuals into meaningful activities and empowering them to take initiative-taking action in improving their health and wellbeing. Thereby, reducing health inequalities that are experienced by Bangladeshi/ Pakistani heritage communities in Oldham.

Our Strategic Objective
Education/Training:

To capacity build and empower disadvantaged women in Oldham, by building their confidence, self esteem, social and educational skills through the provision of a range of demand led, quality controlled and fit for purpose educational training programmes.

Women into Education and Training Programmes

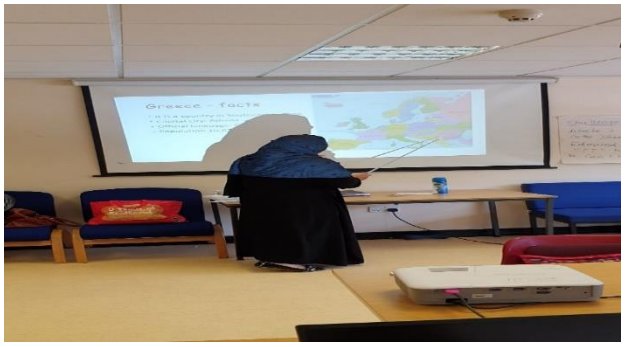
Pre-employability Skills

The project has benefitted 80 individual women. Our learners feel more confident and more independent. Being dependent on others not only financially but also personally and being unable to live the life they wanted was one of the reasons they stayed on the course and made considerable progress. When we asked our learners 'What did the course help you with?' they agreed they are more independent and feel more in control of their lives.

We delivered 108 sessions, 216 hours of learning. We have delivered 13 hours of learning of other organised trainings and made sure the targets were being met. We have had referrals from the Job Centre Plus, Social Services and the Early Intervention Team from Positive Steps. Women from different ethnicities across Oldham were now changing their lives through FWA.

The project focused on helping women of Oldham to gain skills necessary to gain employment and to be independent. To achieve set goals and targets and to make a significant difference, learners took part in different programmes within the project.

ESOL classes was an amazing programme students took part in. During the course learners improved their speaking, listening, reading and writing skills.



Presentation skills

Intensive support was provided after being assessed by the staff. Students reflected on their learning and looked at the points that must be improved. What is more, the project workers supported these women not only with learning but also gave advice on employment and training. Ongoing support included constant revision of the previous work to link processes together and to help learners to achieve their targets. The programme consisted of 4

modules: reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. IT skills, CV writing, job search skills and presentation skills were embedded into the four modules.

Two women have secured jobs.

The project workers developed a focus group with student volunteers to involve them in future planning and programme development.



Spoken English

Spoken English

The project focused on helping women in Oldham gain the necessary skills to integrate in the wider community and to be independent. ESOL classes have been an amazing programme that students took part in. During the course learners improved their speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. One to one intensive support was provided after being assessed by the staff. Students reflected on their learning and looked at the points they needed to improve on. Furthermore, the project worker supported these women not only with learning but also gave advice on employment and training. Spoken English sessions gave them an opportunity to improve their English language and raised the aspirations of long-term unemployed women who face many barriers to employment or volunteering. These sessions have helped women to feel confident enough to seek voluntary work to gain experience within an employment setting.



English class

Get Oldham Working, Step-up Programme

The learners took part in Get Oldham Working Step-Up Programme run by the Oldham Council. Its main aims were:
-To change negative mindset, encourage positive and proactive approach in life
-To promote self-esteem and overcome psychological barriers to employment
-To inspire and promote self-development
-To empower them to achieve their most successful state
-To realise their own potential and its optimum utilisation

During the two-hour long sessions, the tutor addressed barriers to being more confident and introduced the students to positive thinking techniques. The students who attended the sessions were offered a complementary one -hour long individual coaching session.

After the sessions we have received positive feedback on the project. All the learners expressed their interest in taking part in more sessions to improve their wellbeing and to build their confidence.

Two volunteers from the community were given a chance to support the teacher and to provide one to one support during the sessions. Individuals who volunteered said, “I believe that volunteering has boosted my chances of getting employment as well as opened more doors for me, due to the transferable skills I obtained through volunteering which can be applied to a broad spectrum of jobs.” Another volunteer also commented “Ongoing informal training and working three hours with the learners in the sessions had improved my teaching skills.’’

Two learners took part in getting work experience in administration tasks at FWA. Students were given an insight into an office job by being introduced to elementary tasks like how to send an email, photocopy, or answering phone calls.

We are considering involving more bilingual volunteers from diverse backgrounds to help our students. 5 % of the learners have been offered progression routes into further learning of higher level of English at the Oldham College and the Oldham Lifelong Learning Centre. They have started attending IT classes as well as ESOL. Some of the learners who needed the support were signposted to other agencies to address additional issues.

Below are some case studies we would like you to get familiar with. Those are genuine stories told by our female learners coming from different countries into the UK.



Reading and writing

Case studies

X is 57 years old and came from Bangladesh. She lived in Italy for sixteen years and worked at a restaurant. She came to England 9 years ago and has two children who are married. She lives with her husband and sometimes feels lonely. She suffers from depression and says, "that coming to English class makes her feel better." She is a motivated learner and made a considerable progress. She can follow instructions and work on tasks independently. She will continue working at the Pre-Entry level and is expected to be progressed to an Entry 1 course soon.

'I like English class and my teacher. I feel happy here and I have made new friends.'

X came from Pakistan five years ago. She is 38, has two children and is a single parent. When she came to England she struggled to communicate and relied on her then husband. She wasn't confident enough to speak to her children's teachers and suffered from depression. Now that her children are grown up, she wants to concentrate more on herself. She confirmed that attending the English class has helped her to improve her speaking and listening skills and fight mental health problems. What is more, she has made considerable progress and will be offered a course at Entry 1 level.

'Coming to class makes me feel happy and more confident. It also helps me with my mental health problems. I now feel it is time to concentrate on myself.' Sofia

'I felt nervous at first but afterwards I realised it was easier than I thought, and I feel presentation has boosted my confidence' Shazia

Z was an outgoing and confident woman who struggled with her daily tasks because of low level of English. She came to FWA at the beginning of Cohort 2 and attended the Monday afternoon class. She has developed English language and she's been studying hard throughout the course. She has completed most of the homework tasks, attempted answering questions as well as participating in discussions and role-plays during sessions. She often helped others which has increased her confidence. She said, "she would like to take up employment when she will feel more confident to speak English" She has completed the course successfully and she feels she is ready to continue her learning on the higher level at Oldham College.

'Helping others was a great advantage because I could revise what I had learnt in the class.'"

Videos

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1T3Hl-Aik9hKvtNAcXP5KSWm0kg_-_cQ7/view?usp=sharing
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1T3lTmnITbDkqaiQcq4oDMt04R8fJQzN2/view?usp=sharing

Volunteer Feed back

I have been volunteering at Fatima Women's Association for a few months now, helping the Esol teacher with her class. It is quite a big and diverse class with a variety of learners from all backgrounds including Arabic and Bengali speakers as well as Pakistani. I sometimes help a learner on a one-to-one basis as they may need more support than others. This has given me confidence in my own abilities when I am able to help others. It also means that I can get out of the house and meet others on a regular basis rather than sitting at home focusing on my own problems.



Esol

Our Strategic Objective
Health and Wellbeing:

To improve the health, wellbeing of disadvantaged women and their children who may be experiencing isolation, poor physical and mental health, and domestic abuse by providing a variety of educational, social and leisure opportunities.

Fatima women organised a Health and Wellbeing event and produced a drama production. This event was to create an ambience of fun through dance and acting to celebrate the end of covid. The staff and volunteers of FWA were the cast and crew. They build their courage to perform in front of a large audience and have their self-esteem boosted. We discovered amazing talent from the women who volunteered to take the lead in writing, directing, and casting the drama with no experience. The drama workshops were an opportunity for ladies to take a break from daily pressure in a relaxed and entertaining environment. The participants added humour to the drama production as well as the whole event which made it fun and exciting. It has motivated all the participants to look after their physical and mental health. The dance trainer and the DJ at the event encourage the participants to get up and dance to mark the end of the evening. Everyone who attended

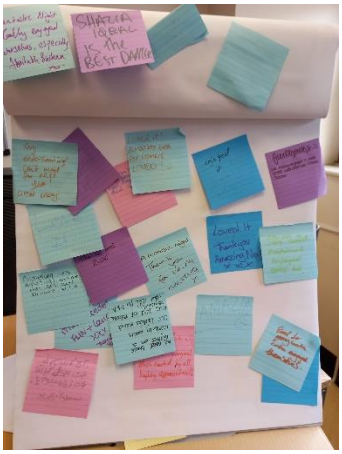
provided positive feedback about the event. This was a very memorable experience for many women who had never seen a live performance. The women took part in the dancing competition without any worry. A fantastic three-course meal was provided to all attendees after the performance.



X is a mother of 6 and works hard to provide for her children. She has issues with her partner and suffers from mental health. Her GP gave her anti-depressants which she did not want to take. She participated in drama practise and said that these were the only 2 hours of the week she was laughing in that belong and spent just for herself. She performed well and on the event was feeling deflated because it was the last day of the project. She requested that we should deliver more drama session which will help and support her mental health along with many other like her. She is a talented woman who managed to stay off drugs due to her productive time through drama workshops.



A celebration of women and Eid, A big bang evening of entertainment, 260 women and young people attended



Feedback from the event

Everyone who attended provided positive feedback about the event. This was a very memorable experience for many women who had never seen a live performance. The event met the brief as everyone who attended absolutely enjoyed it. The women took part in the dancing competition without any worry. A fantastic three-course meal was provided to all attendees after the performance. The women celebrated till late.

Amazing talent came to surface from women who volunteered to take the lead in writing, directing, and casting in the drama with no experience. The drama workshops were an opportunity for ladies to relieve daily pressure in a relaxed entertaining environment. The participants added humour to the drama production as well as the whole event to make it fun and exciting. It has motivated all the participants to look after their physical and mental health. The dance trainer and the DJ at the event encourage the participants to get up and dance to mark the end of the evening.



Yoga sessions

Ideas Fund

This was a project delivered in partnership with Oldham Libraries. It was to improve the wellbeing of women from the community. We took 18 women from the community who wanted to improve their mental health and wellbeing.

We delivered 12 workshops each catered for the needs of the women and to improve their wellbeing in alliance with their cultural and religious needs.

They learned new skills through learning how to make plant pots out of recycled fabric and planting aloe vera, dance and exercise and have a laugh. They learned about the different composts and nutrients in composts. The women were taken to GROW to pick fruit and learn about growing organic vegetables. They enjoyed this trip and said they will bring family members with them next time. The women learned how to travel on public transport and travelled to Trafford Centre using the tram system. They made healthy salads, shared recipes and talked about nutritious value of various food.

Feedback

Comments from participants were:

“I loved every session especially fruit picking.”

“I will try the recipe at home as I never use olive oil or feta cheese in my salad.”

“Looking after my plant and I talk to it every day.”

“This session is the only time I take out for myself in the whole week, otherwise I’m a full-time carer for all my family.”

“Can you set more of the dance and exercise classes as I need to get out more.”



Team building staff and volunteers

50 Plus Group

30 Sessions were specially designed for the Over 50's, combining fitness. Sessions were organised for older people from BME communities who are the most marginalized in society. 50 plus Older People's Project is in community hub for older, isolated and lonely women. There are no other meeting points locally for women, especially with a social element. Low impact fitness activities have been organised so that they can slowly improve their physical wellbeing without putting undue stress on bones, muscles and joints. Project members benefit from a day away from home to meet others and share information and social activities. They enjoyed nutritious lunch and refreshments. Few members live with dementia and mental health problems also attended the group.

Participants expressed great appreciation for the support brought to the community by FWA and the funding from The Grace Trust. Participants highlighted how the project had brought the community together and built new relationships and new friendships locally.

Case Studies

X said "I have been coming to the centre for about a year. I suffer from depression and anxiety. I enjoyed attending the Luncheon club. I have made friends here from diverse backgrounds and I feel less stressed and more physically active. My confidence has been increased through interacting with other people. I feel better when I talk to other people, having a laugh, under no pressure in the session and the atmosphere is so relaxed. I enjoy my delicious healthy lunches with them."

Y said my anxiety decreased as I became more familiar with the environment and the staff. This allowed me to feel more optimistic that my anxiety is not as large a barrier to access activities as I had felt and that I do have some coping mechanisms that I can develop further. I always look forward to attending the group.

Z claimed the group helped me to release worries in my life and helped me understand that I am loved in every way, and I am not alone. They made me feel like that I am special. I really enjoyed all the activities, especially attending women's international day. I had the opportunity to meet others and make new friends.

Activities	Number of average participants	Outcomes
Art &Craft	10 women	Increased recreational skills Improved stitching skills Improved artistic ability Have less symptoms of depression
Luncheon Clubs	15 women	More able to get out of the house Improved healthy life and have a better diet Less isolated eating alone at home
Annual General Meeting	66 women	Increased knowledge of the voluntary sector Increased participation in the workshops
International Women's Day	20 individuals attended.	Increased participation in workshops Meet people of all ages. Consult with other agencies e.g., Lifelong Learning, WEA.
One Dish party		Increased social interaction, skills and ability to understand each other.
Yoga	6 women	Improved physical and mental wellbeing.

Children's and Young People Sessions, All United

The aim is to increase confidence of the children and young people, enhance their mental and physical health and wellbeing, and develop their skills through various activities.

Over the year 115 children and young people registered and benefitted from activities throughout the year.

Children and young people from the community suffered mental health during covid period and the pandemic had a knock-on effect on their mental and physical wellbeing. We had high demand for activities to engage children and young people and to encourage them to participate in activities and workshops.

We reached out to the vulnerable and needy children from the community and delivered the following activities:
Multisport
Cookery sessions
Gardening
Arts and craft
Recycling
Drama and presentation
Creative writing
Hair and beauty

The project aim was to increase confidence, enhance their mental and physical health and wellbeing, and develop their skills through various activities. 85 children and young people registered and benefitted from the reaching communities funded project by participating in weekly sessions.

They took part in weekly sessions on multi sports activities e.g., football, dodge ball, rounder's, cricket, and other ball games.

They enjoyed outdoor activities, travelling to many local destinations and open spaces. They were taken on numerous trips which benefited their health and wellbeing.

They took part in drama, self-care and hygiene, arts and craft, multi sports, gardening, recycling, creative writing, presentation, trips, parties and consultations.



Henna Painting Workshop

Outcomes

Fourteen young people took part in the workshops that were delivered in partnership with Manchester libraries. We delivered sessions where they participated in drama and sharing stories. Topics discussed were bullying, peer pressure, arranged marriages, mental health and LGBT. We have discussed drug use, relationships, and tolerance of all cultures.
Young people took part in Khushi festival at the Oldham Coliseum. They participated in creative writing and wrote a short play about being happy. This was performed at the theatre. It was an excellent opportunity for developing new skills and boosting confidence to get out into the wider society. It was an opportunity for young people to experiment with theatrical and presentation skills.



Team building

We took 13 young people to Contact Theatre to watch the play, Peace Phobia and 12 to the Oldham Library to participate in a partnership project on animations. We have delivered spooky stories sessions around Halloween time. These opportunities made them feel safe to openly share their phobias and supernatural experiences.

15 young people took part in hair styling workshops. In addition, 12 young people took part in henna art on candles. They took part in decorating henna art on cookies with icing, too. The girls celebrated Eid after fasting the full month of Ramadan with their peers.

Children were introduced to the games from the past to encourage communication with their parents to ask questions regarding games from their parents' childhood. Games from 1980's and 90's e.g., hopscotch, tig under arm, England Ireland elastic game,5 stones called panj geeta (cultural game from Pakistan) and many more obstacle games were introduced. This was a fantastic way to open dialogues about differences in society from different eras and how they can entertain themselves, without any access to digital equipment, and away from screentime.

Participants celebrated end of year with a pyjama party where they planned activities and enjoyed watching a movie with their peers just before

Christmas. This was a social event which is not part of their culture, therefore, children had an opportunity to have fun with their friends and learn more about diverse cultures.



Young people, Pyjama Party

Recreational activities

Children took part in designing their pencils and drafted stories with them. Next, participants read them in front of the group, which improved their presentation skills. They took part in tie dying the t- shirts, card making, recycling, gardening, and biscuit decorating workshops. While participating in the activities they have practiced teamwork and a role play.

Cookery

We have delivered 8 cookery sessions where children made toffee apples, cupcakes, banoffee pie and chocolate cornflakes. The workshop not only encouraged teamwork and communication practice but also applying health and safety regulations while cooking.

Sports

On average15 children have taken part in multi-sport and games every Saturday where they participated in challenging games and did various sports. They learned skipping and new games.

Trips

Children were taken to local trampoline parks and the reindeer parade.

Young people have visited the local cinema to watch a culture-based movie. Many of them could relate to the movie because of the stories they had heard about migration from their grandparents.

13 young people went to Oldham edge for bonfire night so they can participate in a community event with people from all communities.

33 children visited the Crocky Trail in Chester during half term. They thoroughly enjoyed the outdoor park and looked out for each other. They have participated in the various activities and practised working as a team. The

trip's aim was to reduce social exclusion and promote group cohesion along with improving wellbeing.

We took 11 young people to Go Ape for tree top adventure. This was a unique trip to encourage participating in a trilling, very physical and challenging outdoor activity. It boosted their confidence and enhanced their mental wellbeing. Young people overcame their fears of heights and supported each other in developing their confidence. Many children were taken to local parks.

Evaluation and progression

80% of the Children and young people who attended the regular sessions improved their behaviour and showed interest in sessions that were delivered. They contributed to the conversations and shared interesting information regarding their daily lives.

90% of the Children were committed and actively interested in learning new games and recreational activities. They improved numerous skills and developed confidence through series of workshops. All participants have significantly improved their mental health and wellbeing. They enjoyed all the activities and worked towards improving their physical health and wellbeing. All members enjoyed the leisure-based activities and insisted on being taken out more.

100% of young people enjoyed meeting friends at the centre and discussing their school and daily life. This was their only social time away from home and usual duties of cleaning and cooking on the weekends. Their communication skills improved through dialogue and meeting new people during partnership work. Children loved taking home what they made in arts and craft sessions, from bracelets to toffee apples. They joy and sense of achievement was priceless and has encouraged the staff to work even smarter and come up with new and innovative projects next year.



Consultation by the Police

Partnership work

At FWA we are aware how important it is to work together, share ideas and share resources. That is why we have partnered with the following organisations, Contact Theatre, Oldham Library, PCC, Fresh Belief, Mahdlo, Oldham Theatre, Oldham Metropolitan Police, Peshkar, Northern Roots and Oldham Coliseum.

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR APRIL 2021 TO MARCH 2022

INCOME

	£
Local giving magic little stars	500
Near Neighbours	2,500
One Oldham Fund small grants	9,901
Reaching Communities	72,743
Tudor Trust	35,000
Volunteer celebration fund	500
Other small funds	4,594
Activities for generating funds	8,452
Social Action Fund*see notes on page 5	106,319
Total Income	**240,509**

EXPENDITURE

Staff Costs	73,177
Property Expenses	3,979
Office & Communication Costs	11,530
Events/Trips/Projects	14,691
Payroll Service and Index	1,221
Volunteers	2,077
Social Action Fund	93,132
Total Expenditure	**199,807**
Total Surplus/ (Deficit)	**40,702**
Balance brought forward FWA 01/04/21	**104,686**
Balance brought forward SAF 01/04/21	**46,964**
Restricted Funds at 31/03/22	**72,767**
Restricted Funds Social Action Fund 31/03/22	**60,151**
Unrestricted Funds at 31/03/22	**59,434**

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Staff Members

Fauzia Chaudhry	Manager/Development Worker	34 hours
Uzma Khaliq	Finance Officer/Fundraiser	21 hours
Farhanda Qadeer	Outreach/Development Worker	24 hours
Shabana Parveen	Children's Co-ordinator	10 hours
Arjam Sadiq	Children's Sessional Worker	6 hours
Farhanda Qadeer	Children's Sessional Worker	6 hours

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Farzana Aziz	Chairperson
Samina Iqbal	Treasurer
Shamim Akhtar	Secretary
Tabasum Kausar	Vice Chairperson
Nasreen Shabir	
Parveen Akhtar	
Maria Nessa	
Sylvia Akram	

Fatima Women's Association is extremely interested in recruiting new Management Committee Members and volunteers. Interested individuals should contact F.W.A for further information.

Please visit our web page www.fatimawomens.org.uk for up-to-date information.

COMMUNITY FUND

We support people and communities to thrive.
The National Lottery Community Fund

the Tudor trust

Charity Registration Number: 1160027

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ending 31st March 2022

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

Registered Charity Name	Fatima Women's Association
Charity Number	1160027
Registered Office	Marlborough Resource Centre Marlborough Street Oldham OL4 1EG
Trustees	Mrs N Shabir Mrs P Akhtar Mrs S Akhtar Mrs F Aziz Ms S Akram Mrs S Iqbal Mrs T Kausar Ms M Nessa
Accountants	Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C. Foxfields 9 Norley Clsoe Chadderton Oldham OL1 2RA
Bankers	Virgin Money (Yorkshire Bank) 47 Market Place Oldham OL1 3AB

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022

The trustees present their annual report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 March 2022.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Fatima Women's Association is a CIO (registered charity number 1160027) and was registered as a CIO on 19 January 2015. The assets of the unincorporated charity named Fatima Women's Association (registered charity number 1039603) were transferred to the CIO on 1 April 2015. The unincorporated charity named Fatima Women's Association (registered charity number 1039603) was removed from Charity Commission website in November 2016.

Recruitment and Training of Trustees

The trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the annual general meeting held each October. Interested parties can request an application form from staff to join the Management Committee. The current Management Committee members will shortlist and either invite successful applicants to the Annual General Meeting or co-opt individuals as stated below.

The Committee shall consist of at least 8 members elected by and from the representatives of the area of benefit. The Officers and Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve until the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting next after their appointment.

The Committee shall have the power to co-opt persons having special knowledge or experience, provided that the number of co-opted members shall not exceed one-third of the total membership of the Committee. They shall hold office until the end of the Annual General Meeting following their co-option.

The Committee may invite any person to attend its meeting as an observer but without the power to vote. Trustees are advised to attend relevant training when and if required.

Organisational Management

Fatima Women's Association is managed by a Management Committee who is elected at the Annual General Meeting by the members of Fatima Women's Association. There are currently 8 elected members on the Board of Trustees. Regular staff meetings take place with the manager who submits a written report on the work of the association every 6 to 8 weeks at the management committee meetings.

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Fatima Women's Association has 8 trustees on the management board. It has 8 part time staff employed, subject to funding. It has a pool of 25 active volunteers and work experience students. The staff attend the staff meetings to inform the manager of the work conducted and future project planning. The minutes of the staff meeting are submitted at the regular board meetings.

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- To provide and assist in the provision of education, training and recreational activities for women, young people, and children in the Borough of Oldham.

In planning our activities for the year we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustees' meetings. The focus of our activities remains around education, training, social and leisure activities.

To capacity build and empower disadvantaged women, young people, and children in Oldham, by building their confidence, self-esteem, social and educational skills through the provision of a range of demand led, quality controlled and fit for purpose educational training programmes.

To improve the health, wellbeing of disadvantaged women, young people and children who may be experiencing isolation, poor physical and mental health, and domestic abuse by providing a variety of educational, social and leisure opportunities.

To further develop the skills, health and social wellbeing of all vulnerable, disadvantaged children and young people enabling them to reach their full potential in terms of education, economic and social contribution, health, and wellbeing.

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Regular disclosure and barring service checks take place with every individual that works with children and vulnerable adults in line with statutory requirements.

Objectives, Aims and Activities

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To improve the health, wellbeing of disadvantaged women and their children who may be experiencing isolation, poor physical and mental health, and domestic abuse by providing a variety of educational, social and leisure opportunities.

Activities for children and young people:

To further develop the skills, health and social wellbeing of all vulnerable, disadvantaged children and young people enabling them to reach their full potential in terms of education, economic and social contribution, health and wellbeing.

Principle Activities

The principal activities continued to be education, training, social and leisure activities as listed in the detailed Annual Report 2021/22.

Review of Achievements and Performance for the Year

Operational Performance

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The association is pleased to announce it has sustained the project for the forthcoming years due to raising funds from The National Lottery Reaching Communities fund and the Tudor Trust, 2021 to 2026, which is going to have a positive impact on the sustainability of the association. The association continues to increase or decrease staffing hours based on projects approved throughout the year.

Our main sources of funding have been grant funding and small donations from trust, foundations and government commissioning and procurement programmes.

Financial Review

Reserves Policy

To maintain the cost of redundancies if the inevitable happens and redundancies must be made.

Impact of Coronavirus Pandemic

Centre has been fully reopened from March 2021. Since the centre has reopened demand for the classes have seen a great increase. We have limited places and sessions are oversubscribed. Many referrals from all communities have been received from the job centre plus and other agencies. There is a waiting list for women, children and young people.

During this year we have enabled those adversely impacted by Covid-19 to access the help they need. We continue to contain the spread of Covid-19 in Oldham and safeguarding and supporting our most vulnerable residents.

Plans

Based on the current staffing commitment on a yearly basis Fatima Women's Association wants to be able to sustain an income of £100,000 which should be achieved through the 5-year funding from The National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund, The Tudor Trust, and other small funders.

The sources of funding can be spread over a range of sources from the Local government, national government schemes, international government schemes, private trusts, and foundations and local fundraising activities. Trusts and foundations have played a noticeably big part in the sustainability of F.W.A. We shall endeavour to carry out applying for further funding from the great networks that F.W.A has achieved over the past few years.

There is a great need in the community to further improve the English language, Pre-employability skills and information technology to enable women to become independent and integrate within the wider community. This could potentially lead on to gaining work experience, volunteering, or employment.

The Trustee's Annual Report was approved by the Board of Trustee's and signed on their behalf:

Signed.....

Name...FARZANA AZIZ..... Date...3rd August 2022.....

Trustee

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022

I report on the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2022 set out on pages 9-12

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees consider an audit is not required for this year under s144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under s145 of the 2011 Act
- Follow the procedure laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under s145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Opinion

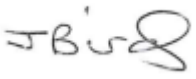
My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items of disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiners Statement

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

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
   - To keep accounting records in accordance with s130 of the 2011 Act; and
   - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



10th August 2022

Miss Jacqueline Bird F.M.A.A.T.
Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C.
Foxfields
9 Norley Close
Chadderton
Oldham
OL1 2RA

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	The Social Action Fund 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
RECEIPTS						
Grants & Donations	*2*	-	125,738	106,319	232,057	173,589
Activities for Generating Funds		8,452	-	-	8,452	13,071
TOTAL RECEIPTS		**8,452**	**125,738**	**106,319**	**240,509**	**186,660**
PAYMENTS						
Salaries & Pensions		(80)	69,538	36,393	105,851	113,773
Management & Finance		-	3,719	16,796	20,515	9,006
Travelling		-	218	-	218	368
Telephone & Internet		-	697	-	697	728
Events, Projects & Trips		250	14,404	-	14,654	16,044
Activities		-	-	34,053	34,053	20,604
Rent & Rates		-	1,489	-	1,489	-
Hub Overheads		-	-	5,086	5,086	4,384
Room Hire		-	950	-	950	2,000
Insurance		-	688	-	688	555
Cleaning		-	852	-	852	-
Stationary, Printing & Postage		-	2,283	-	2,283	2,680
Volunteers		-	2,077	-	2,077	1,460
Payroll, Accounts & HR		-	1,221	-	1,221	1,534
Training		-	1,000	-	1,000	-
IT Software		-	1,193	-	1,193	-
Equipment		-	6,139	804	6,943	4,317
Miscellaneous		37	-	-	37	-
TOTAL PAYMENTS		**207**	**106,468**	**93,132**	**199,807**	**177,453**
Net of receipts/(payments)		8,245	19,270	13,187	40,702	9,207
Cash funds at 1st April 2021		51,196	53,490	46,964	151,650	142,443
Transfer of Funds		(7)	7	-	-	-
Cash funds at 31 March 2022	*3*	**59,434**	**72,767**	**60,151**	**192,352**	**151,650**

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITES

AS AT 31ST MARCH 2022

	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
ASSETS		
Cash Funds	174,368	151,650
Debtors	42,282	-
	216,650	151,650
LIABILITIES		
Creditors	24,298	-
	24,298	-
TOTAL NET ASSETS/LIABILITIES	**192,352**	**151,650**
Additional Liabilities		
Independent Examination Fee	**795**	**690**

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Signed.....

Name.....FARZANA AZIZ..... Date.....3rd August 2022.....

Trustee

1. Receipts and payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

2. Grants and Donations

	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Awards For All (Covid-19 and YP)	-	9,995
BBC Children in Need	-	17,303
Curve Learning	-	(900)
European Social Fund	-	6,997
Foyle Foundation	-	7,500
Garfield Weston	-	10,000
Grace Trust	-	1,000
John Mason Family Charitable Trust	-	5,000
Local Giving Magic Little Stars	500	-
Near Neighbours	2,500	-
NLDCF	-	2,880
One Oldham Fund Small Grants	9,901	-
Reaching Communities	72,743	-
Schroder Charity Trust	-	4,000
Small Other Funds	4,594	-
Tudor Trust	35,000	32,017
Volunteer Celebration Fund	500	-
	125,738	**95,792**
The Social Action Fund**	106,319	77,797
TOTAL	**232,057**	**173,589**

****** Funds received from The Social Action Fund are from the consortium bid grant. Fatima Women's Association are managing this fund on behalf of The Social Action Fund, and as such do not directly benefit from this funding.

3. Fund Analysis

Fund Name	Balance as at 1 April 2021 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfer of Funds £	Balance as at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted Funds	**51,196**	**8,452**	**(207)**	**(7)**	**59,434**
Restricted Funds:					
Awards For All (Covid-19 and YP)	4,126	-	(4,126)	-	-
Foyle Foundation	7,500	-	(6,261)	-	1,239
Garfield Weston	7,084	-	(7,084)	-	-
Grace Trust	1,000	-	(623)	-	377
John Mason Family Trust	2,000	-	(694)	-	1,306
Local Giving Magic Little Stars	-	500	(480)	(20)	-
Near Neighbours	(174)	2,500	(2,328)	2	-
One Oldham Fund Small Grants	-	9,901	(4,646)	-	5,255
Peter Kershaw Trust	583	-	(608)	25	-
Reaching Communities	-	72,743	(56,235)	-	16,508
Schroder Charity Trust	3,827	-	(3,827)	-	-
Small Other Funds	-	4,594	-	-	4,594
Tudor Trust	27,544	35,000	(19,056)	-	43,488
Volunteer Celebration Fund	-	500	(500)	-	-
	53,490	**125,738**	**(106,468)**	**-**	**72,767**
The Social Action Fund (Restricted Funds)	**46,964**	**106,319**	**(93,132)**	**-**	**60,151**
TOTAL FUNDS	**151,650**	**240,509**	**(199,807)**	**-**	**192,352**

Charity Registration Number: 1160027

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ending 31st March 2022

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

Registered Charity Name	Fatima Women's Association
Charity Number	1160027
Registered Office	Marlborough Resource Centre Marlborough Street Oldham OL4 1EG
Trustees	Mrs N Shabir Mrs P Akhtar Mrs S Akhtar Mrs F Aziz Ms S Akram Mrs S Iqbal Mrs T Kausar Ms M Nessa
Accountants	Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C. Foxfields 9 Norley Clsoe Chadderton Oldham OL1 2RA
Bankers	Virgin Money (Yorkshire Bank) 47 Market Place Oldham OL1 3AB

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022

The trustees present their annual report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 March 2022.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Fatima Women's Association is a CIO (registered charity number 1160027) and was registered as a CIO on 19 January 2015. The assets of the unincorporated charity named Fatima Women's Association (registered charity number 1039603) were transferred to the CIO on 1 April 2015. The unincorporated charity named Fatima Women's Association (registered charity number 1039603) was removed from Charity Commission website in November 2016.

Recruitment and Training of Trustees

The trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the annual general meeting held each October. Interested parties can request an application form from staff to join the Management Committee. The current Management Committee members will shortlist and either invite successful applicants to the Annual General Meeting or co-opt individuals as stated below.

The Committee shall consist of at least 8 members elected by and from the representatives of the area of benefit. The Officers and Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve until the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting next after their appointment.

The Committee shall have the power to co-opt persons having special knowledge or experience, provided that the number of co-opted members shall not exceed one-third of the total membership of the Committee. They shall hold office until the end of the Annual General Meeting following their co-option.

The Committee may invite any person to attend its meeting as an observer but without the power to vote. Trustees are advised to attend relevant training when and if required.

Organisational Management

Fatima Women's Association is managed by a Management Committee who is elected at the Annual General Meeting by the members of Fatima Women's Association. There are currently 8 elected members on the Board of Trustees. Regular staff meetings take place with the manager who submits a written report on the work of the association every 6 to 8 weeks at the management committee meetings.

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The Trustee's Annual Report was approved by the Board of Trustee's and signed on their behalf:

Signed.....

Name...FARZANA AZIZ..... Date...3rd August 2022.....

Trustee

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022

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- Follow the procedure laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under s145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
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Basis of Independent Examiners Opinion

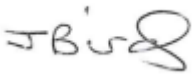
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10th August 2022

Miss Jacqueline Bird F.M.A.A.T.
Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C.
Foxfields
9 Norley Close
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OL1 2RA

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	The Social Action Fund 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
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FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITES

AS AT 31ST MARCH 2022

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	216,650	151,650
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Additional Liabilities		
Independent Examination Fee	**795**	**690**

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Signed.....

Name.....FARZANA AZIZ..... Date.....3rd August 2022.....

Trustee

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The Social Action Fund**	106,319	77,797
TOTAL	**232,057**	**173,589**

****** Funds received from The Social Action Fund are from the consortium bid grant. Fatima Women's Association are managing this fund on behalf of The Social Action Fund, and as such do not directly benefit from this funding.

3. Fund Analysis

Fund Name	Balance as at 1 April 2021 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfer of Funds £	Balance as at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted Funds	**51,196**	**8,452**	**(207)**	**(7)**	**59,434**
Restricted Funds:					
Awards For All (Covid-19 and YP)	4,126	-	(4,126)	-	-
Foyle Foundation	7,500	-	(6,261)	-	1,239
Garfield Weston	7,084	-	(7,084)	-	-
Grace Trust	1,000	-	(623)	-	377
John Mason Family Trust	2,000	-	(694)	-	1,306
Local Giving Magic Little Stars	-	500	(480)	(20)	-
Near Neighbours	(174)	2,500	(2,328)	2	-
One Oldham Fund Small Grants	-	9,901	(4,646)	-	5,255
Peter Kershaw Trust	583	-	(608)	25	-
Reaching Communities	-	72,743	(56,235)	-	16,508
Schroder Charity Trust	3,827	-	(3,827)	-	-
Small Other Funds	-	4,594	-	-	4,594
Tudor Trust	27,544	35,000	(19,056)	-	43,488
Volunteer Celebration Fund	-	500	(500)	-	-
	53,490	**125,738**	**(106,468)**	**-**	**72,767**
The Social Action Fund (Restricted Funds)	**46,964**	**106,319**	**(93,132)**	**-**	**60,151**
TOTAL FUNDS	**151,650**	**240,509**	**(199,807)**	**-**	**192,352**

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1160027

Accounts

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION



30th
ANNUAL REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2020 – AUGUST 2021

MARLBOROUGH RESOURCE CENTRE, MARLBOROUGH STREET GLODWICK OLDHAM OL4 1EG
0161 627 3109
www.fatimawomens.org.uk

Charitable Incorporated Organisation Number 1160027

INTRODUCTION

Aims

Fatima Women's Association aims to meet the needs of women from the surrounding areas of Glodwick, Alexandra, Roundthorn and other parts of Oldham. We provide and assist in the provision of training, educational courses, health and wellbeing sessions, recreation and leisure activities for women, young people, and children. We also meet our aims through the employment of staff, the development of partnerships with other agencies and using volunteers.

Within the last year FWA has created an environment, which appeals to and caters for the needs of the different local communities.

Through running numerous training sessions and courses FWA have succeeded in encouraging and supporting many women and young people in making the decision to go into further education and increase their qualifications, gain volunteer opportunities, chances of paid employment and improvement in their quality of life.

Chairperson's Report

As the chair of Fatima Women's Association, it gives me immense pleasure to submit this 30th annual report on the progress of the organisation and the new initiatives undertaken during the past year.

The progress of Fatima Women's Association in the past year has been challenging, encouraging and highly positive, improving services in the community immensely due to the focused management committee members, volunteers, and staff.

It has been an extremely eventful year where the association has delivered a range of new and innovative projects in response to what the community members have told us they need. For up-to-date information please go online at www.fatimawomens.org.uk.

This website will be updated regularly. Please visit FWA to register your interest in any of the training courses, educational courses, health and wellbeing sessions and children's activities that are being delivered.

We are in unprecedented times, as for the past year our lives and working ethics have changed due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Currently due to government restrictions being lifted we are moving back to delivering projects at FWA premises.

Funding

It has been another incredibly challenging year for FWA in raising funds to run projects, maintain overheads, resources, and staff positions.

We are very pleased to announce, the association has had long term funding approved by The Tudor Trust and The National Lottery Community Fund. This will enable sustainability for the association for the next 5 years. This is amazing news which would not have been possible without the hardwork and commitment given by the management, staff and volunteers.

Activities/Training

FWA has been involved in consultation with local women and networking with other agencies on an on-going basis to design and run new training courses reflecting the needs of the community.

We as a team have continued to build on our past experiences to develop FWA towards its full potential.

We had 558 adults and 69 young people and children's membership forms completed. Over a 52-week period the average number of participants accessing the sessions was 81 individuals per week. F.W.A has had 12 different volunteers throughout a 12-month period. Considering during most of this period the whole country was in lockdown, this attendance is a testament to the commitment given by each service user be it virtually or face to face.

Covid-19 Pandemic

The Covid-19 pandemic impacted the delivery of the association in the past 12 months. Initially it was a very trying time for us all. To try and put systems in place so that our service users and the wider community could contact us. Our staff and volunteers were amazing in setting up all their work from home so that the community did not feel that there was a gap in the service delivered.

We are pleased that the following was and is still being delivered to the community of Oldham and since 2021 we have delivered some face-to-face sessions:

Children and young peoples' activities
Spoken English
Pre-employability skills
ESOL
British Citizenship
Health and wellbeing e.g., Beauty in the community, emotional resilience.
Covid-19 Winter planning programme

We have had to rely on technology a great deal and have gained tremendous number of skills e.g., WhatsApp, Microsoft Teams, Zoom, Text local etc.

I would like to thank all the organisations and individuals who have supported and encouraged us over the past year and look forward to a lot more teamwork and many new and challenging initiatives.

On behalf of the Management Committee, I would like to extend our appreciation and an excessively big thank you to all members of staff for their arduous work, commitment, and enthusiasm and all the volunteers of Fatima Women's Association, for their consistent and loyal support.

It is with immense pleasure that I present to you the 30th Annual Report of Fatima Women's Association September 2020 to August 2021.

Nasreen Shabir

FUNDING

FWA would like to thank the following for their financial support from April 2020 to March 2021:

BBC Children in need
European Social Fund
Foyle Foundation
Garfield Weston Foundation
Grace Trust
John Mason family trust
NLDCF
National Lottery Awards for All
Schroder Charity Trust
Social Action Fund, Oldham Cares, BAME Connect
Tudor Trust

Social Action Fund, Oldham Cares, BAME Connect

Funds received from The Social Action Fund are from the consortium bid grant. Fatima Women's Association are managing this fund on behalf of The Social Action Fund, and as such do not directly benefit from this funding.

The Oldham BAME Consortium is made up of the following organisations:

Oak Community Development Project
Pakistani Community Centre
Fatima women's association
Vision
Westwood and Coldhurst women's association
GP Cluster

The overall aim of this project is to reduce loneliness and social isolation by involving, engaging, and supporting socially isolated and lonely individuals into meaningful activities and empowering them to take initiative-taking action in improving their health and wellbeing. Thereby, reducing health inequalities that are

experienced by Bangladeshi/ Pakistani heritage communities in Oldham.

Our Strategic Objective Education/Training:

To capacity build and empower disadvantaged women in Oldham, by building their confidence, self esteem, social and educational skills through the provision of a range of demand led, quality controlled and fit for purpose educational training programmes.

Women into Education and Training Programmes

Step up to Employability Skills

Due to the pandemic most parts of the project were delivered via zoom. The "Step up to Employability" project was set up to empower women and help them improve their pre-employment skills. They have attended literacy, numeracy, IT, and pre-employability training. Some of the participants took part in volunteering opportunities which have helped to build their experience and allow them to secure employment in the future.

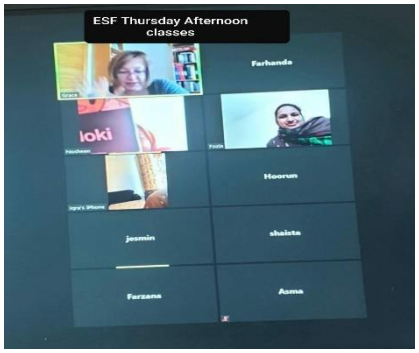
The project addressed the learning needs of women living in Oldham. The emphasis was on the participants having realistic aspirations and signposting them to actual job opportunities. The participants identified the potential job opportunities available in Oldham and have been supported to reach out to the recruitment agencies, online. We provided volunteering experience to enhance the participants skills to help them become more successful in the labour market and advance their career prospects. The project has improved the chances of long-term independence as well as employment prospects.

This project has enabled isolated and marginalized women to become more involved in their community and become more employable. We had provided activities where women can experience the benefits of being part of a diverse society. In turn this allowed the participants to meet and learn to respect each

other’s cultures, also this gave the participants opportunities to travel and learn about other communities.

Relevant information:

- 3 sessions a week were delivered for 18 weeks.
- The 18-week project was delivered twice during the year.
- 90 women participated in the project.
- 72 women enrolled on the program to complete the 18 weeks program.
- 50 women completed the 18 weeks program, due to covid, sessions were delivered on zoom.
- Some of the women struggled to participate.
- 15 women progressed on to higher level courses delivered at FWA.



Case studies

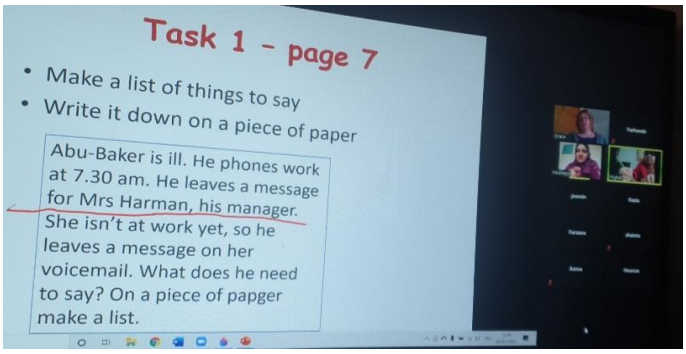
Participant A said, "I have attended communication and job club sessions for the entire year. I have learnt how to communicate at interviews and speak English in everyday situations. In job club session we were taught how to send and receive emails. I have learned how to reply to a job interview invitation. I have improved my vocabulary which will help me to find a better job in the future. I learnt about some of the history of Great Britain, which has improved my knowledge and understanding of British culture and the society.”

Participant B said, "I have attended job club which has boosted my confidence and has encouraged me to apply for volunteering

position in schools. I have improved my interview skills and soon I hope to get a part-time or full-time job in a nursery."

Participant C said, “I have improved my reading and writing skills and I can complete the job application myself. The sessions taught by the tutors were easy to follow. We learnt better through role play and different games.”

Participant D said, “I thank everyone at FWA who have encouraged me with learning the language and carrying on with further education. I have enjoyed the course very much. I have put my mind and heart into it. My English is getting better, and I am confident to do a presentation in front of people. To improve my English, I speak in English with my children at home. I am confident to ask questions and give answers. I never used to attend school meetings, assemblies and plays because I never understood what was being said.”



ESOL and British Citizenship

The sessions are designed to help the participant to pass their citizenship courses to achieve the British Nationality. 14 women participated in the program, it involved following the plan of action and a lot of effort from all the participants.

12 Women entered the exam and passed Entry Level 2 and they progressed on to Entry Level 3. The participants were immensely proud of their achievements as they have improved their knowledge about British culture and enhanced their knowledge. They have gained confidence and improved their communication skills.

Case Studies

X moved to England 10 years ago and never pursued education. X received the leaflet through her door and discussed joining classes at FWA with X's husband. X had a degree from Pakistan but could not go to college to continue her learning. X wanted to pass her British Citizenship course to get her passport. X had exceptionally low level of English and low confidence. After attending the weekly class of 6 hours a week, X has improved her English and her confidence. X can read and write small paragraphs. X's family have been supportive and have commented on her confidence and the improvement in the fluency of her spoken English. Before attending the class X said, "I had stopped going out and avoided conversations with people but now I feel I am more able to mix with people and I enjoy conversations. There are no other women organizations in our area which provide this kind of service, and we are grateful to F.W.A for providing this opportunity to us."

Spoken English

30 women registered and participated in the weekly 2-hour session.

The course was designed to increase learners' independence and belief in themselves. The programme and its delivery are heavily reliant on the commitment of the volunteers in the sessions. The volunteer ensures that she delivers the course to suit the learners needs. This then ensure that all the required outcomes are achieved in improving the English speaking and listening communication skills.

Case Studies

X was an ambitious and conscientious learner. X has attended most of the learning sessions and has participated well in the

class. X has also completed most of the homework tasks and was an immense help to others in the classroom. X told the tutor that “improving her reading and writing skills helped her build confidence to attempt her driving test and eventually passed it". She is continuing her learning at FWA and has moved on to study main-stream courses at Oldham Lifelong Learning.

Another learner came to the class with low confidence and seemed depressed. She did not want to take an active part in the class activities. We later learnt that she had recently arrived from Italy and struggled to socialize with other women. Since joining the sessions, she has made friends in the class, and she feels better about communicating with others. She said, “she has improved her spoken English and can communicate with teachers in her children’s school.”

Ongoing Step up to Employability Skills

The project is designed to improve the IT skills, driving theory, literacy skills and providing volunteering opportunities to local women. This is a 5-year programme, commenced in June 2021. 50 women have been enrolled for the project and the programme is very well structured to achieve the best outcomes following the project objectives.

Project workers organized an open day and we had referrals from the job centre plus, social services and the early intervention team from positive steps. Assessments were carried out to support these women in reaching a positive destination such as employment, driving theory, education, and training. They have received intensive support after being assessed by the tutor. Learners from the previous year’s move on to this new project. The first year of the project will complete in May 2022.

Feedback provided to the organization was that X said, " Since I have joined the classes I have increased my knowledge and began preparing myself for the driving test. It has boosted my confidence and I have been encouraged by my family members to

apply for driving theory test. My communication skills are getting better, and I hope to get a part-time or full-time job in a nursery."



Our Strategic Objective
Health and Wellbeing:

To improve the health, wellbeing of disadvantaged women and their children who may be experiencing isolation, poor physical and mental health, and domestic abuse by providing a variety of educational, social and leisure opportunities.

Women resilience

The women's resilience sessions have been delivered in partnership with the BAME project which was completed successfully. 28 Women attended the session, and all provided positive feedback. The sessions are designed to help reduce the participants depression and anxiety.

The sessions increased awareness of health and wellbeing through cultural discussions. The sessions will have a lasting impact on the participants lives, it has reduced the mental health issues and increased mental health resilience.



Case Studies

Student X said, “I attended the Emotional Resilience sessions. All subjects were informative and interesting and motivated me to attend every session. At the time, I had multiple issues and needed guidance on relaxation techniques to help me overcome obstacles to enable me to be more positive and proactive.”

“I learnt techniques on how to relax and be more focused. This has made me feel much happier and given me the ability to move forward and build on my strengths.”

“The coach was excellent, I loved how she was able to relate to and guide women from diverse backgrounds. I am grateful to all the staff for their support.”

Creating Internal Strength

30 women attended this course, this project was culture-sensitive and highly individualised. We wanted to change the participants mindset. We did not want to offer the tools to create internal strength but also how to initiate them into their daily lives. The project was delivered via zoom and the project support workers encouraged the participants to take part in the organised activities.

Bilingual volunteers reached out to hard to engage and marginalised individuals. The project was delivered through 2 sessions a week for 6 weeks. 28 women participated in the programme and the sessions were conducted by the essential oil’s wellness advocate. The Project worker and volunteers made hampers of oils and pamper packs for women and dropped them off at the participants doorsteps. We have used this opportunity to update people about the current situation regarding COVID-19, as well as delivering information regarding the COVID 19 vaccine. By taking part in our sessions the participants have become more active and healthier and have also improved behaviour and improvement in mental health. Furthermore, they have made new friends, boosted their self-esteem and confidence, and have raised aspirations to better themselves. The sessions have allowed the ladies to have some time away from their families to relax and relieve stress and anxiety.

We delivered 12, 2-hour sessions.



Some of the workshops in the project included:

- Essential oils and the immune system.
- Kore Therapy and alignment of the body.
- Yoga sessions.
- Changing negative thoughts to positive thoughts.

The women enjoyed the course and shared any issues they were facing. One participant commented, “she did not need to take her antidepressant before attending the class.” Another commented, “the sessions helped me to reduce depression and anxiety,” I was going through many domestic issues, and I have found the sessions healing.”

The participants have requested for further sessions. Some of the participants have booked sessions privately with the advocate.

Beauty in the community

The aim of the project was to enhance the knowledge of skincare products and how to apply make-up. 40 women attended the course.

There was a demand for beauty sessions and the women found them useful. The tutor was particularly good, she was very friendly and soft spoken and encouraged women to speak confidently about any skin issues they had. The tutor gave support to women and educated them on how to choose the right beauty products for their skin tone and type. The women were shown the best ways to

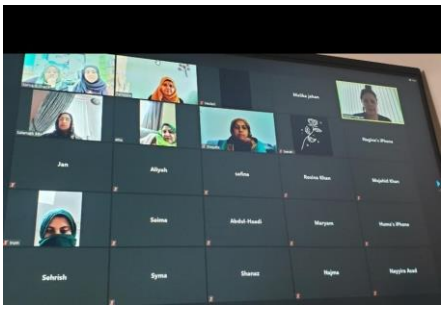
protect their skin e.g., how to apply sunscreen effectively. The tutor demonstrated the application of the beauty products on herself and talked about a different topic each week.

Women were encouraged to learn and improve beauty skills by practicing on themselves. Some other skills learnt included massaging and cleansing their skin as well as applying makeup. They also learned how to make face masks and scrubs and how to perform a deep skin cleansing facial, with steam at home.

The participants of the project have praised the training and appreciated the support they have received from the tutor and the flexibility in the way it was delivered. Many participants indicated that the project gave them the skills and confidence to feel and look good.

Some of the workshops included:

- How to perform a deep cleansing facial with steam at home.
- How to apply makeup.
- Healthy eating.
- How to massage the face.

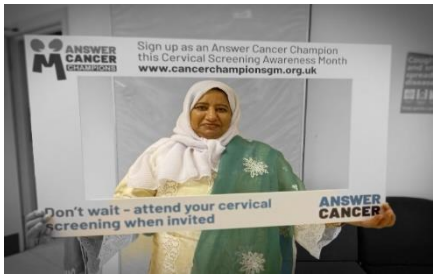


Cancer Awareness

FWA delivered the project in partnership with Answer Cancer to women from the BAME communities. The sessions were delivered in English and in Urdu. 50 of the women were to become cancer champions by registering on the website. It would have been easier to manage the sessions if we had been able to conduct the training face to face. We delivered this training remotely through a

WhatsApp group, as this method was the most comfortable for the participants.

We held a cancer awareness event at FWA and had 40 women attend. It was informative and helpful information for the attendees. The attendees gained information regarding several types of cancers and were told of common signs to look for so that they could be more aware and act as early as possible.







Community Cultural Change Calls

Volunteers and staff have completed the training about the Coronavirus Pandemic and what are the current government guidelines. We provided support to Oldham Council to reduce the risk of contracting the Coronavirus in the BAME community. We made 1000 calls to the local community to advise people regarding social distancing and other measures people could take to keep safe. We had positive feedback from the participants. We had 9 volunteers take part in the project.

Climate Connections

Climate Connections is a new creative and digital arts project, raising awareness about climate change, organized by Crossing Footprints CIC in partnership with Oldham Libraries and Community Arts Northwest. Members of the Fatima Women's

Association took part in 6 workshops led by Sarah Yaseen, the Sufi singer who recently began working on environmental issues.

In the workshops the women learnt about climate change especially in Pakistan, they produced their own creative and lyrical writing and joined in collective singing. The writing and ideas from the women are being used to create social media posts and a composing lyric. These will be presented on screens within four libraries in the UK and Germany - Oldham, Manchester, Bremen, and Hamburg and will be launched at a special event at Oldham Library on 25th September titled 'Voices for Action' as a part of the nationwide **Great Big Green Week** . This short project has begun to enable local women from the Pakistani community to have a voice in the environmental movement.



50 Plus Group

The Covid-19 pandemic has impacted the delivery of the project since mid-March 2020. Initially it was a difficult for the team to adjust. The team put in place systems to be able to deliver our services to our users and the wider community. Our staff and volunteers were amazing in setting up all their work from home so that the community did not feel that there was a gap in the delivery of our service.

The organisation provided food packs and mobile phones to women who suffering financial hardship during the pandemic. 7 mobiles Phones were given to the organisation by the Oldham Library for older women.

Team member from the organisation made weekly phone calls to vulnerable women during lockdown.

Our participants were inspired by our innovative activities and engagement with the women in the community. The group have developed skills, knowledge and experiences of issues affecting their lives. This has given them the confidence to pass on these skills to others encountering similar issues. The group will continue to meet on a weekly basis and utilise the skills which they have developed. They have made new friends, feel empowered and are able to communicate better. We provided a platform for women to begin to share skills, expertise, and knowledge and promote a positive approach to health and wellbeing.





Madad

The Madad Project was delivered in partnership with Get Set Academy.

The project was funded by Forever Manchester, the organization logged 100 calls that were made to BME females aged 50 plus. There were 12 weekly calls to 30 eligible beneficiaries. We kept a weekly summary of calls and noted down any improvement in their day to day lives.

The aim of the calls was to increase positive mental health, encourage a greater outlook on life and increase self-confidence and belief in oneself.

The 50 plus group also attended the art & craft session with Lifelong Learning and lunch has been provided at each session.

Feedback we received regarding the project was when X was worried about her son. She was worried that he might catch the virus due to the friendship circle he was keeping. She felt better after she had spoken to me. I provided her with the reassurance that if she provides the correct information, she needs to allow her child to make their own decisions.

Equalities Organisations Working with Marginalised Older People in Greater Manchester During Covid-19 and Winter Planning

In November 2020, the GMCVO Ambition for Ageing programme commissioned a small piece of partnership research to look at how nine Greater Manchester Equalities Organisations they had worked with previously had coped due to the pandemic and their ongoing response to Covid-19 in working with older people as well as planning around 'Winter Planning' in this new context. The organisations are all different in terms of communities they work with and their capacity in terms of size, scope, and scale. They all work with marginalised older people in Greater Manchester.

The organisations were FWA, Manchester People First, Warm Hut, Wei Yin, The Manchester Deaf Centre, KYP, Europia, Henshaw's and The LGBT Foundation.

The nine organisations participated in an initial survey and follow-up phone interview. We discussed some of the preliminary findings, shared challenges, solutions, and ways forward together in January 2021 to feed into a final report.

One of the common issues and challenges faced were service adaptation, all organisations faced challenges in delivery and

adapting services to respond to need as well as reality of working remotely internally with staff and volunteers as well as with different communities of marginalised older people. Some of these included contact, community spaces, travel/logistics, health (physical and mental), advice, befriending, advocacy, etc. The near continuous Covid-19 imposed restrictions in Greater Manchester, ongoing ‘crisis-mode’, has had significant impact on delivery, response, and planning. All organisations, linked to capacity (size, resources, staff/volunteers, etc) and nature of work, have been forced to be more reactive while others have been able to plan more proactively overtime. Managing expectations in uncertainty/crisis was challenging for all as was funding. There has been interesting responses and learning.

Trip to Birmingham

FWA took a trip to Birmingham. The women shared their stories and listened to music on their journey. They all visited a restaurant, ate together, and took photos for memories. They departed in small groups, some went to meet their families and friends who they met after a long time due to the pandemic, whilst others went shopping. They all had a fun time. On the way back, they showed each other their bargain shopping from the shops of Birmingham. They all had a lovely day. On the journey back home, a few had tears of joy because they had an opportunity to discuss the difficulties they had faced during lockdown.

They thought they may not be reunited with their social group and enjoying their trips like the good old days. One lady expressed how much she enjoyed the day by writing a poem of her day out.



Children's and Young People Sessions, All United

The aim is to increase confidence of the children and young people, enhance their mental and physical health and wellbeing, and develop their skills through various activities.

Over the year 115 children and young people registered and benefitted from activities throughout the year.





During the pandemic and lockdown

Delivered hampers to over 60 individuals with activity packs, treats and personal care products according to their age range.
Delivered Eid gifts, games, balls, henna cones, plant pots with compost and work sheets for the activities and challenges that were set for the individual groups.
They were kept engaged through phone calls, zoom calls and emails.
We set challenges and received positive feedback. Staff visited the children under government guidelines to check up on the wellbeing of each member. Brief conversation was made on the visit and concerns were addressed appropriately. Staff shared information and updates of government guidelines with the parents and children about the lockdown and social distancing measures.
We played games with them to encourage communication and support the wellbeing of the members. Activities and challenges to enhance budgeting skills and acts of kindness were set for them. They learned planting skills. Feedback from parents and service users was positive.

We delivered numerous activities some virtual and others face to face in accordance with Government guidelines. They were desperate for engagement during lockdown period. We reached out and engaged 30 children and 15 young people. Weekly Sessions were delivered remotely on zoom and on WhatsApp calls, messages, and face to face at the Centre.
Small items delivered to these children and young people put smiles on their faces and a sense of excitement for each week. They utilized all the sports equipment in their own unique creative ways, enhancing their physical health and mental wellbeing.

Health and wellbeing

Children and young people from the community have participated on a weekly basis in multi sports. They took part in various sports activities e.g., football, dodge ball, rounder's, cricket, cycling and other ball games. They enjoyed outdoor activities travelling to many local destinations. Once lockdown was lifted, they were taken on numerous trips which benefited their health and wellbeing.

Odeon cinema
Heaton Park
Manchester museum
Blackpool
Tandlehill park
Circus at Alexandra Park
Dovestones
Trafford Centre

Outdoor trips were enjoyable physical activities. They were a steppingstone for young people to get back to normality and build their social skills enhancing their confidence and mental wellbeing.

Arts and Craft

They developed many skills through art and craft. They created cards, origami baskets, cushion making, canvas painting, Calligraphy, and face painting These activities were done via zoom and built various skills e.g., teamwork, communication, enhanced their confidence whilst developing their creative side. They

practiced cultural activities such as Henna painting, growing herbs in recycled pots.







Multisport

Resources were delivered for members to take part in multisport activities from home. Once they started coming to the centre, we did numerous sports related activities for physical fitness. During the sessions children are disciplined to share and work as part of a team. They learn skills to improve their maths and literacy.





Cookery

On demand we delivered a few weeks of cookery projects through zoom. Children really enjoyed learning about cultural food for example kneading flour and making healthy salads etc. They were introduced to new ingredients and encouraged to work with family members. They were given responsibilities and enhanced their

knowledge of various products. This class was extremely popular and there is a long waiting list. Through these activities we talked about issues at home and school. The children happily opened to difficulties they faced because of the cultural differences and how they feel about the negative perception from certain members of society. Staff always focused on positive attitude toward their lives.

Consultations

During the lockdown we had zoom meeting and consulted parents of the children and young people on needs of the members. We held workshops in which we discussed the impact of Covid 19 on individuals lives. Young people were given opportunities to express their concerns and show the frustration the changes have caused.

Through dialogue we educated children and young people of the importance of staying focus and adapting the new rules of covid situation.

After the lockdown eased

They were encouraged to speak and voice opinions when we had group consultations. They are asked about their needs, challenges, and requirements. This gave them a sense of value and belonging.

They have participated in healthy cooking workshops in which recipes had been shared and benefits of diverse cultural food where discussed.

Consultation resulted in young people recognising gaps and need of the young Muslim women. They had wellbeing issues and zero social time. There was a high demand for outdoor trips, so we arranged workshops in the local park and trips to Trafford Centre when the restrictions were lifted.

We have discussions with them about the environment and get them to foster positive attitude about their surroundings. Many issues are discussed e.g., bullying and harassment, internet grooming, depression, positive attitude, Racism, drugs, and cultural awareness.

Celebrations

Children and young people celebrated end of BBC Children in Need project with a party. Food was provided, hampers were given, henna painting skills were shared, and they all played games.

They created Eid cards. Through the year we celebrate occasions such as Eid, Easter and end of projects, mental health week etc.

Partnerships

During the pandemic there was limited opportunity in working with other organisations or partners. After the lockdown was eased, we worked with Manchester libraries for their yearly festival celebration, in which young people created poems that will be printed for the public in a small booklet form. We have worked with Oldham Theatre to explore ideas about Space in relation to mental health.

Community Needs

We have a high demand for provision within the community for children and young people. We can measure this through the long waiting list. Some children do not get the opportunity due to lack of space as we have limited places. Young people need this provision within the area because they face a lot of cultural, personal, and family pressures. Our service gives them time out to enhance their wellbeing and experience various activities which they may never had the chance do. We have dedicated staff that are always thriving to build confidence of children and young people and search for ways of developing their skills and enhancing their health and wellbeing.





SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR APRIL 2020 TO MARCH 2021

INCOME

	£
BBC Children in Need	17,303
Curve Learning	(900)
European Social Fund	6,997
Foyle Foundation	7,500
Garfield Weston Foundation	10,000
Grace Trust	1,000
John Mason family trust	5,000
NLDCF	2,880
National Lottery, Awards for all	9,995
Schroder Charity Trust	4,000
Social Action Fund, Consortium Fund	77,797
Tudor Trust	32,017
Others	13,071
Total Income	**186,660**

EXPENDITURE

Staff Costs	55,457
Property Expenses	2,000
Office & Communication Costs	9,264
Events/Trips/Projects	16,044
Payroll Service and Index	1,534
Social Action Fund	93,154
Total Expenditure	**177,453**
Total Surplus/ (Deficit)	**9,207**
Balance brought forward FWA 01/04/20	**80,122**
Balance brought forward SAF 01/04/20	**62,321**
Restricted Funds at 31/03/21	**53,490**
Restricted Funds Social Action Fund 31/03/21	**46,964**
Unrestricted Funds at 31/03/21	**51,196**

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Staff Members

Fauzia Chaudhry	Manager/Development Worker	28 hours
Uzma Khaliq	Finance Officer/Fundraiser	18 hours
Farhanda Qadeer	Outreach/Development Worker	18 hours
Shabana Parveen	Children's Co-ordinator	15 hours
Fozia Rehman	Children's Sessional Worker	3 hours
Arjam Sadiq	Children's Sessional Worker	6 hours
Farhanda Qadeer	Children's Sessional Worker	6 hours

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Nasreen Shabir	Chairperson
Farzana Aziz	Vice Chair
Samina Iqbal	Treasurer
Shamim Akhtar	Secretary
Tabasum Kausar	
Parveen Akhtar	
Maria Nessa	
Sylvia Akram	

Fatima Women's Association is extremely interested in recruiting new Management Committee Members and volunteers. Interested individuals should contact F.W.A for further information.

Please visit our web page www.fatimawomens.org.uk for up-to-date information.

COMMUNITY FUND

We support people and communities to thrive.
The National Lottery Community Fund

the Tudor trust

Charity Registration Number: 1160027

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ending 31st March 2021

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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Statement of Assets and Liabilities	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11-12

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

Registered Charity Name	Fatima Women's Association
Charity Number	1160027
Registered Office	Marlborough Resource Centre Marlborough Street Oldham OL4 1EG
Trustees	Mrs N Shabir Mrs P Akhtar Mrs S Akhtar Mrs F Aziz Ms S Akram Mrs S Iqbal Mrs T Kausar Ms M Nessa
Accountants	Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C. Foxfields 9 Norley Clsoe Chadderton Oldham OL1 2RA
Bankers	Yorkshire Bank 47 Market Place Oldham OL1 3AB

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2021

The trustees present their annual report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 March 2021.

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Fatima Women's Association has 8 trustees on the management board. It has 8 part time staff employed, subject to funding. It has a pool of 20 active volunteers and work experience students. The staff attend the staff meetings to inform the manager of the work carried out and future project planning. The minutes of the staff meeting are submitted at the regular board meetings.

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The objects of Fatima Women's Association are:

- To empower disadvantaged women, young people, and children in Oldham to improve their quality of life.
- To provide and assist in the provision of education, training and recreational activities for women, young people, and children in the Borough of Oldham.

In planning our activities for the year we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustees' meetings. The focus of our activities remains around education, training, social and leisure activities.

To capacity build and empower disadvantaged women, young people and children in Oldham, by building their confidence, self-esteem, social and educational skills through the provision of a range of demand led, quality controlled and fit for purpose educational training programmes.

To improve the health, wellbeing of disadvantaged women, young people and children who may be experiencing isolation, poor physical and mental health, and domestic abuse by providing a variety of educational, social and leisure opportunities.

To further develop the skills, health and social wellbeing of all vulnerable, disadvantaged children and young people enabling them to reach their full potential in terms of education, economic and social contribution, health and wellbeing.

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Regular disclosure and barring service checks take place with every individual that works with children and vulnerable adults in line with statutory requirements.

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The principle activities continued to be education, training, social and leisure activities as listed in the detailed Annual Report 2020/21.

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Under education FWA delivered Spoken English, English Language Beginners, Lower and intermediate, communication skills, reading and writing.

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Under health and wellbeing FWA delivered the 50+ Group, health and wellbeing group, art and craft, creating internal strength, beauty in the community, and advice surgeries.

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Awareness raising and discussions on bullying and harassment, internet grooming, depression, positive attitudes, drugs and cultural awareness.

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The association is very pleased to announce it has sustained the project for the forthcoming 5 years due to raising funds from The National Lottery Reaching Communities fund and the Tudor Trust, 2021 to 2026, which is going to have a positive impact on the sustainability of the association.
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Our main sources of funding have been grant funding and small donations from trust, foundations and government commissioning and procurement programmes.

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Reserves Policy
To maintain the cost of redundancies if the inevitable happens and redundancies have to be made.

Impact of Coronavirus Pandemic

A key impact that Covid-19 has had on FWA has been that it has changed how the organisation operates. A lot of challenges were faced especially by the service users who had minimal IT skills and were unable to access Zoom, Microsoft Teams, WhatsApp etc. This led to a lot of our service users feeling anxious, low self-esteem, depressed. To overcome these barriers our staff and volunteers rang the service users to give support over the phone to keep their morale up and keep engaged. Some needed to be signposted to other organisations because of their complex needs. In these new circumstances there was a direct impact on the learners' attendance due to them not being able to attend classes at the centre. Our organisation decided to continue to deliver their training and courses online, many of the learners did not have the skills to download Zoom which made it difficult for them to take part in the online classes. These difficulties added to some women not having a device compatible with Zoom lead to a reduction in the number of women being able to participate. When lockdown was lifted in July 2020, we resumed face to face teaching with very limited number of our classes to enable those women who struggled with technology to access this provision.

During the lockdown, the most important thing we learned was that people wanted to connect with each other and were more isolated than they have ever been. With people having to stay at home and not having access to outdoor space affected their health and wellbeing. People found online learning to be an emotional support that they needed. Women were grateful for this opportunity to connect with others and one of the comments the tutor received was "it was mostly about the connection and improving my English". Some women feel that they have lost their confidence due to being isolated during Covid-19 over the past 15 months. The staff and volunteers stepped in to help communities deal with the devastating impact of Covid-19 on their local communities. Their specialist knowledge and expertise helped people in need to adapt their thought process due to the impact of Covid-19, directly by supporting them to improve their wellbeing via phone.

Our current funders were amazing allowing us to continue our work rather than putting staff on furlough. They gave us extensions to the end date of our projects, moved budgets around, we applied for funding during the pandemic and were successful to carry out telephone engagement on Impact of Covid-19, giving information on current guidelines and giving out more bilingual information on the vaccination process.

For the children and young people, we have delivered numerous sessions during the difficult period, through telephone conversations and brief meetings, following government guidelines on Action Together website, who are advertising a very helpful Mutual Aid page on their website. We spoke to all current members from The Rising Star project. There were concerns about their wellbeing and mental health. Staff kept them engaged through activities promoting healthy lifestyle and wellbeing.

We have kept engaged over 100 children and young people during the pandemic. We have delivered various activities online and through making phone calls. We delivered activity packs door to door along with resources such as hygiene products and age-appropriate challenges for groups. We faced many challenges throughout the year during unprecedented times and adapted our delivery to suit the children and young people in best way possible.

Staff spent a lot of time speaking to parents in Urdu language to reassure them about their children education and development along with focusing on survival skills. We listened to their concerns and helped and supported them. Staff took on frontline response to confusion and mental stress related issues. Staff tackled unique issues families encountered during the pandemic. These were variants from mental health, financial distress, and breakup of family units. Those who had lost family members to Covid-19 had the opportunity to engage with staff members and emotionally talk about their feelings and loss. During the tough times of the lockdown and isolation we called them to raise their enthusiasm, empowered them to adapt to unpredicted circumstances they were facing. They had concerns about the hype of 'Black Lives Matter'. They expressed and opened about encounters of racism and prejudice Asian people face and what is not acceptable. We had dialogue of how to control emotion that led to violence and retaliation. They were educated to make informed positive choices.

Children were facing poverty and parents had small space issues. Some had illnesses that were not prioritised and held back because of the Pandemic. Doctors refused appointments and procedures were postponed. There was a lot of tension and negativity on social media. Children and young people were engaged in positive activity and games to keep their mind occupied so they can demonstrate their wellbeing and focus on more constructive activities. We called all members weekly to speak to them individually on the phone. Indirectly the staff would ask question or play games to make sure of their wellbeing and safety. Children and young people looked forward to activities and challenges that were set for each week. Parents showed gratitude for keeping their children on their toes whilst they were off from school. It was challenging to sustain the thirst of adventure during the lockdown period. We influenced children and young people by giving them choice to ask for affordable and quality facilities which initiated activities and experiences to overcome anxiety. Some chose equipment to support their baking skills and others made choices like hair styling or arts and craft-based resources.

Plans for the Future

Based on the current staffing commitment on a yearly basis Fatima Women's Association wants to be able to sustain an income of £80,000 which has been achieved through the 5-year funding from The National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund, The Tudor Trust, and other small funders.

The sources of funding can be spread over a range of sources from the Local government, national government schemes, international government schemes, private trusts, and foundations, sewing fees and local fundraising activities. Trusts and foundations have played a very big part in the sustainability of F.W.A. We shall endeavour to carry out applying for further funding from the great networks that F.W.A has achieved over the past few years.

There is a great need in the community to further improve the English language, Pre-employability skills and information technology to enable women to become independent and integrate within the wider community. This could potentially lead on to gaining work experience, volunteering, or employment.

The Trustee's Annual Report was approved by the Board of Trustee's and signed on their behalf:

Signed.....

Name.....NASREEN SHABIR..... Date.....18/10/2021.....

Trustee

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2021

I report on the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2021 set out on pages 9-12

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees consider an audit is not required for this year under s144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under s145 of the 2011 Act
- Follow the procedure laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under s145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Opinion

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items of disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiners Statement

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

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
   - To keep accounting records in accordance with s130 of the 2011 Act; and
   - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Miss Jacqueline Bird F.M.A.A.T.
Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C.
Foxfields
9 Norley Close
Chadderton
Oldham
OL1 2RA

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	The Social Action Fund 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
RECEIPTS						
Grants & Donations	2	-	95,792	77,797	173,589	133,069
Activities for Generating Funds		13,071	-	-	13,071	13,555
TOTAL RECEIPTS		**13,071**	**95,792**	**77,797**	**186,660**	**146,624**
PAYMENTS						
Salaries & Pension		4,689	50,768	58,316	113,773	64,214
Management & Finance		-	-	9,006	9,006	935
Travelling		-	368	-	368	188
Telephone & Internet		-	728	-	728	1,052
Events, Projects & Trips		-	16,044	-	16,044	14,678
Activities		-	-	20,604	20,604	6,050
Rent & Rates		-	-	-	-	518
Hub Overheads		-	-	4,384	4,384	2,750
Room Hire		-	2,000	-	2,000	4,441
Insurance		-	555	-	555	525
Stationary & Postage		-	2,680	-	2,680	1,828
Volunteer		-	1,460	-	1,460	1,776
Payroll, Accounts & HR		-	1,534	-	1,534	1,707
Training		-	-	-	-	-
Equipment		-	3,473	844	4,317	162
Miscellaneous		-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL PAYMENTS		**4,689**	**79,610**	**93,154**	**177,453**	**100,824**
Net of receipts/(payments)		8,382	16,182	(15,357)	9,207	45,800
Cash funds at 1st April 2020		52,851	27,271	62,321	142,443	96,643
Transfer of Funds		(10,037)	10,037	-	-	-
Cash funds at 31 March 2021	3	**51,196**	**53,490**	**46,964**	**151,650**	**142,443**

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITES

AS AT 31ST MARCH 2021

	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
ASSETS		
Cash Funds	151,650	141,123
Debtors	-	1,320
	151,650	142,443
LIABILITIES		
Creditors	-	-
	-	-
TOTAL NET ASSETS/LIABILITIES	**151,650**	**142,443**
Additional Liabilities – Fee for Independent Examination	**690**	**630**

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Signed..N Sabir.....

Name..NASREEN SIHABIR Date..18/10/2021.....

Trustee

1. Receipts and payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

2. Grants and Donations

	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Alchemy Arts	-	2,000
Awards For All (Covid-19 and YP)	9,995	-
BBC Children in Need	17,303	33,997
Bitesize Pieces	-	1,000
Curve Learning	(900)	2,200
European Social Fund	6,997	4,998
Foyle Foundation	7,500	-
Garfield Weston	10,000	-
Grace Trust	1,000	-
John Mason Family Charitable Trust	5,000	2,000
NLDCF	2,880	6,000
Peter Kershaw Trust	-	1,000
Schroder Charity Trust	4,000	-
Tudor Trust	32,017	-
Volunteers Week Grant	-	490
	95,792	**53,685**
The Social Action Fund**	77,797	79,384
TOTAL	**173,589**	**133,069**

** Funds received from The Social Action Fund are from the consortium bid grant. Fatima Women's Association are managing this fund on behalf of The Social Action Fund, and as such do not directly benefit from this funding.

3. Fund Analysis

Fund Name	Balance as at 1 April 2020 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfer of Funds £	Balance as at 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted Funds	**52,851**	**13,071**	**(4,689)**	**(10,037)**	**51,196**
Restricted Funds:					
Alchemy Arts	2,000	-	-	(2,000)	-
Awards For All	2,437	-	(2,467)	30	-
Awards For All (Covid-19 and YP)	-	9,995	(5,869)	-	4,126
BBC Children in Need	18,375	17,303	(35,678)	-	-
Bitesize Pieces	(28)	-	-	28	-
Curve Learning	1,076	(900)	-	(176)	-
European Social Fund	2,750	6,997	(18,358)	8,611	-
Fast Grants	(35)	-	-	35	-
Foyle Foundation	-	7,500	-	-	7,500
Garfield Weston	-	10,000	(2,916)	-	7,084
Grace Trust	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Health Consultation	(110)	-	-	110	-
Health & Physical Activity	(2,390)	-	-	2,390	-
John Mason Family Trust	1,775	5,000	(4,775)	-	2,000
Near Neighbours	-	-	(174)	-	(174)
NLDCF	619	2,880	(4,507)	1,008	-
Peter Kershaw Trust	803	-	(220)	-	583
Schroder Charity Trust	-	4,000	(173)	-	3,827
Tudor Trust	-	32,017	(4,473)	-	27,544
Volunteers Week Grant	(1)	-	-	1	-
	27,271	**95,792**	**(79,610)**	**10,037**	**53,490**
The Social Action Fund (Restricted Funds)	**62,321**	**77,797**	**(93,154)**	**-**	**46,964**
TOTAL FUNDS	**142,443**	**186,660**	**(177,453)**	**-**	**151,650**

Charity Registration Number: 1160027

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ending 31st March 2021

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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Charity Number	1160027
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A key impact that Covid-19 has had on FWA has been that it has changed how the organisation operates. A lot of challenges were faced especially by the service users who had minimal IT skills and were unable to access Zoom, Microsoft Teams, WhatsApp etc. This led to a lot of our service users feeling anxious, low self-esteem, depressed. To overcome these barriers our staff and volunteers rang the service users to give support over the phone to keep their morale up and keep engaged. Some needed to be signposted to other organisations because of their complex needs. In these new circumstances there was a direct impact on the learners' attendance due to them not being able to attend classes at the centre. Our organisation decided to continue to deliver their training and courses online, many of the learners did not have the skills to download Zoom which made it difficult for them to take part in the online classes. These difficulties added to some women not having a device compatible with Zoom lead to a reduction in the number of women being able to participate. When lockdown was lifted in July 2020, we resumed face to face teaching with very limited number of our classes to enable those women who struggled with technology to access this provision.

During the lockdown, the most important thing we learned was that people wanted to connect with each other and were more isolated than they have ever been. With people having to stay at home and not having access to outdoor space affected their health and wellbeing. People found online learning to be an emotional support that they needed. Women were grateful for this opportunity to connect with others and one of the comments the tutor received was "it was mostly about the connection and improving my English". Some women feel that they have lost their confidence due to being isolated during Covid-19 over the past 15 months. The staff and volunteers stepped in to help communities deal with the devastating impact of Covid-19 on their local communities. Their specialist knowledge and expertise helped people in need to adapt their thought process due to the impact of Covid-19, directly by supporting them to improve their wellbeing via phone.

Our current funders were amazing allowing us to continue our work rather than putting staff on furlough. They gave us extensions to the end date of our projects, moved budgets around, we applied for funding during the pandemic and were successful to carry out telephone engagement on Impact of Covid-19, giving information on current guidelines and giving out more bilingual information on the vaccination process.

For the children and young people, we have delivered numerous sessions during the difficult period, through telephone conversations and brief meetings, following government guidelines on Action Together website, who are advertising a very helpful Mutual Aid page on their website. We spoke to all current members from The Rising Star project. There were concerns about their wellbeing and mental health. Staff kept them engaged through activities promoting healthy lifestyle and wellbeing.

We have kept engaged over 100 children and young people during the pandemic. We have delivered various activities online and through making phone calls. We delivered activity packs door to door along with resources such as hygiene products and age-appropriate challenges for groups. We faced many challenges throughout the year during unprecedented times and adapted our delivery to suit the children and young people in best way possible.

Staff spent a lot of time speaking to parents in Urdu language to reassure them about their children education and development along with focusing on survival skills. We listened to their concerns and helped and supported them. Staff took on frontline response to confusion and mental stress related issues. Staff tackled unique issues families encountered during the pandemic. These were variants from mental health, financial distress, and breakup of family units. Those who had lost family members to Covid-19 had the opportunity to engage with staff members and emotionally talk about their feelings and loss. During the tough times of the lockdown and isolation we called them to raise their enthusiasm, empowered them to adapt to unpredicted circumstances they were facing. They had concerns about the hype of 'Black Lives Matter'. They expressed and opened about encounters of racism and prejudice Asian people face and what is not acceptable. We had dialogue of how to control emotion that led to violence and retaliation. They were educated to make informed positive choices.

Children were facing poverty and parents had small space issues. Some had illnesses that were not prioritised and held back because of the Pandemic. Doctors refused appointments and procedures were postponed. There was a lot of tension and negativity on social media. Children and young people were engaged in positive activity and games to keep their mind occupied so they can demonstrate their wellbeing and focus on more constructive activities. We called all members weekly to speak to them individually on the phone. Indirectly the staff would ask question or play games to make sure of their wellbeing and safety. Children and young people looked forward to activities and challenges that were set for each week. Parents showed gratitude for keeping their children on their toes whilst they were off from school. It was challenging to sustain the thirst of adventure during the lockdown period. We influenced children and young people by giving them choice to ask for affordable and quality facilities which initiated activities and experiences to overcome anxiety. Some chose equipment to support their baking skills and others made choices like hair styling or arts and craft-based resources.

Plans for the Future

Based on the current staffing commitment on a yearly basis Fatima Women's Association wants to be able to sustain an income of £80,000 which has been achieved through the 5-year funding from The National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund, The Tudor Trust, and other small funders.

The sources of funding can be spread over a range of sources from the Local government, national government schemes, international government schemes, private trusts, and foundations, sewing fees and local fundraising activities. Trusts and foundations have played a very big part in the sustainability of F.W.A. We shall endeavour to carry out applying for further funding from the great networks that F.W.A has achieved over the past few years.

There is a great need in the community to further improve the English language, Pre-employability skills and information technology to enable women to become independent and integrate within the wider community. This could potentially lead on to gaining work experience, volunteering, or employment.

The Trustee's Annual Report was approved by the Board of Trustee's and signed on their behalf:

Signed.....

Name.....NASREEN SHABIR..... Date.....18/10/2021.....

Trustee

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2021

I report on the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2021 set out on pages 9-12

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees consider an audit is not required for this year under s144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under s145 of the 2011 Act
- Follow the procedure laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under s145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Opinion

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items of disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiners Statement

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

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
   - To keep accounting records in accordance with s130 of the 2011 Act; and
   - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Miss Jacqueline Bird F.M.A.A.T.
Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C.
Foxfields
9 Norley Close
Chadderton
Oldham
OL1 2RA

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	The Social Action Fund 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
RECEIPTS						
Grants & Donations	2	-	95,792	77,797	173,589	133,069
Activities for Generating Funds		13,071	-	-	13,071	13,555
TOTAL RECEIPTS		**13,071**	**95,792**	**77,797**	**186,660**	**146,624**
PAYMENTS						
Salaries & Pension		4,689	50,768	58,316	113,773	64,214
Management & Finance		-	-	9,006	9,006	935
Travelling		-	368	-	368	188
Telephone & Internet		-	728	-	728	1,052
Events, Projects & Trips		-	16,044	-	16,044	14,678
Activities		-	-	20,604	20,604	6,050
Rent & Rates		-	-	-	-	518
Hub Overheads		-	-	4,384	4,384	2,750
Room Hire		-	2,000	-	2,000	4,441
Insurance		-	555	-	555	525
Stationary & Postage		-	2,680	-	2,680	1,828
Volunteer		-	1,460	-	1,460	1,776
Payroll, Accounts & HR		-	1,534	-	1,534	1,707
Training		-	-	-	-	-
Equipment		-	3,473	844	4,317	162
Miscellaneous		-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL PAYMENTS		**4,689**	**79,610**	**93,154**	**177,453**	**100,824**
Net of receipts/(payments)		8,382	16,182	(15,357)	9,207	45,800
Cash funds at 1st April 2020		52,851	27,271	62,321	142,443	96,643
Transfer of Funds		(10,037)	10,037	-	-	-
Cash funds at 31 March 2021	3	**51,196**	**53,490**	**46,964**	**151,650**	**142,443**

FATIMA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITES

AS AT 31ST MARCH 2021

	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
ASSETS		
Cash Funds	151,650	141,123
Debtors	-	1,320
	151,650	142,443
LIABILITIES		
Creditors	-	-
	-	-
TOTAL NET ASSETS/LIABILITIES	**151,650**	**142,443**
Additional Liabilities – Fee for Independent Examination	**690**	**630**

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Signed..N Sabir.....

Name..NASREEN SIHABIR Date..18/10/2021.....

Trustee

1. Receipts and payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

2. Grants and Donations

	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Alchemy Arts	-	2,000
Awards For All (Covid-19 and YP)	9,995	-
BBC Children in Need	17,303	33,997
Bitesize Pieces	-	1,000
Curve Learning	(900)	2,200
European Social Fund	6,997	4,998
Foyle Foundation	7,500	-
Garfield Weston	10,000	-
Grace Trust	1,000	-
John Mason Family Charitable Trust	5,000	2,000
NLDCF	2,880	6,000
Peter Kershaw Trust	-	1,000
Schroder Charity Trust	4,000	-
Tudor Trust	32,017	-
Volunteers Week Grant	-	490
	95,792	**53,685**
The Social Action Fund**	77,797	79,384
TOTAL	**173,589**	**133,069**

** Funds received from The Social Action Fund are from the consortium bid grant. Fatima Women's Association are managing this fund on behalf of The Social Action Fund, and as such do not directly benefit from this funding.

3. Fund Analysis

Fund Name	Balance as at 1 April 2020 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfer of Funds £	Balance as at 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted Funds	**52,851**	**13,071**	**(4,689)**	**(10,037)**	**51,196**
Restricted Funds:					
Alchemy Arts	2,000	-	-	(2,000)	-
Awards For All	2,437	-	(2,467)	30	-
Awards For All (Covid-19 and YP)	-	9,995	(5,869)	-	4,126
BBC Children in Need	18,375	17,303	(35,678)	-	-
Bitesize Pieces	(28)	-	-	28	-
Curve Learning	1,076	(900)	-	(176)	-
European Social Fund	2,750	6,997	(18,358)	8,611	-
Fast Grants	(35)	-	-	35	-
Foyle Foundation	-	7,500	-	-	7,500
Garfield Weston	-	10,000	(2,916)	-	7,084
Grace Trust	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Health Consultation	(110)	-	-	110	-
Health & Physical Activity	(2,390)	-	-	2,390	-
John Mason Family Trust	1,775	5,000	(4,775)	-	2,000
Near Neighbours	-	-	(174)	-	(174)
NLDCF	619	2,880	(4,507)	1,008	-
Peter Kershaw Trust	803	-	(220)	-	583
Schroder Charity Trust	-	4,000	(173)	-	3,827
Tudor Trust	-	32,017	(4,473)	-	27,544
Volunteers Week Grant	(1)	-	-	1	-
	27,271	**95,792**	**(79,610)**	**10,037**	**53,490**
The Social Action Fund (Restricted Funds)	**62,321**	**77,797**	**(93,154)**	**-**	**46,964**
TOTAL FUNDS	**142,443**	**186,660**	**(177,453)**	**-**	**151,650**