

SOLACE INTERNATIONAL

England & Wales · Charity number 1162864

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2015-07-28

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

Contact

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Website <https://www.solace.international>

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC:(I)THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATEMENT OF BELIEFS IN SUCH WAYS AS THE TRUSTEES FROM TIME TO TIME MAY THINK FIT(II) THE PREVENTION OR RELIEF OF POVERTY IN THE ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED AREAS OF AFRICA BY PROVIDING, ITEMS, GOODS, EDUCATION AND SUPPORT DESIGNED TO ENABLE INDIVIDUALS TO GENERATE A SUSTAINABLE INCOME AND BE SELF-SUFFICIENT

Activities: 1. Varied training (e.g. capacity-building, Christianity matters, education, entrepreneurship, etc.)2. Networking fora (including interagency collaboration)3. Food banks4. Sponsorship through primary/secondary school (Asia, Africa, Caribbean, only)7. Advocacy, advice, counselling, pastoral, signposting (General, non-specialist)8. Religious services (excluding marriages and funerals)

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Human Resources, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Religious Activities, Economic/community Development/employment, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Recreation, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Angola
- Botswana
- Bulgaria
- Cameroon
- Congo (Democratic Republic)
- Equatorial Guinea
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- France
- Ghana
- India
- Ivory Coast
- Jamaica
- Kenya
- Malawi
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Nepal
- Nigeria
- Pakistan
- Portugal
- Sierra Leone
- South Africa
- Sri Lanka
- St Lucia
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe
- Throughout London

Finances

| Period end | Income | Expenditure | Assets | Employees |
|------------|---------|-------------|--------|-----------|
| 2024-11-30 | £7,869 | £6,993 | - | - |
| 2023-11-30 | £10,510 | £9,995 | - | - |
| 2022-11-30 | £11,133 | £9,614 | - | - |
| 2021-11-30 | £10,894 | £9,884 | - | - |
| 2020-11-30 | £11,257 | £11,097 | - | - |

Trustees

| Name | Role | Appointed |
|--------------------|------|------------|
| Gene Hill | | 2024-08-17 |
| Margaret Nakasingo | | 2021-12-31 |
| NAINA LAMPTEY BA | | 2017-02-01 |
| Rev Samuel Wamweya | | 2017-12-10 |
| Samuel Donkor | | 2024-08-17 |

SOLACE INTERNATIONAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1162864

Accounts

Solace International

www.solace.international

(Registered Charity No. 1162864)



(“Solace”)

Solace International Trustees Annual Report (2025)



Solace

Trustees Annual Report (2025)



S.T.A.R. '25





Inevitably and for a wide variety of reasons, some parts of this Report mirror previous S.T.A.R.s.





**In keeping with established *Solace International* organisational practice,
this document also doubles as
the Organisation's Annual General Report for the Year Anno Domini 2025.**





"(God) has Filled the hungry with good things; and the rich He has Sent empty away"
(Luke 1:53)





*In deference to our international audience, this Report is presented online at the Solace Annual General Meeting
(S-AGM)
for the Year of our Lord, 2025*





Departing from practice established in the original Solace Trustees Annual Report (S.T.A.R.),

this report uses a different format –

relying on a set of ten case studies and short narratives to highlight

our successes and failures in the past year.





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¹ This very unique style of laying out a Table of Contents is the brainchild of Joseph E.G.D. Dos Santos (2019, 2020) and therefore duly acknowledged.





We Will Never Tire

We will never tire
Nor will we give in
Though hotter burns the fire
And faster goes the spin
Because we remember
So many depend on us
As January to December
We walk and serve with Christ Jesus
Who Remains as always
And as long as Earth abides
Our Role Model in all ways
Through all the praise and chides.
Helping the needy is rough
Especially with few resources
But God has Made us tough
His Strength through our veins Courses.
The work we do is tiring
Yet wants us to keep giving
But we will keep firing
Yes – by God the Ever-Living!

– Joseph Dos Santos





Our Mission Statement

With the Lord Jesus Christ as our Teacher and Guide, *Solace International's* mission is to provide an excellent poverty alleviation and Christian evangelisation service which positively impacts lives to the perpetual Glory of God Who Loves us all – no matter who, what or where we are.





The Solace Statement of Beliefs

(Based on the Nicene Creed)²

WE BELIEVE in One God – the Father of All Creation and the One Almighty; He is the Maker of Heaven and Earth – as well as all that is seen and unseen. We believe the Kingdom of God has no limit and will have no end.

WE BELIEVE in One Lord, Jesus Christ Who is the Only Son of God, Eternally Begotten of – and of One Being with, the Father. Through Him all things were Made. For us and for our Salvation, He Came to Earth from Heaven; by the Power of the Holy Spirit, He was Made Man, having Become Incarnate from the Virgin Mary. For our sake He Accepted crucifixion under Pontius Pilate; He also Suffered death and Allowed Himself to be buried. On the third day, He Rose again in Accordance with Sacred Scriptures. Jesus Christ Ascended into Heaven and is Seated with the Father from Whence He Came to Earth. That same Jesus Christ will Come again in His Glory, Attended by all the Holy Angels. Seated upon the Throne of His Glory, He shall Pronounce Judgement Over all nations, having Separated them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from goats.

WE BELIEVE in the Holy Spirit, the LORD – Giver of Life, Who Proceeds from the Father and the Son. with Whom He is worshipped and glorified. He has Spoken through the Prophets.

WE BELIEVE in one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look forward to the Resurrection of the dead and Life of the world to come.

Amen.

² This Statement is still under review as we explore ways of reconciling in it, the Trinitarian and Unitarian persuasions within the Body of Christ.





Foreword

Welcome to the *Solace International* ('Solace'³) 2025 Trustees Annual Report – also known as *S.T.A.R.* '25. The report charts the Charity's progress in fulfilling its aims and objectives. *S.T.A.R.* '25 is distinct from – and yet linked to previous *S.T.A.R.*s. This is why readers of this report may notice portions and sections reflective of previous *S.T.A.R.*s.

As the LORD Pleases, long live *Solace*...long live *Solace International!*

³ The name 'Solace' is generic – the aim being to serve as an umbrella name for the Organisation wherever it may be found. At present, Solace is registered in the United Kingdom, as **Solace International**. In the Republic of Kenya, our sister **InterSolace Organisation** is a registered nongovernmental organisation or NGO. Although both InterSolace Organisation and Solace International are separate entities, we work closely together as members of the wider *Solace Family* which it must be noted, includes *Solace Kimataifa* (Facebook), the Solace Living Word Group and Solace Prayer Group (WhatsApp) and other social media platforms.





Resolution

Following its Summer 2025 Quarterly Meeting, the *Solace International* Board of Trustees (also: ‘the Solace Board’, ‘the Board’ or ‘the Trustees’) resolved as follows:

- 1.) This document is the Charity’s Annual Report for 2025;
- 2.) This Report is officially dubbed: ‘The Solace Trustees Annual Report (2025)’;
- 3.) It may also be referred to as: **S.T.A.R. ‘25**;
- 4.) S.T.A.R. ‘25 shall be presented at the *Solace* Annual General Meeting (S-AGM);
- 5.) The 2025 AGM will be held online and must be held before Christmas Day, 2025.

Signed:

Mnyasa, DN

.....

Dephrose N. Mnyasa

(for: Secretary, *Solace International*)





Charting the milestones: A brief history of Solace

2012 – Founding of *Solace* (Kenya).

2012 – First partnership (with *Winners Chapel*, Malindi).

2012 – First projects: Youth group; Enterprise Empowerment Programme (EEP).

2012 – First beneficiaries: 30 new entrepreneurs; 21 youth group members.

2013 – *Solace* begins support for schoolchildren and families, paying school fees and other expenses for five children from three different families in Kenya (Coast, Eldoret and Nakuru).

2013 – *Solace* applies for registration in Kenya.

2013 – The name ‘Solace’ is approved by Kenyan authorities.

The word ‘International’ is however rejected by the same powers – unless the Organisation is willing to make a ‘special payment’ for the word.

2014 – The name ‘Solace International’ is changed to ‘InterSolace’ and approved by Kenya’s NGO Coordination Board.

2014 – Solace, now as *InterSolace Organisation*, is registered as an NGO⁴ in the Republic of Kenya.

⁴ Nongovernmental organisation.



2014 – *Solace* in the United Kingdom (UK) launches ‘Help-At-Hand’. A project which supports primary and secondary pupils with their private studies. The service is free. Donations welcome.

2014 – Help-At-Hand delves into learner advocacy, working with families to support pupils excluded or at risk of exclusion.

2015 – *Solace International* is registered as a charity in the United Kingdom.

2015 – *Solace*’s first chaplaincy engagement: at a Nairobi-based vocational institution.

2016 – First truly international support beyond both Kenya and the UK: an orphanage in Uganda, an entrepreneur in Ghana and an author in Angola.

2016 – *Solace* launches its food bank.

2016 – Help-At-Hand expands to support further and higher education students who may be struggling with their schoolwork.

2017 – First Asian engagements: Children and women’s groups – as well as church support, in India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

2017 – First annual ‘Walk For Solace’ – a ten-and-half-mile walk between London UK’s Croydon and Waterloo.

2018 – *Solace* first engages in family mediation and child support.⁵

⁵ At *Solace* we recognise that sometimes, couples fall out irreconcilably. Whatever the details of specific cases might be, divorces and breakups are a normal and even natural part of human interaction. However, we are of the position that disputes between adults in a(n erstwhile) relationship must never be allowed to impoverish or otherwise severely hamper the life chances of the children born to such relationships.



2019 – First sustained support given for street children (India and Kenya).

2020 – COVID-19 support for the homeless (UK, Sri Lanka) and street children (Kenya, India).

2021 – First ‘Walk For Solace’ outside the UK – a five-mile (approx.) walk between Jogoo Road and Rounda near Pioneer Estate, Kenya.

2021 – First official visit to a police headquarters in Kenya.

2021 – First formal engagement with an orphanage in Kenya.⁶

2022 – ‘Sadaka’ programme commences. This is a regular open free food kitchen in God’s Name, catering to the nutritional and dietary needs of street dwellers in slums of Nairobi, Kenya.

2023 – Engagement with local chiefs in Kenya.

2023 – *Solace* formally ends support for the first batch of schoolchildren we took on in 2013, following their graduation from secondary school. *Solace* had supported them through secondary school – all the way from primary school.

2024 – As a registered entity, *InterSolace Organisation* – *Solace* in Kenya, turns ten years old.

2025 – *Solace International* – *Solace* in the UK, turns ten years old as a registered organisation.

“Then they said among the nations: 'The LORD has Done Great Things for them' ” – Psalm 126:2.

⁶ Prior to this date, *Solace* had been supporting orphanages in Kenya – albeit, informally.





Partnerships

Solace believes firmly in collaboration. Thus, through the years, we have worked formally and/or informally, with numerous organisations – some of which have been mentioned below.

- A.B.L.E. Foundation
- ACTS Church
- Amazing Grace Ministries
- Ashley's Hair and Beauty Academy
- Born Again Revival Tabernacle Church
- Bridge Training UK
- Christians Against Poverty
- Christian Awareness Centre
- Community Elderly Support
- Croydon BME Forum
- Croydon Churches Forum



- Croydon Voluntary Action
- Deliverance Church (Kahawa Sukari, Kenya)
- End Time Christian Family
- Evangelistic Fire International Ministries
- Faiths Together in Croydon
- Groots Mathare
- Heads2gether
- Hope Africa/Hope Community (Syiokimau)
- Huruma Nursing and Maternity Home
- Kenya Assemblies of God (Buruburu)
- Kingston Voluntary Action
- Mighty Men of Valour
- Morning Star Ministries
- Open Doors UK
- Saint Oswald's Anglican Parish, TH
- Saint Peter's Anglican Church, ST
- Samaritan's Purse



- Shalom Ministries
- SOS Children's Villages (Kenya)
- Traid
- Unity College of Professional Studies
- Wikipedia Foundation
- World of Wonders (WoW) Sanctuary
- Your Gateway 2 Success

The above list is not exhaustive. Aside from those ones not mentioned, the Charity is also working on other collaborations.





Charitable objects

The objects of *Solace International* are:

- To benefit the public;
- The advancement of the Christian Faith (in line with the Charity's Statement of Beliefs);
- The prevention and/or relief of poverty.





Solace's aims and activities

The Charity *Solace International*⁷ aims to:

- Be and remain, an international organisation operating across several continents of the world;
- Collaborate/partner with other groups and individuals to achieve the above aims;
- Empower *Solace's* beneficiaries against poverty;
- Further the Christian Faith via the use of Holy Bible-reflecting apostolic and deaconate means;
- Honour and glorify the LORD God, through our actions and activities.
- Support other groups and individuals engaged in work similar to *Solace International's*;

⁷ As set out in our Vision, Mission Statement and Activities.





Activities (What the charity does)

Solace in furtherance of its aims, engages in general charitable purposes as well as the following:

- a.) Education and training;
- b.) Prevention and relief of poverty;
- c.) Religious activities;
- d.) Economic/community development/employment;
- e.) Human rights, religious or racial harmony, equality and/or diversity.



Who the charity helps

Solace International helps the general public and Mankind. This means that we are not particular or discriminatory about who we help. The help we give is however subject to variables, such as:

- (1.) The availability of relevant human, financial and other resources;
- (2.) Strict criteria as set forth in the Organisation's Constitution, Beneficiaries Policy and/or other governing documents;
- (3.) Any other criteria laid down by the *Solace International* Board in line with prevalent legislation and Government guidance in applicable countries.





How the Charity works

There are several ways by which we work to achieve our objects and aims. These include:

- a.) Advice, advocacy, signposting and other information;
- b.) Developing and providing human resources;
- c.) Engaging in community-relevant training through seminars and workshops;
- d.) Making grants to individuals and organisations;
- e.) Offering governance and capacity-building support.





Where we are – how far we have come

The LORD has in His Graciousness Granted *Solace International*, success in numerous areas as we improve on strides made across previous years. That said, in presenting the following success stories, we hold fast in all humility, to the timeless Words of our Lord Jesus Christ, as recorded in His Gospel according to the Evangelist Saint Luke:

Likewise, when ye shall have done all those things which are Commanded you, say: "We are unprofitable servants; we have done that which was our duty to do" – Luke 17:10.

Truly, we can never appreciate the LORD Almighty enough regarding His Goodness as Demonstrated through this Charity in the following pages. As always, the key barometer by which *Solace* measures its successes and failures is our set of goals – the list of things we have set out to achieve. These goals can be found not only in this report, but in relevant *Solace International* publicity material – as well as on the Charity Commission's website.





Glorious fragrances – Successes



The situation of education

The need for books, stationery and uniforms (including footwear) can never be overstated. This is an especially acute situation in developing countries around the world. *Solace International* is engaged in supporting several schoolchildren with whatever is needed to ensure they get a good education. In that light, we have during the last year, supported thirty-five children in three countries with not only the above, but food. We have also worked with many who (professionally or semi-professionally) are engaged in the provision of formal education for children and young people, to ensure that they are also supported to do their best.



Beating the street...that all may eat

Hunger never takes a break. It is an especially diligent – and relentless adversary against children and young people – but even more so, among two kinds of people – according to our research and experience: street dwellers – particularly street children – and members of the middle class. Hunger affects each group in different ways. We run a food bank. This caters primarily (though neither exclusively, nor deliberately) to middle class members. We also run regular street soup



kitchens preparing and supplying warm food which identifies and supports street dwellers. We have managed this without funding – relying on the generosity of a few people.



Making a splash...of cash!

Our Charity has always believed in the God-Given duty and ability of every adult on Earth to earn and generate incomes. *Solace International* also believes that there is no magic route out of poverty. We are therefore passionate about poverty alleviation. Thus, we run seminars and workshops to help people set up – or do better with, their own businesses and/or go into paid employment. We also encourage volunteering. In the last year alone, *Solace International* has supported over twenty people into employment. We have also supported at least ten young entrepreneurs. We have rendered these services, completely free of charge.



Talking it...and walking it

Solace International takes great pride in its Christian background. As part of furthering the Christian Faith, the Charity runs several programmes aimed at supporting participants in the journey of faith. Prominent among these are our flagship ‘Solace Prayer Group’ and ‘Solace (Living Word) Group’ – both on WhatsApp from where daily prayers and sermons go out to group members and the general public. Although the groups are relatively small, membership is quite diverse – coming from places such as Botswana, Ghana, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saint Lucia and Uganda (to name just ten). The groups also have several Moslem members.





Working as one...even when it's 'I'm done!'

One of this Charity's several areas of engagement, is parental support and responsibility. With high divorce rates across the world and a steady spike in single parenthood, there is a growing rise in children going without the support of one or both parents.⁸ *Solace International* is working with several families to ensure that whatever issues adults may have as their romances cool off, their offspring should never have to carry the burden of its fallout – especially since this could often mean – neglect, poor or no education and even starvation. In this last year, *Solace* has supported close to twenty families.



These case studies reflect massive strides by *Solace International* in its overarching goal of helping at least one person in every nation on Earth. The Charity is not carried away though –since we remain aware, that as long as there remains a country which we have not reached, *Solace International* has quite a lot to do, yet. As such, we remain ambitious in and for the LORD – ever available to be Used by Him to do even more good for more people. It is only right however, that as we rejoice in our successes, we reflect on our not-so-goods.

⁸ Rates may differ from country to country – and in fact, the outlook is far more positive than applies regionally or globally.





Where we are – how far we could – and should have gone

As the LORD does in His Eternal and Unsurpassable Wisdom Deign, we have lived through and with the gall of disappointment in several areas. By the LORD's Grace and to His Glory, we remain aware of these inadequacies. That said, we perceive these limitations as reflective of His Limitless Mercy. Some of the drawbacks in question have been outlined below, using the same format we applied under 'Successes' above. We never forget God's Assurance that:

"And such as do wickedly against the Covenant shall be corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong and do exploits" – Daniel 11:32.

As noted hitherto, it is impossible to fully appreciate God over all His Love for us – especially as He has in His Eternal Wisdom, Chosen *Solace International* as one of His Vessels – and Vehicles. The following pages may speak of cutbacks, drawbacks and setbacks – but they also point to the God-Given great ambition of this relatively small and young Charity. The key barometer for measuring our great achievements and negatives remains the Charity's goals discoverable exclusively within this report and its predecessors, as well as throughout relevant *Solace International* publicity material.





Bitter tastes – Failures



EEP

As *Solace International* is focused on poverty alleviation, we engage in several initiatives – including the *Solace Enterprise Empowerment Programme* (S.E.E.P.) – a twelve-week programme aimed at supporting startups and small businesses. This programme has turned out to be a win-win for *Solace* – benefiting close to a thousand (c.1,000) persons in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and the UK, since 2012, while generating much-needed revenue for the Charity. However, by not identifying and working with more partners in this excellent initiative, *Solace* has failed to build on the initial successes. Also, the Charity is yet to begin recruitment/training of tutors/facilitators necessary for S.E.E.P.’s expansion.



MK

A few years ago, MK contacted *Solace*. MK, a small business owner needed help with her only child – a boy who was out of school due to lack of funds for sorting out his school fees. During discussions following this initial contact, it emerged that although MK’s business was doing quite well, she had numerous debts and had chosen for several reasons, to prioritise those over the new debt of her son’s tuition payments. *Solace* agreed to support her – but with a loan, rather than a grant, since she had the means. However, MK has refused to repay the loan.





SK

SK lives in Pakistan. She is doing something unique and awesome. SK runs a Christian empowerment ministry which seeks to raise children according to Holy Bible precepts and longstanding Christian traditions. But what's so unique about that? Well, SK is a woman, living in a fiercely patriarchal environment – and a Christian woman at that – in a country where (at least statistically), Christians at under 2% are a mere sliver of the nation's predominantly Muslim quarter-of-a-billion population.⁹ SK needs help both financial and pastoral. She has reached out to us, but so far, we have been unable to support her sufficiently.



SS

SS is one of *Solace International's* main contacts in India. The Charity and she have worked together for several years. Our support is mainly financial in the form of regular small grants – the largest of which was fifty Pounds (£50), with the smallest just about half of that (c.£25). The money (and pastoral support) mainly target informal projects aimed at reducing child poverty (a socioeconomic malady which is quite severe in India compared to most other nations¹⁰). There's a problem, though: SS is failing to explain or show how these monies are being spent. Nothing we say moves her.

⁹ CIA (2025); World Bank (2025); World Population Review (2025).

¹⁰ Scottish Love In Action (2025); UNICEF (2025).





SPVs

Solace hopes to touch at least one life in every nation on Earth. Having so far supported people in and/or from close to fifty nations – around a quarter of the world total of roughly two hundred countries, the Organisation is well on its way to achieving this goal. Most of the support given by the Charity is in partnership/collaboration with individuals and groups on the ground in those places. The Charity's '*Solace* Project Visits' (or SPVs) wherein one of our officials visits countries where we are engaged, to meet beneficiaries and appraise our work/projects, have so far not taken off.



The above case studies represent not only the negatives we are currently dealing with, but the need for this Charity to aim for higher heights – pushing through the pain barrier so we can get to the point where current challenges have been successfully overcome – as the LORD Wills it, while building on the experience to prepare for even greater challenges.





A big 'THANK YOU' to...

- Abdullahi¹¹ and Fatima Anver – our first anchors in Sri Lanka.
- Amaka Pero – our main anchor in Nigeria.
- Angeline ('Angie') Awuor – our only multifunctional employee.
- Bishop Cleo Martelly – with whom *Solace* has worked for many years, across several nations.¹²
- Bishop Mark Nicolson – He so graciously served as *Solace's* first supervisor.
- Bishop Nelson Opapo – with whom *Solace* has worked in Kenya, for many years.
- Blessing Wilfred – who in a short time has made the fastest progress with *Solace*.
- Claudine Dohmatob – Through whose kindness *Solace International* has a UK office.
- Dennis Karuma – *Solace's* first techy whizzkid.
- Dephrose Mnyasa – our longest-serving employee.
- Emiliana Dacosta-Conten – A most trusted, honest and fearless adviser to *Solace*.
- Evangelist Glenford Evans – Who never misses a *Solace* event.
- Evangelist Leigh Cummins – Whose outreach ministry has been a model for *Solace*.
- Eve Santos – our first anchor in Namibia.
- Fladwel Rawinji – who drew up our first policy.
- Joy Christopher – who is spearheading the V of our brand and social media impact.
- Margaret Nakasango – One of our longest-serving Trustees.
- Naina Lamptey – *Solace's* most generous and consistent supporter.
- Pastor Elvis – our first transcontinental anchor.¹³

¹¹ Of blessed memory.

¹² Mainly Kenya and the UK – but also: Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria and Saint Lucia.

¹³ Australia (Australia), Nepal (Asia) and Kenya (Africa).



- Pastor Japhet ‘(Nesh’) Munene – the very first (and therefore, ‘oldest’) friend of *Solace*.
- Pastor Kennedy Otieno – The only Friend of *Solace* who never stopped giving.
- Pastor Raphael Dulice – Who also rarely misses a *Solace* event.
- Pastor Samuel Wamweya – our Treasurer for many years.
- Pastor Sanuel – our first anchor in South Africa.
- Reverend Andrew Roberts – Who was there almost from the onset.
- Reverends Grace and Gabriel – who released the Founder from their Ministry.
- Reverend John and Sister Priscilla (‘Sara’ Jetson – our first anchor in India.
- Reverend Naomi (and Mathieu) Lubanda – Who stood with *Solace* from the start.
- Reverend Patrick Wanga – under whose protection, our flagship S.E.E.P.¹⁴ was birthed.
- Reverend Rakesh Maurya and Sister Sanjita R – our first anchor in Nepal.
- Reverend Rodgers Kalaghe – through whom *Solace* made its first NGO partnership.
- Roseline (‘Rose’) Adiembo – the first (and so far, only) *Solace* employee to work for us, gratis.
- Sister Judith Mutobo – our first multination anchor.¹⁵
- Sister Sadia Gill – our first anchor in Pakistan.
- Sister Sudzanne Podiephatshwa who with her daughters¹⁶ were our first anchor in Botswana.
- Teresa Joseph – our first and longest-serving official.

You have so faithfully walked with us and brought us this far – though as with every army, some have gone AWOL¹⁷ and MIA. God the Ever-Good and Perfect One has Used you to not only Establish *Solace* and Keep it going, but to Remind us of how far we have come, how far we can still go – and how far we might have fallen behind, had He not through you His Servants, Done so many Mighty Deeds with the *Solace* brand and name on each. All the jewellery, money and treasures in this country (wherever these words are read) would not be enough reward for your ambition, boldness, care, diligence, empathy, fortitude, genuineness, humility, innovativeness, joviality, kindness, loyalty, meekness, n, optimism,

¹⁴ *Solace* Enterprise Empowerment Programme.

¹⁵ We engaged with her in Botswana, Malawi and the Congo.

¹⁶ Prophetess, Mpho, Lorraine and Lesedi (of blessed memory).

¹⁷ Away Without Leave.



patience, questioning, research, selflessness, toughness, utility, volubility, willingness, x-raying, y – and zaniness!

Solace International and the entire *Solace* Family appreciate you more than any words can show. By noting your names and contributions in this report, you have been immortalised – since, for as long as there is a copy of this report somewhere (and God Willing, until the end of Time, there will always be a copy of this report somewhere), your names and your mighty deeds through this Organisation will never be totally forgotten. May the LORD be praised in you – and may His Bless each of you, with long life, great health, peace of mind, safety from every danger (including enemies) and all-round good fortune. Amen – in Christ Jesus.





Conclusion

If nothing else, this report amply demonstrates how *Solace International's* story has undulated between myriad highs and lows. The Organisation continues to punch quite beyond its weight. Thus, the Charity deserves plaudits for meeting and beating the potpourri of challenges – despite its various hamstrings. That said, we feel Honoured to serve as we do; it is a Privilege to also come into contact with so many personalities as well as issues across several continents. At *Solace International* and across the *Solace* Family, we are grateful to God for the distance we have thus far come – and we continually trust in Him regarding the lengths we can still go. May all who love and support *Solace International* live happy, long and free; may more organisations like *Solace International* arise in the days and years to come; may *Solace International* remain Favoured of the LORD and become truly great in its Founder's lifetime.

Per Christum Dominum nostrum.

Amen.





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Appendices



Appendix 'A'



Solace International Financial report for S.T.A.R. '22

| <i>Month</i> | <i>In (£)</i> | <i>Out (£)</i> |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| December 23 | 845 | 889 |
| January 24 | 580 | 570 |
| February 24 | 85 | 65 |
| March 24 | 1556 | 1153 |
| April 24 | 210 | 587 |
| May 24 | 1588 | 1613 |
| June 24 | 195 | 263 |
| July 24 | 1475 | 502 |
| August 24 | 889 | 868 |
| September 24 | 291 | 318 |
| October | 110 | 100 |
| November | 45 | 65 |
| <i>TOTAL</i> | <i>7869</i> | <i>6993</i> |
| GRAND TOTAL (or: £7869-£6993) = £876 | | |



Appendix 'B'



Our Vision

(What we see as our reason for being)

Solace is a small Vessel in the Hands of the Almighty God Who Deigns to Use us in Furthering the Christian Faith and in other ways, Blessing His Creation.¹⁸ God Loves every person in the world. By His Grace and to His Glory, we will make a difference in at least one life in/from every nation and territory on Earth.

This is what we see. This is our vision.

¹⁸ *Solace* is not affiliated to any Christian denomination and takes the official position that for all their merits, denominations are divisive – more like tribes in a primitive society wherein members of each tribe see themselves as the 'superior breed', 'pure race' or 'Chosen ones'; they thus feel justified and even obliged, to look down on other tribes as being 'lower' or 'less' than themselves. For *Solace*, there is only One Church, only One Lord Jesus Christ and only One God.



Appendix 'C'



***Current list of countries where
at least one person has benefited from Solace International***

| No. | Country | Formal/Informal |
|------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. | <i>Zimbabwe</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 2. | <i>Zambia</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 3. | <i>Vietnam</i> | <i>Formal</i> |
| 4. | <i>United States</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 5. | <i>United Kingdom</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 6. | <i>Uganda</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 7. | <i>Turkey</i> | |
| 8. | <i>Trinidad and Tobago</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 9. | <i>Tanzania</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 10. | <i>Syria</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 11. | <i>St Vincent and Grenadines</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 12. | <i>St. Lucia</i> | <i>Formal</i> |
| 13. | <i>Sri Lanka</i> | <i>Formal</i> |
| 14. | <i>South Africa</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |



| | | |
|-----|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 15. | <i>Spain</i> | |
| 16. | <i>Sierra Leone</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 17. | <i>Rwanda</i> | <i>Formal</i> |
| 18. | <i>Romania</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 19. | <i>Portugal</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 20. | <i>Palestine</i> | |
| 21. | <i>Pakistan</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 22. | <i>Nigeria</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 23. | <i>Nepal</i> | <i>Formal</i> |
| 24. | <i>Namibia</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 25. | <i>Mozambique</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 26. | <i>Morocco</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 27. | <i>Malawi</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 28. | <i>Liberia</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 29. | <i>Kenya</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 30. | <i>Jamaica</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 31. | <i>Israel</i> | |
| 32. | <i>India</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 33. | <i>Greece</i> | |
| 34. | <i>Ghana</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 35. | <i>France</i> | <i>Informal</i> |



| | | |
|-----|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 36. | <i>Equatorial Guinea</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 37. | <i>Cyprus</i> | |
| 38. | <i>Congo (Kinshasa)</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 39. | <i>Cote D'Ivoire</i> | |
| 40. | <i>Cameroun</i> | <i>Formal</i> |
| 41. | <i>Bulgaria</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 42. | <i>Brazil</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 43. | <i>Botswana</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 44. | <i>Barbados</i> | <i>Formal</i> |
| 45. | <i>Bangladesh</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 46. | <i>Angola</i> | <i>Informal</i> |



“This is the LORD's Doing; It is Marvellous in our eyes”

(The twenty-third verse of the Holy Bible's One hundred and eighteenth Psalm [Psalm 118:23]

New King James Version [NKJV])



Dated Friday, this nineteenth day of September, in the Year of Our Lord, 2025

"Give unto the LORD, the glory due to His Name. Worship the LORD in the Beauty of holiness" (Psalm 29:2).





CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Solace International
Solace International
1162864
1162864

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|----|------------------------------|
| For the period from | 01-Dec-23 01-Dec-23 | To | Period end date 30-Nov-24 |
|---------------------|------------------------|----|------------------------------|

Section A Receipts and payments

| | Unrestricted funds to the nearest £ | Restricted funds to the nearest £ | Endowment funds to the nearest £ | Total funds to the nearest £ | Last year to the nearest £ |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| A1 Receipts | | | | | |
| Dec-23 | 845 | - | - | 845 | 1,115 |
| Jan-24 | 580 | - | - | 580 | 1,214 |
| Feb-24 | 85 | - | - | 85 | 1,421 |
| Mar-24 | 1,556 | - | - | 1,556 | 720 |
| Apr-24 | 210 | - | - | 210 | 740 |
| May-24 | 1,588 | - | - | 1,588 | 1,580 |
| Jun-24 | 195 | - | - | 195 | 420 |
| Jul-24 | 1,475 | - | - | 1,475 | 320 |
| Aug-24 | 889 | - | - | 889 | 780 |
| Sep-24 | 291 | - | - | 291 | 440 |
| Oct-24 | 110 | - | - | 110 | 840 |
| Nov-24 | 45 | - | - | 45 | 910 |
| Sub total (Gross income for AR) | 7,869 | - | - | 7,869 | 10,510 |
| A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table). | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total receipts | 7,869 | - | - | 7,869 | 10,510 |
| A3 Payments | | | | | |
| Dec-23 | 889 | - | - | 889 | 1,110 |
| Jan-24 | 570 | - | - | 570 | 1,200 |
| Feb-24 | 65 | - | - | 65 | 1,150 |
| Mar-24 | 1,153 | - | - | 1,153 | 720 |
| Apr-24 | 587 | - | - | 587 | 700 |
| May-24 | 1,613 | - | - | 1,613 | 1,420 |
| Jun-24 | 263 | - | - | 263 | 450 |
| Jul-24 | 592 | - | - | 592 | 400 |
| Aug-Nov 24 | 1,351 | - | - | 1,351 | 2,845 |
| Sub total | 6,993 | - | - | 6,993 | 9,995 |
| A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table) | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total payments | 6,993 | - | - | 6,993 | 9,995 |
| Net of receipts/(payments) | 876 | - | - | 876 | 515 |
| A5 Transfers between funds | | | | | |
| A6 Cash funds last year end | | | | | |
| Cash funds this year end | 876 | - | - | 876 | 515 |

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of th

| Categories | Details | Unrestricted funds to nearest £ | Restricted funds to nearest £ | Endowment funds to nearest £ |
|---|--|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| B1 Cash funds | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | Total cash funds | - | - | - |
| | (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)) | Agreement Error | OK | OK |
| B2 Other monetary assets | Details | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| B3 Investment assets | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| B5 Liabilities | Details | Fund to which liability relates | Amount due (optional) | When due (optional) |
| | | | - | |
| | | | - | |
| | | | - | |
| | | | - | |
| Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees | Signature | Print Name | Date of approval | |
| | N. Lamptey S. Donkor | Naina Lamptey Samuel Donkor | 21-Sep-25 | |
| | | | 21-Sep-25 | |

SOLACE INTERNATIONAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1162864

Accounts

Solace International

www.solace.international

(Registered Charity Number: 1162864)



(“Solace”)



The 2024 Solace International Trustees Annual Report (S.T.A.R. '24)



Solace

Trustees Annual Report (2024)



S.T.A.R. '24



The 2024 Solace International Trustees Annual Report (S.T.A.R. '24)



Parts of this Report mirror previous S.T.A.R.s. In deference to the Organisation's cross-continental audience, this Report is presented physically as well as virtually (i.e. offline and online) as part of the Charity's Annual General Meeting (AGM) for 2024





In line with established *Solace International* organisational practice,
this document also doubles as
the Organisation's Annual General Report for the Year 2024 AD.



The 2024 *Solace International* Trustees Annual Report (S.T.A.R. '24)



*"The LORD God is a Sun and Shield: the LORD will Give Grace and
Glory: He will not Withhold any good thing from those who walk
uprightly" (Psalm 84:11).*





Solace And International

We bring to many solace, wherever it is we be
Helping to create hope which all may taste and see
Keeping perpetually in mind
It helps, to always be kind.

We make solace something, that's tangible – yes, real
Joy for our sisters and brothers, who wail and groan and squeal
Because it is our belief
That all sufferers deserve relief.

We are really Solace – and International too
Catering to the needs, of varied global hue
Spreading thus the Love of
The One Whose Name is Love.

We serve the God of Solace – Master of All Creation
Whose Power truly Transcends, every situation
Whose Mercy on us all Solace Scatters
Because Solace really matters.

We reflect solace daily – come there shine or rain
Though challenges be many and higher piles the pain
Vowing never once to rest
Till everyone's at their best.

– Joseph Dos Santos





Our Mission Statement

Guided by the Holy Spirit, *Solace International's* Mission is to provide an excellent support service which is both person-centred and Christ-focused; a service which honours God by positively impacting individuals and communities.





Foreword

To the Glory of God Almighty – the Never-Failing and All-Perfect One – Source of Life and our Sole True Solace, it is with much gladness that we present to you, the 2024 *Solace* Trustees Annual Report (or S.T.A.R. '24). The report brings you up to speed with what *Solace International* (or 'Solace') has covered in terms of progress and challenges, pursuant to addressing the Charity's aims and objectives during the preceding year.

It should be by the reader noted, that this report is a standalone document presented – and meant to exist, in its own right – yet flowing from and connected to, S.T.A.R.s. prior. It is inevitable therefore (and even expected), that material which appears in our other Annual Reports, resurfaces in this one. We hope nonetheless, that you will be encouraged and/or motivated by what you read here, seeing how much can be achieved by so little.

People are suffering and in need everywhere on Earth. Hopefully, you will find in this report, enough to influence you towards helping to alleviate human suffering – including poverty – whether through *Solace International*, on your own or alongside others. We hope in the LORD, that as long as human suffering continues, there will always be entities individual and corporate, which work hard to alleviate the situation, bringing them much-needed solace.





In His Footsteps

Like our Unfailing Role Model Jesus, the Only Christ, we aim to be – but positively so, different things to different people. Each of our actions will mainly seek to enhance the holistic advancement of any communities wherein as it Pleases the LORD, *Solace* is engaged – whether directly or otherwise. As was the Wont of our Lord Jesus Christ in Whose Footsteps we follow, *Solace* will always put the service user/client/customer (‘needy’) first; the needy will always be who, as well as what, drives us on and our services will generally be moulded around the needy as Guided by the Holy Spirit, Who alone Understands to Perfection our every need as individuals and as people. As our Unfailing Role Model Christ also Did, *Solace* will always aim for the highest standards with God the Highest Standard, our Guide and Focus. We want to be unique in everything we are engaged in; we want to be well-known for our overall excellent quality of service and marvellous personnel; we want to maintain an unassailable position among the best in our chosen fields of endeavour. Simply put, we just want to be the best – following the Very Best Himself and walking in His Footsteps.

By the Grace of God, we will be the best.





Resolution

Following its Fall '24 meeting, the *Solace International* Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as 'The Solace Board', 'The Board' or 'The Trustees') reached the following resolutions:

- The Report covered by this resolution and contained in this document is the Charity's Annual Report for 2024;
- The official designation of this Report is: 'The 2024 *Solace* Trustees Annual Report' or S.T.A.R. '24;
- The Report shall be presented online, offline and during the 2024 *Solace International* Annual General Meeting (AGM);
- In a departure from *Solace International* ('Solace') convention established in the Year of our Lord 2017, S.T.A.R. '24 shall be deemed officially complete at the end of August, 2024;
- To avoid complication, the annual report of *InterSolace Organisation* ('Solace Kenya') shall no longer be embedded into any S.T.A.R.s – at least for now.

Signed..... *D.N. Mnyasa*

Dephrose N. Mnyasa (for: Board of Trustees, *Solace International*)





Solace International: The Organisation in brief

There is so much to know about our Charity. However, no single document can tell anyone everything there is to know about us. The following ten bullet points present nonetheless, a brief profile of the Organisation:

- The word ‘solace’ is roughly synonymous with and/or related to among other words, the following fifteen: aid, assistance, calm, care, comfort, compassion, empathy, motivation, refuge, peace, relief, serenity, soothing, support and tranquility. The word ‘international’ is roughly synonymous with among possible others: global, intercontinental, multinational, transnational and worldwide.
- In that light, our name (Solace International) highlights our overarching goal of alleviating human suffering in different places around the world. Solace International was founded in the United Kingdom (UK) toward the end of 2010; its first big operations however took place two years later, in Kenya where it was registered in 2014. The following year, it was also registered in the UK. In Kenya, Solace’s official name is InterSolace Organisation. Although they started out more or less together, InterSolace Organisation and Solace International are separate entities – sister organisations in the Solace Family.



- Presently, Solace International is neither a church, nor part of any denomination. By the Grace of God and to His Glory however, Solace International is rooted in Sacred Scripture principles. We conduct Christian religious services and activities. We deeply value partnerships. Therefore, *Solace International* often works in collaboration with other entities. Overall, we want to combat inequality and advance the Christian Faith.
- Solace International* also wants to be of help to at least one person in every country and region on Earth. The globe comprises over two hundred (200+) countries and territories – yet *Solace International* has only been able to touch lives in just over forty (40+) nations.¹ But we are sure we shall attain that dream. When by the Grace of God, we are sure we have touched at least one life in every nation and territory on Earth, we shall simply start the process again. We will never cease, retire or tire as long as there is someone we can still bring solace.



The Organisation's charitable objects

The objects of *Solace* are:

- To benefit the public;
- The advancement of the Christian Faith and
- The prevention or relief of poverty.

¹ For more information on this, please see Appendix B.





Its aims and activities

We seek to glorify God our Almighty Father, Sole Source of Life and Owner of All Things. Through our actions and activities, we testify to His Greatness and Goodness, for which reason, the aims of *Solace International* are chiefly to:

- Be and remain, an international organisation present on most continents;
- Further the Christian Faith through the use of apostolic and deaconate means;
- Empower people and groups against poverty, using innovative understandings.



Activities (What the charity does)

Solace in furtherance of its aims, engages in general charitable purposes – plus the following:

- Religious activities;
- Promoting/supporting diversity, human rights, racial harmony and religious tolerance.
- Prevention and relief of poverty;
- Education and training;
- Economic and community development.





Who the charity helps

Solace International helps the general public and Mankind. In other words, we are not particular or discriminatory about who we help. The help we give is however subject to variables, such as:

- The availability of relevant human, financial and other resources;
- Strict criteria as set forth in the Organisation's Constitution and governing documents;
- Any other criteria laid down by the *Solace International* Board of Trustees.



How the charity works

There are several ways by which we work to achieve the above. The main ones are:

- ***Specific criteria:*** Other criteria set out by the Charity's Board of Trustees.
- ***Human resources:*** We also develop and provide human resources;
- ***Grants:*** Making grants to individuals and to organisations;²

² We do not offer loans. We have experimented with doing so (offering interest-free loans in support of small businesses and serious family challenges), but discovered that lending money although potentially of greater value/benefit to those who receive them, only provides brief respite. Worse still, it generates levels of



- **Governance:** Strict criteria in the Organisation’s Constitution and governing documents;
- **Community:** We are engaged in community-relevant training delivery, business support, as well as the facilitation of seminars and workshops;
- **Capacity-building:** *Solace International* offers governance and capacity-building support;
- **Advocacy:** The Charity provides advocacy, advice and general information.³

For the next segment of this Report, S.T.A.R. ‘24 uses specific bulleted headings and subheadings as established since the original *Solace* Trustees Annual Report. These include: *Activities: What the Charity does* (‘Successes’, ‘Failures’, ‘Who the charity helps’, ‘How the charity works’, ‘The Organisation’s charitable objects’, etc.).

dishonesty and ill-will almost impossible to describe – or even understand. Lending is in our opinion, for a small charity such as this, more trouble than it is worth and so the decision has been made to ditch the idea.

³ This includes signposting to other entities which are relevant to beneficiaries’ needs.





The Solace journey thus far: The sunny side

As the LORD Pleases, *Solace International* continues to enjoy success on multiple fronts – some new and others being improvements on strides made hitherto. *Solace International* is at best, a Vessel – a Tool – an Instrument in the Hands of the Master of all Creation Who has no shortage of Resources – and so Honours us by Using us, since while He can Do without us (and indeed everyone else), not even one of us can manage without Him. Thus, at this point of the Report, the Charity outlines some of its successes. This is not meant to be a comprehensive list. Instead, it is simply meant to demonstrate how hard we are working and how well we are succeeding as God would Have it, in meeting the Charity’s objects and aims.

| | |
|--|---|
| Area 1⁴ <i>The alleviation of poverty – UK, etc.</i> | |
| <i>Activity</i> | Details |
| | As noted in our earlier Reports, evidence continues to mount, of increasing UK-wide poverty. The situation is undoubtedly contributing to |

⁴ The ‘Areas’ have been numbered for ease of reading and reference. The numbering does not reflect any specific order or priority list.



Foodbank

a rise in crime and social misbehaviour, as well as a fall in normal inhibitions.⁵

Being directly engaged at the forefront of the fight against poverty, *Solace International* attests to increasing cases in the last year, of begging, multiple food bank visits, petty thefts, rough-sleeping, scavenging, shoplifting and threatening behaviour.

Case studies abound, but we have addressed this issue in a separate document: 'Lost in the Wilderness: Poverty in the UK'. *Solace International* continues to run its flagship 'Foodbank with a Difference' wherein we personalise our food provisions.

Duly, each provision is tailored to meet the needs of specific individuals, with greater emphasis on people from groups of unique vulnerability, who for a variety of reasons⁶ are unable or unwilling to visit regular foodbanks.⁷

Each time we are made aware of such persons, we get in touch with them if we can. After assessing their food needs, we arrange for free parcels of food to be made available. The assessment of food needs also helps us flag up their other support needs.

⁵ There is for instance, a rise in open urination, defecation and sexual intercourse – all behaviour which would normally never happen – certainly not to the current extent, but which desperation seems to be forcing out into the open, as coincidentally, the indicators of economic hardship among individuals continues to rise.






⁶ The applicable reasons include but do not stop at: shyness, fear of the Law (especially the Police and Home Office) plus difficulties with communicating in English.

⁷ These include but are not restricted to: refugees, immigrants of unclear immigration status and rough sleepers.



| | |
|---|--|
| | <p>Following the highlighting of any such needs, the Charity endeavours to signpost the individual in the direction of further relevant support. Where appropriate, we would follow up on this and even advocate for the beneficiaries.</p> |
| <i>School support</i> | <p><i>Solace</i> continues to support schools in Kenya, to educate orphans and children from disadvantaged backgrounds. The level of support has however been somewhat scaled down, owing to a paucity of funds. We hope the situation will improve in the year ahead, God Willing. Aside from our work in Kenya, we have also worked with contacts in Ghana, India, Nigeria and Pakistan to support multiple young learners. In Ghana for instance, <i>Solace International</i> supplied around eight hundred (c.800) books to schools in Ghana, provided meals for learners in India, helped with school uniforms in Nigeria and supported afterschool activities in Pakistan.</p> |
| <i>Poverty-bust</i> <i>Poverty-</i> <i>busting</i> | <p>Poverty alleviation remains key among <i>Solace's</i> aims in which regard the Charity continues to support parents and families experiencing poverty. We address needs on a case-by-case basis, using the Charity's Beneficiaries Policy as our main guide. The Charity is also continuing with its flagship <i>Solace</i> Enterprise Empowerment Programme (S.E.E.P.) which supports entrepreneurship and self-employment. Further details of our poverty alleviation work can be found in S.T.A.R' 23 and its predecessors under similarly-named sections, as well as in the Chief Administrator's Report to the Charity's Trustees.</p> |
| | <p>Collaboration with other entities is crucial to the work and success of any charitable organisation. In that knowledge we are building relationships</p> |



| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <p><i>Collaboration</i></p> | <p>with other organisations – including academic, charitable, corporate, religious and unregistered community groups in the UK and beyond.⁸ Organisations and groups we have worked with – however fleetingly, include but do not stop at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p> UK: ACTS Church, Croydon, BME Forum, Croydon Voluntary Association (CVA), Faiths Together in Croydon (FTiC), Heads2Gether (H2G), Kingston Voluntary Action (KVA), Lambeth Voluntary Action Council (LVAC), Restoration World Revival Church (RWRC).</p> <p> India: The Jetsons (Jesus Is Lord Ministries).</p> <p> Kenya: Revival International Church, Inc. (formerly: Born Again Revival Tabernacle International), Kenya (RIC-K), Deliverance Church International, Groots-Mathare, Hope Africa Community, SOS Children’s Village Buruburu.</p> <p> Nepal: Reverend Rakesh’s Women’s and Community Empowerment Group.</p> <p> Pakistan: Sadia Gill’s Group for Children and Young People; Labin Ministries.</p> |
|------------------------------------|---|

⁸ Our letterheads reflect this as we tend to include at the bases of the documents, logos of most organisations we have worked or partnered with. Some groups are yet to be added though. They will be inserted as time goes on, subject to approval by the Trustees acting on the advice of the Chief Administrator.



Area 2: Religious activities

| Activity | Details |
|--|---|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The ‘Towards’ Reports</i></p> | <p>As stated in previous S.T.A.R.s, every year since 2012, we have contributed to the capacity-building of at least one church. Our support in this regard was multifaceted.</p> <p>By the Grace of God, the ‘Towards’ reports are a unique capacity-building tool aimed at supporting churches, pursuant to our aim of furthering the Christian Faith.</p> <p>Churches have benefited from <i>Solace</i> in ways such as with help setting up a youth/teens ministry, free drafting of governing documents and support with charity and community group registration.</p> <p>Duly, we also provide the support of observing what could be going wrong in a church, then making a range of recommendations and suggestions on how to put things right.⁹</p> <p>Even though the main focus had always been Christian organisations, the Charity has also supported non-Christian ones (e.g. <i>Ashleys</i> in Kenya and <i>Heads2gether</i> in the UK, through the ‘Towards’ reports.</p> <p>Given the demand for such support, <i>Solace International</i> has also accorded</p> |

⁹ *Hope Africa* (now *Hope Community*), Syiokimau, Kenya.



| | |
|--|--|
| | <p>support to groups focusing on women¹⁰ and/or children.¹¹ All the services were provided completely free of charge.</p> <p>However, the ‘Towards’ reports have run their full course and so are to be discontinued, except under special circumstances as approved by the Board of Trustees, acting on the advice of the Chief Administrator.</p> |
| <i>Preaching engagements</i> | In the whole of 2023, the Charity did not do any preaching engagements. However, its social media work continues through its <i>Facebook</i> page and <i>WhatsApp</i> platforms. |
| <i>Evangelisation</i> | As part of our work in furthering the Christian Faith, <i>Solace International</i> continues to work with other entities in reaching out to God’s People on the streets and hinterlands of several countries, including Botswana, Ghana, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Nigeria, Nepal, Pakistan, Portugal, Saint Lucia, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Uganda, the United Kingdom and Zimbabwe, among others. |
| <i>Bible distribution</i> | Even though distributing copies of the Holy Bible has been a key aspect of our work in recent years, there was no Bible distribution activity by the Charity in 2023. This was mainly because <i>Solace International</i> could not obtain donations of bibles during this period. |
| <i>Other support for the wider Church</i> | For information under this heading, please refer to previous S.T.A.R.s, especially S.T.A.R.s ’20 to ’23. |

¹⁰ Rakesh Ministries, Nepal.

¹¹ Jetsons Ministry for Children, Tamil Nadu, India.



Area 3

Economic/community support

| <i>Activity</i> | <i>Details</i> |
|-----------------------|--|
| <i>Support</i> | Details of our activities in support of economic and community development are outlined in the Chief Administrator (CA)'s Report. It is important to note in so stating nonetheless, that relevant details are available in last year's S.T.A.R. and its forebears. The CA's Report is available on request, subject to approval of the Board. |

Area 4

Education and training

| <i>Activity</i> | <i>Details</i> |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Seminars and workshops</i> | As an organisation grounded in Sacred Scripture principles, <i>Solace International</i> holds to the belief that it is God's Will, for people to acquire knowledge. For this reason, the Charity presents to the public in several countries, a range of free training programmes which cater to a variety of needs. The 'star' of this provision is our flagship twelve-week ' <i>Solace Enterprise Empowerment Programme</i> ' (S.E.E.P.). The full list of programmes on offer appears on our social media platforms, in previous S.T.A.R.s, as a stand-alone document in hard copy from the <i>Solace International</i> registered office (on request and by appointment only), as well as in the CA's Report. It will also be present on our website. |
| <i>Books</i> | <i>Solace</i> continues its projects of collection and distribution of books. The number of books donated has increased, even though the number of donors has dropped. We however, expect more donors and donations in the year ahead. |



Area 5

Human rights, religious/racial harmony, equality/diversity

| <i>Activity</i> | <i>Details</i> |
|------------------|---|
| <i>Potpourri</i> | The Charity's work in this area is well documented and spans several years. Our areas of focus have included but do not stop at: advocacy, domestic violence, employee abuse, community-building, human trafficking, immigration and peace initiatives. We are currently exploring the power of poetry, storytelling and history in the conduct of activities under this section. |



Issues to ponder...

Solace International continues to make commendable strides. However, there is a huge array of issues to consider. Key among these is the challenge of generating more funds, as well as the need to attract more support – especially in the form of donors and volunteers. The Organisation also needs to develop its presence on social media, as well as do more to publicise both the great work which the Charity is doing in several countries across the world and the massive challenges the Organisation is facing, especially in terms of financial difficulties. Most of all, *Solace International* must work harder at achieving its Founder's goal of being a positive influence in the life of at least one person in every country and territory on Earth in his lifetime. Even though the Charity has so far supported people in and from forty-plus countries, there remain many other lands to reach with the Love which it Pleases God to Bestow and Demonstrate through *Solace International*.







CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Solace International | No (if any) |
| Solace International | |

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|----|-----------------|
| For the period from | 01-Dec-22 | To | Period end date |
| | 01-Dec-22 | | 30-Nov-23 |

Section A Receipts and payments

| | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Endowment funds | Total funds | Last year |
|---|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ |
| A1 Receipts | | | | | |
| Dec-21 | 1,115 | - | - | 1,115 | 1,265 |
| Jan-22 | 1,214 | - | - | 1,214 | 1,375 |
| Feb-22 | 1,421 | - | - | 1,421 | 1,418 |
| Mar-22 | 720 | - | - | 720 | 980 |
| Apr-22 | 740 | - | - | 740 | 1,632 |
| May-22 | 1,580 | - | - | 1,580 | 1,265 |
| Jun-22 | 420 | - | - | 420 | 448 |
| Jul-22 | 320 | - | - | 320 | 150 |
| Aug-22 | 780 | - | - | 780 | 360 |
| Sep-22 | 440 | - | - | 440 | 530 |
| Oct-22 | 840 | - | - | 840 | 770 |
| Nov-22 | 910 | - | - | 910 | 940 |
| Sub total (Gross income for AR) | 10,510 | - | - | 10,510 | 11,133 |
| A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table). | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total receipts | 10,510 | - | - | 10,510 | 11,133 |
| A3 Payments | | | | | |
| Dec-21 | 1,110 | - | - | 1,110 | 1,300 |
| Jan-22 | 1,200 | - | - | 1,200 | 1,209 |
| Feb-22 | 1,150 | - | - | 1,150 | 1,170 |
| Mar-22 | 720 | - | - | 720 | 858 |
| Apr-22 | 700 | - | - | 700 | 1,285 |
| May-22 | 1,420 | - | - | 1,420 | 1,215 |
| Jun-22 | 450 | - | - | 450 | 397 |
| Jul-22 | 400 | - | - | 400 | 80 |
| Aug-Nov 22 | 2,845 | - | - | 2,845 | 2,100 |
| Sub total | 9,995 | - | - | 9,995 | 9,614 |
| A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table) | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total payments | 9,995 | - | - | 9,995 | 9,614 |
| Net of receipts/(payments) | 515 | - | - | 515 | 1,519 |
| A5 Transfers between funds | | - | - | - | - |
| A6 Cash funds last year end | | - | - | - | - |
| Cash funds this year end | 515 | - | - | 515 | 1,519 |

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of th

| Categories | Details | Unrestricted funds to nearest £ | Restricted funds to nearest £ | Endowment funds to nearest £ |
|---|--|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| B1 Cash funds | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | Total cash funds | - | - | - |
| | (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)) | Agreement Error | OK | OK |
| B2 Other monetary assets | Details | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| B3 Investment assets | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| B5 Liabilities | Details | Fund to which liability relates | Amount due (optional) | When due (optional) |
| | | | - | |
| | | | - | |
| | | | - | |
| | | | - | |
| Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees | Signature | Print Name | Date of approval | |
| | N. Lamptey S. Wamweya | Naina Lamptey Samuel Wamweya | 23-Sep-24 | |
| | | | 23-Sep-24 | |

SOLACE INTERNATIONAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1162864

Accounts

Solace International

www.solace.international

(Registered Charity No. 1162864)



(‘Solace’)



The 2023 Solace International Trustees Annual Report (S.T.A.R. '23)

Solace

Trustees Annual Report (2023)



S.T.A.R. '23



The 2023 Solace International Trustees Annual Report (S.T.A.R. '23)



For a wide variety of reasons, some parts of this Report mirror previous S.T.A.R.s.

In deference to the Organisation's international audience, this Report is presented online during the Solace Annual General Meeting (S-AGM) of 2023.





In keeping with established *Solace International* organisational practice,
this document also doubles as
the Organisation's Annual General Report for the Year AD 2023.





"Call unto Me, and I will Answer thee – and Shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not" (Jeremiah 33:3).





Sweet Sure Solace So Strong

Stronger than all strength
On, You LORD have Led us
Leading full length
Along each plus and minus
Clearly we see
End from the beginning
In all that we be
Notwithstanding our sinning;
The great things You Do
Each Mighty Work
Reminds us anew
Now how in Love You Lurk
And always – yes always
The Truth will remain
It is You O Ancient of Days
Only Who does us Sustain
Noting our each need
As You so well us Feed:
Life and Solace indeed!

– Joseph Dos Santos



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¹ This unique style of laying out a Table of Contents is the brainchild of Joseph E.G.D. Dos Santos (2019, 2020) and therefore duly acknowledged.





Our Mission Statement

We are committed to the alleviation of poverty and furtherance of the Christian Faith. Under the Holy Ghost's Guidance, *Solace International's* seeks to excel at what we have set out to do.



The Solace Statement of Beliefs *(Based on the Nicene Creed)*²

WE BELIEVE in One God; He is the Father of All Creation; He is the One Almighty; He is the Maker of Heaven and Earth – as well as, of all that is: be it seen or unseen.

WE BELIEVE that the Kingdom of God has no limit and will have no end.

WE BELIEVE in One Lord, Jesus Christ, the Only Son of God, Eternally Begotten of – and of One Being with, the Father. With Him all things were Made. For us and for our Salvation, He Came to Earth from Heaven; by the Power of the Holy Spirit, He was Made Man, having Become Incarnate from the Virgin Mary. For our sake He Accepted crucifixion under Pontius Pilate; He also Suffered death and Allowed Himself to be buried. On the third day, He Rose again in Accordance with Sacred Scriptures. Jesus Christ Ascended into Heaven and is Seated with the Father from Whence He Came to Earth. That same Jesus Christ will Come again in His Glory, Attended by all the Holy Angels. Seated upon the Throne of His Glory, He shall Pronounce Judgement Over all nations, having Separated them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from goats.

WE BELIEVE in the Holy Spirit, the LORD – Giver of Life, Who Proceeds from the Father and the Son. with Whom He is worshipped and glorified. He has Spoken through the Prophets.

WE BELIEVE in one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look forward to the Resurrection of the dead and Life of the world to come.

Amen.

² This Statement is still under review as we explore ways of reconciling in it, the Trinitarian and Unitarian persuasions within the Body of Christ.





Foreword

To the Glory of God – the Almighty, Father of All Creation – and by His Leading, we are glad to present you with the ***Solace Trustees Annual Report of 2023*** (or, ‘S.T.A.R. ‘23’). The report sets out how well or otherwise *Solace International* (or, ‘Solace’) has progressed in the achievement of its stated goals since the last report. In line with long-established convention at *Solace*, while S.T.A.R. ‘23 is a separate and unique document, the report can safely be considered as linked to – and continuing from, preceding S.T.A.R.s. It should come as no surprise therefore, that S.T.A.R. ‘23 uses at different points throughout the report, sections and portions which may have appeared in one or more of its predecessors. By God’s Grace, this will remain part of the established convention regarding all Solace Trustees Annual Reports (S.T.A.R.s), for as long as *Solace International* exists.





In His Footsteps

The name ‘Solace’, the ‘International’ focus and the Charity’s *modus operandi* are all in reflection of the Lord Jesus Christ, Who is our Chief Role Model. No human being ever understood – or will ever understand the way He Did, human need and human suffering – plus what to do about them. Therefore, whatever we do, whoever we are engaged with and wherever we operate, *Solace International* will always aim to reflect Jesus Christ. Simply put, ***we walk in His Footsteps.***

Amen.



Resolution

At its Summer 2023 meeting, *Solace International's* Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as 'The Solace Board', 'The Board' or 'The Trustees') resolved as follows:

- 1.) The Report covered by this resolution and contained in this document shall form the main body of the Organisation's Annual Report for 2022;
- 2.) The Report shall be designated and known as 'The 2023 *Solace International* Trustees Annual Report' or S.T.A.R. '23;
- 3.) The Report shall be presented online as part of the 2023 *Solace International* Annual General Meeting (AGM);
- 4.) The 2023 AGM shall occur before the end of Autumn 2023;
- 5.) In keeping with *Solace International* ('Solace') convention established in the Year of our Lord 2017, S.T.A.R. '23 shall be deemed officially complete and therefore closed, after Christmas Day, 2023;
- 6.) Official completion and closure shall include insertion of the accompanying report from *InterSolace Organisation* ('Solace Kenya') and any other Solace branch or affiliate in other countries as the case may be;
- 7.) It shall only be declared complete and closed also, once there is no possibility of updates as requested or mandated by the Governments (or relevant departments) of the countries where *Solace* actively operates.

Signed..... *D.N. Mnyasa*



Dephrose N. Mnyasa (for: Board of Trustees, *Solace International*)

Solace International: A brief history

This Report is not just a chronicle, but a document of staggered growth, of harsh reality and of eager hope

‘Solace’ is synonymous with other words, such as but not only: ‘support’, ‘succour’, ‘help’, ‘comfort’ and ‘alleviation’. Through these synonyms, one can develop a good picture of the various ways wherein *the Charity* continues to play its role.

Our roots are traceable to the coastlands of Kenya where, halfway through 2012, *Solace* was born. Our first beneficiary was MNW, a widow; our first project was the Solace Enterprise Empowerment Programme (also called ‘SEEP’ or ‘EEP’).

Learning from various experiences and working in partnership with several entities both human and corporate, Solace has slowly grown. Our original partners were: Winners Chapel, Malindi, Deliverance Church Buruburu and Hope Africa, Syiokimau.

About midway through Lent of 2013, Solace had its first set of Trustees: a ten-strong Board made up of mainly Kenyans – and mostly men. Today, the Board is more diverse – though smaller and for the first time, with more women than men.

Charity Commission registration in the UK and NGO Coordination Board registration in Kenya, followed soon after – all, to the Glory of God. It is noteworthy that we had already been engaged in charitable projects well before we secured any registration.

Even though *Solace* is not yet officially registered in any other jurisdiction, we are continually making our mark in many places around the globe – despite having very few resources. Today, Solace is supporting people everywhere it possibly can.



By God's Goodness, Solace is here to stay.

The Organisation's charitable objects

The objects of *Solace* are:

- a.) To benefit the public;
- b.) The advancement of the Christian Faith – plus
- c.) The prevention and/or relief of poverty.

Its aims

We seek to honour God the Almighty Creator of All Life and Owner of Everything. Working in collaboration with other similar-minded groups and individuals, the aims of *Solace International* are chiefly to:

- Be and remain, an international organisation operating across several continents of the world;
- Further the Christian Faith through the use of apostolic and deaconate means;
- Empower people and groups against poverty.



Its activities

Solace in furtherance of its aims, engages in general charitable purposes as well as the following:

- a.) Education and training;
- b.) Prevention and relief of poverty;
- c.) Religious activities;
- d.) Economic/community development;
- e.) Promotion and support of diversity, equality, human rights, racial harmony, and religious tolerance.

Who the charity helps

Solace International helps the general public and Mankind. In other words, we are not particular or discriminatory about who we help. The help we give is however subject to variables, such as:

- (1.) The availability of relevant human, financial and other resources;
- (2.) Strict criteria as set forth in the Organisation's Constitution, Beneficiaries Policy and/or other governing documents;
- (3.) Any other criteria laid down by the *Solace International* Board of Trustees.



How the charity works

There are several ways by which we work to achieve the above, the main one being that:

- a.) *Solace International* makes grants to individuals and to organisations;³
- b.) We also develop and provide human resources;
- c.) *Solace International* offers governance and capacity-building support;
- d.) We are engaged in community-relevant training delivery, business support, as well as the facilitation of seminars and workshops;
- e.) Finally, *Solace* provides advocacy and advice/information as well as other services relevant to individuals in need and to communities.⁴

In keeping with practice established in the original *Solace* Trustees Annual Report and maintained thereafter, as well as for ease of communication, this report uses the information bulleted under 'Its activities' as subheadings in the sections outlining our successes and failures, below.

³ For reasons set forth in S.T.A.R. '22, we do not offer loans any longer.

⁴ This includes signposting to other entities relevant to beneficiaries' needs.





The Solace journey thus far: Pumping our fists

Solace International continues to enjoy from the LORD, a variety of successes. These include but do not stop at strides which the Charity has recorded previously.

Area 1(a):⁵ The alleviation of poverty (UK, etc.)

| <i>Activity</i> | <i>Details</i> |
|------------------------|---|
| | <p>The charity sector depends heavily on partnership and other forms of cooperation – formal as well as informal.</p> <p>On the basis of this understanding, <i>Solace</i> continues developing relationships with various individuals and organisations.⁶</p> |

⁵ The areas have been arranged for ease of reading and reference. This arrangement does not reflect any specific order or priority list.

⁶ Our letterheads reflect this as we tend to include at the bases of the documents, logos of most organisations we have worked or partnered with. Some groups are yet to be added though. They will be inserted as time goes on, subject to approval by the Trustees acting on the advice of the Chief Administrator.



| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <p><i>Collaboration</i></p> | <p>Generally, the areas of collaboration focus on a fluid and dynamic understanding. in the UK, Kenya, India, etc.</p> <p>Even though no document can outline all the advantages of collaboration, several have been set forth in the previous S.T.A.R.</p> <p>There are of course, demerits which come from working together, some of which will be outlined God Willing, in in S.T.A.R. '24.</p> <p>Having to conserve already shrunken resources, the Charity's collaborative work is largely informal and/or indirect.</p> <p>Entities from other lands are not always easy to work with due to cultural differences, but we and they usually persevere.</p> <p>Right now, while <i>Solace International</i> continues to work with various religious and secular entities, we do not partner with political groups.⁷</p> |
| | <p>Food poverty continues to be a serious issue right across the United Kingdom (UK), going by current statistics. The precipitous situation which was either occasioned or accentuated by the COVID-19 pandemic, shows no sign of abatement whatsoever.</p> <p>On the contrary, the poverty indicators noted in S.T.A.R. '22 remain at an</p> |

⁷ Some of the organisations and individuals we have worked with are mostly listed in S.T.A.R. '22.



Foodbank

all-time high, as numerous families and individuals struggle with a host of socioeconomic issues.⁸ The situation is not helped at all, by the historic inflation rates currently hitting the country.

Of course, the dire economic climate has also hamstrung *Solace International*, as well as the wider charity sector in its never-ending attempts to draw in funds from funders and the wider public.⁹ This situation has understandably, affected many of our plans.

Duly and in accordance with God’s Will, there is an abundance of free and near-free food provisions such as soup kitchens, food hubs and of course, food banks – although, many families and individuals remain reluctant to access these provisions.

Foodbank

Because of the prevailing situation, *Solace International* has continued making food donations to organisations – although we have withdrawn from our arrangement with *Heads Together (H2G) Food Hub* and placed on hold, our plans for a soup kitchen.

All the same, we continue our *Foodbank With A Difference* project begun in 2017, wherein we identify families and individuals in need who may be

⁸ The indicators include: shoplifting, rough-sleeping, food bank visits, dumpster-diving and begging.

⁹ (Civil Society and Legraien, 2022; Joseph Rowntree Foundation [JRF], 2021; Mitchell Charlesworth, 2022; Office For National Statistics [ONS] and Keane, 2022; Poverty and Social Exclusion [PSE], 2022).



| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| | <p>reluctant or unable to visit regular foodbanks. We take food (and sometimes cash) to them with no questions asked.¹⁰</p> <p>Keeping this project going glorifies and reflects our Chief Role Model Jesus Christ, Who often Reached out to those in need, rather than Waiting for to approach Him. He Moved around, Making Himself both Available and Accessible to the needy.</p> |
| <p>Poverty-busting</p> | <p>Alleviation of poverty is one of our key aims. thus, <i>Solace</i> continues to support individuals and families who may be experiencing poverty to deal with their situation. The <i>Solace</i> Enterprise Empowerment Programme is a community-targeting programme which aims to equip people for self-employment. Previous delivery of the project has seen the S.E.E.P. presented with a heavily Christian bias. It has been decided that from next year, that S.E.E.P. will become de-Christianised, or rather secularised. This is partly because we have not benefited much from the previous format and partly because we want the S.E.E.P. to attract people from diverse backgrounds. Enterprise empowerment is to the Glory of God Whose Will it is that we “prosper and be in good health”¹¹. The SEEP will however as noted hitherto, shortly begin to diversify its content.</p> |
| | <p><i>Solace</i> continues to support schools in Kenya, to educate orphans and children from disadvantaged backgrounds.</p> <p>Clearly, Kenya is the main focus of our work and resources – although</p> |

¹⁰ The money we give is usually small – ranging between ten and fifty Pounds (£10-£50) and aimed at providing immediate food relief.

¹¹ 3Jn: 2



| | |
|---|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><i>School and schooling support</i></p> | <p>this situation is regularly reviewed.</p> <p>However, <i>Solace's</i> schools support varies, depending on the institution – and can take a range of forms.¹²</p> <p>On occasion, we have supported children, schools and teachers in non-pecuniary ways.</p> <p>Our 2022-23 support reached – thanks to God, over twenty children, three teachers and two schools. It includes books and pastoral care.¹³</p> <p>Likewise, we have supported families in Ghana, India, Nigeria, Pakistan and Romania, with their children's schooling and other needs.</p> <p>Support for at least one school child in Bangladesh, Nepal, India, Rwanda and Sri Lanka could commence next year.¹⁴</p> |
|---|--|

¹² Such as: boarding, extra tuition, school fees, school meals, school uniforms and other school-related needs.

¹³ Counties which have benefited during this period include: Busia, Kiambu, Machakos, Meru and Nairobi.

¹⁴ If current negotiations with identified potential partners go well, that is. We have learned through painful and stressful experience, not to count our chickens too early ahead, as negotiations which seem to be going quite well and even nearing a desired conclusion, could suddenly turn sour – sometimes for no clear reason. Case in point: Vietnam, where our negotiations to support school children remain stalled.



Area 1(b)

The alleviation of poverty – Kenya and elsewhere

| <i>Activity</i> | <i>Details</i> |
|-----------------------|---|
| <i>Clothes supply</i> | Since 2014, <i>Solace International</i> has supplied over ten thousand free items of clothing to those in need in several countries. We modified our manner of distribution in 2021 to help us reach more of those in need. The supply of free clothes is a very important aspect of our work in the prevention or relief of poverty in countries outside the United Kingdom. where so many people live below the poverty line. This year, we have collected clothes for supply to Turkey, following the devastating earthquake. As noted in S.T.A.R. '22 however, a fraction of our clothes was distributed to people living in the UK. |
| <i>Cash grants</i> | By the Grace of God and to His Glory, <i>Solace International</i> continues to make cash grants to those in need. So far this year, <i>Solace International</i> has made grants to beneficiaries from and/or in twelve countries: Congo-K, Ghana, India, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Libya, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Romania, Türkiye and the UK. The Charity as explained in in S.T.A.R.s '20 and '21, does not give loans. The Cash grants we give are usually small – and all the grants we make are subject to the availability of funds and strict criteria as laid out in our Beneficiaries Policy. Monies are not disbursed with the approval of the <i>Solace</i> Board of Trustees. |

Area 2

Religious activities

| <i>Activity</i> | <i>Details</i> |
|-----------------|----------------|
|-----------------|----------------|



| | |
|--|--|
| <p><i>The ‘Towards’ Reports</i></p> | <p>Our support for churches and Christian groups is well-documented as can be seen for instance, in the two S.T.A.R.s preceding this one, the Charity has taken the decision to discontinue its ‘Towards’ reports as an annual offering, but will continue them as an occasional one, to be presented only where there is a tangibly strong need for them. However, <i>Solace International</i> continues to do what it can in furtherance of the Christian Faith. This is underlined by the Charity’s support (emotional, financial, material and otherwise) for Christian street evangelists, non-pastoral ministers of Christian religion and other entities actively involved in furthering the Christian Faith. <i>Solace International</i> has also begun supporting the Christian Awareness Centre (CAC) with a small grant given in monthly instalments. The Charity is also supporting the CAC’s push for charity registration.</p> |
| <p><i>Preaching engagements</i></p> | <p><i>Solace International</i> is (at least for now) not a church. The Charity is not affiliated to any church or denomination – although we are an intrinsic and inextricable part of the Church – the Bride of Jesus Christ. We have had many preaching engagements with churches in the past. In the twelve months leading up to this Annual Report, there was only one such engagement (with a small unregistered Christian group in Wales, UK). Even so (as noted in S.T.A.R. ’22), <i>Solace International</i> does not rely on any church’s goodwill as we work to share the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Instead, we use our own Christian fora such as social media and published books.</p> |
| | <p>For this aspect of our work in furthering the Christian Faith, <i>Solace</i> continues to work with other entities in reaching out to God’s People on the streets of not only Kenya and the United Kingdom, but Botswana, Ghana, India, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Nigeria, Nepal, Pakistan, Portugal, St. Lucia, South Africa and Uganda. Being convinced that there are numerous other ways of spreading the Gospel, our training programmes inevitably</p> |



| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <i>Evangelisation</i> | include material from Christian Sacred Scriptures. The Charity is ever-keen nonetheless, to explore and develop non-Bible-based alternatives, wherever and whenever possible. |
| <i>Bible distribution</i> | We are finding that the need for bibles is quite dire. <i>Solace</i> acquires through a variety of means including purchases and donations, copies and versions of the Holy Bible which are then distributed free of charge, to those who sorely need them. In late 2022, <i>Solace International</i> received a posthumous donation of two bibles from the late ‘Sister Nelly’, a Jamaican. Early in 2023, the Charity also received from ‘Sister Janemaria’ resident in the United States of America, eight bibles. ¹⁵ Most of these wonderful gifts have duly and dutifully been passed onto those who needed them. The Charity supports various evangelistic groups ¹⁶ with small grants for purchase and distribution of bibles, as well as the printing of tracts which usually contain copious extracts from Sacred Scriptures. |

| | |
|---|---|
| Area 3 <i>Economic/community support</i> | |
| <i>Activity</i> | <i>Details</i> |
| <i>More</i> | <i>Solace International</i> supports economic growth as one way of addressing poverty issues. Thus, we have in Kenya mainly – but also to a lesser extent in other countries such as Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, India, Nepal, South Africa and Sri Lanka, supported since 2012, over three hundred small-scale businesses. Our support takes several forms including but not |

¹⁵ The sisters’ surnames have been withheld for data protection purposes.

¹⁶ What the Charity means by ‘evangelistic’ is explained in S.T.A.R. ‘22.



| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <i>Relationships</i> | only cash grants, training and other resources. The Charity also supports several groups to register charitable organisations in their countries of main operation. Rendering such support makes apparent how seriously we take our aim of alleviating poverty. We have made massive contributions to the socioeconomic empowerment of hundreds and maybe thousands ¹⁷ of people – a feat for an organisation with minuscule resources. |
|-----------------------------|--|

| Area 4 <i>Education and training</i> | |
|---|--|
| <i>Activity</i> | <i>Details</i> |
| <i>Seminars and workshops</i> | We believe that it is the Will of God, for people to be well educated, better informed and more empowered. “My People perish” He Says, “from lack of knowledge”. ¹⁸ Thus, it is the position of <i>Solace International</i> that the more educated one is, the better able they would be to serve God optimally by among other things, contributing to the community and doing their best for their loved ones. <i>Solace</i> also holds, that the most effective antidote to the maladies of corruption, poverty and wanton violence (be it domestic, political, religious, ethnic or other) is through education. For this reason, <i>Solace</i> regularly puts on free training programmes. Depending on the topic and space, the programmes last from half a day (e.g. ‘Helping children settle in their new surroundings’) to twelve weeks (e.g. ‘ <i>Solace</i> Enterprise Empowerment Programme’). |

¹⁷ The true figure will never be known. This is not a situation unique to *Solace International*, though: most helpers – be they individual, groups or organisations would find that each time you support one person, you could be supporting many others who depend on them – such as family members and those who might be employed by them – not to mention people whose businesses provide services to the person or entity receiving the charity’s help. Therefore, no matter how you calculate, the numbers of those benefiting directly and indirectly from our work, would be stupendous, to say the least.

¹⁸ Hos 4:6



| | |
|---------------------|--|
| | |
| <i>Books</i> | <p><i>Solace</i> has collected and distributed since 2014, more than seven thousand books. These have come from a myriad of sources including Joseph Dos Santos (the Organisation’s Founder), members of the public, abandoned publications, donated misprints, <i>Solace International</i> purchases, etc. The books tend to be mainly educational with a heavy bias for primary school-age readers. However, we have also distributed a good number of entertainment books such as novels, novellas and periodicals. We believe that reading enhances education, but reading would not be easy if it had to be without entertainment. For this reason, we have not restricted our work in this area to only academic textbooks or Christian religious publications. <i>Solace</i> continues to negotiate with schools and bookshops, both Christian and non-Christian, for more donations. In line with our aim of furthering the Christian Faith, the Organisation has also distributed so far, more than one hundred copies of the Holy Bible.</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| Area 5 | |
| <i>Human rights, religious/racial harmony, equality/diversity</i> | |
| <i>Activity</i> | <i>Details</i> |
| <i>Domestic violence</i> | <p>As most people would probably agree, domestic abuse and domestic violence are serious – although quite complex issues replete with academic, cultural, legal, moral, racial, religious and social connotations which mean that these are viewed and treated differently by various cultures throughout the world. <i>Solace International</i> takes the position nonetheless, that domestic violence and abuse are reprehensible, as well as unacceptable. We work with individuals and communities to raise awareness on this matter. We also do what we can in more practical terms</p> |



| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| | to help victims of domestic violence and abuse. |
| <i>Advocacy services</i> | <i>Solace International</i> takes the position that advocacy is an essential aspect of poverty alleviation. As explained in S.T.A.R. '22, many people are in poverty owing to what we see as 'the voice issue': a lack of ability, skills or other resources needed for projecting a strong voice. Through CVs, letters, phone calls, representation, etc., <i>Solace</i> continues to support members of the public with advocacy. ¹⁹ |
| <i>Peace initiatives</i> | <i>Solace International</i> believes in peace. It is God's Word and Way, that we "seek peace and pursue it", ensuring that "if it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all", this in keeping with the Divine and Eternal Truth that, "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be Called (Children) of God". ²⁰ |

| <i>Miscellaneous</i> | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <i>Activity</i> | <i>Details</i> |
| <i>Family</i> | <i>Solace International</i> recognises that sometimes, when parents have a falling out, children suffer unimaginable physical and mental difficulties. We endeavour to help where we can, such as in reconciling children with estranged or 'lost' parents and getting men to accept responsibility for their children. We work on each case intent on finding resolutions so |

¹⁹ Since 2020, *Solace International* has provided hundreds of individuals and groups with this support. In 2021, the Charity supported ninety-eight (98) people and groups. The number rose drastically last year and continues to rise. Our advocacy initially favoured beneficiaries from the UK but has since widened to include Africa. In keeping with our ambitions as expressed in S.T.A.R. '21. the Charity's advocacy services have now helped over a thousand five hundred (1,500+) beneficiaries.

²⁰ Respectively: Ps 34:14, Rom 12:18 and Matt 5:9.



| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| | children would receive from their fathers, the support which should be theirs by Divine Right. ²¹ |
| <i>Expanded reach</i> | <p>A third straight year has seen <i>Solace International</i> successfully generate revenue from outside the UK. Other than pledged support from <i>WoW Sanctuary</i>,²² which petered out without explanation, we have had support from individuals in Kenya and Nigeria.</p> <p>Bangladesh has this year, become the newest – but sole addition to our list of countries where at least one person has benefited from <i>Solace</i>. We have however been unable to offer support for anyone in Lebanon, Peru, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines or Venezuela, despite our eagerness to do so.</p> |

²¹ Our position on the matter is rooted not in human rights and safeguarding rules, legislation or guidance, but in God's Will as Expressed in Sacred Scriptures such as the Holy Spirit's Words Delivered to us through His Servant Paul when in 1Timothy 5:8 we are Admonished that: "But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the Faith and is worse than an unbeliever" (New King James Version – NKJV).

²² A church based in Juja, Kenya.



OVERRIDING CONSIDERATION

While it is conventional among charitable organisations to focus on specific groups, projects and interests or causes, it is still the case, that *Solace* works with individuals as well as communities in support of those who though in need, fail to meet specific criteria and so are unable to receive the required help. We endeavour where possible, to identify such individuals – then provide relevant support within reason and according to our means.



POINTS TO PONDER...

The foregoing bright points are merely a cross-section of a wider picture which contains many more. *Solace International* remains firm, focused and fired up as we seek by the Grace of God and for His Glory, to keep labouring in the Divine Vineyard, while receiving in all humility, such Victories as it Pleases Him to Grant us – keeping in mind that there are – and always shall be, many other organisations which as the LORD would Have it – although better-resourced than *Solace International*, have been unable to achieve this much – as well as other organisations with even far less resources than God has Granted this Organisation, which have performed much better than *Solace International*. That said, successes are always worth celebrating – no matter what size, shade, or shape they assume. Glory be to the Almighty and Eternal Father of Lights, with Whom there is no shadow of turning²³ – and by Whom we are Guided to do even better – no matter the causes we may have for scratching our heads...

²³ James 1:17.





The Solace journey thus far: Scratching our heads

In His Infinite Wisdom, it has Pleased the LORD that we are humbled by several areas for improvement, a few of which are reoutlined below.

| <i>Area – Alleviation of poverty²⁴</i> | |
|---|--|
| <i>Activity/Project</i> | <i>Details</i> |
| <i>Material and cash reliefs</i> | In addition to the issues highlighted in S.T.A.R. '22, the Charity has failed to recover monies lent to a beneficiary in Kenya. The giving of loans has long since been discontinued by the Charity, although small cash grants have continued. We have however not been able to increase the amount, level or scope of our reliefs. |

| <i>Area – Economic/community support</i> | |
|--|--|
| <i>Activity</i> | <i>Details</i> |
| <i>Collaborations</i> | <i>Solace</i> has long recognised that although interagency collaboration is replete with drawbacks, it is also vital to a charity's effectiveness. However, we continue to find that partnerships are very challenging to build or maintain and many of those with whom we are engaged, are not |

²⁴ As with the previous section, these 'Areas' are numbered not to reflect any particular order or priority list, but for ease of reading and reference.



| | |
|--|--|
| | always reliable partners. In addition, negotiations for new partnerships and collaboration still seem to take an inordinate amount of time. Put simply: we are yet to find a winning formula for building lasting and fruitful relationships with other organisations. |
|--|--|

| Area – Human rights, religious/racial harmony, equality/diversity | |
|--|--|
| Activity | Details |
| Funding | As pointed out in previous S.T.A.R.s, <i>Solace International</i> does not receive funding from any source. If we are to achieve our objectives, the Charity must find a way to change this situation. ²⁵ |

| Area: General | |
|----------------------|---|
| Activity | Details |
| Miscellaneous | There are several other issues which the Charity is having to deal with, most of which are likely Deo Volente, to be discussed in S.T.A.R. '24. Our biggest challenge remains it must be said however, not funding – huge as that problem most certainly is. Instead, our stark shortage of the right personnel is literally suffocating and crushing the Charity. We need, are seeking and continually pray for, individuals with drive, willingness and dependability, who also have compassion for people, genuine interest in <i>Solace</i> and its work, as well as above all, an overwhelming and demonstrable desire to please and honour the LORD through the Ministry before Him, of <i>Solace International</i> . |

²⁵ This is especially important since the Charity currently depends heavily on the Founder – a freelance writer, who uses his skills to raise money for the Organisation.





We keep in mind...

...that as we are left scratching our heads is nothing but a natural part of the journey to success. We trust in the LORD Whom we serve and by His Greatness alone, we have come this far, for brighter days ahead. We soldier on

“BEING CONFIDENT OF THIS VERY THING, THAT HE WHO HAS BEGUN A GOOD WORK IN YOU WILL COMPLETE IT UNTIL THE DAY OF JESUS CHRIST” (PHILIPPIANS 1:6).

We know for certain, that the LORD in Accordance with His Promises, will always Look after us as He has Done – not just for us, but for countless others. Amen!





Conclusion

Always keeping in mind that the LORD can – and mostly Does, Further the Gospel (as well as Do whatever else He Pleases) without our input, we are as ever before, quite glad as well as humbled and honoured, to serve Him and His People in whatever way it Please Him that we do.

Being able to by the Grace of God, impact the lives of so many people across the world, despite resource shortage and other problems will always be a source of strength and pride to us. We are also thankful for the Privilege of being one of the Vessels God Uses to Display His Excellence.

Challenges or not, *Solace International* continues to hope for more mountains, greater triumphs and better times as we serve the LORD by helping the poor and needy as He Demands. It is our hope and prayer, that we shall remain not only humble and compassionate, but grateful to Him.





Solace International Financial report for S.T.A.R. '23

| <i>Month</i> | <i>In (£)</i> | <i>Out (£)</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| December 21 | 1265 | 1300 | -35 |
| January 22 | 1375 | 1209 | 166 |
| February 22 | 1418 | 1170 | 248 |
| March 22 | 980 | 858 | 122 |
| April 22 | 1632 | 1285 | 347 |
| May 22 | 1265 | 1215 | 50 |
| June 22 | 448 | 397 | 51 |
| July 22 | 150 | 80 | 70 |
| August 22 | 360 | 240 | 120 |
| September 22 | 530 | 280 | 250 |
| October 22 | 770 | 890 | -120 |
| November 22 | 940 | 690 | 250 |
| <i>TOTAL</i> | <i>11,133</i> | <i>9,614</i> | <i>1,519</i> |

GRAND TOTAL (or: £11,133 - £9,614) = £1,519







CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Solace International
Solace International

No (if any)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|----|------------------------------|
| For the period from | 01-Oct-19 01-Oct-21 | To | Period end date 30-Sep-22 |
|---------------------|------------------------|----|------------------------------|

Section A Receipts and payments

| | Unrestricted funds to the nearest £ | Restricted funds to the nearest £ | Endowment funds to the nearest £ | Total funds to the nearest £ | Last year to the nearest £ |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| A1 Receipts | | | | | |
| Dec-21 | 1,265 | - | - | 1,265 | 460 |
| Jan-22 | 1,375 | - | - | 1,375 | 2,072 |
| Feb-22 | 1,418 | - | - | 1,418 | 50 |
| Mar-22 | 980 | - | - | 980 | 997 |
| Apr-22 | 1,632 | - | - | 1,632 | 595 |
| May-22 | 1,265 | - | - | 1,265 | 1,176 |
| Jun-22 | 448 | - | - | 448 | 481 |
| Jul-22 | 150 | - | - | 150 | 736 |
| Aug-22 | 360 | - | - | 360 | 691 |
| Sep-22 | 530 | - | - | 530 | 1,475 |
| Oct-22 | 770 | - | - | 770 | 1,326 |
| Nov-22 | 940 | - | - | 940 | 835 |
| Sub total (Gross income for AR) | 11,133 | - | - | 11,133 | 10,894 |
| A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table). | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total receipts | 11,133 | - | - | 11,133 | 10,894 |
| A3 Payments | | | | | |
| Dec-21 | 1,300 | - | - | 1,300 | |
| Jan-22 | 1,209 | - | - | 1,209 | 928 |
| Feb-22 | 1,170 | - | - | 1,170 | 430 |
| Mar-22 | 858 | - | - | 858 | 1,228 |
| Apr-22 | 1,285 | - | - | 1,285 | 589 |
| May-22 | 1,215 | - | - | 1,215 | 663 |
| Jun-22 | 397 | - | - | 397 | 102 |
| Jul-22 | 80 | - | - | 80 | 1,339 |
| Aug-Nov 22 | 2,100 | - | - | 2,100 | 4,605 |
| Sub total | 9,614 | - | - | 9,614 | 9,884 |
| A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table) | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total payments | 9,614 | - | - | 9,614 | 9,884 |
| Net of receipts/(payments) | 1,519 | - | - | 1,519 | 1,010 |
| A5 Transfers between funds | | - | - | - | - |
| A6 Cash funds last year end | | - | - | - | - |
| Cash funds this year end | 1,519 | - | - | 1,519 | 1,010 |

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of th

| Categories | Details | Unrestricted funds to nearest £ | Restricted funds to nearest £ | Endowment funds to nearest £ |
|---|--|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| B1 Cash funds | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | Total cash funds | - | - | - |
| | (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)) | Agreement Error | OK | OK |
| B2 Other monetary assets | Details | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| B3 Investment assets | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| B5 Liabilities | Details | Fund to which liability relates | Amount due (optional) | When due (optional) |
| | | | - | |
| | | | - | |
| | | | - | |
| | | | - | |
| Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees | Signature | Print Name | Date of approval | |
| | N. Lamptey S. Wamweya | Naina Lamptey Samuel Wamweya | 22-Sep-21 | |
| | | | 22-Sep-21 | |

SOLACE INTERNATIONAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1162864

Accounts

Solace International

www.solace.international

(England and Wales Registered Charity No. 1162864)



(“Solace”)



The 2022 Solace International Trustees Annual Report (S.T.A.R. '22)



Solace

Trustees Annual Report (2022)



S.T.A.R. '22



The 2022 Solace International Trustees Annual Report (S.T.A.R. '22)



For obvious reasons, parts of this Report mirror previous S.T.A.R.s

In consideration of the Organisation's international audience, this Report is presented online during our 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM)



The 2022 Solace International Trustees Annual Report (S.T.A.R. '22)



In line with established *Solace International* organisational practice,
this document also doubles as
the Organisation's Annual General Report for the Year 2022, Anno Domini.





*“But those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength.
They shall mount up with wings like eagles...run and not be weary.
They shall walk and not faint” –Isaiah 40:31.*





His Steady Hand

The LORD has Brought us this far
And farther Takes us still
Raising always the Bar
In Keeping with His Will.

The road has been so rocky
And air around us mean
Yet God has Made us stocky
With Strength and Power unseen.

And so grateful we stand
Faithful on we move
Serving at His Command
His Solace and Love to prove.

– Joseph Dos Santos



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¹ This unique style of laying out a Table of Contents is the brainchild of Joseph E.G.D. Dos Santos (2019, 2020) and therefore duly acknowledged.





Our Mission Statement

Guided by the Holy Spirit, *Solace International's* Mission is to provide an excellent support service which positively impacts lives and in so doing, contributes to a better world, thus glorifying God.





Foreword

Welcome to the Solace Trustees Annual Report for 2022 (S.T.A.R. '22). This report outlines by the Grace of God, *Solace International's* progress in achieving its aims and objectives during the preceding year. As with its predecessors, although S.T.A.R. '22 is a standalone document in its own right, the report can be read as continuing on from prior S.T.A.R.s. Thus, to the Glory of the LORD God Almighty – Sole, Everlasting and Omnipotent Solace of all Creation – in His Wisdom and by His Love, S.T.A.R. '22 uses in part or in whole at various points throughout, portions and sections which can also be found in previous reports – including but not only, S.T.A.R. '21. It is our hope in Him, that doing this will remain the convention for future S.T.A.R.s – for as long as it Pleases God that *Solace International* abides. We further pray and hope the LORD is Pleased to Grant that *Solace International* shall long outlive its Founder, abiding through all generations up until the Second Coming.²

² See Matthew 25:31-46; Luke 1:9-11, etc.





In His Footsteps

Like our Unfailing Role Model Jesus, the Only Christ, we aim to be – but positively so, different things to different people. Each of our actions will mainly seek to enhance the holistic advancement of any communities wherein as it Pleases the LORD, *Solace* is engaged – whether directly or otherwise. As was the Wont of our Lord Jesus Christ in Whose Footsteps we follow, *Solace* will always put the service user/client/customer (‘needy’) first; the needy will always be who, as well as what, drives us on and our services will generally be moulded around the needy as Guided by the Holy Spirit, Who alone Understands to Perfection our every need as individuals and as people. As our Unfailing Role Model Christ also Did, *Solace* will always aim for the highest standards with God the Highest Standard, our Guide and Focus. We want to be unique in everything we are engaged in; we want to be well-known for our overall excellent quality of service and marvellous personnel; we want to maintain an unassailable position among the best in our chosen fields of endeavour. Simply put, we just want to be the best.

By the Grace of God, we will be the best.



Resolution

Following its meeting for Summer 2022, the *Solace International* Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as ‘The Solace Board’, ‘The Board’ or ‘The Trustees’) resolved as follows:

- 1.) The Report covered by this resolution and contained in this document shall form the main body of the Organisation’s Annual Report for 2022;
- 2.) The Report shall be designated and known as ‘The 2022 *Solace International* Trustees Annual Report’ or S.T.A.R. ‘22;
- 3.) The Report shall be presented online as part of the 2022 *Solace International* Annual General Meeting (AGM);
- 4.) The 2022 AGM shall occur before the halfway point of 2022’s last quarter;
- 5.) In keeping with *Solace International* (‘Solace’) convention established in the Year of our Lord 2017, S.T.A.R. ‘22 shall be deemed officially complete and therefore closed, after Christmas Day, 2022;
- 6.) Official completion and closure shall include insertion of the accompanying report from *InterSolace Organisation* (‘Solace Kenya’) and any other Solace branch or affiliate in other countries as the case may be;
- 7.) It shall only be declared complete and closed also, once there is no possibility of updates as requested or mandated by the Governments (or relevant departments) of the countries where *Solace* actively operates.

Signed..... *D.N. Mnyasa*

Dephrose N. Mnyasa (for: Board of Trustees, *Solace International*)



SOLACE INTERNATIONAL: The Organisation in brief

Some information about *Solace International* is provided below in 10 bullet points:

- 1) The word "solace" is nearly identical with words like: aid, assistance, calming, comfort, compassion, motivation, refuge, relief, serenity, soothing, support and tranquil.
- 2) Our name therefore indicates our primary goal of making Life easier for others.
- 3) *Solace International* was created in the UK, but it started off by functioning in Kenya in 2012, after which it was registered in both the United Kingdom (UK) and Kenya.
- 4) Solace's official name in Kenya is 'InterSolace Organisation'.
- 5) Although not part of any denomination, *Solace* is by the Grace of God, run on Holy Bible principles. We nevertheless conduct Christian religious services and activities (in the UK and to a lesser extent, in Kenya).
- 6) We continue to cooperate with others (private citizens, institutions, or communities) because we equally value partnership.
- 7) We want to combat inequality and advance the Christian Faith.
- 8) We also want to have an impact on at least one life in every country and region on Earth.
- 9) The globe is made up of more than two hundred (200+) countries and regions. So far, *Solace International* has only provided assistance to individuals and organisations in forty nations.³ As such, there is obviously so much to be done.
- 10) But what will *Solace International* do when we God Willing, have eventually managed to help at least one person in all 200+ places? By the Grace of God, once we are sure we have touched at least one life in every nation and territory on Earth, we shall start the process again, seeking to help or support someone in each of the world's 200+ nations and territories.

³ [Appendix B has more information.](#)



The Organisation's charitable objects

The objects of *Solace* are:

- a.) To benefit the public;
- b.) The advancement of the Christian Faith and
- c.) The prevention or relief of poverty.

Its aims and activities

We seek to honour God the Almighty Creator of All Life and Owner of Everything. We also seek to and testify of His Greatness and Goodness through our actions and activities in that light – and hoping to work in collaboration with other similar-minded groups or individuals, the aims of *Solace International* are chiefly to:

- Be and remain, an international organisation operating across several continents of the world;
- Further the Christian Faith through the use of apostolic and deaconate means;
- Empower people and groups against poverty in all its forms, using a prudent but radical understanding of 'poverty'.



Activities (What the charity does)

Solace in furtherance of its aims, engages in general charitable purposes as well as the following:

- a.) Education and training;
- b.) Prevention and relief of poverty;
- c.) Religious activities;
- d.) Economic/community development;
- e.) Promotion and support of diversity, equality, human rights, racial harmony, and religious tolerance.

Who the charity helps

Solace International helps the general public and Mankind. In other words, we are not particular or discriminatory about who we help. The help we give is however subject to variables, such as:

- (1.) The availability of relevant human, financial and other resources;
- (2.) Strict criteria as set forth in the Organisation's Constitution, Beneficiaries Policy and/or other governing documents;
- (3.) Any other criteria laid down by the *Solace International* Board of Trustees.



How the charity works

There are several ways by which we work to achieve the above, the main one being that:

- a.) *Solace International* makes grants to individuals and to organisations;⁴
- b.) We also develop and provide human resources;
- c.) *Solace International* offers governance and capacity-building support;
- d.) We are engaged in community-relevant training delivery, business support, as well as the facilitation of seminars and workshops;
- e.) Finally, *Solace* provides advocacy and advice/information as well as other services relevant to individuals in need and to communities.⁵

In keeping with practice established in the original *Solace* Trustees Annual Report and maintained thereafter, as well as for ease of communication, this report uses the information bulleted under *Activities: What the Charity does* as subheadings in the two sections ('Successes', 'Failures') below. Also, in line with established *Solace* convention, the information under the other subheadings (e.g. 'Who the charity helps', 'How the charity works' and 'The Organisation's charitable objects', etc.) contributes to fleshing out the report in the relevant sections.

⁴ We do not offer loans. We have experimented with doing so (offering interest-free loans in support of small businesses and serious family challenges), but discovered that lending money although potentially of greater value/benefit to those who receive them, only provides brief respite. Worse still, it generates levels of dishonesty and ill-will almost impossible to describe – or even understand. Lending is in our opinion, for a small charity such as this, more trouble than it is worth and so the decision has been made to ditch the idea.

⁵ This includes signposting to other entities which are relevant to beneficiaries' needs.





The Solace journey thus far: Pumping our fists

Sweetly as always, the LORD God Favours *Solace International* with the Honour of Allowing us to enjoy success in myriad areas – even as to His Glory and in His Strength, we improve on strides already made in years of yore. *Solace International* is at best, a Vessel – a Tool – an Instrument in the Hands of the Master of all Creation Who has no shortage of Resources – and so Honours us by Using us, since while He can Do without us (and indeed everyone else), not even one of us can manage without Him. In that light, the list of what for want of a better – and humbler word we would refer to as ‘successes’, are outlined below, keeping in mind the Undying Words of our Lord Jesus Christ, as Recorded in the Holy Gospel according to the Evangelist Luke:

**IT IS THE SAME WITH YOU; WHEN YOU HAVE DONE ALL YOU
HAVE BEEN TOLD TO DO, SAY: 'WE ARE ORDINARY
SERVANTS; WE HAVE ONLY DONE OUR DUTY.'**⁶

One important aspect of note as indicated in S.T.A.R.s '20 and '21, is that the enormity of what by the Ever-Bountiful Hand of God, we have so far achieved, is better understood when juxtaposed against *Solace International's* continued lack of corporate funding, regular donations or high publicity. It is simply impossible for us to ever appreciate the LORD Almighty enough regarding His Goodness as Demonstrated through this charity in the following pages. As you read, please keep in mind that the key barometer by which *Solace International* evaluates its achievements, regrets and areas for improvement is the Organisation's plans for each year in furtherance of its aims and objects.

⁶ Lk 17:10 (GNT)



Area 1(a)⁷

The alleviation of poverty – UK, etc.

| <i>Activity</i> | <i>Details</i> |
|------------------------|--|
| <i>Foodbank</i> | <p>From the evidence presented by a variety of sources, the end of 2020, witnessed a worsening of already dire UK-wide poverty levels, due among other factors, to the COVID-19 pandemic. Poverty indicators such as begging, dumpster-diving, food bank visits, rough-sleeping and shoplifting, were especially on the rise.</p> <p>One consensus finding shared by researchers as previously noted, is that many UK families struggle to afford decent meals – even where they have one or more gainfully employed breadwinners. In many cases, families are having to make the ‘heat-or-eat’ choice, where they must sometimes sacrifice decent or adequate meals in favour of paying bills.</p> <p>Of course, 2022’s unprecedented inflation rates have made things worse, even hampering the ability of charities like <i>Solace International</i> to attract donations (Civil Society and Legraien, 2022; Joseph Rowntree Foundation [JRF], 2021; Mitchell Charlesworth, 2022; Office For National Statistics [ONS] and Keane, 2022; Poverty and Social Exclusion [PSE], 2022).</p> <p>Due to the steadily weakening power of the usually all-conquering Pound</p> |

⁷ The ‘Areas’ have been numbered for ease of reading and reference. The numbering does not reflect any specific order or priority list.



Foodbank

Sterling, our ability to reach more of the needy through stretching each Pound raised, has shrunken – particularly in those countries outside the UK and Europe where, by the Grace of God and to His Glory, we continue to support many people.⁸

By the Grace of God, food banks and other food provisions (e.g. soup kitchens and food hubs) abound. Nonetheless, some families are too embarrassed or even afraid to access these free facilities. Such reticence unfortunately and unwittingly generates an added vulnerability by cutting them off from a vital and free/ low-cost source of sorely needed support.

Accordingly, *Solace International* has supported several organisations with food donations – including but not only: the *H2G Food Hub*, *Croydon BME Forum* and *St. Peter’s Church of England Parish* (SW16). We are still seeking to establish if not in 2022 – then in 2023, a soup kitchen which could also serve as a one-stop shop for support in other areas.

Noting that food poverty is usually an indicator of other serious quality-of-life-affecting issues, we anticipate that the proposed one-stop shop would offer support such as: employability support, benefits advice and signposting. Furthermore, the Organisation continues to operate its flagship *Foodbank With A Difference*.⁹

⁸ Please refer to the Appendices for a full list of the countries in question.

⁹ This involves operating a floating foodbank. The way it works is that we go in search of the needy, taking food to th

em, instead of waiting for them to find us. We identify them through a variety of contacts.



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| <p><i>Foodbank</i></p> | <p>Keenly, we are in doing so, walking in the Footsteps of Jesus Christ our Chief Role Model Who did not always Wait for those in need to approach Him. As the Gospels Show, He more often than not, Moved around, Making Himself both Available and Accessible to those in need of His Matchless and Boundless Goodness.</p> <p>Since this year a level of heatwaves that the country had not seen since around 1976,¹⁰ <i>Solace International</i> visited parks and distributed bottles of water which we had cooled overnight to ensure it provided both physical and psychological relief by respectively cooling parched throats and giving a sense of relief to those who seek solace from the heat.</p> |
| <p><i>School support</i></p> | <p><i>Solace</i> continues to support schools in Kenya, to educate orphans and children from disadvantaged backgrounds. The level of support has however been somewhat scaled down.</p> <p>Coming to this decision was in deference both to the Organisation’s lack of resources, as well as the Organisation’s decision to reduce its involvement and presence in Kenya, from last year (i.e. 2021).¹¹</p> <p>However, <i>Solace’s</i> schools support varies, depending on the institution – and can include supporting children through school by paying for their</p> |

¹⁰ According to the Met Office.

¹¹ The *Solace International* Board of Trustees later rescinded this decision as a result of which, Kenya continues to be the main focus of our work and resources. This situation is to be however, regularly reviewed between now and 2025 when by the Grace of God, a final decision on the matter would have been made.



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| <p><i>School support</i></p> | <p>school fees, school uniforms and other school-related needs.</p> <p>Other support includes availing them and/or their families, money for extra tuition, school meals and boarding. So far,¹² it has Pleased God that in Kenya, we have supported children, schools and teachers.</p> <p>Our support reached Busia, Eldoret, Kakamega, Kilifi, Machakos, Malindi, Nairobi, Nakuru and Waitamu. We have supported over fifty children, two teachers and five schools, with money, books and pastoral care.</p> <p>Less intensely, we have also supported families with their children's schooling and other needs, in Bulgaria, Ghana, India, Malawi, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Africa and Uganda.</p> <p>Support we have sent to other countries – most notably Congo-Kinshasa and Botswana, has while aimed at children and families, not necessarily been with an eye to schooling or education. Discussions are also ongoing for support of school children in Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, although for reasons explained elsewhere, our negotiations to support school children in Vietnam, have stalled.</p> |
| <p><i>Poverty-busting</i></p> | <p>Alleviation of poverty is one of our key aims. thus, <i>Solace</i> continues to support parents experiencing poverty to deal with their situation by breaking free from the cycle/bondage of poverty.</p> |

¹² That is, as at mid-2022.



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| <p><i>Poverty-busting</i></p> | <p>Because of the current global economic and health situations, our priority is to generalise our support in this area, on a case-by-case basis. Consequently, small cash grants have been made in the UK and elsewhere.</p> <p>Coping with what has come to be known as ‘the new normal’ (Maragakis, 2020), the Organisation’s flagship <i>Solace</i> Enterprise Empowerment Programme (S.E.E.P.) which was temporarily shelved, has resumed.</p> <p>Doing this helps us support as many people as we we reasonably can, to reject poverty and instead flourish, by breaking free through enterprise and self-employment wherever possible.</p> <p>Enterprise empowerment is to the Glory of God Whose Will it is that we “prosper and be in good health”¹³. The SEEP will however as noted hitherto, shortly begin to diversify its content.</p> <p>Following this new approach is with the aim of making S.E.E.P. more beneficial to a wider populace. We are also developing an online version which would be cost-effective for us and accessible to even more people.</p> |
| <p><i>Collaboration</i></p> | <p>Partnership and other forms of cooperation are an essential resource to any charitable organisation. As such, we are building relationships with</p> |

¹³ 3Jn: 2



Collaboration

other organisations – including academic, charitable, corporate, religious and unregistered community groups both in Kenya and the UK.¹⁴

An advantage here is that it helps reach even more people without having to take on the immense costs of registration and opening offices everywhere. It is also a chance to support other organisations towards achieving their own visions, aims and objectives.

Many individuals and groups have shown the efficacy of a collaborative approach to supporting those in need. We are for instance, working with groups and individuals in Uganda, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Nigeria, Nepal, Namibia, Kenya, Ghana, Botswana and elsewhere.

Of course, in light of current resource realities which the Organisation is currently having to live with, the collaborations have been largely informal and even indirect – such as some or all of our arrangements in Botswana, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Nepal, Pakistan, etc.

Joining up with entities from other lands with their different cultures, eccentricities, perspectives, prejudices and sensitivities presents unique challenges – some exciting and others dampening, especially with some of the arrangements still at a very basic stage.

¹⁴ Our letterheads reflect this as we tend to include at the bases of the documents, logos of most organisations we have worked or partnered with. Some groups are yet to be added though. They will be inserted as time goes on, subject to approval by the Trustees acting on the advice of the Chief Administrator.



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| <i>Collaboration</i> | All the same, interagency working remains a key aspect of <i>Solace International's</i> modus operandi. In the UK and Kenya, <i>Solace</i> continues to be a part of and/or engaged with a wide variety of organisations both religious and secular. We do not partner with political groups. ¹⁵ |
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| Area 1(b) <i>The alleviation of poverty – Kenya and elsewhere</i> | |
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| <i>Activity</i> | Details |
| <i>Street kids</i> | <p><i>Chokora</i> or ‘street kids’, as they are known in Kenya, are minors (typically aged between six and fifteen years old) who for a variety of reasons, are forced to live on the streets.</p> <p>Homelessness among Kenya minors is more an urban issue – especially in the capital, Nairobi. Becoming a <i>chokora</i> often results from abuse or crime, being orphaned, running away from home, drug addiction, etc.</p> |

¹⁵ Organisations and groups we have worked with however fleetingly, include but do not stop at the following: **UK:** ACTS Church, Croydon BME Forum, Croydon Voluntary Association (CVA), Faiths Together in Croydon (FTIC), Heads2Gether (H2G), Kingston Voluntary Action (KVA), Lambeth Voluntary Action Council (LVAC), Restoration World Revival Church (RWRC); **India:** Jetsons; **Kenya:** Born Again Revival Tabernacle International, Kenya (BARTI-K), Deliverance Church International, Groots-Mathare, Hope Africa Community, SOS Children’s Village Buruburu; **Nepal:** Rakesh Women’s and Community Empowerment Group; **Pakistan:** Sadia Gill.



Street kids

On most days no matter the weather, *chokoras* can be spotted moving around in dishevelled packs of five-to-fifty strong. They are particularly vulnerable to lynch mobs.¹⁶ – as well as paedophiles and violent criminals.

Kids in *chokora* situations are also usually easy targets for human traffickers, organ harvesters. Criminal and terror gangs also find them easy candidates for recruitment into nefarious networks.

Only limited supported can be offered;¹⁷ but this is wide-ranging nonetheless as it includes: food and money, as well as companionship which in the absence of formal counselling, has proven quite helpful.¹⁸

Relevant to the issue of *chokoras* still, it is noted in passing that last year,

¹⁶ This is especially the case when a theft or other petty crime has occurred, but the perpetrators are unknown or unclear. There remains an awareness on our part and on the part of other entities doing what they can to help these unfortunate children, that when accused of crimes, the *chokoras* are not always innocent. In their desperation, they have been known to commit serious crimes such as violent robbery, severe assaults and the occasional rape. However, *Solace* takes the position that nonetheless, street children are as a whole (despite the unfortunate and opprobrious actions of a minority within the group), quite vulnerable, being easy targets for every kind of criminal and violent person (which in part explains why street children tend to move in packs...safety in numbers). Whatever they may rightly or wrongly be accused of, it must also be remembered, that street kids like all other children, are minors.

¹⁷ This is because the problem of *chokoras* is complex, deep and in need of long-term engagement – the type which only governments (in this case, the Kenya Government and devolved governments running the counties) can handle since the issue requires a huge array and amount of resources.

¹⁸ Especially in the cold and lonely hours of the night when most law-abiding adults are home – and law enforcement agents are scarce – leaving the streets bare, dangerous, as well as lonely for any children at all – but particularly for the country's street children.



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| <p><i>Street kids</i></p> | <p><i>Solace International</i> appointed an official whose role is to explore ways of supporting children and parents in need.</p> <p>Among the foci for the new role is the provision of more bespoke support for those children and families experiencing levels of need which force them onto the streets to beg or scavenge for sustenance.</p> |
| <p><i>Clothes supply</i></p> | <p>Continually from 2014 up to the summer of 2022, <i>Solace International</i> has supplied more than ten thousand free clothes and shoes to those in need. We have targeted various countries with this support.</p> <p>Last year, our manner of distribution changed so we could reach even more individuals in need. Our previous (quite generous) system often allowed some people to receive too many clothes and others too few.</p> <p>Our stock of second-hand clothes in Kenya has not been replenished however, due to the exorbitant cost of shipping. We have focused instead on sharing our stock with groups within the UK.¹⁹</p> <p>The supply of free clothes is a very important aspect of our work in the prevention or relief of poverty in countries outside the United Kingdom. where so many people live below the poverty line.</p> <p>Here it is also noted that a small percentage of our clothes was distributed</p> |

¹⁹ We have especially made clothes donations to those concerned with the flood situation in Pakistan and the economic collapse of Sri Lanka.



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| <p><i>Clothes supply</i></p> | <p>to people living in the UK, for just the third time in our history. There is a growing trend of people coming to <i>Solace International</i> for clothes.</p> <p>Even though we have been happy to help – to the best of our ability, the only other times when such a demand in the UK for our free clothes occurred were in 2015 and last year.²⁰</p> <p><i>Solace International</i> continues to monitor the situation, with a view to increasing the percentage of clothes donations we reserve from our stock, even though this might mean fewer clothes for other countries.</p> |
| <p><i>Cash grants</i></p> | <p>As already indicated, <i>Solace International</i> continues to make cash grants to those in need. The Organisation does not however, give loans.</p> <p>Beneficiaries and other interested entities can find our reasons for this in S.T.A.R. '20 and S.T.A.R. '21.</p> <p>Cash grants we give are usually small.</p> <p>Duly, all the grants we make are subject to the availability of funds and strict criteria as laid out in our Beneficiaries Policy.</p> <p>Even with the current economic malaise sweeping the globe, monies are</p> |

²⁰ In 2015, we had many people come to us for food needs, but many of them also asked for clothes. The 2022 upsurge is however, attributable to THE COVID-19 pandemic.



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| <i>Cash grants</i> | <p>not disbursed without the approval of the <i>Solace</i> Board of Trustees.</p> <p>For this year so far, <i>Solace International</i> has made grants to beneficiaries from and/or in eight countries.</p> <p>God in His Loving Kindness has Let our grants benefit: Congo-Kinshasa, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, India, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.</p> |
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| Area 2 | |
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| <i>Religious activities</i> | |
| <i>Activity</i> | <i>Details</i> |
| <i>The 'Towards' Reports</i> | <p>To God's Glory, the 'Towards' reports are a unique capacity-building tool aimed at supporting churches, pursuant to our aim of furthering the Christian Faith. As stated in previous S.T.A.R.s, every year since 2012, we have contributed to the capacity-building of at least one church.</p> <p>Our support is wide-ranging – from setting up a youth/teens ministry,²¹ through observing what could be going wrong in a church and suggesting ways to put it right,²² to simple church planting²³ - as well as general advice</p> |

²¹ *Winners Chapel*, Malindi, Kenya.

²² *Hope Africa* (now *Hope Community*), Syiokimau, Kenya.

²³ *Born Again Revival Tabernacle International* (BARTI), Maziwa, Kenya.



***The ‘Towards’
Reports***

for Christian groups focusing on women²⁴ and/or children.²⁵

With God’s Matchless Help, we have so far provided such support for around fifteen churches and Christian groups or ministries. Where appropriate, the support would include a report the title of which begins²⁶ with the word: ‘Towards’.

Among other benefits, the reports give deep insight from a neutral point to church leaders, on how they may improve their usually already great services. For *Solace*, the reports allow us to build, maintain and present a colourful portfolio of our work in this unique area of Christian ministry.

Research conducted by the relevant churches and Christian groups in the future, may also find that our ‘Towards’ reports are a very good place to start, or that the reports can at least furnish the researcher with some new insights regarding the church-related issue(s) under study.

During germination and development, a Christian organisations may find the unique tool of a neutral outsider’s keen eye inimitably valuable as the organisation seeks to glorify God and meet people’s expectations through the work they do in His Name, by His Grace and to His Glory.

Strong though their bias is for Christian organisations, the ‘Towards’

²⁴ Rakesh Ministries, Nepal.

²⁵ Jetsons Ministry for Children, Tamil Nadu, India.

²⁶ e.g. ‘Towards A Better Youth Ministry’, ‘Towards Clearer Communication’, ‘Towards A Stronger Church’, etc.



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| <p><i>The ‘Towards’ Reports</i></p> | <p>reports are however not restricted to supporting only Christian entities. In 2016 for instance, we prepared one for <i>Asbleys Hair and Beauty Academy</i> (Kenya), doing the same in 2020, for <i>Heads2gether</i> aka ‘H2G’ (UK).</p> |
| <p><i>Preaching engagements</i></p> | <p>Although we are an intrinsic an inextricable part of the Church – the Bride of Jesus Christ, <i>Solace International</i> does not refer to itself as a church and is not affiliated to any church/denomination.</p> <p>Be that as it may, our work is centred on furthering the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This has brought us to the attention of several Christian leaders who have responded largely positively.</p> <p>Consequently, some churches have honoured our Founder and by extension, <i>Solace International</i>, with the privilege of speaking God’s Word from their pulpits, altars, sanctuaries and other exclusive platforms.</p> <p>During 2021 alone, there were over ten such engagements – and since 2012, there have been more than one hundred. We appreciate this greatly – especially since some church leaderships have also been hostile to us.</p> <p>Even so, to share the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, <i>Solace International</i> does not rely on any church’s goodwill; we have our own Christian fora e.g. <i>WhatsApp</i>-based daily preaching and prayer platforms.</p> |



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| <p><i>Evangelisation</i></p> | <p>For this aspect of our work in furthering the Christian Faith, <i>Solace</i> continues to work with other entities in reaching out to God’s People on the streets of not only Kenya and the United Kingdom, but Botswana, Ghana, India, Jamaica, Nigeria, Nepal, Pakistan, Portugal, Sri Lanka, South Africa and Uganda.</p> <p>Going forward, we are acting on our conviction that aside from preaching, there are numerous other ways of spreading the Gospel. In that light, our training programmes generally contain Bible-based material, although wherever and whenever possible, we are keen to explore and develop non-Bible-based alternatives.</p> |
| <p><i>Bible distribution</i></p> | <p>Here and there, <i>Solace</i> continues to acquire through a variety of means including purchases and donations, copies and versions of the Holy Bible which are then distributed free of charge, to those who need but cannot afford to buy them.</p> <p>In 2019, <i>Solace International</i> received from <i>St Francis (Church of England) Parish</i>, Monks Hill (Selsdon, Surrey), the generous donation of ten bibles – wonderful gifts which were duly passed on, to those who needed them. We are finding that the need for bibles has never been so dire.²⁷</p> <p>Joining up with various evangelistic groups²⁸ in informal arrangements, allows us to also make grants towards the purchase and distribution of</p> |

²⁷ Especially in these truly tough times.

²⁸ When we say ‘evangelistic’ we do not refer to a formal or semi-formal group such as Evangelicals, the *Evangelical Alliance* or churches and groups with words such as ‘evangel’, ‘evangelise’, ‘evangelism’, ‘evangelist’, ‘evangelistic’, etc., in their names. Instead, we are referring to any groups – whatever their names, which are actively engaged in bringing the Gospel and the Love of God through Jesus Christ, to people in



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| <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Bible distribution</i></p> | <p>bibles, as well as the printing of tracts which usually contain copious extracts from Sacred Scriptures.</p> <p>Keeping in mind that the LORD can – and mostly Does, Further the Gospel (as well as Do whatever else He Pleases) without our input, we are as always, quite glad as well as humbled and honoured, to serve the LORD and His People in whatever way it Please Him that we can.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Other support for the wider Church</i></p> | <p>Like we have been at pains to explain through this report and in its forbears, although we are not always party to any formal agreement or arrangement, <i>Solace International</i> continues to support directly and indirectly, with cash and other resources, a variety of Christian groups. We especially do what we can for other Christian charities.</p> <p>Much of our effort in this area, goes into sensitising Christians to the fact that giving to other Christian charities is part of the duty contingent on all Christians, of giving to the Work of God. Between 2019 and this year for instance, <i>Solace</i> personnel made five hundred calls to different people – especially (though not only) our friends.</p> <p>Noting their kindness towards us and their love for the Gospel, we encouraged them to consider also supporting other Christian charities. While endeavouring not to favour any, we have specifically mentioned <i>Open Doors</i> which supports the persecuted Church around the world – and for which <i>Solace International</i> organised an awareness night in 2017.</p> |

different parts of the world – whether close to where *Solace International* is based or further afield. *Mill Hill Missionaries* is a good example of this. Another is *Deliverance Church Hinterland Mission Outreach*.



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| <p><i>Other support for the wider Church</i></p> | <p>One other thing we do to support other Christian charities is including profiles of Christian charities at the backs of our publications – a practice established in 2019. In addition, <i>Solace</i> continues to support even more Christian ministries, with a monthly tithe on income generated.²⁹</p> |
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| <p style="text-align: center;">Area 3</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Economic/community support</i></p> | |
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| <p><i>Activity</i></p> | <p><i>Details</i></p> |
| <p><i>More Relationships</i></p> | <p>Put simply: <i>Solace International</i> supports economic growth as one way of addressing poverty issues. Thus, we have in Kenya mainly – but also to a lesser extent in other countries such as India, Nepal and Sri Lanka, supported since 2012, over two hundred and fifty small-scale businesses.</p> <p>Quietly but firmly, we have consistently backed them with money, training and other resources. In addition, we are supporting several groups to register formally as charities, nongovernmental organisations or charitable organisations in the UK, Pakistan, Nigeria, India and Kenya.</p> |

²⁹ Although in light of 2Cor 9:7, *Solace International's* Founder does not believe in tithing as a New Testament obligation, the Organisation's original Secretary (Teresa Kaberere) made a strong and compelling argument for its inclusion in our ways of serving and honouring the LORD. As such, in 2013, the Organisation's Board of Trustees approved tithing as a means of both generating funds and distributing them. The issue is therefore now mandated in – and governed by, the *Solace Tithe and Tithing Policy*.



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| | <p>Rendering such support makes apparent how seriously we take our aim of alleviating poverty. We have made massive contributions to the socioeconomic empowerment of hundreds and maybe thousands³⁰ of people³¹ – a feat for an organisation with minuscule resources.</p> |
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| Area 4 | |
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| <i>Education and training</i> | |
| <i>Activity</i> | <i>Details</i> |
| <i>Seminars and workshops</i> | <p>We believe that it is the Will of God, for people to be well educated, better informed and more empowered. “My People perish” He Says, “from lack of knowledge”.³² Thus, it is the position of <i>Solace International</i> that the more educated one is, the better able they would be to serve God optimally by among other things, contributing to the community and doing their best for their loved ones. <i>Solace</i> also holds, that the most effective antidote to the maladies of corruption, poverty and wanton violence (be it domestic, political, religious, ethnic or other) is through education. For this reason, <i>Solace</i> regularly puts on free training programmes. Depending on the topic and space, the programmes last from half a day (e.g. ‘Helping children settle in their new surroundings’) to</p> |

³⁰ The true figure will never be known. This is not a situation unique to *Solace International*, though: most helpers – be they individual, groups or organisations would find that each time you support one person, you could be supporting many others who depend on them – such as family members and those who might be employed by them – not to mention people whose businesses provide services to the person or entity receiving the charity’s help. Therefore, no matter how you calculate, the numbers of those benefiting directly and indirectly from our work, would be stupendous, to say the least.

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³² Hos 4:6



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| <p><i>Seminars and workshops</i></p> | <p>twelve weeks (e.g. ‘<i>Solace</i> Enterprise Empowerment Programme’).</p> <p>As part of the training programmes we deliver (usually completely free of charge³³) <i>Solace</i> uses the Christian Sacred Scriptures (commonly known as ‘the Holy Bible’), together with a creative mix of written and non-written sources. The training we offer especially in business support and set-up will from next year, focus less on Christian principles and more on generally applicable ones. We aim in doing so, to make the training more attractive and accessible to a wider clientele. A full list of what programmes we offer accompanies this report (see: ‘Appendices under: <i>Solace’s</i> Training Programme’).</p> |
| <p><i>Books</i></p> | <p><i>Solace</i> has collected and distributed since 2014, more than seven thousand books. These have come from a myriad of sources including Joseph Dos Santos (the Organisation’s Founder), members of the public, abandoned publications, donated misprints, <i>Solace International</i> purchases, etc. The books tend to be mainly educational with a heavy bias for primary school-age readers. However, we have also distributed a good number of entertainment books such as novels, novellas and periodicals. We believe that reading enhances education, but reading would not be easy if it had to be without entertainment. For this reason, we have not restricted our work in this area to only academic textbooks or Christian religious publications. <i>Solace</i> continues to negotiate with schools and bookshops, both Christian and non-Christian, for more donations. In line with our aim of furthering the Christian Faith, the Organisation has also distributed so far, more than one hundred copies of the Holy Bible.</p> |

³³ Where fees are applied, these are usually nominal and generally waived or reduced if the debtor so requests.



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| <i>Books</i> | <p>Last year (2021), <i>Solace International</i> also engaged in storytelling and story-writing for children. Plans to add to this achievement by working this year with selected parents on supporting children to tell and even write their own stories have not quite worked out, but we are hoping – Deo Volente. to have achieved that goal by the end of 2022 – or at furthest, by the time of publishing S.T.A.R. '23. Some of these stories will with their permission, be printed and published under the ‘Solace International Publications’ banner, but with the authors retaining unconditionally, the complete rights of full copyright.</p> |
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| Area 5 | |
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| <i>Human rights, religious/racial harmony, equality/diversity</i> | |
| <i>Activity</i> | <i>Details</i> |
| <i>Domestic violence</i> | <p>As most people would probably agree, what happens in people’s homes can have a serious impact on a person’s socioeconomic outcomes. Domestic abuse and domestic violence are therefore important – although they are very complex issues replete with academic, cultural, legal, moral, racial, religious and social connotations which mean that each is viewed and treated differently in different regions of the world.</p> <p>But to simplify things, <i>Solace International</i> takes the position that domestic violence is reprehensible and unacceptable. The fact that violence is visible, easy to prove and almost always traumatising, makes it distinctly less onerous to oppose than domestic abuse since ‘abuse’ is a word and concept open to varied interpretations – as well it must also be said, as wide misinterpretations and even justifications.</p> |



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| <p><i>Domestic violence</i></p> | <p>Consequently, while almost everyone can agree on what ‘violence’ is, it is harder to find consensus over what amounts to ‘abuse’. Still, we do whatever we can as Jesus Did, to support the marginalised of society wherever we find them. The appointment of an official whose role and remit involves the support of women and families, will go a long way in ensuring we can do more for people having to deal with domestic violence and its fallout.³⁴</p> |
| <p><i>Employee abuse</i></p> | <p>Abuse or maltreatment of employees is a socioeconomic problem which transcends all races and cultures throughout the world.</p> <p>But at <i>Solace International</i>, we are actively engaged in supporting victims wherever and whenever we can.</p> <p>Confidentiality and sensitivity requirements however mean that we will not give any details in this document.</p> <p>Despite threats against <i>Solace</i> staff, we will continue to firmly challenge all forms of abuse – including workplace oppression.</p> <p>Employees ought always to be treated fairly and kindly as to His Matchless Glory and in His Infinite Wisdom, God Requires.³⁵</p> |

³⁴ As stated in our last S.T.A.R., much of our work in this area will focus on Asia and sub-Saharan Africa (as we have done up to this moment). This is anticipated that to soon change – expanding over the coming years, to include Europe and the Americas.

³⁵ The Holy Bible’s Gospel According to Saint Luke (Lk) 10:7 and Saint Paul’s First Letter (possibly) to Timothy col 4:1; 1Tim 5:18; Jas 5:4, etc.



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| <p><i>Letters and advocacy</i></p> | <p><i>Solace International</i> is in the position that one aspect of poverty not often viewed as being connected to the problem, is advocacy.</p> <p>Our interactions and engagements consistently show that many people are in poverty because of what we call ‘the voice issue’.</p> <p>Lacking the ability or skills to project a strong voice in their situation – and/or not having someone to speak out/up for them is serious.</p> <p>At <i>Solace</i>, we have continued however, to provide understated but quite effective support in this area for members of the public.</p> <p>Country and culture differences mean as we have found (at times at some cost) though, that the need for this service tends to vary.</p> <p>Employability support on offer, <i>Solace</i> also helps prospective job seekers in the production of CVs, cover letters and personal statements.³⁶</p> |
| | <p><i>Solace International</i> believes in peace. It is God’s Word and Way, that we “seek peace and pursue it”, ensuring that “if it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all”.</p> |

³⁶ Between the end of last year and the middle of this year, *Solace International* has provided such support to two hundred and four individuals, as well as eleven groups – a marked enhancement of the 2021 figure when we gave written/writing support to a total of ninety-eight people and groups – most of them from the UK – unlike in 2022, where most of the support went to Africa – particularly, Ivory Coast, Kenya and Ghana. With these figures, the Organisation managed to cross the one-thousand threshold – just as we had hoped to, as expressed in S.T.A.R. ‘21.



Seeking peace during Kenya's 2020 general elections

Each person is also Admonished by the LORD, to keep in mind the Divine and Eternal Truth that, “Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be Called (Children) of God”.³⁷

Elections to Kenya’s highest political offices take place every five years. 2022 was general election year for the country. The elections were as usual, fraught with exaggeration and tension.

Kenya’s elections in other words, are often a challenge to peace. It would be recalled that in 2007, the country experienced violence of such severity that some of its senior politicians ended up before the ICC at the Hague.

In that light, we worked very hard,³⁸ to ensure the violence which normally bedevils the country’s general elections, were kept on this occasion, to a minimum – if not eliminated altogether.

Numerous Peace Initiative Messages or ‘PIMs’ were prepared in English and translated into four major Kenyan languages: Kikuyu, Luo, Kiswahili and Taita.

Generally, the PIMs were widely distributed. We also held forty days of daily prayers for Kenya. This was an online one-hour programme, held from 02 July to 10 August 2022.³⁹

³⁷ Respectively: Ps 34:14, Rom 12:18 and Matt 5:9.

³⁸ Alongside other groups and individuals within and outside Kenya



Miscellaneous

| <i>Activity</i> | <i>Details</i> |
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| <i>Family</i> | <p><i>Solace International</i> provides a completely free-of-charge service in which we try to reunite estranged family members.</p> <p>One of our greatest successes as noted in last year’s annual report was the reconciliation in 2017, of a father and daughter after nearly fifteen years.</p> <p>Lines of enquiry we applied included social media, word of mouth and discussions with known friends or associates of those involved.</p> <p>Another part of our work here involves working with men who deny paternity of children it is reasonable to believe they have sired.</p> <p>Children suffer unimaginable physical and mental difficulties as a result of the rancour which may have overshadowed their parents’ parting.</p> <p>Each case sees us work to resolve things so that children caught in the middle may receive the support they are Entitled to from their fathers.⁴⁰</p> |

³⁹ Every evening, at 1830hrs, East African Time.

⁴⁰ Our position on the matter is rooted not in human rights and safeguarding rules, legislation or guidance, but in God’s Will as Expressed in Sacred Scriptures such as the Holy Spirit’s Words Delivered to us through His Servant Paul when in 1Timothy 5:8 we are Admonished that: “But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the Faith and is worse than an unbeliever” (New King James Version – NKJV).



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| <i>Targeting</i> | <p>While it is conventional among charitable groups to focus on specific groups, projects and interests or causes, it is still the case, that <i>Solace</i> works with individuals as well as communities in support of those who though in need, fail to meet specific criteria and so are unable to receive the required help. We endeavour where possible, to identify such individuals – then provide relevant support within reason and according to our means.</p> |
| <i>Policies</i> | <p><i>Solace International</i> continually enhances its capacity-building through the compilation and application of relevant policies. Currently, the Organisation has a total of twenty-five policies – a list which includes policies to cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer • Tithe and Tithing • Office Share • Invoice • Holiday • Health and Safety • Food Hygiene and Safety • Equal Opportunities • Enterprise Empowerment • Data Protection • Conflict of Interest • Complaints |



| | |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Protection and Safeguarding • Beneficiaries • Accounts |
| <i>Integrity</i> | <p>Despite the almost indescribable financial pressures we are under, <i>Solace</i> has refused to cut corners such as engaging in bribery. Bribery has remained an almost immovable issue in Kenya. In the UK, <i>Solace</i> invariably returns or rejects (i.e. refuses to collect or accept) all donations where doubts exist or persist, as to the source and/or motive of the donations in question.</p> |
| <i>Expanded reach</i> | <p>A third straight year has seen <i>Solace International</i> successfully generate revenue from outside the UK. Other than pledged support from <i>WoW Sanctuary</i>,⁴¹ which petered out without explanation, we have had support from individuals in Kenya and Nigeria.</p> <p>Bangladesh has this year, become the newest – but sole addition to our list of countries where at least one person has benefited from <i>Solace</i>. We have however been unable to offer support for anyone in Lebanon, Peru, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines or Venezuela, despite our eagerness to do so.</p> |

⁴¹ A church based in Juja, Kenya.





Points to ponder...

These reasons to smile, are only a selection taken from a beautiful range of many more. *Solace International* remains firm, focused and fired up as we seek by the Grace of God and to His Glory, to keep labouring in the Divine Vineyard, while receiving in all humility, such Victories as it Pleases Him to Grant us. We know that there are – and will always be, many other organisations which as the LORD would Have it – although better-resourced than *Solace International*, have been unable to achieve this much. That realisation is however balanced against the equal Truth, that there are – and will always be, other organisations with even far less resources than God has Granted this Organisation, which have performed far better than *Solace International*. That said, successes are always worth celebrating – no matter what size, shade or shape they come in, since all good things Flow to us on Earth from Heaven Above, to the Glory of God the Father of Lights, with Whom there is no shadow of turning.⁴² He Guides us to aim for more and for higher, even when we find ourselves looking at some of the mountains before us – and scratching our heads...

⁴² Jas 1:17





The Solace journey thus far: Scratching our heads

In His Infinite Wisdom, it has Pleas'd the LORD that we are humbled by several areas for improvement, some of which are outlined below. In last year's annual report, the same format as in the case of 'Reasons to smile', was used to outline our drawbacks and setbacks. In this year's report however, a different format has been adopted. This is because most of our challenges as reported last year, have remained largely the same, so that we consider it unnecessary to essentially repeat verbatim, the relevant sections of S.T.A.R. '21. This in effect means that readers wishing to know about our challenges should read alongside this report (S.T.A.R. '22), the report for last year (S.T.A.R. '21).

| Area 1⁴³ | |
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| <i>The alleviation of poverty</i> | |
| <i>Activity/Project</i> | Details |
| | The alleviation and ultimate defeat of poverty remain a huge part of our work; it is a job the Organisation takes quite seriously. Thus, as hitherto noted, <i>Solace International</i> provides to those in need, material reliefs such as clothes and financial support in the form of small grants. This it may be argued, is a laudable approach (Blattman, Fiala, and Martinez, 2014; Mora, 2017). Going by expert opinion in some quarters however, this approach |

⁴³ Again, the 'Areas' have been numbered for ease of reading and reference. In other words, the numbering does not reflect any specific order or priority list.



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| <p><i>Material and cash reliefs</i></p> | <p>is nonetheless, dubitable (Aizenman, 2017). It has in fact been noted, that: “(Although) giving money directly to poor people works surprisingly well...it cannot deal with the deeper causes of poverty” (Orton, 2013). <i>Give Directly</i> is an organisation which simply gives money to the poor (Give Directly, 2020). It has however been suggested that while the <i>Give Directly</i> approach is unique, direct and at least a provider of short-term relief, raw cash gifts cannot on their own solve the problem of poverty. (Starr and Hattendorf, 2014). As noted last year, <i>Solace International</i> is still struggling to formulate an effective poverty alleviation approach – one that would not weigh the Organisation down as we endeavour to support those in need.</p> |
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| <p>Area 2</p> <p><i>Religious activities</i></p> | |
| <p><i>Activity</i></p> | <p><i>Details</i></p> |
| <p><i>Dealing with</i></p> | <p>Notwithstanding our own needs and the paucity of resources available to us, this year, we have continued to support the work in other countries.</p> <p>Our support has especially spanned Ghana, Jamaica, Kenya, India, Nepal, Nigeria and Pakistan. It has been given to UK-based entities.⁴⁴</p> <p>The support has mainly been in terms of advice and good offices in</p> |

⁴⁴ For reasons of confidentiality and in line with applicable Organisation policies, all names and identifying features of such entities – human or corporate, have been kept out of this Report.



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| | <p>Espousing a stance which we have adopted since inception, based on Holy Bible Principles and longstanding British good practice, <i>Solace International</i> stood firmly against this decision. This of course, led to a cooling off. of what had hitherto been a great collaborative experience.</p> <p>Reflecting upon this experience, it is possible that we could have handled things better or differently – although it is difficult to see what more we could have done, given that any compromise could be in effect, a negation of our principles and a tacit approval of bribery.</p> <p>Yet, <i>Solace</i> will be reviewing the situation early next year – although it is highly unlikely that we would ever contemplate a change in our anti-bribery position.</p> |
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| <p>Area 3</p> <p><i>Economic/community support</i></p> | |
| <i>Activity</i> | <i>Details</i> |
| | <p>There has been a longstanding recognition at <i>Solace</i>, that working together is a crucial aspect of effective charitable work and it holds immense benefits for all stakeholders, for which reason itought to be encouraged as well as promoted, with gusto.</p> <p>Of course, there can be no doubt that working together is also an essential</p> |



Collaborations

aspect of Christianity as a result of which the Body of Christ which places great emphasis on unity and working as one – “for there has God Commanded the Blessing”.⁴⁷

God’s Ever-Present Mercy has Allowed *Solace* to continually see the benefits of collaboration. However, we are yet to reach our full potential regarding such engagements, with like-minded organisations in the UK, Kenya and elsewhere.⁴⁸

Even so, we are still finding that negotiations for working together appear to be taking too long. For instance (as noted in our previous annual reports), a collaborative effort between *Deliverance Church*, Kahawa, Kenya, took eighteen months to arrange.

This is not an exclusively church issue. Even now, after three years of

⁴⁷ Ps 133:3.

⁴⁸ As last year’s TAR showed, the feelers we sent out to various groups Christian and otherwise, have yielded mixed outcomes. Even now one year on – probably due to the global pandemic (although this would be too simplistic and sweeping a factor to be accepted as solely responsible), arrangements with potential partners in places such as Barbados, Jamaica, Pakistan, Rwanda, St Lucia, Vietnam and Zambia remain at a germinal stage – although to the Glory of God, our solid relationships with groups and individuals in Ghana, Malawi, Nepal, Nigeria and South Africa are looking good. The orphanage in Uganda which we were supporting, remains under sanction though, following their abiding failure to demonstrate transparency in the use of the financial and other resources we sent them in past years. The Trustees determined last year, on the advice of the Organisation’s Chief Administrator, that sanctions against the orphanage will remain in place until the conclusion of a fact-finding mission which we plan for after the current COVID-19 situation eases.



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| <p><i>Collaborations</i></p> | <p>talks, our attempt at collaboration with several corporate bodies in different countries (including but not only, Kenya and the UK) are yet to yield any real fruit.</p> <p>Having said so, we note that the challenge for <i>Solace</i> here is not simply the stalled, staggered or stopped negotiations, but the very crucial need for gaining a clearer awareness of the collaboration landscape, so the Organisation may choose its partners wisely.</p> <p>Eventually, our goal is to achieve not only partnerships and other collaborative setups, but to do so while steering clear of drawn-out negotiations which are often ultimately unnecessary, but a truly frustrating waste of precious and even irreplaceable resources.</p> |
| <p><i>Collaborations</i></p> | <p>Resources such as confidence, esteem/respect, focus, scarce funds, time, etc., can be seriously dented by near-endless negotiations and so our challenge here is to recruit good negotiators or come up with a more effective and less time-consuming negotiations.</p> |

| <p>Area 4</p> <p><i>Education and training</i></p> | |
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| <i>Activity</i> | Details |
| | <p>We remain unable to acquire enough books for distribution to those in</p> |



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| <i>Books</i> | need, as the demand far outstrips the supply. This is one of several issues that has bedevilled the Organisation for over a year. |
| <i>Training programmes</i> | The current global economic situation, as well as the worldwide pandemic have led to a rise in online education and training which has in turn generated a greater uptake of online academic and empowerment services. Due to the inability to recruit personnel who could has not taken advantage of this new and truly exciting opening, despite its potential for better publicity, higher revenue generation and greater reach. |

| Area 5 | |
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| <i>Human rights, religious/racial harmony, equality/diversity</i> | |
| <i>Activity</i> | <i>Details</i> |
| <i>Peace initiatives</i> | The PIMs and Prayer For Kenya could have been done better. For the prayer sessions, the publicity was poor and this was reflected in the attendance to the prayers, as we had less than twenty in total – and not more than five on any given day. It is also interesting that although approved by the Solace Board of Trustees, none of the Trustees supported the project with their presence or physical engagement. The PIMs on their part were approved, but problems with translation, printing and costs – as well as trying to find translators for more of the languages, ⁴⁹ meant that the Organisation got the messages out so late that we were forced to use social media more than print media, even though the vast majority of Kenyans have no access to the internet. In effect, |

⁴⁹ Kenya has roughly fifty languages spoken by native inhabitants of the country.



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| | though our peace initiative was a good idea, the application was poor since it alienated huge swathes of its target audience.xxx |
| Funding | The point has been made in previous TARs, that <i>Solace International</i> is not in receipt of funding from any source. The Organisation considers this to be a failure because there is always funding available, even if <i>Solace International</i> has neither identified nor applied for any so far. We have also not registered for Gift Aid – a failure which has potentially denied us thousands of Pounds. The matter has unfortunately persisted in the sense that we have not received any funding – although thank God, compared to past years when the Organisation’s funds sometimes nosedived steeply, our income for the moment continually shows improvement. ⁵⁰ |

| Area: General | |
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| Activity | Details |
| | In S.T.A.R. '21, we reported that: “Our fully operational website ⁵¹ is now about one year old”. While it still is the case that, “establishing a viable social media presence continues to be a challenge – despite our presence on several platforms”, we have the additional sad report that our website has gone ‘dead’, due to our disgruntled contractor’s deliberate sabotage. ⁵² |

⁵⁰ That said, the situation remains, that in the absence of funding, the Founder a freelance writer uses his skills to raise money for the Organisation. All monies raised are donated to *Solace International*.

⁵¹ www.solace.international

⁵² We are now on: WhatsApp (+447904027127 – three platforms), Twitter (@a1solace), Telegram, LinkedIn, Instagram, and Facebook (Solace Kimataifa).



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| <p><i>Publicity</i></p> | <p>This is a matter which has held us back from projecting our image and activities for more people to know.</p> <p>It is with deep sadness that we admit a lack of resolution in the matter, owing to both a shortage of funds and possible overcautiousness in trusting someone else to build our website. Thus, we continue to suffer the effects of last year’s sabotage against our internet and social media presence. We remain optimistic all the same, that by the Grace of God, these issues would have been successfully resolved, well before S.T.A.R. ’25 is compiled and published.</p> |
| <p><i>Funding</i></p> | <p>We are yet to secure funding despite applying this year, to several funders – around ten in all. This a marked improvement on last year’s search for funds, when we applied to none. We have also contacted both Croydon BME Forum and CVA to help us with our search for funders and subsequent funding applications. KVA have also been mildly helpful. There has however been no success so far, despite all the support.</p> <p>We are not despondent though – despite the discouraging outcomes thus far. This is because we know the LORD will Open Doors for us in due course – even as we seek to diversify our search for funds, by appealing directly to English Catholic and Anglican parishes, as well as engage in door-to-door canvassing once we have secured the requisite paperwork as mandated by the UK Government, Police and local authorities.</p> |





We keep in mind...

...that as said earlier, these points whereupon we are left scratching our heads, are in no way, reasons to be despondent or to lose hope. We take great strength from the stories of other groups and individuals – both in antiquity and in our day, whose lives and times have borne out the Divine Truth in the Question: “...Who has despised the day of small things?”⁵³ At *Solace International*, we know that although we are not always sprinting, we are at the very least, moving; what is more: we are moving in the right direction – all by the Grace of God, by Whose Love and Wisdom we are Reminded of an old poem which talks of small steps and heavy loads:

***HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A TORTOISE GOING SLOWLY ON ITS WAY –
SLOWLY CREEPING, SLOWLY CRAWLING – FIFTY YARDS IN HALF A DAY?
WHY SO SLOWLY – OH SO SLOWLY, DOES IT CREEP FROM PLACE TO PLACE
WITH THAT VERY – OH SO VERY, TIRED LOOK UPON ITS FACE?
IT IS NOT BECAUSE IT’S LAZY – OR BECAUSE IT’S OLD AND SLOW:
IF YOU WERE CARRYING A HOUSE ON YOUR BACK – HOW QUICKLY WOULD YOU GO?***

– Author unknown

Thus, even as we find ourselves scratching our heads while we stand looking at some of the mountains before us, we shall continually bear in mind, that as long as we keep moving the LORD in Accordance with His Promises will Look after us. Amen!

⁵³ Zech 4:10





Conclusion

As this admittedly voluminous (albeit comprehensive) document reveals, the period between our last Annual Report and this has been for *Solace International*, replete with a potpourri of giddy highs and depressing lows.

But irrespective of what one may make of this report – or our performance as an organisation vis-à-vis our stated aims and objects, one thing is impossible to truthfully deny: despite its limited resources, *Solace International* is has done really well.

Congratulating ourselves is not something *Solace International* would love to dwell on though, even as we look forward to celebrating by the Grace of God, our first decade as a recognised organisation operating on two continents.

Despite our achievements – especially the fact that so far, we have been of God-Given support to people in forty countries – all to the Glory of God, our Ever-Giving Father, we still have a long way to go in reaching our key objective.⁵⁴

Everything we do is to the Glory of God Who Bestows Upon all Creation, Grace and Guidance. Despite all the challenges, it is an honour to serve the LORD by helping the disadvantaged. We hope and pray therefore, to in His Light, remain humble, obedient, and grateful to Him.

⁵⁴ We want to do something good for at least one person in every nation and territory on Earth. If it be God's Will, we would also love to achieve this high ambition during our Founder's lifetime.





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Appendix 'A'



Statement of Beliefs (the Nicene Creed)⁵⁶

We believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth, of all that is – seen and unseen.

We believe in One Lord, Jesus Christ, the Only Son of God, Eternally Begotten of the Father: God from God, Light from Light, True God from True God, Begotten, not Made; of One Being with the Father – Through Him all things were Made. For us and for our Salvation, He Came down from Heaven; by the Power of the Holy Spirit, He Became Incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was Made Man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He Suffered death and was buried. On the third day He Rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He Ascended into Heaven and is Seated at the Right Hand of the Father. He will Come again in Glory, to Judge the living and the dead and His Kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the LORD, the Giver of Life, Who Proceeds from the Father and the Son. with the Father and the Son He is worshipped and glorified. He has Spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

⁵⁶ This Statement is still under review as we explore ways of reconciling in it, the Trinitarian and Unitarian persuasions within the Body of Christ.



Appendix 'B'



Solace International Financial report for S.T.A.R. '22

| <i>Month</i> | <i>In (£)</i> | <i>Out (£)</i> |
|--|----------------------|---------------------|
| December 20 | 50 | 00 |
| January 21 | 997 | 928 |
| February 21 | 595 | 430 |
| March 21 | 1176 | 1228 |
| April 21 | 481 | 589 |
| May 21 | 736 | 663 |
| June 21 | 691 | 101.77 |
| July 21 | 1475 | 1339 |
| August 21 | 1326 | 1232 |
| September 21 | 835 | 976 |
| October | 460 | 540 |
| November | 2072 | 1857 |
| <i>TOTAL</i> | <i>10,894</i> | <i>9,884</i> |
| GRAND TOTAL (or: £10,894 - £9,884) = £1,010 | | |



Appendix 'C'



Countries where at least one person has benefited from Solace International

| No. | Country | Formal/Informal |
|------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. | <i>Zimbabwe</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 2. | <i>Zambia</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 3. | <i>Vietnam</i> | <i>Formal</i> |
| 4. | <i>United States</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 5. | <i>United Kingdom</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 6. | <i>Uganda</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 7. | <i>Trinidad and Tobago</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 8. | <i>Tanzania</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 9. | <i>Syria</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 10. | <i>St Vincent and Grenadines</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 11. | <i>St. Lucia</i> | <i>Formal</i> |
| 12. | <i>Sri Lanka</i> | <i>Formal</i> |
| 13. | <i>South Africa</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |



| | | |
|-----|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 14. | <i>Sierra Leone</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 15. | <i>Rwanda</i> | <i>Formal</i> |
| 16. | <i>Romania</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 17. | <i>Portugal</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 18. | <i>Pakistan</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 19. | <i>Nigeria</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 20. | <i>Nepal</i> | <i>Formal</i> |
| 21. | <i>Namibia</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 22. | <i>Mozambique</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 23. | <i>Morocco</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 24. | <i>Malawi</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 25. | <i>Liberia</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 26. | <i>Kenya</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 27. | <i>Jamaica</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 28. | <i>India</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 29. | <i>Ghana</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 30. | <i>France</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 31. | <i>Equatorial Guinea</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 32. | <i>Congo (Kinshasa)</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 33. | <i>Cote D'Ivoire</i> | |
| 34. | <i>Cameroun</i> | <i>Formal</i> |
| 35. | <i>Bulgaria</i> | <i>Informal</i> |



| | | |
|-----|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 36. | <i>Brazil</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 37. | <i>Botswana</i> | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 38. | <i>Barbados</i> | <i>Formal</i> |
| 39. | <i>Bangladesh⁵⁷</i> | <i>Informal</i> |
| 40. | <i>Angola</i> | <i>Informal</i> |

⁵⁷ The newest addition to the list as it stood in
S.T.A.R. '21.



Appendix D



The Solace Training Programme

| <i>Topic</i> | <i>What does it cover?</i> |
|---|---|
| 1. Abuse | 1 What is abuse? 2 Kinds of abuse 3 Signs and symptoms 4 Stereotypes and myths 5 What to do when a child expresses concerns to you 6 Consequences of suspected and/or actual child abuse for children and their families 7 The real victims of abuse 8 Consequences of false allegations 9 Some questions worth asking before reporting suspected abuse. |
| 2. Behaviour management Basics | 1 Factors which influence behaviour of children and young people; 2 Guides to effective behaviour management; 3 Essential skills for effective behaviour management; 4 Some instances of behaviour which may require effective management skills; 5 Issues to consider in dealing with challenging behaviour. |
| 3. Circle Time (CT) | 1 What CT is; 2 Advantages, demerits and applications of CT; 3 Where (other than classrooms) can we apply CT? 4 Ways to make CT (even more) exciting; 5 A few things to consider while (or before) making use of CT. |



| | |
|--|---|
| <p>4. Dealing with bullying</p> | <p>1 What really is bullying? 2 Myths and facts 3 Case studies 4 Probable causes 5 Some effects of bullying; 6 Where bullying takes place; 7 Do's and don'ts.</p> |
| <p>5. Feeling and staying safe on the Internet</p> | <p>1 The greatness of the Internet 2 How it is especially great for our kids 3 What's there to be careful about on the Internet? 4 How we can help our children stay safe on the Internet 5 Some cyber myths and facts.</p> |
| <p>6. Helping your child settle well into a new environment</p> | <p>1 The new environment; 2 Things your child can do; 3 Things your child <i>should</i> do; 4 Where you come in; 5 Myths and facts.</p> |
| <p>7. The joy of homework (and home [or private] study)</p> | <p>1 Advantages of homework and home study; 2 Disadvantages 3 Some excuses for not doing homework; 4 Some of the <i>real</i> reasons for not doing homework; 5 Ways to help our children study or do their homework and enjoy it; 6 Things to keep <i>strict</i> control of while your child studies; 7 Things to keep close by while your child studies; 8 Key questions parents might ask; 9 Myths and facts.</p> |
| <p>8. When things go wrong: How best to deal with your child's school and other authorities**</p> | <p>1 Why it matters to know this; 2 What could possibly go wrong? 3 The Fifteen-One Method; 4 Getting the facts straight 5 Understanding and working with procedure 6 The Golden Rule Approach 7 The value of thanks and praise.</p> |
| <p>9. Surviving your placement/apprenticeship</p> | <p>1 Why am I here? 2 What can go wrong? 3 What will go right (no matter what happens)? 4 Forces that matter; 5 The right mien 6 Getting it right; 7 Looking well ahead of here and now.</p> |



| | |
|---|--|
| <p>10. Stress management</p> | <p>1 Who needs stress? You need it. We do – all of us! 2 When stress becomes stressful; 3 How did they manage? 4 How you too can manage; 5 Born to conquer – living above it.</p> |
| <p>11. Team play: Getting the best out of your team</p> | <p>1 Who needs teams anyway? 2 Identifying your team; 3 Ideal team v your real team; 4 Like clockwork: Making the different parts work; 5 Keeping it that way; 6 What I need to be; 7 And after that?</p> |
| <p>12. Fussy Eating</p> | <p>1 Who eats fussily? 2 Why people do it; 3 Can it be outgrown, tamed, stopped? 4 Fussy eating myths; 5 Do's and don'ts</p> |
| <p>13. Get a Job – Keep A Job</p> | <p>1 Why you need a job; 2 What it takes to get one; 3 Is your CV right? 4 Interview tips; 5 Keeping your job; 6 If things get hot; 7 When things go wrong; 8 Looking ahead – “Learn from the wicked servant” 9 Getting fired gracefully; 10 No place for God. 2</p> |
| <p>14. Enterprise Empowerment</p> | <p>1 Scriptures on Prosperity; 2 Enterprising Quotes from outside the Scriptures; 3 Networking and what it does for you; 4 Seed-sowing: What it really is and what its role is; 5 Divine Principles of sowing; 6 Prosperity's Divine Keys; 7 Getting noticed: the Role of communication and good interpersonal skills; 8 How to prospect successfully for clients/customers; 9 Personal qualities you need for success in enterprise; 10 Traps and pitfalls to avoid 11 Charting your way: the value of a (good) Business Plan; 12 How to write a Business Plan 13 Contents of a good or strong Business Plan 14 How best to treat your Business Plan.</p> |



| | |
|--|---|
| <p>15. Dealing with domestic violence (DV)</p> | <p>1 Defining DV 2 Why does DV happen? 3 Challenging the popular narrative 4 What different cultures think 5 Why we mustn't accept DV 6 What can you do about it? 7 Intervention is not interfering 8 The Church's take 9 Too good for nonsense.</p> |
|--|---|



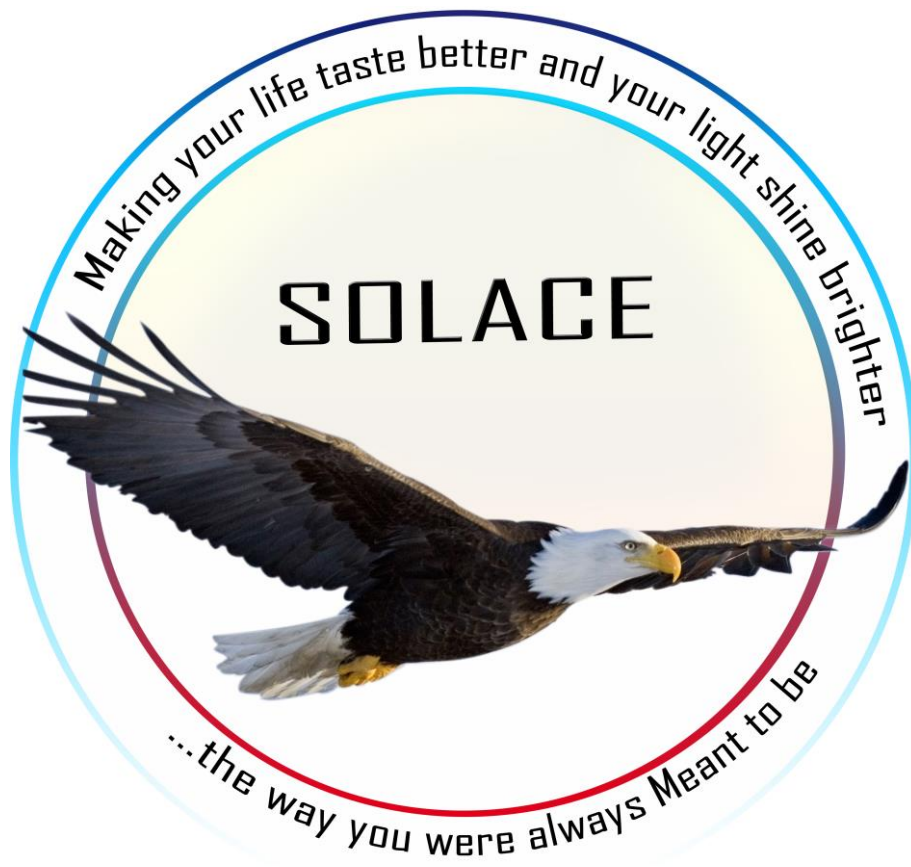
Appendix E



More peeks into the *Solace International* and *InterSolace Gallery*⁵⁸

⁵⁸ Some of these pictures were also in S.T.A.R. '21.





Solace: Walking in the Master's Footsteps



The 2022 Solace International Trustees Annual Report (S.T.A.R. '22)



Donations to our Food Bank: courtesy of *St Mary's Roman Catholic School, West Croydon*



Solace International deeply appreciates these donations of feminine sanitary products from West Croydon's *St Mary's Roman Catholic Junior School*





In the beginning... Cross-section of inaugural S.E.E.P. attendees, way back in 2012, Kenya.



Trainees on a combined Solace anti-poverty and domestic violence programme in 2017, Kenya



INTERSOLACE
WELCOMES YOU TO

IN MY
FATHER'S HOUSE
FULLNESS OF JOY

Praise Fest

TIME:
2PM - 6PM

VENUE:
FULL GOSPEL
CHURCHES OF
KENYA
- BURU BURU PH 1

DATE:
SATURDAY
31st Aug 2019
ENTRY:
FREE

THEME:
PRAISE AWAITS YOU O GOD
IN ZION
PSALM 65:1

In furtherance of the Faith: A call to worship and praise by Solace in Kenya, 2019





Solace in the Far East: Children supported by the Organisation (courtesy Sister Saral, India)



Solace in the Far East: Other children supported by the Organisation (courtesy Sister Saral, India)





SOLACE INTERNATIONAL IS INVITING YOU TO A

1 HOUR Zoom Prayer Meeting

Daily: <https://us06web.zoom.us/join/84005013598?pwd=OFcwTXd2VWJzdHRMTlBjcjA1UVpXZz09>

Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84005013598?pwd=OFcwTXd2VWJzdHRMTlBjcjA1UVpXZz09>

**July 2 | 2022
6:00 PM EAT**

**EVERY DAY UNTIL AUGUST 10TH
40 DAYS**

Meeting ID: 840 0501 3598
Passcode: 868716

THEME: COME LET'S PRAY FOR KENYA



For ANY assistance CONTACT: +254 7733 14147 | +44 300 102 2323 . +44 7904 027 127
 Solace Kimataifa. solac3-International @a1solace Solace International
 Solace International Email: intersolace@gmail.com / a1solaceinternational@gmail.com

Praying for peace in Kenya's General Elections 2022: Advert



The 2022 Solace International Trustees Annual Report (S.T.A.R. '22)



PRAYER FOR KENYA

(July 2 – August 10, 2022: 6pm Kenya [and East Africa] Time)

Your questions answered...

Why are we praying for Kenya?

Kenya is having its general elections on August 9 this year. The people hope to choose a new President, Deputy President, Governors and legislators (including women representatives), by the Grace of God. However, elections in Kenya (as in most African and 'Third World' countries) can be lively to the point of tension and even violence.

So, what exactly are we praying for?

We are praying for God's Will to Prevail in every way. Kenya has multiple issues, some of which without Divine Intervention, will never go away and may even create problems for its neighbours as well as other countries.

Praying for peace in Kenya's General Elections 2022: Explaining why





ENGLISH

Kenya is mine. Kenya is yours. Kenya is ours. Let's be responsible during and after the elections. Think of the next generation. Say 'NO' to violence. Vote for peace and pray for Kenya.

KISWAHILI

Kenya ni yangu. Kenya ni yako. Kenya ni yetu. Tuwajibike wakati na baada ya uchaguzi. Fikiria kizazi kijacho. Sema 'HAPANA' kwa vurugu. Piga kura kwa amani na uiombe Kenya.

TAITA

Kenya ni yapo. Kenya ni yako. Kenya ni yedu. Dibonye whuya ngelo na nyuma ya whusaghui. Ghesha kivalwa chichagha. Ghora 'HATAA' kwa whuda. Kaba kura kwa sere na kuilombe Kenya.

LUO

Kenya en mara to bende Kenya en mari kendo Kenya en marwa waduto. Parie tien'g mabiyo. Tamri tungni-kod koko. Yier kwe kendo ilamnipinywa mar Kenya.

KIKUYU

Kenya ni yakwa. Kenya ni yaku wee. Kenya nî iitû nîtûgîe na ûigîrîrîki ihinda rîrî ona thutha wa ithurano. Wîcirie ûhoro wa ithurano cia hîndî îo îngî. Ûregane na ngûî. Thura thayû na ûhoere Kenya.

Solace is a Kenya-registered NGO



One of several SPIMs (Solace Peace Initiative Messages) we shared during Kenya's 2022 elections





ENGLISH

Let's all be responsible and vote for peace. Kenya is ours. Say 'NO' to violence and don't sell your vote. Pray for peace.

KISWAHILI

Sote tuwajibike na tupige kura kwa amani. Kenya ni yetu. Sema 'HAPANA' kwa vurugu na usiuze kura yako. Ombea amani.

TAITA

Diwose dibonye whuya na dikabe kura kwa sere. Kenya ni yedu. Ghora 'HATAA' kwa whuda na kuseuze kura yako. Lombea sere. `

LUO

Wabed joma ongirore kendo wayier kwe. Kenya en marwa.wakwed tungni kod koko.kendo kik walok kod ombuluwa.Lem ni kwe.

KIKUYU

Nitugie na ûigiririki ithuothe na tûcagûre thayû. Kenya nî iitû. Regana na ngûi, na ndukendie kura yaku. Hoera thayû.

Solace is a Kenya-registered NGO



Another of the SPIMs we sent out during Kenya's 2022 general elections. Note the multiple translations and captivating yet calming visuals





Solace often supports beneficiaries with food as needed



Solace gives food support to those in need





Sometimes what people need is not money or many words, but food. Just food. Solace I always glad to help.



Solace regularly supports beneficiaries with food as needed





ORGANISATION SUPPORT

Are you a director or trustee in a charity, not-for-profit organisation or community group? Would you like help with your governance and capacity-building documents? Can you spare an hour or two? If you have answered 'YES' to one or more of the above, then Solace International is glad to help.

We are offering the South London charity and voluntary organisation community, **FREE** support. Depending on your need, here is what you could get:

- **A one-hour consultation**
- **Follow-up consultations (maximum of two hours)**
- **Proofread of your draft**
- **Review of your existing policies**
- **Writing of your policies from scratch (maximum three FREE policies)**

Our services are offered totally **FREE** of charge. However, since we receive no funding for them, a donation would be expected and may be requested. To ensure our standards remain high and customer satisfaction is guaranteed, other terms and conditions may apply.

For more information, please contact us:

Tel: +44300 102 2323
OR
+254 77 33 14 14 7;

Mobile/WhatsApp: +447904 027 127;
E-mail: solaceinternational@yahoo.co.uk;
Facebook: [Solace Kimataifa](#)

Solace International is a registered charity (No. 1162864)

Solace shares its expertise with other groups and organisations





Call us TODAY and give someone some good news.

+44 300 102 23 23, +254 77 33 14 14 7, +44 904 027 127, Solace Kimataifa.

Solace needs your donations so we can help more of the needy in our community. Will you support us? Helping people through us has been made even easier. Please look at the following items and let us know which ones you can get for us or help us with...

(Please take care to check what you donate, to avoid giving something expired or damaged. Thank you.)

| LIST ONE (BABIES/INFANTS) | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Baby beddings | Baby lotion | Baby soap | Blankets | Ear buds |
| Baby clothes | Baby powder | Baby videos | Cots | Milk formula |
| Baby food | Baby shawls | Bibs | Diapers (all sizes) | Rattles and toys |

| LIST TWO (CLOTHING) | | | | |
|---------------------|---------|-------|----------|---------------|
| Caps/Hats | Jackets | Shoes | Slippers | Undergarments |

| LIST THREE (EVANGELISM/MISSIONS) | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Airtime top-up | Documentation | Mosquito nets | Shawls headgear | Tracts |
| Bibles | Insurance | Mosquito repellents | Footwear | Transport Umbrellas |
| Christian books | Medical cover | Phone handsets | Stationery | Transport Umbrellas |

| LIST FOUR (FOOD ITEMS) | | | | |
|------------------------|---------|-------------------|----------|------------|
| Biscuits | Cereals | Eggs | Potatoes | Sugar |
| Bread | Cheese | Milk (Long life) | Rice | Tea |
| Butter /Margarine | Coffee | Milk (short life) | Sardines | Vegetables |

| LIST FIVE (HYGIENE, MEDICAL AND SANITARY) | | | | |
|---|-----------------|--------------------|--------------|------------|
| Detergent | Sanitary towels | Soap (for bathing) | Tampons | Dettol |
| Handwash | Serviettes | Soap (for laundry) | Toilet rolls | Sprays |
| Bandages | First aid kits | Washing-up liquid | Plasters | Sanitisers |

| LIST SIX (HOUSEHOLD ITEMS) | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| Beds | Cooking pots | Fridge | Microwave oven | Pillowcases |
| Bedsheets | Crockery | Kettles | Mosquito nets | Pillows |
| Blankets | Cutlery | Kitchenware | Chairs | Table fan |
| Blankets | Duvet covers | Mattresses | Television | Tables |

| LIST SEVEN (SCHOOL) | | | | |
|---------------------|----------------|---------|--------------|-----------------|
| Atlases | Desks | PE kits | School bags | School meals |
| Colouring Pencils | Dictionaries | Pencils | School books | School outings |
| Crayons | Drawing books | Pens | School fees | School uniforms |
| Tables | Exercise books | Sandals | Backpacks | Story books |
| Thesauruses | | | | |

You can give money or you can supply one/more of the above items. NO PLEDGES OR PROMISES, PLEASE. Items and cash ONLY. Thank you. Call our number TODAY and give someone some good news. Please. +44 300 102 23 23, +254 77 33 14 14 7, +44 904 027 127, Solace Kimataifa.

SOLACE IS A REGISTERED NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION (No. 1162864)

List of items Solace asks people to Donate towards our work with the needy



PLEASE MAKE A DONATION TO SOLACE



(and help us in our work of God among the poor and the needy)

Someone from the Solace Office will be calling you very shortly

We are in the middle of our quarterly fund drive and as part of this, we are calling all our friends asking that you please make a donation of any amount. Just so you know, the numbers we will call you from will be one of the following:







+254 724 962 879;
+254 797 726 898;
+44 300 102 2323;
+44 7904 027 127

We will not be calling you with any number other than these. Please treat our staff with loveliness and feel free to ask them any reasonable questions about Solace that you like when they call.

Most of all, be generous and please don't make pledges you will not keep.

Thank you.

A flier for our fund drive



This week, we begin our quarterly revenue drive. It is also our summer fund drive. Please expect a call from Solace staff.

The numbers you will likely receive a call from are:

+254 724 962 879; +254 797 726 898; +44 300 102 2323; +44 7904 027 127

Our staff are *respectful, polite, knowledgeable and nice to converse with.* They will answer any reasonable questions you have about our Organisation and the work we are doing. Our target for this quarter (June to September) is four thousand Pounds or six thousand Dollars (£4,000/\$6,000).

Please respond nicely and donate generously.

Thank you and may God Do more for you. Amen

Another flyer for our fund drive



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Solace family is inviting you to our Annual General Meeting, By the Grace of God this year and for the first time, it is to be held online in order to allow attendance by participants in different countries.

Date : Sunday, 29 May 2022

Time : 4pm (1600 hours).

The time for the meeting is Kenya Time (or East Africa Time). Please see the list below, for what that time would be in your country.

The list is just a guide (especially for countries where the clock moves), so please check with your country's system. If your country is not listed below,

For more information, please contact us:

Tel: +44300 102 2323
or
+254 77 33 14 14 7;

Mobile/WhatsApp: +447904 027 127;
E-mail: solaceinternational@yahoo.co.uk;
Facebook: Solace Kimataifa

The meeting will be for only two hours maximum, but it will be a great chance to meet some of our officials and more importantly, to know what Solace has been doing in different countries so... **DON'T MISS IT!!!**

The link for the meeting will be posted closer to the time, but please pencil **29 May 2022** into your diary.

Countries and times

| | |
|---|--|
|  Bulgaria (6pm) |  Ghana/Côte d'Ivoire (3pm) |
|  India (8.30pm) |  Jamaica (7am) |
|  South Africa and neighbours (5pm) |  Nepal (8.45pm) |
|  United Kingdom (2pm) |  DR Congo (2pm) |
|  Pakistan (8pm) |  United States <i>Various times</i> |

(Please call us or check with your local system)

Thank you



Advertising this year's Annual General Meeting (AGM)



The 2022 Solace International Trustees Annual Report (S.T.A.R. '22)



Items from the Solace International Food Bank With A Difference



More items from Solace International's Food Bank With A Difference





Other items from the Solace Food Bank With A Difference



Items again from the Solace International Food Bank With A Difference





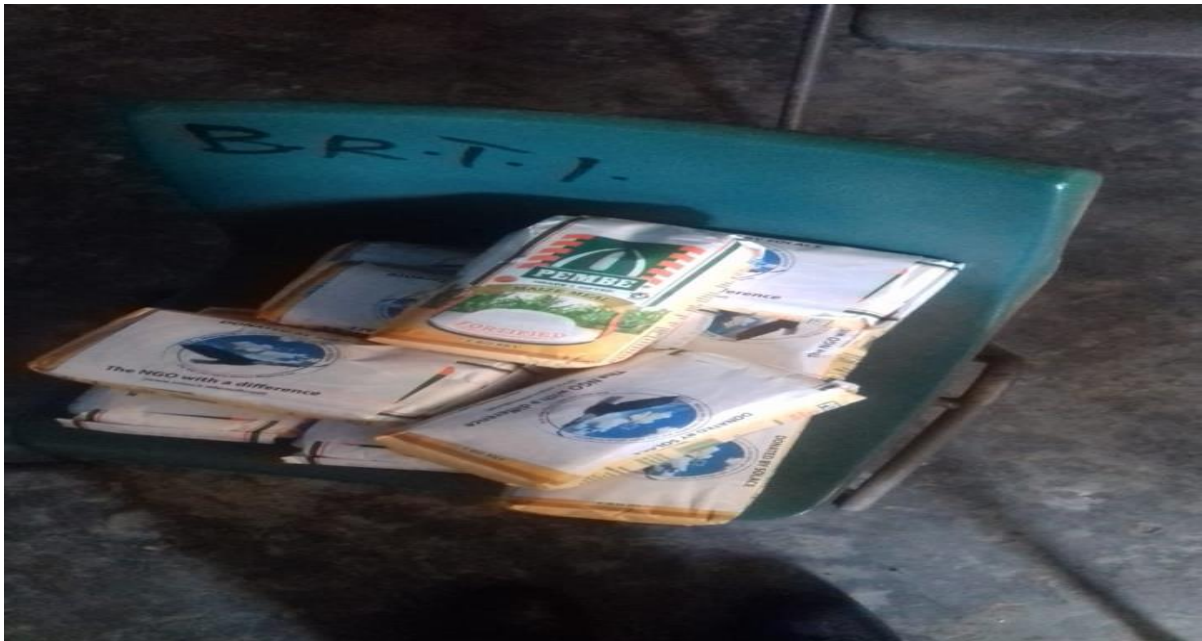
Solace Donations: The fight to defeat COVID-19





Solace donations: Food and clothes parcels for the needy





Specially wrapped longlife food parcels from *Solace*





Do you need help with your CV?

Maybe you need support to write a new one or proofread and/or update an existing one?

Would you like some help with a Cover Letter or Personal Statement?

Have you been asked to address a Job or Person Specification?

Are you in search of other help with finding a job

(e.g. completing an application form, understanding interview techniques, retaining a job beyond probation period, setting up an e-mail address, registering on job websites, etc.)?

*If you have answered 'YES' to one or more of the above, then why not contact us for Solace? We are an NGO focused on helping you get the best out of Life through defeating poverty. By God's Grace, we will help you with any of the above – and it's **FREE**. Yes: no charge.*

All you need to do, is call us on:

0 77 33 14 14 7 or 0 71 62 77 21 7

Please note however, that although our services are totally free, terms and conditions may apply.



Solace International: always glad to help with employability





Solace International, good taste and loveliness make a palatable team!





Furthering the Christian Faith: *Solace International* prayer meetings



The 2022 *Solace International* Trustees Annual Report (S.T.A.R. '22)



A *Solace* training programme





Standard text: This is the SEEP's main textbook (alongside the Holy Bible); it is also used to generate funds for the Organisation



Some of *Solace's* fieldworkers





Faces of the future – faces of hope: Pupils from one of the several schools *Solace* is supporting



The 2022 *Solace International* Trustees Annual Report (S.T.A.R. '22)



Collaboration at work:

The Hub, Solace International, H2G, Croydon Council, Brick by Brick...

Matt 25:21-46

As we said, aside from Solace, there are many other Christ-focused organisations which are not churches, yet doing so much in Jesus' Name to help the needy. Why not think about honouring God and helping more people in need through supporting not just Solace, but one more of these? Here is a short list to choose from (there are others, but this is a good place to start)

- 01 CAFOD** (Catholic Fund for Overseas Development), Mugga Green Westlands, PO Box 56300 Nairobi, <https://cafod.org.uk/about-us/where-we-work/afrika/kenya>. This powerful and remarkable organisation is also contactable via each Roman Catholic diocese in Kenya. CAFOD has many development and anti-poverty projects around the world, including across East Africa. One example is 'Hands On Kilifi' which is providing new trees, clean water supply and great opportunities in south-eastern Kenya. Visit https://cafod.org.uk/News/Voicey_Hands-on-kenya for more information.
- 02 Christian Mission Aid (CMA)**, PO Box 17 351, PB -254 (020) 2721822, www.cmaid.org/vision-mission. CMA seeks to develop communities, ensuring they are free from spiritual and socio-economic poverty. In addition to work in the areas of drought, HIV/AIDS and drought recovery, this marvellous organisation runs a Girls' Rescue Centre in Olkaria/Kisumu, Kajiado County. CMA has the stated mission of reaching out with Christ's Love through development assistance to disperate communities, emergency relief provision, the raising of church and community leaders, as well as youth mentoring.
- 03 Open Doors Kenya (Open Doors)**, Life Ministry, 2nd Floor, P.O.Box 30870, Nairobi, <http://www.opendoors.org/>. This truly intropic organisation supports Christians facing persecution in different places across the globe - including of course, Africa and Kenya. Open Doors also has a list of countries where it is most-dangorous to be a Christian. The work Open Doors does includes things such as: Bible supplies, protection for threatened Christians and financial/material aid to orphans and widows left behind by pastors who have been murdered for their Christian faith.
- 04 The Life Ministry Kenya (Life Ministry)**, Rose Avenue, Nairobi, Phone: +254 (0)722 20261, <https://lifenkenya.org/what-we-do>. Life Ministry has been operating in Kenya for over forty-five years. This resilient and ground-breaking organisation is focused on discharging the Great Commission through a variety of pioneering and creativity including education, sports and film. They also run a school among communities such as the Oirira, Manyoya and Somali, where for a variety of reasons such as poverty, nomadism and apathy, it is quite challenging to run a school - especially a Christian school.
- 05 The Salvation Army International Kenya East Territory (The Salvation Army)**, Marist Avenue, Karen, Nairobi, Kenya, P.O. Box 24927 Nairobi 00102, +254 (020) 240 3260, <https://www.salvationarmy.org/kenyaeast>
- 06 The Salvation Army International Kenya West Territory (The Salvation Army)**, Mumia Highway Rd, Kakamega, P.O. Box 659, Kakamega 50100, <https://www.salvationarmy.org/kenyawest>. The Salvation Army has been present intormally in Kenya for over 120 years and formally for close to a century. This truly effective organisation is engaged in poverty relief, education, anti-trafficking, etc.

Do more than just going to church: support a Christian organisation today. . . please.

InterSolace Organisation Epren House Buruburu Phase One, Nairobi
 Tel: 254 77 33 14 14 7; E-mail: intersolace@gmail.com
 Facebook: [InterSolace Organization](https://www.facebook.com/interSolaceOrganization)
 Website (coming soon): www.solace.international

INTERSOLACE ORGANISATION (Solace)

Three questions for you:

1. What do you think of tithing and giving - do you know your church is not the only place to bring God what you have for His Storehouse?
2. Do you support any Christian organisations other than your church - do you even know of any such groups?
3. Have you heard of InterSolace Organisation (also called Solace)?

Whatever your answer to the above, there are many Christian organisations which are doing so much in the community to help others. InterSolace Organisation ('Solace') is one such organisation

Spreading the word about other organisations: one of our less publicised strengths





Solace International

www.solace.international

Helping God's People – "Salt of the Earth...Light of the World", taste better and shine brighter

Tel: +447 466 379 590, +254 77 33 14 14 7, 56a Mitcham Road CR0 3RG

Email: solaceinternational@yahoo.co.uk; info@solace.international

Friday, September 25, 2020

Reports from the United Kingdom of a police officer killed at the Police Custody Centre located off Whitehorse Road in Croydon Surrey by a man allegedly being questioned although sketchy at the moment, are disconcerting nonetheless. As we await further information on the matter, Solace International wishes to express sadness at this fatal turn of events, solidarity with the victim's colleagues and sympathy for the fallen officer's dear ones. We hope and pray, that the Goodness of God will still Shine through all this, nonetheless and that no matter what happens next, cooler heads will certainly prevail to His Glory.

Solace International is a UK registered charity (No. 1162864)



Solace speaks:

Some official statements issued by the Organisation on issues of the day (A)



The 2022 Solace International Trustees Annual Report (S.T.A.R. '22)



Solace International

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Email: solaceinternational@yahoo.co.uk; info@solace.international

Tuesday, 23 March 2021

(Evening Standard, 22:03:2021) "We have been threatened or scared by men, say a third of London women".

A reaction

Solace International notes reports regarding the outcome of a recent survey by the *Evening Standard* in which the newspaper states that: "A third of women in London say they have been threatened or frightened by men". Ignoring the fact that this statement in itself is inherently false, definitely (if not deliberately) misleading and basically impossible – given that the newspaper could not have interviewed all, half – or even a tenth, of the women in London within the specified period and therefore was in no position to speak on behalf of the purported 'third', *Solace International* wishes to state that as an organisation, we do not – and never will, help British society or indeed any other society, commence, continue, condone or in any way contribute to a programme or action which appears to have as its sole or chief purpose, the demonisation of men and/or the fostering of mutual suspicion between the sexes. A society which seeks to solve a problem (whether real or perceived) by creating another (probably worse), based on maligning one group directly or indirectly in favour of another group, will always find itself constantly in trouble as it struggles to clean up its own mess through making another mess.

Solace International is a UK charity focused on poverty alleviation furthering the Christian Faith, thus we take social justice issues indescribably seriously. We understand that newspapers have bills to pay and that free-of-charge ones such as the *Evening Standard* are no exception, despite not charging most of its readers even a penny for the privilege of its daily copies – leaving the newspaper with little choice other than sensational headlines to attract more readers and draw in advertisements which help pay the newspaper's bills. We are also aware of the great work which the *Evening Standard* is doing among the poor and vulnerable of London, helping to address the socioeconomic anomaly and political embarrassment-cum-paradox, of London being capital to one of the world's richest and most powerful countries, but which has an incredibly and inordinately high number people living in abject poverty – forced to sleep 'rough' – outside on the streets and/or to scavenge for food and/or depend on food banks or other off-humiliating and/or criminalising means to get by. *Solace International* hails the *Evening Standard* as a trailblazer in poverty alleviation.

Solace International is a UK registered charity (No. 1162864)



Solace speaks:

Some official statements issued by the Organisation on issues of the day (B)



The 2022 *Solace International* Trustees Annual Report (S.T.A.R. '22)



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Email: solaceinternational@yahoo.co.uk; info@solace.international

Friday, 09 April 2021

Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh (1921-2021)

It is with sincere regret and deep sadness, that *Solace International* notes the news-stopping news regarding the husband and Consort to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, Earl of Merioneth and Baron Greenwich (Né Mountbatten; né Philippos Andreou (Philip Andrew) of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderberg-Glücksburg, Prince of Greece and Denmark). *Solace International* is of the understanding that Prince Philip sadly passed away aged roughly one hundred years old, having lived by the Matchless Grace of God and to His Eternal Glory, from Friday June 10, 1921 until Friday April 9, 2021. The Duke of Edinburgh was among other things, the United Kingdom's longest-serving consort. The Duke of Edinburgh had a very difficult childhood and upbringing which remain proof that no position or situation in Life is guaranteed – whether for better, or for worse. Colourful, lively and frank, he played a major role in shaping the public concept of the British Monarchy, making it somewhat more accessible, friendly and in effect, human. Avid reader, unheralded author, keen sports enthusiast, profound thinker and fearless speaker, he will be remembered for his exemplary tirelessness, irreverent jocosity, conscientious diligence, gushing confidence and loyalty in royalty. Although God alone Knows the future, it is probably safe to say, that the likes of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh will never be seen again. The entire *Solace* family offers its deepest condolences to Her Majesty the Queen, the Royal Family and the Royal Household in its entirety as well as to the people and Governments of the United Kingdom and nations of the Commonwealth. May God be praised for never ceasing to Bless the world with people in every nation and every sphere who really make a difference. Goodbye, Prince Philip.

Solace International is a UK registered charity (No. 1162864)



Solace speaks:

Some official statements issued by the Organisation on issues of the day (C)



The 2022 *Solace International* Trustees Annual Report (S.T.A.R. '22)



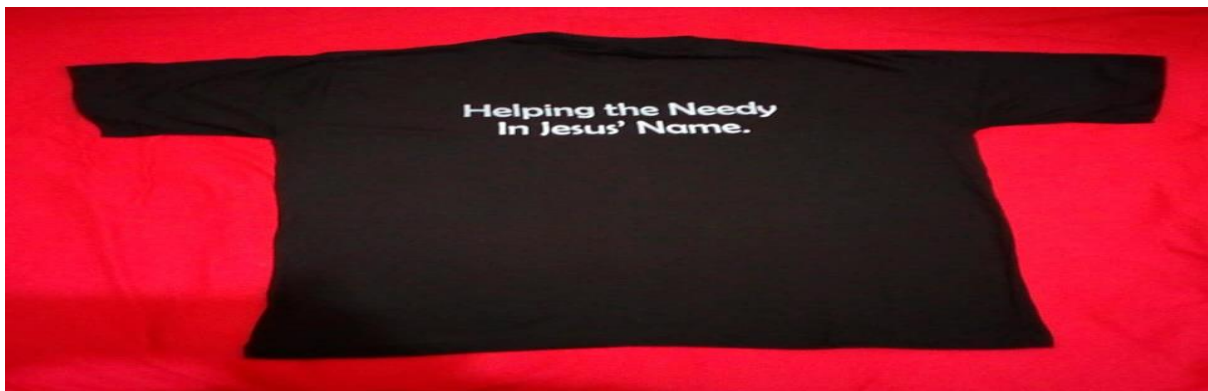
Images from the *Solace International* Administrative Headquarters in Kenya





More images from *Solace's* international Administrative Headquarters, Kenya





Some *Solace*-branded t-shirts





Faces from a Solace general meeting



What we do: In two simple words...Solace helps.

How we do it: We work with individuals, churches and other organisations to empower Christians against poverty. We offer training, small grants, help with education costs, capacity-building services, employability support, etc.

EEP Training Workbook manual by Pastor Joseph E - CA InterSolace

Where we do it: We have been active in several counties, most notably: Busia, Kakamega, Kiambu, Kilifi, Kisii, Machakos, Meru, Nairobi and Usin Gishu.

Who we help: We help individuals mainly, although we have some areas of support such as capacity-building and training which are tailored specifically for organisations. Although we do not discriminate against anyone, our key beneficiaries include women forced out of education or social circles due to pregnancy, Christians interested in setting up businesses or boosting existing ones, orphans, street children, widows, disabled people and people who have no food to eat.

Why we care: We care because...

- a.) God Created all people to have dignity; poverty is no reason to lose that Blessing.
- b.) It is not the work of the Kenyan Government alone to improve lives: we all must help.
- c.) We want to champion a new Kenya where every person thinks more about being nice and helpful to others.



EEP Trainees

EEP Training Session



How you can support us

There are three ways by which you can support us:

1.) Financially and/or materially. You can make a donation of money and material resources; you could also leave us a legacy; the best option of all though, is for you to make a regular commitment like every week, every month, every quarter, etc. Remember: nothing is too little and nothing is too much. But whatever you give, it's all for a good cause and will surely help us give support to even more people.

You can donate to us using at least one of the following means:

- a.) M-Changa Paybill No. **891300** Account No. **24732** (no transaction charges)
- b.) By cheque. Please make cheques payable to: Intersolace Organisation
- c.) Safaricom Lipa Na Mpesa (Buy Goods) Till Number **778471** (Intersolace Organisation)
- d.) If you prefer direct payments our account details are: Name of Bank: Family Bank, Cargem Account Number: **014 000 047 225** Account holder: Intersolace Organisation
- e.) Cash. We generally do not accept or encourage cash payments. However, if that is the only means convenient to you, please call our number and we will arrange collection.

We also have donation envelopes which can be delivered to you upon request or picked up from our office, during any of our activities, etc. Please note, when making a donation (except in cash), you must include a reference. This will help us know who gave the money; references are also helpful for accounting purposes. Please use Reference: 'DONATION' followed by your name. Thank you and may your gift speak for you in many places – to God's Glory!

2.) Volunteering. We need volunteers. A volunteer is someone who works or gives their time to a cause or organisation without expecting to be paid for it. There are over one billion volunteers in the world and you could be one of them. Time they say is money – but at Solace we disagree: we believe, time is far greater than money. So, support us with your time. There are many volunteer roles at Solace and you could be just the right person to fill one of them.

3.) Talk about us. We need publicity. You could help us by telling other people about us and/or linking us to donors, sponsors and philanthropists. We are doing so much for those in need, but no one will know and nobody will care if we don't get the message out. So, please talk to others about us. Oh – and that includes God. Talk to Him about Solace and all those other lovely organisations doing great stuff for people in need. Pray for us. Please.

See the list at the back of this brochure for more information about other groups like ours which are doing so much for God's People in Kenya



A Solace publicity flier





Solace International

www.solace.international

Helping God's People – "Salt of the Earth...Light of the World", taste better and shine brighter

Tel: +44 741 742 5958 , +254 77 33 14 14 7 , 56a Mitcham Road CR0 3RG

Email: solaceinternational@yahoo.co.uk; info@solace.international

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

The UK Government's NHS-Targeting No Job, No Job Policy

Solace International wishes to respond to the recent declaration made by the UK's Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to the effect that National Health Service (NHS) employees – the same ones we were asked to applaud as frontline heroes/heroines not so long ago, must have the COVID-19 vaccinations by the start of April 2022 – or lose their jobs. We note that this declaration comes on the eve of the deadline for care workers to have the vaccinations or also lose their jobs. In effect, a 'No Job, No Job' policy.

It is important to emphasise here, that Solace International recognises and supports the UK Government's leadership role in the war against COVID-19. We also accept that it is the duty of every government to protect its people.

Nonetheless, Solace International is of the position that even governments must operate within rules. The UK Health Secretary's position if allowed to stand, would have the effect in all likelihood, of among other things:

- 1.) Putting thousands of patients' health in serious jeopardy
- 2.) Placing the NHS under huge strain at a time we are meant to be protecting it as the Secretary himself admitted
- 3.) Creating more unemployment
- 4.) Increasing household poverty
- 5.) Infringing on a wide range of human rights
- 6.) Breaking the Law
- 7.) Creating an atmosphere of fear
- 8.) Giving rise to a new form of discrimination
- 9.) Polarising the country further and
- 10.) Deifying COVID

For these reasons, Solace International holds that the Health Secretary should reconsider his position. We commend him for setting the deadline so far into the future as this would afford him the opportunity of listening to different opinions on the matter and ensuring he is making the wisest decision. More should be done to understand, address and allay any misgivings about the vaccine, rather than make criminals of those who object to it.

Unavoidably, the question will arise as to why if the COVID-19 vaccinations are so vital, the April deadline is needed when the UK Government could also require a nearer deadline such as that given to care workers who as things currently stand, have only a few hours to take the vaccinations or become unemployed.

Like many Britons would testify, we are living in a time of untold economic hardship, social turmoil and moral dilemma. The UK Health Secretary's position demonstrates a lack of sensitivity and is most definitely not to the Glory of God. As an organisation concerned with poverty alleviation and the furtherance of the Christian Faith, Solace International calls upon the UK Health Secretary to reconsider his position and in so doing, ensure that the negative outcomes outlined above are avoided.

Solace International is a UK registered charity (No. 1162864)



Solace International communique on the UK Government's 'No Job, No Job' policy





DWP and HMRC debt cancellation for low-income individuals and families across the UK

As the UK's cost of living remains steadily on the rise and poverty levels get worse, people on low incomes are being squeezed on every side. The result goes beyond the financial/economic with outcomes such as more families breaking up, higher rates of depression, increased reliance on food banks, more missed child support payments, as well as greater numbers of people resorting to desperate measures, including but not only, substance misuse, prostitution and even suicide.

Britain's charities and community groups are under strain with falling donations despite increased demands on their resources. Thankfully, the UK Government has come out with some initiatives to provide much-needed support where it is most needed. However, there is need – not just for more money, but more relief. Many families and individuals are having to make huge repayments back to the Department for Works and Pensions (DWP) and His Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC).

Clearly, some of these repayments are as a result of carelessness or proven fraudulent claims, although many are undoubtedly because of the DWP's and HMRC's own errors. Irrespective of underlying issues relative to each case of such repayments, *Solace International* believes that debt relief from the DWP and HMRC will be as helpful to low-income families as any vouchers and cash injections which the UK Government has so far provided or planned.

Duly, we call on the UK Government to facilitate the immediate and unconditional cancellation of all DWP and HMRC debts hanging over the heads of families and individuals on low incomes. This will not only ease their economic burden, but boost mental health, as well as protect millions of socioeconomically vulnerable people across the UK from spending years making repayments which could send them further into poverty, with all its implications for the future of the country.



Solace International communique calling on the UK Government to cancel low-income families' debts to DWP and HMRC





QUEEN ELIZABETH II (1926-[1952]-2022)

Queen Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth and Defender of the Faith* ('the Queen'), has died, according to an official release by Buckingham Palace. She was ninety-six years old. *Solace International* and *InterSolace Organisation* note the Queen's passing with profound sadness. Our thoughts and prayers are with the New King and Queen Consort, as well as all other members of the British Royal Family – in addition to the Church of England, the entire Anglican family worldwide, plus all the Queen's loved ones, her subjects, admirers and fans in the United Kingdom and elsewhere. We are grateful to God the King Above all kings (and queens) for the Gift to us of Queen Elizabeth II, as well as her times and everything she meant to each person who either contacted or discussed her. God Made of the late Queen, a truly remarkable public servant, as well as an exemplary woman and mother. May the LORD be praised in all things and may the new King who succeeds the Queen, have the LORD's Favour. May the LORD God Almighty Bless Continually, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, all the Queen's Realms and every other nation across the Earth. Amen.

***Solace International* communique following the passing of Her late Majesty, the Queen**





QUEEN ELIZABETH II (1926-[1952]-2022)

In accordance with the Will of God against which no man, woman or power can stand, the United Kingdom lost its queen last week as most of us know. The passing of Queen Elizabeth II (1926-[1952]-2022) means different things to different people. To many though, her death means, nothing. For them, it is just another death. Solace International would like to remind us however, of our Christian duty to **"mourn with those who mourn"*** (Rom 12:15). We can do this by at least being respectful and remembering that whatever her faults may have been and whatever we think of Britain's past, she was human; more importantly, she was not just a monarch, but a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. As Jesus Told us (Matt 7:12), we must treat others like we would wish to be treated. Let us therefore as People of God, steer clear of rude, insolent and nasty comments, remembering that each of us will cease to live on this planet one day, just as she has. May God Guide us to show kindness to all, whenever, wherever and however we can, in line with His Plan of Love for Humanity and all Creation. Amen.

Second *Solace* communique following the Queen's death



The 2022 *Solace International* Trustees Annual Report (S.T.A.R. '22)



Solace International: The Glory is God's – and His Alone.





Final Word

Solace will early in 2023 – Deo Volente, publish its business plan outlining what we hope to achieve over the next twelve months. As the LORD Permits, a second report later in the year will outline our plans for the next five years. The report will form part of S.T.A.R. '23.

Our plan highlights our abiding concern for those in need – and our determination to do more. For men and boys. There is a looming but barely noticeable catastrophe in the deliberate disempowerment of males as governments and organisations focus on women and children.

Like we warned in last year's report, this active discrimination against (and sometimes demonisation of) men, is we believe, laying the unfortunate and dangerous foundations for a more serious problem in the future where men become a new 'problem' for governments, etc.

Among the many reasons why a lot of people have been supporting women and families is their belief that in the past men have benefited most from – and/or dominated, the best of the world's resources, while women and children have been marginalised.

Copious historical-cum-statistical data back this belief, thus justifying actions taken as a result. However, *Solace International* does not believe that the best solution to the perceived historical dominance by men of the world's resources is supporting women and children in a way that marginalises men. A persistent and near-universal anti-male support agenda means that in the next few decades – or even years, the world could find itself in a situation where men are greatly disempowered – so Humanity is forced to come up with ways to (re-)empower them.

Evidence in effect suggests that the earlier we start on this looming but avoidable crisis, the better. As such, *Solace International* is looking to support men as heads of families, as fathers – as well as in dealing with issues such as anger management, domestic violence, child-rearing, etc.





THERE IS NO JOURNEY UPON THIS EARTH THAT A MAN MAY NOT MAKE IF HE SETS HIS HEART TO IT. THERE IS...NOTHING THAT HE CANNOT DO, THERE ARE NO MOUNTAINS HE MAY NOT CLIMB, THERE ARE NO DESERTS HE CANNOT CROSS...AS PROVIDENCE MAY ORDER – Henry Rider Haggard (1856-1925).⁵⁹

⁵⁹ According to Dos Santos (2019), Sir Henry Rider Haggard was among other things, an agriculturalist, a civil servant, reformer, politician and writer.





Approved by the *Solace International* Board of Trustees and

Dated Saturday, the seventeenth day of September, in the Year of Our Lord, 2022.





"Let everything that has breath praise the LORD".

(Psalm 150:6) nkjv





CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Solace International
Solace International

No (if any)

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|----|------------------------------|
| For the period from | 01-Oct-19 01-Oct-20 | To | Period end date 30-Sep-21 |
|---------------------|------------------------|----|------------------------------|

Section A Receipts and payments

| | Unrestricted funds to the nearest £ | Restricted funds to the nearest £ | Endowment funds to the nearest £ | Total funds to the nearest £ | Last year to the nearest £ |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| A1 Receipts | | | | | |
| Dec-20 | 50 | - | - | 460 | 1,532 |
| Jan-21 | 997 | - | - | 2,072 | 540 |
| Feb-21 | 595 | - | - | 50 | 800 |
| Mar-21 | 1,176 | - | - | 997 | 1,067 |
| Apr-21 | 481 | - | - | 595 | 645 |
| May-21 | 736 | - | - | 1,176 | 1,101 |
| Jun-21 | 691 | - | - | 481 | 146 |
| Jul-21 | 1,475 | - | - | 736 | 706 |
| Aug-21 | 1,326 | - | - | 691 | 671 |
| Sep-21 | 835 | - | - | 1,475 | 1,340 |
| Oct-21 | 460 | - | - | 1,326 | 1,909 |
| Nov-21 | 2,072 | - | - | 835 | 800 |
| Sub total (Gross income for AR) | 10,894 | - | - | 10,894 | 11,257 |
| A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table). | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total receipts | 10,894 | - | - | 10,894 | 11,257 |
| A3 Payments | | | | | |
| Dec-20 | - | - | - | - | 2,906 |
| Jan-20 | 928 | - | - | 928 | 1,028 |
| Feb-20 | 430 | - | - | 430 | 533 |
| Mar-20 | 1,228 | - | - | 1,228 | 1,189 |
| Apr-20 | 589 | - | - | 589 | 578 |
| May-20 | 663 | - | - | 663 | 663 |
| Jun-20 | 102 | - | - | 102 | 696 |
| Jul-20 | 1,339 | - | - | 1,339 | 1,442 |
| Aug-Nov 2020 | 4,605 | - | - | 4,605 | 2,062 |
| Sub total | 9,884 | - | - | 9,884 | 11,097 |
| A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table) | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total payments | 9,884 | - | - | 9,884 | 11,097 |
| Net of receipts/(payments) | 1,010 | - | - | 1,010 | 160 |
| A5 Transfers between funds | | - | - | - | - |
| A6 Cash funds last year end | | - | - | - | - |
| Cash funds this year end | 1,010 | - | - | 1,010 | 160 |

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of th

| Categories | Details | Unrestricted funds to nearest £ | Restricted funds to nearest £ | Endowment funds to nearest £ |
|---|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| B1 Cash funds | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | Total cash funds | - | - | - |
| | (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)) | Agreement Error | OK | OK |
| B2 Other monetary assets | Details | Unrestricted funds to nearest £ | Restricted funds to nearest £ | Endowment funds to nearest £ |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| B3 Investment assets | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| B5 Liabilities | Details | Fund to which liability relates | Amount due (optional) | When due (optional) |
| | | | - | |
| | | | - | |
| | | | - | |
| | | | - | |
| Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees | Signature | Print Name | Date of approval | |
| | N. Lamptey S. Wamweya | Naina Lamptey Samuel Wamweya | 22-Sep-21 | |
| | | | 22-Sep-21 | |

SOLACE INTERNATIONAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1162864

Accounts

Solace

International

www.solace.international

(No. 1162864)



The 2021 Solace International Trustees Annual Report

(‘Solace’)





Solace

Trustees Annual Report

(2021)



S.T.A.R. '21



The 2021 Solace International Trustees Annual Report



*Owing to current coronavirus-related restrictions this Report
has been prepared for presentation online in lieu of the
Organisation's Annual General Meeting (AGM)*





**In line with established *Solace* organisational practice,
this document also serves as
*Solace International's Annual General Report for the
Year of our Lord, 2021***



The 2021 Solace International Trustees Annual Report



*What Marvels the LORD Worked for
us; indeed, we are glad! - Ps 126:3 CJB*





All We See Is Beauty

The way by which we've come
Seems onerous to some
But as we look now back
Along that winding track
All that we can see
Is beauty and more beauty...

It never was once easy
We felt strained and stressed and queasy
But on and on we pressed
Though we'd been sorely pressed
Knowing that our duty
Was one of love and beauty...

Solace International
So brave and strong and rational



We fight in the Name of Perfection
 God our True Protection
 Who Gives us the True Booty
 Of boundless lovely Beauty!

- Joseph Dos Santos

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¹ This unique style of laying out a Table of Contents is the brainchild of Joseph E.G.D. Dos Santos (2019) and therefore duly acknowledged.



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Our Mission Statement

With the Lord Jesus Christ as our Flawless Role Model, *Solace's* Mission is to provide an excellent service positively impacting lives and always glorifying to God.





Foreword

Welcome to S.T.A.R. '21, the 2021 Trustees Annual Report for *Solace International* ('Solace'²). In this report we have by the Grace of God, outlined the progress of *Solace International* ('Solace') in achieving its aims and objectives. As is our wont, despite being a standalone document, S.T.A.R. '21 is presented as distinct from - and yet in continuation of (therefore building upon), previous annual reports of the Organisation. As such, to the Glory of God Who Alone is the Perfect, All-Transcending and Eternal Solace of all Creation - by His Love and in His Wisdom, this report uses in part or in whole at various points throughout, portions and sections which can also be found in previous reports, including but not only, last year's and that of the year before. We in fact hope in Him, that this shall continually be the case, for as long as *Solace International* abides. May it Please the LORD that this Organisation shall

² The name 'Solace' is generic - the aim being to serve as an umbrella name for the Organisation wherever it may be found. At present, Solace is registered in the United Kingdom, as **Solace International** and in the Republic of Kenya, as **InterSolace Organisation**.



long outlive its Founder and his contemporaries by as many generations as the Second Coming³ carries by.

Long live *Solace*...long live *Solace International*!



In His Footsteps

Like our Unfailing Role Model Jesus, the Only Christ, we aim to be - but positively so, different things to different people. Each of our actions will mainly seek to enhance the holistic advancement of any communities wherein as it Pleases the LORD, *Solace* is engaged - whether directly or otherwise. As was the Wont of our Lord Jesus Christ in Whose Footsteps we follow, *Solace* will always put the service user/client/customer ('needy') first; the needy will always be who, as well as what, drives us on and our services will generally be moulded around the needy as Guided by the Holy Spirit, Who alone Understands to Perfection our every need

³ See Matthew 25:31-46; Lk 1:9-11, etc.



as individuals and as people. As our Unfailing Role Model Christ also Did, *Solace* will always aim for the highest standards with God the Highest Standard, our Guide and Focus. We want to be unique in everything we are engaged in; we want to be well-known for our overall excellent quality of service and marvellous personnel; we want to maintain an unassailable position among the best in our chosen fields of endeavour. Simply put, we just want to be the best.

By the Grace of God, we will be the best.

Resolution

Following its Quarterly Meeting for Autumn 2021, the *Solace International* Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as 'The Solace Board', 'The Board' or 'The Trustees') resolved as follows:

- 1.) The Report covered by this resolution and contained in this document shall form the main body of the Organisation's Annual Report for 2021;
- 2.) The Report shall be designated and known as 'The 2021 Solace International Trustees Annual Report' or S.T.A.R. '21;
- 3.) The Report shall be presented at the Organisation's next Annual General Meeting (AGM) to be held online;



- 4.) The 2021 AGM is to be held before Christmas Day, 2021;
- 5.) In keeping with *Solace International* ('Solace') convention established in the Year of our Lord 2017, S.T.A.R. '21 shall be deemed officially complete and therefore closed, after Christmas Day, 2021;
- 6.) Official completion and closure shall include insertion of the accompanying report from *InterSolace Organisation* ('Solace Kenya') and any other Solace branch or affiliate in other countries as the case may be;
- 7.) It shall only be declared complete and closed also, once there is no possibility of updates as requested or mandated by the Governments (or relevant departments) of the countries where *Solace* actively operates.

Signed..... D.N. Mnyasa

Dephrose N. Mnyasa (for: Board of Trustees, *Solace International*)

SOLACE INTERNATIONAL: *Solace* in brief

Here in ten bullet-points, are a few things to know about *Solace International*...

- 1.) The term 'solace' is roughly synonymous with words like: *calm, comfort, consolation, encouragement, help, peace, relief, soothing, succour and support.*
- 2.) In that light, the word 'solace' reflects our chief purpose: to bring the effect of these synonyms to bear in the lives of many.
- 3.) *Solace* was conceptualised in the United Kingdom (UK), but began operating first in Kenya, in 2012, securing both UK and Kenya registration two years later.



- 4.) In Kenya, *Solace* operates as 'InterSolace Organisation'. In the UK, it is 'Solace International'. Solace is not registered anywhere else at present.
- 5.) *Solace* operates by the Grace of God, using Holy Bible Principles, although we are not part of any church. Nonetheless (in the UK and to a lesser extent, Kenya), we conduct our own (Christian) religious services and activities.
- 6.) We also believe in collaboration and so continue to work with others (individuals/organisations/groups).
- 7.) We aim to further the Christian Faith and to alleviate poverty.
- 8.) We also seek to touch at least one life in every nation and territory on Earth.
- 9.) There are over two hundred nations and territories in the world. So far, *Solace International* has supported individuals and groups in only thirty-nine (39) countries.⁴ We therefore, still have a long way to go.
- 10.) By the Grace of God, once we are sure we have touched at least one life in every nation and territory on Earth, we shall start the cycle again.

The Organisation's charitable objects

The objects of *Solace* are:

- a.) To benefit the public;
- b.) The advancement of the Christian Faith and
- c.) The prevention or relief of poverty.

⁴ See Appendix B.



Its aims and activities

We seek to honour God the Almighty Creator of All Life and Owner of Everything. We also seek to and testify of His Greatness and Goodness through our actions and activities in that light - and hoping to work in collaboration with other similar-minded groups or individuals, the aims of *Solace International* are chiefly to:

- Be and remain, an international organisation operating across several continents of the world;
- Further the Christian Faith through the use of apostolic and deaconate means;
- Empower people and groups against poverty in all its forms, using a prudent but radical understanding of 'poverty'.

Activities (What the charity does)

Solace in furtherance of its aims, engages in general charitable purposes as well as the following:

- a.) Education and training;
- b.) Prevention and relief of poverty;
- c.) Religious activities;
- d.) Economic/community development;
- e.) Promotion and support of diversity, equality, human rights, racial harmony, and religious tolerance.



Who the charity helps

Solace International helps the general public and Mankind. In other words, we are not particular or discriminatory about who we help. The help we give is however subject to variables, such as:

- (1.) The availability of relevant human, financial and other resources;
- (2.) Strict criteria as set forth in the Organisation's Constitution, Beneficiaries Policy and/or other governing documents;
- (3.) Any other criteria laid down by the *Solace International* Board of Trustees.

How the charity works

There are several ways by which we work to achieve the above, the main one being that:

- a.) *Solace International* makes grants to individuals and to organisations;⁵
- b.) We also develop and provide human resources;
- c.) *Solace International* offers governance and capacity-building support;

⁵ We do not offer loans. We have experimented with doing so (offering interest-free loans in support of small businesses and serious family challenges), but discovered that lending money although potentially of greater value/benefit to those who receive them, generates levels of dishonesty and ill-will almost impossible to describe - or even understand. Lending is in our opinion, for a small charity such as this, more trouble than it is worth and so the decision has been made to ditch the idea.



- d.) We are engaged in community-relevant training delivery, business support, as well as the facilitation of seminars and workshops;
- e.) Finally, *Solace* provides advocacy and advice/information as well as other services relevant to individuals in need and to communities.

In keeping with practice established in the original *Solace* Trustees Annual Report and maintained thereafter, as well as for ease of communication, this report uses the information bulleted under *Activities: What the Charity does* as subheadings in the two sections ('Successes', 'Failures') below. Also, in line with established *Solace* convention, the information under the other subheadings (e.g. 'Who the charity helps', 'How the charity works' and 'The Organisation's charitable objects', etc.) contributes to fleshing out the report in the relevant sections.

The Solace journey thus far: Reasons to smile

God Honours us with the Favour of Letting us experience success in a range of areas, as we improve on strides already made in years gone by. Even so, the below-stated successes are presented keeping in mind the Undying Words of our Lord Jesus Christ, as Recorded in the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke:



LIKEWISE, WHEN YE SHALL HAVE DONE ALL THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE COMMANDED YOU, SAY: "WE ARE UNPROFITABLE SERVANTS: WE HAVE DONE THAT WHICH WAS OUR DUTY TO DO"⁶

As noted in last year's Report, the vastness of what by the Ever-Bountiful Hand of God, we have so far achieved, is reflected in the Organisation's continued lack of corporate funding, regular donations or high publicity. We can never appreciate the LORD Almighty enough regarding His Goodness as Demonstrated through this charity in in the following pages. As continually we have pointed out, the key barometer by which *Solace International* evaluates achievements, regrets and areas for improvement is the list of what we set out to achieve.

| Area 1:⁷ Education and training | |
|---|----------------|
| Activity | Details |

⁶ Lk 17:10

⁷ These areas are marked with numbers for purposes of making the list easier to read. They do not reflect any kind of order or priority list.



**Seminars
and
workshops**

We believe that it is the Will of God, for people to be well educated, better informed and more empowered. “My People perish” He Says, “from lack of knowledge”.⁸ Thus, it is the position of *Solace International* that the more educated one is, the better able they would be to serve God optimally by among other things, contributing to the community and doing their best for their loved ones. *Solace* also holds, that the most effective antidote to the maladies of corruption, poverty and wanton violence (be it domestic, political, religious, ethnic or other) is through education. For this reason, *Solace* regularly puts on free training programmes. Depending on the topic and space, the programmes last from half a day (e.g. ‘Helping children settle in their new surroundings’) to twelve weeks (e.g. ‘*Solace* Enterprise Empowerment Programme’).

As part of the training programmes we deliver (usually completely free of charge⁹) *Solace* uses the Christian Sacred Scriptures (commonly known as ‘the Holy Bible’), together with a creative mix of written and non-written sources. The training we offer especially in business support and set-up will from next year, focus less on Christian principles and more on generally applicable ones. We aim in doing so, to make the training more attractive and accessible to a wider clientele. A full list of what programmes we offer accompanies this report (see: ‘Appendix D: The *Solace*’s

⁸ Hos 4:6

⁹ Where fees are applied, these are usually nominal and generally waived or reduced if the debtor so requests.



| | |
|--------------|--|
| | Training Programme’). |
| Books | <p><i>Solace</i> has collected and distributed since 2014, close to five thousand books. These have come from a myriad of sources including Joseph Dos Santos (the Organisation’s Founder), members of the public, abandoned publications, donated misprints, <i>Solace International</i> purchases, etc. The books tend to be mainly educational with a heavy bias for primary school-age readers. However, we have also distributed a good number of entertainment books such as novels, novellas and periodicals. We believe that reading enhances education, but reading would not be easy if it had to be without entertainment. For this reason, we have not restricted our work in this area to only academic textbooks or Christian religious publications. <i>Solace</i> continues to negotiate with schools and bookshops, both Christian and non-Christian, for more donations. In line with our aim of furthering the Christian Faith, the Organisation has also distributed so far, around a hundred bibles.</p> <p>In 2021, we have also engaged in storytelling and story-writing for children. Next year, <i>Solace International</i> hopes to work with selected parents on supporting children to tell and even write their own stories. Some of these stories will with their permission, be printed and published under the ‘<i>Solace International Publications</i>’ banner.</p> |



| Area 2: The prevention or relief of poverty (UK) | |
|---|--|
| Activity | Details |
| Foodbank | <p>In 2021, mainly due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a rise in manifestations of poverty across the United Kingdom - such as rough-sleeping, dumpster-diving and begging. As previously noted, several reports and research findings share the consensus that many UK families are unable to afford decent meals - even where the families have one or more gainfully employed breadwinners.¹⁰ It has also been noted, that one sign of neglect in child abuse cases is the continuous starvation and/or malnourishment of the child (Dos Santos, 2019). It has also been consistently found, that in a host of cases, families are unable to combine food purchases with paying of rents, utility bills, insurance and other costs.</p> <p>While (thanks to God) there are many food banks and other food provisions (e.g. soup kitchens and food hubs), some families are too embarrassed, ashamed or even afraid to visit food banks or openly express their need for help with food, creating an added vulnerability. In response, <i>Solace International</i> has supported the <i>H2G Food Hub</i> and is negotiating with several parties, to establish in 2022, a soup kitchen which could also serve as a one-stop shop for support in other areas (e.g. CV reviews, benefits advice and signposting). Furthermore,</p> |

¹⁰ As the references below demonstrate, there are several reasons for this. *Solace International* will God Willing, issue a report on the matter later this year (2021).



| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| | <p>the Organisation continues to operate its flagship <i>Foodbank With A Difference</i> wherein by means of a floating foodbank we go in search of the needy instead of waiting for them to find us. We are in doing so, walking in the Footsteps of Jesus Christ our Chief Role Model Who did not always Wait for those in need to approach Him: He more often than not, Moved around, Making Himself both available and accessible to those in need of His Goodness.</p> |
| <p>School support</p> | <p><i>Solace</i> continues to support schools in Kenya, to educate orphans and children from disadvantaged backgrounds. The level of support has however been scaled down in deference both to the Organisation’s lack of resources and the Organisation’s decision to reduce its involvement and presence in Kenya, effective 2021.¹¹ <i>Solace’s</i> schools support varies, depending on the institution - and can range from supporting children through school by paying for their school fees, school uniforms and other school-related needs, to availing them and/or their families, money for extra tuition, school meals and boarding.</p> |
| | <p><i>Solace</i> continues to support parents experiencing poverty to deal with their situation by breaking free from the cycle/bondage of poverty. The priority is in light of the current global health situation, no longer on single parents. Instead, we continue to generalise our</p> |

¹¹ The *Solace International* Board of Trustees later rescinded this decision as a result of which, Kenya continues to be the main focus of our work and resources. This situation is to be however, regularly reviewed between now and 2025 when by the Grace of God, a final decision on the matter would have been made.



**Poverty-
busting**

support in this area, on a case-by-case basis. Small cash grants have been made (UK and elsewhere), but other forms of support such as the supply of foodstuff, arrangements with restaurants and pharmacists (Kenya), as well as signposting (UK and elsewhere) have become the hallmark of our work in this area as the Organisation adjusts to what has come to be known as ‘the new normal’ (Maragakis, 2020). Nonetheless, the Organisation’s flagship *Solace* Enterprise Empowerment Programme (SEEP) which was temporarily shelved, has resumed since in our opinion, it is important to support as many people as we can, to stand up against COVID, its system, government and religion, by refusing to dwell in manufactured poverty, but instead breaking free through enterprise and self-employment wherever possible. This is to the Glory of God Whose Will it is that we “prosper and be in good health”¹². The SEEP will however as noted hitherto, shortly begin to diversify its conten, with the vision of making it more beneficial to a wider populace. In addition, we are working on an online version which hopefully would cost less and reach more: cost us less money and resources to deliver, but reach many more people.

¹² 3Jn: 2



**Collaborati
on**

We are building relationships with other organisations – including corporate, charitable, academic, religious and unregistered community groups both in Kenya and the UK.¹³ This will allow us to help even more people in other areas without having to take on the financial and other costs of registration and opening offices everywhere. It is also a chance to support other organisations towards achieving their own visions, aims and objectives. We are for instance, working with groups and individuals in Uganda, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Nigeria, Nepal, Namibia, Kenya, Ghana, Botswana and elsewhere. In light of current resource realities which the Organisation is currently having to live with, the collaborations have been largely informal and even indirect – such as our arrangements in Botswana, Ivory Coast, Ghana, etc. As with our collaborations in Vietnam, Pakistan, Jamaica, India, Barbados, etc., some of the arrangements are still at a very foetal stage. However, interagency working remains a key aspect of *Solace International's* modus operandi. In the UK and Kenya, *Solace* continues to be a part of and/or engaged with: *ACTS Church, Born Again Revival Tabernacle International, Kenya (BARTI-K), Croydon BME Forum, Croydon Voluntary Association (CVA), Deliverance Church International, Faiths Together in Croydon (FTiC), Groots-Mathare (Kenya), Hope Africa Community, Kingston Voluntary Action (KVA), Lambeth Voluntary Action (LVAC) Restoration*

¹³ Our letterheads reflect this as we tend to include at the bases of the documents, logos of most organisations we have worked or partnered with. Some groups are yet to be added though. They will be inserted as time goes on, subject to approval by the Trustees acting on the advice of the Chief Administrator.



World Revival Church (RWRC) and SOS Children's Village Buruburu (Kenya) among others.

Sadly however, for a variety of reasons highlighted by single words in the related footnotes, we have had to end or suspend our relationships with the following: *Africa Youth Development Association (AYDA),¹⁴ Be Different 365,¹⁵ Born Again Revival Tabernacle International, Malawi (BARTI-M),¹⁶ Born Again Revival Tabernacle International, Croydon (BARTI-UK),¹⁷ Circle of Parents (CoP),¹⁸ Croydon Food Network (CFN),¹⁹ Citizens,²⁰ Full Gospel Churches of Kenya Buruburu,²¹ Heads2Gether (H2G),²² House of Prayer For All Nations,²³ Kenya Assemblies of God,²⁴ Parent Champions²⁵ and Winners Chapel.²⁶ A short report explaining these reasons will be available before S.T.A.R. '22, God Willing.*

¹⁴ Self-focus.

¹⁵ Self-focus.

¹⁶ Corruption.

¹⁷ COVID.

¹⁸ Confusion.

¹⁹ Defunct.

²⁰ Ambiguity

²¹ Dishonesty.

²² Corruption.

²³ Defunct.

²⁴ Dishonesty.

²⁵ Confidentiality-breach

²⁶ Achieved.



Area 3: The prevention or relief of poverty (Kenya and elsewhere)

| Activity | Details |
|--------------------|---|
| Street kids | <p>Street children, 'street kids', or <i>chokora</i> as they are known in Kenya, are minors (typically aged between six and fifteen years old) who for a variety of reasons (e.g. abuse, being orphaned, victims of crime, running away from home, drug addiction, etc.) are forced to live on the streets. They can sometimes be spotted moving about the country's urban areas in dishevelled packs of five-to-fifty strong. They are particularly vulnerable to violent criminals and are also usually easy targets for lynch groups when a theft or other petty crime has occurred but the perpetrators are unknown or unclear.²⁷ Criminal and terror gangs also find them easy to aim for. We do not have the capacity for rehabilitating them, but <i>Solace</i> has provided food and money to many <i>chokoras</i>, as well as companionship which in the absence of formal counselling, has proven quite helpful - especially in the cold and lonely - even dangerous hours of the night when most law-abiding adults are home, law</p> |

²⁷ This is not to say that the street children are entirely innocent. In their desperation, they have been known to commit serious crimes such as violent robbery, severe assaults and the occasional rape. However, *Solace* takes the position that nonetheless, street children are as a whole (despite the unfortunate and opprobrious actions of a minority within the group), quite vulnerable, being easy targets for every kind of criminal and violent person (which in part explains why street children tend to move in packs...safety in numbers). It must also be remembered, that they are minors.



| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| | <p>enforcement agents are scarce leaving the streets bare, dangerous and lonely.</p> <p>In addition, <i>Solace International</i> has this year, appointed an official whose role is to find more ways of supporting children and parents whose levels of need force them onto the streets to beg or scavenge for sustenance.</p> |
| <p><i>Clothes supply</i></p> | <p>Between 2014 and 2021, <i>Solace International</i> has supplied more than eight thousand free clothes and shoes to those in need. Although in the past, <i>Solace</i> has also arranged for several individuals and groups to visit <i>Solace</i> premises to collect further consignments of clothes, in 2020, the focus was on ensuring that in the face of the current global health situation, no person who needed clothes was turned away empty-handed after coming to us. For the first time since the Organisation began this project in 2014, we have however completely run out of clothes as our stock numbering several thousands of clothes was emptied while we addressed the needs of those who turned to us. The supply of free clothes is a very important aspect of our work in the prevention or relief of poverty in Kenya where a large section of its people live below the poverty line and the buying of clothes is such a mountainous problem for many families. A small percentage of our clothes were given out in the UK as for only the second time in our history, we have had cases of people coming to <i>Solace</i> in England, for help with clothing. The only other time this has happened, was in 2015 when users of our then-static UK foodbank almost routinely made requests for clothes. The key</p> |



| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| | <p>difference was that in 2015, <i>Solace International</i> gave out around 45% of its clothes collection in the UK, whereas in 2020, the UK figure stands at around 25%. The UK requests were this time round, also often distinct from rather than connected to, food requests, unlike in 2015, when not a single request for clothes in the UK came from persons who did not also require help with food.</p> |
| <p>Cash grants</p> | <p>As already indicated, <i>Solace International</i> continues to make cash grants to those in need. The Organisation does not however, give loans. Our reasons for this can be found in the TAR for last year and the year before – although we have added a supplementary-cum-complementary reason in this Report.²⁸ That said, is an inevitable aspect of the Organisation’s work that we make cash grants wherever and whenever we can. The grants are however, usually small and even so, only where there is no other alternative. All grants are subject to the availability of funds as well as strict criteria as laid out in our Beneficiaries Policy and the decision of the Trustees. This year, <i>Solace International</i> has made grants to beneficiaries in Botswana, Ghana, Malawi, Nepal and Nigeria.</p> |

| Area 4: Religious activities | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Activity | Details |
| | In spite of the restrictions on movement across the |

²⁸ Please, see: *How the charity works*, above. Thank you.



***The
'Towards'
Reports***

world in general and Kenya as well as the UK in general, the Organisation has managed to support a church in Kenya with this unique capacity-building tool. As indicated in previous TARs, every year since 2012, *Solace International* has contributed to the capacity-building of at least one church. The support offered in this regard ranges widely from helping to set up a youth and teens ministry (*Winners Chapel*, Malindi, Kenya), through to observing what could be going wrong in a church and suggesting ways to put it right (*Hope Africa*, Syiokimau, Kenya) to simple church planting (*Born Again Revival Tabernacle International* [BARTI] UK). In all, we have so far provided such support for more than ten churches and Christian ministries. The support usually culminates in a report with a title that begins: 'Towards' (e.g. '*Towards A Better Youth Ministry*', '*Towards Clearer Communication*', '*Towards A Stronger Church*', etc.). The reports allow us to build, maintain and present a colourful portfolio of our work in this unique area of Christian ministry, while furnishing the ministries involved, their leaderships as well as others corporate and individual, who may learn from them, with the unique tool of an interested outsider's keen eye as they seek to glorify God and meet people's expectations through the work they do in His Name, by His Grace and to His Glory.

It must be added here however, that as part of our diversification approach, the 'Towards' reports have not been strictly restricted to supporting churches. For instance, in 2016, we prepared one for *Ashleys Hair and Beauty Academy* (Kenya) and this year, we prepared one



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| | for <i>Heads2gether</i> aka 'H2G' (UK). |
| <i>Preaching engagements</i> | Although we are an intrinsic and inextricable part of the Church – the Bride of Jesus Christ, <i>Solace International</i> does not refer to itself as a church and is not affiliated to any church. Our work nonetheless, is centred on furtherance of the Gospel. This has brought us to the attention of several Christian leaders who have been glad to honour our Founder and by extension, <i>Solace International</i> , with the privilege of speaking God’s Word from their pulpits, altars, sanctuaries and other exclusive platforms. Since 2020, there have been over a hundred of such engagements. <i>Solace International</i> also has its own Christian fora – such as its <i>WhatsApp</i> -based daily preaching and prayer platforms. |
| <i>Evangelisation</i> | In the area of evangelisation, <i>Solace</i> continues to work with other entities in reaching out to God’s People on the streets of not only Kenya and the United Kingdom, but Botswana, Ghana, India, Nigeria, Nepal, Pakistan, Portugal, Sri Lanka and South Africa. In addition (as already indicated above), our training programmes (especially those to do with leadership, counselling skills and enterprise empowerment) generally contain Bible-based material, although (as also indicated above) we are working on a non-Bible-based alternative. |
| <i>Bible distribution</i> | <i>Solace</i> continues to acquire through a variety of means including purchase and donations, bibles which are then distributed free of charge, to those who need but cannot afford to buy them. In 2019, <i>Solace</i> received from <i>St Francis Anglican Parish, Monks Hill (Selsdon, Surrey)</i> , |



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| <p>n</p> | <p>the generous donation of ten bibles. These wonderful gifts are passed over to those who need them. This year, we have made available, two children's bibles - continuing a practice dating back to 2017, since when we have supplied over fifty children's bibles - especially (though not only) in Kenya. This year, we have managed to supply so far, only one adult bible. Such unique efforts are of course, quite expensive in terms of time and funds, but we are as always, quite glad as well as humbled and honoured, to serve the LORD and His People in this way.</p> |
| <p>Other support for the wider Church</p> | <p>Although not as part of any formal agreement or arrangement, <i>Solace International</i> continues to support directly and indirectly, with cash and other resources, a variety of Christian charities. We also work hard to sensitise Christians to the fact that giving to other Christian charities is part of the obligation of giving to the Work of God. This year alone, we have made an estimated forty-plus calls via our channels, encouraging our friends to support other charities. While endeavouring not to favour any, we have specifically mentioned <i>Open Doors</i> which supports the persecuted Church around the world - and for which <i>Solace International</i> organised an awareness night a few years ago. As noted in last year's report, since 2019, we have been adding profiles of Christian charities at the backs of our publications. As indicated in last year's TAR, our newsletter, social media platforms and website all reflect this. In addition, <i>Solace</i> continues to support even more ministries across the world with a monthly</p> |



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| | tithe on income generated, as mandated in the <i>Solace Tithe and Tithing Policy</i> . |
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| Area 5: Economic/community development/employment | |
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| Activity | Details |
| Collaborations | This year, we have in Kenya mainly, supported around fifteen small-scale businesses. We have backed them with money and other resources. In addition, we are supporting five groups to register formally as charities or charitable organisations in the UK, Nigeria and Kenya. This shows that our range of collaborations has undulated colourfully - even as we have ended certain collaborations and taken on new ones, while continuing a few others. ²⁹ The support we have given includes but does not stop at: free use of our office in Kenya, free secretarial and registration services, professional and semi-professional advice on operating in the voluntary sector, financial support, free or low-priced policy drafting, etc. |

Area 6: Human rights, religious or racial harmony,

²⁹ Please see 'Collaboration' under Area 2 above. Thank you.



equality or diversity

| <i>Activity</i> | <i>Details</i> |
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| <i>Domestic violence</i> | In addition to the contents of this section in last year’s Report, we note that the appointment of an official dubbed ‘Acting Director of Women’s Affairs and Families’, ³⁰ will go a long way in supporting people to deal more effectively with domestic violence and its fallout. Much of our work in this area will for now be concentrated in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa (as it has done so far), but it is anticipated that this would soon change - expanding over the coming years, to include Europe and the Americas. |
| <i>Employee abuse</i> | The abuse or maltreatment of employees is a socioeconomic problem which transcends all races and cultures across the world. We are actively engaged in supporting victims wherever and whenever we can. For reasons of confidentiality and sensitivity however, we regret that we will not give any details in this document, other than to state that this is a problem that has actually resulted in threats to <i>Solace</i> staff, but which irrespective of the dangers involved, we will continue to challenge - and challenge with firmness, to the Glory of God Who has Ruled that all employees must be treated fairly and considerately. ³¹ |
| | One of the aspects of poverty not often viewed as being connected to the problem, is advocacy. Many people are |

³⁰ A title which is likely to change slightly, to make it less of a mouthful, in the coming months.

³¹ The Holy Bible’s Gospel According to Saint Luke (Lk) 10:7 and Saint Paul’s First Letter (possibly) to Timothy col 4:1; 1Tim 5:18; Jas 5:4, etc.



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| <p>Letters and advocacy</p> | <p>poor because they have no strong voice and no one to speak out/up for them. At <i>Solace</i>, we have continued however, to provide understated but quite effective support in this area for members of the public. We have found though, that the need for this service tends to vary according to country and culture. In addition. <i>Solace</i> continues to help many prospective job seekers in the production of very presentable CVs, cover letters and personal statements. In 2021 alone, we have given written/writing support to over ninety people and groups - most of them from the UK. Since 2014, we have supported close to one thousand - and hope to cross the one-thousand threshold before the end of 2021.</p> |
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| <p>Area 7: General</p> | |
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| <p>Activity</p> | <p>Details</p> |
| <p>Family</p> | <p><i>Solace</i> provides a free service in which we bring estranged family members back together. One of our greatest successes was the reconciliation in 2017, of a father and daughter who had not spoken for almost fifteen years, having lost contact with each other during that time. The daughter approached us and through social media as well as other lines of enquiry, we managed to track him down in another part of the country and link them with each other again. Another area covered by this section of our work, is regarding men who deny paternity of children it is reasonable to</p> |



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| | believe they have sired. We work to bring resolution to these situations as this ensures that irrespective of the rancour which may have overshadowed their parents' relationships, the children caught up in such situations can receive the support which as the Holy Bible Makes clear, they are entitled to from their fathers. |
| Targeting | It is still the case, that <i>Solace</i> works with individuals as well as communities in support of those who though in need, fail to meet specific criteria and so are unable to receive the help they need. We endeavour where possible, to identify such individuals and then provide relevant support within reason and according to our means. |
| Policies | <p><i>Solace</i> has continued to enhance its capacity-building through the compilation and application of relevant policies. We now have a total of twenty-five policies. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Accounts <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficiaries <input type="checkbox"/> Child Protection and Safeguarding <input type="checkbox"/> Complaints <input type="checkbox"/> Conflict of Interest <input type="checkbox"/> Data Protection <input type="checkbox"/> Enterprise Empowerment <input type="checkbox"/> Equal Opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Food Hygiene and Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Health and Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Holiday <input type="checkbox"/> Invoice <input type="checkbox"/> Office Share <input type="checkbox"/> Tithe and Tithing <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer policies. |
| | Despite the almost indescribable financial pressures we are under, <i>Solace</i> has refused to cut corners such as |



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| <p><i>Integrity</i></p> | <p>engaging in bribery. Bribery has remained an almost immovable issue in Kenya. In the UK, <i>Solace</i> invariably returns or rejects (i.e. refuses to collect or accept) all donations where doubts exist or persist, as to the source and/or motive of the donations in question.</p> |
| <p><i>Expanded reach</i></p> | <p>For the second year running, <i>Solace International</i> has managed to generate revenue from beyond the UK. <i>WoW Sanctuary</i> based in Juja (Kenya), pledged in August this year, to be making regular monthly donations to <i>Solace</i> until February 2022 when this shall be reviewed. A revenue drive across some of the nations we are engaged with is also planned for later this year. This year also, we have supported people in India, Namibia and Pakistan. We are seeking to do the same for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in light of the volcanic eruptions occurring there, as well as Lebanon, Peru and Venezuela, following the near collapse of their economies. As always, <i>Solace International</i> is acting with wisdom rooted in reality. We therefore remain aware, that we cannot do much for any country as a whole, but we can at the very minimum, bring relief - <u><i>solace</i></u> in fact, to at least one person in each country. By the Grace of God our Everlasting Provider and Guide, we hope to find reliable partners in these and other places before the publication of our next Annua Report.</p> |



Let us remember...

...that these reasons to smile, are only a selection taken from a beautiful range of many more. *Solace International* remains firm, focused and fired up as we seek by the Grace of God and to His Glory, to keep labouring in the Divine Vineyard, while receiving in all humility, such Victories as it Pleases Him to Grant us. We know that there are - and will always be, many other organisations which as the LORD would Have it - although better-resourced than *Solace International*, have been unable to achieve this much. That realisation is however balanced against the equal Truth, that there are - and will always be, other organisations with even far less resources than God has Granted this Organisation, which have performed far better than *Solace International*. That said, successes are always worth celebrating - no matter what size, shade or shape they come in, since all good things Flow to us on Earth from Heaven Above, to the Glory of God the Father of Lights, with Whom there is no shadow of turning.³² He Guides us to aim for more and for higher, even when we find ourselves looking at some of the mountains before us - and scratching our heads...

³² Jas 1:17



The Solace journey thus far: Scratching our heads

It has Pleas'd the LORD in His Infinite Wisdom, that we should be humbled by several areas for improvement, some of which are outlined below. The same format as in the case of our reasons to smile above, has been used here.

| Area 1: Education and training | |
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| Activity | Details |
| <i>Books</i> | Despite the huge need for same, we still are unable to acquire enough books for distribution to those in need. The demand far outstrips the supply. Surprisingly, this issue has never made it onto the agenda of any of our Trustees meetings - and the Organisation's Administrators have not discussed it either. The failure here therefore, is not simply in our inability to acquire more books, but in the fact that we do not have any idea why this situation persists (despite the observations on the matter made in last year's Report). Clearly, there is room - and need, for improvement if we are to adequately and appropriately address this issue. |
| <i>Training programmes</i> | This year, the challenges we faced in this area have been not only different from those of last year, but singularly unique. The current global pandemic has led to a rise in online education and training which has in turn generated a greater uptake of online academic and empowerment services. For reasons as yet unclear, <i>Solace International</i> has not taken advantage of this new and truly exciting opening, despite its potential for better publicity, higher revenue generation and greater |



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| | reach. |
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| Area 2: The prevention or relief of poverty (UK) | |
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| Activity | Details |
| Material and cash reliefs | <p>The alleviation and ultimate defeat of poverty remain a huge part of our work; it is a job the Organisation takes quite seriously. Thus, as hitherto noted, <i>Solace International</i> provides to those in need, material reliefs such as clothes and financial support in the form of small grants. This it may be argued, is a laudable approach (Blattman, Fiala, and Martinez, 2014; Mora, 2017). Going by expert opinion in some quarters however, this approach is nonetheless, dubitable (Aizenman, 2017). It has in fact been noted, that: “(Although) giving money directly to poor people works surprisingly well...it cannot deal with the deeper causes of poverty” (Orton, 2013). <i>Give Directly</i> is an organisation which simply gives money to the poor (Give Directly, 2020). It has however been suggested that while the <i>Give Directly</i> approach is unique, direct and at least a provider of short-term relief, raw cash gifts cannot on their own solve the problem of poverty. (Starr and Hattendorf, 2014). As noted last year, <i>Solace International</i> is still struggling to formulate an effective poverty alleviation approach - one that would not weigh the Organisation down as we endeavour to support those in need.</p> |



Area 3: Religious activities

| Activity | Details |
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| <i>Pastors' breakfasts and other activities</i> | <p><i>Solace International</i> is still working almost exclusively with mainly Pentecostal churches. This is a poor reflection of our broad outlook in which we seek to favour no denominations and to work with all. We are in addition, unable to recommence <i>Solace</i> Pastors' Breakfasts which we completely stopped shortly after last year's Annual Report. It is true that the COVID-19 situation has had its impact on many religious organisations' activities,, but as an Organisation which prioritises the Law of God Above those of Man, believes firmly in His Promises and trusts totally in the Divine Protection as Highlighted in Sacred Scriptures³³ and beyond, we know that no disease or threat should stand in our way. We refuse therefore to blame anything but ourselves for this shortcoming which at any rate, we intend to address squarely by August, 2022, having failed to reach a decision on the matter at the <i>Solace</i> Trustees' meeting billed for Spring, 2021. Our bible distribution still inadequate and would therefore need improving as well. The policy to govern collection and distribution of bibles is also yet to be drafted, despite assurances given in last year's Annual Report.</p> |

³³ For instance, various Psalms (e.g. 1, 34, 91, etc.), Is 54, Jer 29, Jn 19:11, etc.



**Area 4: Economic/community
development/employment**

| Activity | Details |
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| Collaborations | <p>We have long recognised, that working together is an aspect of charitable work which will benefit all stakeholders greatly and so should be encouraged and promoted with gusto. It is also an essential aspect of Christianity which places great emphasis on unity “for there has God Commanded the Blessing”.³⁴ It is indeed true that <i>Solace</i> continues to see the benefits of collaboration; it is also true however, that we are yet to reach our full potential regarding such engagements, with like-minded organisations in the UK, Kenya and elsewhere.³⁵ In some cases, negotiations for working together appear to be taking too long. For instance (as noted in our previous annual reports), a collaborative</p> |

³⁴ Ps 133:3.

³⁵ As last year’s TAR showed, the feelers we sent out to various groups Christian and otherwise, have yielded mixed outcomes. Even now one year on – probably due to the global pandemic (although this would be too simplistic and sweeping a factor to be accepted as solely responsible), arrangements with potential partners in places such as Barbados, Jamaica, Pakistan, Rwanda, St Lucia, Vietnam and Zambia remain at a germinal stage – although to the Glory of God, our solid relationships with groups and individuals in Ghana, Malawi, Nepal, Nigeria and South Africa are looking good. The orphanage in Uganda which we were supporting, remains under sanction though, following their abiding failure to demonstrate transparency in the use of the financial and other resources we sent them in past years. The Trustees determined last year, on the advice of the Organisation’s Chief Administrator, that sanctions against the orphanage will remain in place until the conclusion of a fact-finding mission which we plan for after the current COVID-19 situation eases.



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| | <p>effort between <i>Deliverance Church</i>, Kahawa, Kenya, took eighteen months to arrange, while over two years following initial talks, our attempt at collaboration with several corporate bodies in different countries (including but not only, Kenya and the UK) are yet to yield any real fruit. The challenge for <i>Solace</i> here is not simply the stalled, staggered or stopped negotiations, but the very crucial need for gaining a clearer awareness of the collaboration landscape, as this would enable the Organisation to choose prospective partners more carefully, while steering clear of drawn-out negotiations which are often ultimately unnecessary, but a truly frustrating waste of precious (and in some cases - irreplaceable) resources such as confidence, esteem/respect, focus, scarce funds, time, etc.</p> |
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| Area: General | |
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| Activity | Details |
| Publicity | <p>Our fully operational website³⁶ is now about one year old - although establishing a viable social media presence continues to be a challenge - despite our presence on several platforms.³⁷ Sadly however, we have had to in some respects, fight to maintain our social media presence - the keyword being <i>surviving</i> rather than</p> |

³⁶ www.solace.international

³⁷ We are now on: WhatsApp (+447904027127 - three platforms), Twitter (@a1solace), Telegram, LinkedIn, Instagram, and Facebook (Solace Kimataifa).



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| | <p><i>thriving</i>. This is chiefly because of the deliberate sabotage we had to endure at the hands of <i>Solace</i> staff who had grievances against the Organisation or its personnel (their colleagues) which were not resolved to their satisfaction. In their ire, they sought to damage or eliminate our internet capacities.³⁸ In addition, we are for these and other reasons under review, still failing to ensure <i>Solace International</i> and the wonderful work we do, receive as much publicity as possible, so the Organisation remains unnoticed by - and/or unattractive to benefactors. We remain optimistic all the same, that by the Grace of God, before S.T.A.R. '23, these issues would have been successfully resolved.</p> |
| <p>Funding</p> | <p>The point has been made in previous TARs, that <i>Solace International</i> is not in receipt of funding from any source. The Organisation considers this to be a failure because there is always funding available, even if <i>Solace International</i> has neither identified nor applied for any so far. We have also not registered for Gift Aid - a failure which has potentially denied us thousands of Pounds. The matter has unfortunately persisted in the sense that we have not received any funding - although</p> |

³⁸ Our Website Administrator chose to disengage with the Organisation and stopped working with the web designer whom we had contracted (part of the Web Administrator's role was to support this person); the web designer on his part, began issuing threats effectively suggesting he could pull our website down; he also tried pitting some of the Organisation's officials against each other, while our Admin for the Facebook page *Intersolace Organization* actually deactivated the page, so that if we had not maintained *Solace Kimataifa* (and under a different Admin), we would have been at least temporarily, without a Facebook presence. Thanks to God, we have dealt with the situation firmly, fully and (we hope) finally by first breaking the hold of all three persons over the Organisation's social media and other potential. We have also re-established our internet presence and firmed up the governance structure to ensure we would never have to face such issues again. The search for a new web designer is however, still on. We are confident that in His Own Time and Way, the LORD will Guide us to a new and highly reliable person. Amen!



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| | thank God, compared to past years when the Organisation's funds sometimes nosedived steeply, our income for the moment continually shows improvement. ³⁹ |
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Let us also remember...

...that these points whereupon we are left scratching our heads, are in no way, reasons to be despondent or to lose hope. We take great strength from the stories of other groups and individuals – both in antiquity and in our day, whose lives and times have borne out the Divine Truth in the Question: “...Who has despised the day of small things?”. At *Solace International*, we know that although we are not always sprinting, we are at the very least, moving; what is more: we are moving in the right

³⁹ That said, the situation remains, that in the absence of funding, the Founder a freelance writer, donates around ninety-five per cent of all his income to *Solace International*. It is also a failure on the Organisation's part that despite our formal and informal engagements in over thirty countries (see Appendix B), a sizable portion of the Organisation's income continues to be spent on our work and interests in Kenya.



direction – all by the Grace of God, by Whose Love and Wisdom we are Reminded of an old poem which talks of small steps and heavy loads:

*Have you ever seen a tortoise going slowly on its way –
Slowly creeping, slowly crawling – fifty yards in half a day?
Why so slowly – oh so slowly, does it creep from place to
place
With that very – oh so very, tired look upon its face?
It is not because it's lazy – or because it's old and slow:
If you were carrying a house on your back – how quickly
would you go?"*

- Author

unknown

Thus, even as we find ourselves scratching our heads while we stand looking at some of the mountains before us, we shall continually bear in mind, that as long as we keep moving the LORD in Accordance with His Promises – Promises that never fail, will Bless us with so many Favours, including among other things, important updates...

The Solace journey thus far: Important updates

1.

Partnerships and collaborations

Solace International has entered into partnership with several organisations. Most of these partnerships are either informal or semi-formal. We have for instance, worked with Heads2gether (H2G) in Croydon, UK, to support single parents and families on low income towards acquiring their own housing and solving their housing problems. We have also agreed with Great Bridge College in Nairobi, Kenya to



support people who want to go back to school but have passed the 'normal' school age. Some people are above the age of 18 but want to go back to school to complete their grades, whether KCSE or KCPE. The arrangement we have with the Great Bridge College is one in which students who come through us but can't afford the fees will be supported by Solace in collaboration with the particular school. Great Bridge College has also agreed that students who come through us will get a 15% discount on their tuition fees across every academic year.

In addition, the organisation is working very hard with individuals and other groups to achieve its aims. However, this year, a decision has been made not to work very closely with churches especially in Kenya due to flagrant cases of dishonesty. We have had situations where church leaders do not keep to agreements; almost routinely, they do not tell the truth and they tend to be very selfish, as well as very stingy. Many of them want us to do things for them but they never want to do things for us and they want money from organisations even charitable groups like us but wouldn't do anything to help us either raise funds, acquire funds or receive funds from them or through them. We also have found out that many church leaders are not really keen on empowering their members, so when we try to work with them to support congregants towards empowerment in terms of acquiring some of the skills they might need to become better in Life, churches have actively worked against this. For this reason, we have decided that from 2022, we will not be working with Kenyan churches as eagerly as we have been doing in the past. We will continue to work with them as organisations but shall not be giving them priority in anything.

We are also working with *Groots Mathare* in Kenya which has been restructured and so we find that the previous informal arrangement we have with them is no longer valid. Thus, we are working to achieve something new with them. The challenge here is being able to determine



who to speak to and how to flesh out a new arrangement based on a new relationship. *Groots Mathare* and *Solace* at the time of going to press, are still locked in negotiations. We are also trying to develop partnerships with a couple of banks. We have sent feelers out to *Housing Finance, Family Bank and Cooperative Bank*, all of Kenya. We have also sent out feelers to *Barclays Bank* of the UK. Our efforts so far have not yielded much fruit, but we feel that there is hope in these areas if we can push a bit harder. The intention of *Solace* therefore, is to redouble our efforts across the next twelve months.

We are also working in collaboration with the Croydon BME Forum to support people who need help with their CVs and employability skills. We are also hoping from next year, that people who come to us through Croydon BME Forum that are in need of help with their DBS check will be supported by *Solace*. We intend to support at least one person per month on average. That means twelve people in a whole year for the whole of 2022.

2.

Missionaries

We have also continued to work with missionaries. This is different from working with churches. Churches are fixed institutions or fixed buildings or fixed organisations but we also have missionaries who are also doing the work of God but they are working as independent individuals – either as part of an organisation (semi-independently), or on their own (independently). Our engagement with individual missionaries has allowed us to further stretch our arms to different parts of the world. This year for instance, it has Pleas'd God that we have found ourselves working with missionaries in India, Pakistan, as well as South Africa – in addition to the previous places such as but not only Malawi, Nepal and Sri Lanka. As such, the number of countries that *Solace International* has been working with so far or supported people in any way at all –



including Christianity issues, education, employability, enterprise empowerment and/or poverty alleviation and so on, has stretched to around thirty-nine (39).

It has not always been easy working with people from most of these places - partly because the fact that we are an NGO (nongovernmental organisation) or charity and we are UK based has sometimes led to the impression that we have a lot of money to throw around. Thus, part of working with different organisations has inevitably involved lowering these inordinately high expectations. Doing so is not always simple, given that we have to lower the expectations while at the same time encouraging greater expectations of diligence, transparency and accountability - even though our standards can sometimes be at odds with local traditions and understandings of issues such as bribery, corruption, shortcuts, etc. - often leading to suspicions and allegations that *Solace International* is imposing or seeking to impose British or Western values on others. We are also hoping by the end of this year to be working formally, with groups or organisations in Jamaica and Namibia. God Willing, we are stepping up from next year, our work in Nigeria and Ghana. However, Kenya continues to be our chief priority and so about 80% of our resources continue to flow into Kenya.

3. *Structure and restructure*

Solace is run by a set of Trustees and administrators. The administrators are led by the Chief Administrator below whom are Administrators including: Fieldworker Administrator, Volunteer Administrator, Publicity (and Web) Administrator, etc. This year as we aim for greater efficiency, we have restructured the Organisation and as part of the process, made a few personnel changes. First of all, the *Solace* officials including the Trustees and Administrators have come together in a *WhatsApp* group,



allowing the officials to keep interacting regularly and somewhat less formally. It is anticipated that this shall allow the Organisation's Trustees and other officials to work together seamlessly without having to go through rigid protocols in order to get things done. It will also allow for decisions to be made more quickly and for the officials to understand each other better.

Secondly, we have created two committees that would help us in deciding how to support those in need: the *Solace* Finance Committee (SFC) as well as the Awards and Benefits Committee (ABC). With effect from this year, whenever anybody comes to us with a need, they must now go through the ABC. Prior to that, the *Solace* official whom they speak to will link them up with the officer who is directly involved with what they want. For instance, if it is something to do with volunteering, they would be directed to the Organisation's Volunteer Administrator; if it is something to do with families, women and/or children, we would link them to the Solace Director of Women's Affairs and Families, and so on. Through the relevant official (or their subordinate), the prospective beneficiary would complete an Initial Response Form. Once completed, the official would forward it (or a report based on it - that is, the Initial Response Form) to the Awards and Benefits Committee. The ABC would then meet and consider whether that person's issue can be taken up or what else should be done, for example, ask the person for more information, contact some other people who have been mentioned in the form, or signpost the person in another more productive direction (such as to one of our partner organisations, etc.). If the ABC feels that their matter meets our criteria (based in part or in whole, on the *Solace* Beneficiaries Policy and/or rulings of the Organisation's Trustees Board) and so can be taken up by the Organisation, it will be escalated to the SFC (*Solace* Finance Committee), whose main job in this respect is to look at what finances are available and then decide how much we are



willing as well as able to invest in supporting this person or this group, as well as how long we will give that support.

The *Solace* Finance Committee can also decide to prioritise that person/group, different from what the Awards and Benefits Committee has decided. For example, the ABC might decide that there are ten people who need help but this particular person or group should be Number Two or Three on the list; the SFC could decide instead, that based on how much money would be involved and what financial resources are available to the Organisation at the time, this person/group should drop down to Number Nine or go to Number One. The *Solace* Finance Committee's decision overrides that of the Awards and Benefits Committee. Both committees would then decide on any other terms and conditions where applicable. These terms and conditions will be recommended to the Board of Trustees which will have the final say. The final outcome would then be communicated to the person or group in question through the Organisation's Secretary and/or through the *Solace* official via whom the process originated.

It is anticipated that this new structure would enable us to be more accountable, cut down on beneficiaries' dishonesty and enable us to utilise scarce resources better with minimum loss or waste. It will also mean that there are enough checks and balances in place before we can disburse funds. The new system is such that we can stop giving support at short notice if such a need arises - especially as there are structures in place to make sure that we keep checking from time to time, in effect using the tools of monitoring and reviewing to achieve its goal of supporting people out of poverty.

4. *Appointments*



This year - for the first time ever, *Solace International* has also appointed an officer to be in charge of matters to do with women and families. We discovered that a lot of work we have been doing in Africa and Asia, particularly in countries like Nigeria, Nepal, Ghana, Kenya, Uganda, Pakistan India, Tanzania, etc., one of the chief issues is that women are in many ways being suppressed or not empowered. We emphasise here, that this is not necessarily a negative reflection on men in these places, but an encapsulation and presentation of current realities to the best of *Solace International's* current understanding. *Solace International* research and statistics strongly suggest that mostly women are the ones who look after the children in a vast majority of societies where we are engaged. This in turn means that the woman who is suffering is not just suffering on her own; she is suffering with children - or children are suffering with her. Other research to which *Solace* is privy also indicates that children who grow up knowing that kind of life are likely in turn, to reproduce children who would in all likelihood, go through similar kinds of situations, whether they like it that way or they don't. the decision was therefore made by the Organisation this year, to specifically target the women and see how much more we can do for them. Notwithstanding, we have planned programmes also for the men - although this is not expected to be an easy aspect of our work since in our experience, women are compared to men, more forthcoming, or pushier in requesting what support they need and more articulate in presenting the challenges they face. Women come to our offices; they ask questions; they boldly seek for help; they follow up consistently and they give feedback. On the other hand, men are generally so reticent and reluctant to engage that we have to go looking for them. Very rarely do we have men coming in to ask for help, while women come on behalf of themselves, their children and their families. So, we have decided to appoint an officer who is directly going to be working with women, in solving issues affecting not just women but families. *Solace International* also reasons that if the



woman is involved with families, whether or not she has a husband, boyfriend or lover, and/or children – whether she is a single parent or part of a double-parent family, supporting her will benefit the men somehow.

We have also appointed some new Trustees and we are seeking to appoint some others. The new Trustees are Rose Adhiambo and Esther White. They are both Kenyans. We are also likely to be appointing a few other people. In addition, we have changed the signatories in our accounts, both in Kenya and in the United Kingdom. Both changes were forced upon us by circumstances beyond Solace’s control. The UK signatory (Lorraine Agang Podiephatshwa) was removed due to issues to do with financial impropriety, dishonesty, conflict of interest and her personality, as well as her inability to remain calm in the face of provocation, and her failure to control vengeful personal feelings while engaged in official duties. Solace International rightly considered therefore, that it would not be safe for the Organisation to have this person as one of our officials and/or bank account signatories. She had earlier been removed as a *Solace* Trustee, but hoping for some positive change in her attitude and overall character – especially in terms of honesty, and not wishing to antagonise her, the Organisation had retained her as a signatory. Lorraine however demonstrated in addition to an unfortunate penchant for corruption, a vengeful and pugnacious personality which left some of her colleagues in the Organisation afraid of her, necessitating the activation of measures to ensure their protection through the termination of her role – and eventually, her expulsion from the Organisation.⁴⁰

⁴⁰ Other measures included ending our support for *Heads2gether* (‘H2G’) of which Ms Podiephatshwa is the Chair and recalling the *Solace* official whom we had seconded to H2G as Policy and Training Coordinator, since 2018. Ms Podiephatshwa in turn responded by calling an AGM which she turned into an impromptu vote of confidence where the *Solace* official was formally removed from office. She also wrote to the Organisation asking to be removed as a bank account signatory – even though she had been removed from that role a month or so earlier and she had been notified of this. Ms Podiephatshwa who was our liaison officer for Southern Africa, also shut down our Botswana operations,



Her situation was not helped by the discovery that Ms Podiephatshwa stands accused of misusing funds in another organisation, for which her privileges as a signatory in another organisational bank account had been suspended. Given the controversies and complexities surrounding her, it was finally decided that it would make sense for *Solace International* to remove her and replace her with somebody else – especially as in addition to the issues concerning her honesty and temperament, she opted to demonstrate bitterness and truculence rather than try reaching amicable solutions. Clearly therefore, it was not going to be healthy for the Organisation to have a signatory who would be holding the Organisation to ransom. Ms L. A. Podiephatshwa has been replaced as UK bank account signatory, by Margaret Nakasango. Ms Podiephatshwa is from Botswana; Ms Nakasango is from Uganda.

5.

Finances and the future

Solace International plans on generating more funds from those countries where it is putting in most of its efforts or resources. In this case, Kenya is the first of these because Kenya is receiving about 60% of all the funding that *Solace* is putting in. The remaining 20% is distributed between the UK and the other countries and we feel that it only makes sense for Kenya to contribute a bit more towards the funds that we are having. We also believe that getting other countries and other people to participate in what we are doing is very helpful because it will give them a sense of commitment. They will be able to take or share ownership of the dream – the vision of *Solace International* but it will also reduce unnecessary dependency because what we have discovered in some countries especially in Kenya is that our generosity gives them the impression that we have so much money to waste. This creating thus, the need for *Solace International* to find a new way of operating in Botswana and its neighbouring nations.



has attracted all manner of negative attitudes towards us. Some of these negative attitudes have included people not keeping their promises, not doing what they ought to do and not supporting us the way that they should. As a result of that, we are planning a fundraising drive for next year. We hope it will be a better one compared to previous ones. We have had some fundraising drives in Kenya and the UK, previously but they have not been successful. We are however hoping to have a better one in the coming year.

Also from next year, we are shall be placing limits on the range and period of support or help that we give to people. The full length of limits is yet to be discussed by the Board of Trustees, but it is anticipated that when they do reach a decision, support for any person or group would become restricted to a limit of months ranging from one month to twelve months and these will be subject to constant review, as well as stricter terms and conditions. This means that even when we are supporting people with school fees for example, we will not be supporting them throughout their academic life but will restrict the support to probably a term of a few months - and then that will be reviewed again. Also, we are going to be stricter in the way we disperse funds. In practical terms, what this means is that we have policies in place and are going to insist on *Solace* officials following the policies to the letter. People and groups seeking our support would also be required to complete Conflict of Interest declarations so that we may know what interest people who come to us have in *Solace* and/or any of its officials. We would especially seek to clarify whether they have anybody in *Solace* who is related to them, whether by blood or otherwise.

The Organisation's Women and Families Coordinator will be supported and encouraged to raise independent funds pursuant to that branch or aspect of *Solace's* work because supporting women and families is a very challenging task - so challenging that it will require a lot of specially



dedicated resources – including to start with, the building of a team to support the Coordinator. It will also require a lot of moving around, transport as well as the organising of seminars and workshops, besides giving material and emotional support. *Solace International* anticipates however, that this part of our work is going to be built up slowly across the next one to five (1-5) years. We hope that the next 1-5 years will give us a strong foundation for supporting women and families across the world.

6.

Weekly activities

By the Grace of God, with effect from next year, *Solace International* plans to hold weekly activities. They will not always be elaborate and may not be in the same countries – but they will always be beneficial to local communities and to many individuals. We shall update all relevant platforms such as social media and newsletters, with the activities as they happen. More details will appear in our next Report.

7.

Fightback

The point has been made above, that we have struggled to attract funding. It is important to point out here however, that this has not been for want of trying. A review concluded shortly before the completion of this Report has raised some seriously concerning issues which we must deal with if we hope to stand any chance of attracting funding in the United Kingdom. Last year, *Solace International* applied to the *National Lottery's* 'Community Fund'. Our application was supposedly put through 'scrutiny', but when we carefully considered it against those of some other Organisations – at least one of which did not have strong governance structure and clear policies like *Solace* – nor was it able to put together a coherent application, we reached the unpalatable but inescapable conclusion, that sometimes funding is a matter of luck and timing as encapsulated in who is considering your application on behalf



of the funders. The lady who 'liaised' – or rather toyed, with us on behalf of the *National Lottery*, made us go through a mini-hell, answering questions and meeting demands some of which were preposterous and unjustifiable,⁴¹ but which we met nonetheless – only to be told (verbally – without a written update or explanation) that our application “is not likely to succeed”.

This year, we applied for the UK Government's HAF (Holiday And Fun) funding. We put in a very strong application⁴² which was rejected by a person who was either very intoxicated, quite confused or strongly biased against us (which in turn raises issues of corruption). Unlike the *National Lottery* however, the HAF Grants Team at least, wrote back to tell us – not only that we had been unsuccessful in our application, but why. Unfortunately, the reasons they gave for rejecting our application made so little sense that we could only conclude they were talking about someone else's application – and had therefore most probably, awarded another group – knowingly or unknowingly, monies which should in any sane or fair assessment, have been ours. We made this point to them as clearly and as politely as possible, having been given a fortnight to appeal. Our appeal was not even acknowledged – raising the possibility that the Croydon HAF Team had already pre-decided who to award the monies.⁴³

⁴¹ For instance, she wanted to know if we could be contacted late at night and on Sundays; she also wanted to know whether we have plans to make women the majority on our Trustees Board.

⁴² Copies of the application and its associated correspondence are available upon request – subject to the discretion of the Organisation's Trustees.

⁴³ Our review showed that the *Solace International* application like any other application, had its flaws. We were also able to identify what those flaws were. Had the HAF Team based their rejection on those flaws (which being an Organisation which operates in the fear of the LORD, we were honest and brave enough to identify as well as acknowledge), we would have had no serious misgivings about the rejection – even if given the triviality of those flaws, we may still have wondered if the HAF Team was not being too harsh or simply overreacting against us. As it turns out, the HAF Team did not identify any of those



We have taken the decision therefore, not to let this kind of thing happen to us again. Henceforth - and until further notice as decided by the Organisation's Board of Trustees, *Solace International* will fight back against any perceived bias or corruption in the award of grants or other funding. *Solace International* is especially considering the presentation to Croydon Council, of a Freedom of Information request in pursuance of this goal. The outcome of this request will determine our next move and hopefully, form part of the Organisation's next Annual Report.

Let us in addition, remember...

The updates here mark a key difference in comparison to previous reports where updates were rarely if ever included. The decision has not yet been made on whether this would be from now on, a permanent or

flaws - or in any manner whatsoever, engage with them. On the contrary they virtually accused us of making errors which in our response we made clear to them, did not exist. In other words, the HAF Team was in effect, lying. They had simply decided not to award us the grant for whatever reason (presumably nepotism, predetermination of favoured awardees or some other kind of corruption). Thus they did not care what excuse for rejecting our application they used. They were in fact, either too careless, too lazy or too malevolent to at the very least, read through our application and find a genuine or at least factual - even if puerile reason, for turning down the *Solace International* application.



common feature of our 'S.T.A.R.s', but it is probably best to let the times decide. In effect, if there is any need in next year's Annual Report, for a section specifically dedicated to updates, such a section shall surely be included.

Conclusion

As this detailed document demonstrates, the year since our last Report has been for *Solace International*, replete with dynamism - even if it has not always been exciting. There can be no doubting the fact however, that *Solace International* is remarkably and laudably punching far above its weight, given the paucity of its resources. At the moment however - even as by the Grace of God we move ever so steadily towards marking our first decade as a registered and official organisation on two continents, *Solace International* has neither the time nor the inclination to engage in self-acclaim. We still have quite a long way to go in attaining our goal of touching at least one life in every nation and territory on



Earth, to the Glory of God our Ever-Giving Lord and Father. By His Grace and Guidance, our achievements and attractiveness will blossom. We will never forget though, that serving the LORD by serving the underprivileged, is an honour. We will therefore always be humble, faithful and thankful to not only our course - and cause, but to most of all, God the Almighty, Who Alone Is - and Provides, Solace.

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Appendix A
Financial report

| <i>Month</i> | <i>Money In</i> | <i>Money Out</i> |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| October (2020) | 1532 | 1423 |
| November (2020) | 540 | 434.26 |
| December (2020) | 800 | 1048.60 |
| January (2021) | 1067 | 1028.08 |
| February (2021) | 645 | 532.65 |
| March (2021) | 1101 | 1188.58 |
| April (2021) | 146 | 577.83 |
| May (2021) | 706 | 663.32 |
| June (2021) | 671 | 695.77 |
| July (2021) | 1340 | 1441.84 |
| August (2021) | 1909 | 1227.22 |
| September (2021) | 800 | 835 |
| <i>Total</i> | 11,257 | 11,096.75 |
| <i>Net total = £160</i> | | |

Appendix B



**Countries where at least one person has benefited from
*Solace International***

| No | Country | Formal/Informal |
|-----------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. | Zimbabwe | <i>Informal</i> |
| 2. | Zambia | <i>Informal</i> |
| 3. | Vietnam | <i>Formal</i> |
| 4. | United States | <i>Informal</i> |
| 5. | United Kingdom | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 6. | Uganda | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 7. | Trinidad and Tobago | <i>Informal</i> |
| 8. | Tanzania | <i>Informal</i> |
| 9. | Syria | <i>Informal</i> |
| 10. | St Vincent and Grenadines | <i>Informal</i> |
| 11. | St. Lucia | <i>Formal</i> |
| 12. | Sri Lanka | <i>Formal</i> |
| 13. | South Africa | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 14. | Sierra Leone | <i>Informal</i> |
| 15. | Rwanda | <i>Formal</i> |
| 16. | Romania | <i>Informal</i> |
| 17. | Portugal | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 18. | Pakistan | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 19. | Nigeria | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 20. | Nepal | <i>Formal</i> |
| 21. | Namibia | <i>Informal</i> |
| 22. | Mozambique | <i>Informal</i> |



| | | |
|-----|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 23. | Morocco | <i>Informal</i> |
| 24. | Malawi | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 25. | Liberia | <i>Informal</i> |
| 26. | Kenya | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 27. | Jamaica | <i>Informal</i> |
| 28. | India | <i>Informal</i> |
| 29. | Ghana | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 30. | France | <i>Informal</i> |
| 31. | Equatorial Guinea | <i>Informal</i> |
| 32. | Congo (Kinshasa) | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 33. | Cote D'Ivoire | |
| 34. | Cameroun | <i>Formal</i> |
| 35. | Bulgaria | <i>Informal</i> |
| 36. | Brazil | <i>Informal</i> |
| 37. | Botswana | <i>Formal/ Informal</i> |
| 38. | Barbados | <i>Formal</i> |
| 39. | Angola | <i>Informal</i> |

Appendix C

Statement of Beliefs (the Nicene Creed)⁴⁴

We believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth, of all that is - seen and unseen.

We believe in One Lord, Jesus Christ, the Only Son of God, Eternally Begotten of the Father: God from God, Light from Light, True God from True God, Begotten, not Made; of One Being with the Father - Through

⁴⁴ This Statement is under curren review.



Him all things were Made. For us and for our Salvation, He Came down from Heaven; by the Power of the Holy Spirit, He Became Incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was Made Man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He Suffered death and was buried. On the third day He Rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He Ascended into Heaven and is Seated at the Right Hand of the Father. He will Come again in Glory, to Judge the living and the dead and His Kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the LORD, the Giver of Life, Who Proceeds from the Father and the Son. with the Father and the Son He is worshipped and glorified. He has Spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Appendix D

The Solace Training Programme

| <i>Topic</i> | <i>What does it cover?</i> |
|---------------------|---|
| 1. | 1 What is abuse? 2 Kinds of abuse 3 Signs and symptoms 4 Stereotypes and myths 5 What to do when a child expresses concerns to you 6 Consequences of suspected and/or actual child abuse for children and |



| | |
|---|---|
| Abuse | their families 7 The real victims of abuse 8 Consequences of false allegations 9 Some questions worth asking when deciding whether, when and/or how to report suspected abuse. |
| 2. Behaviour management Basics | 1 Factors which influence behaviour of children and young people; 2 Guides to effective behaviour management; 3 Essential skills for effective behaviour management; 4 Some instances of behaviour which may require effective management skills; 5 Issues to consider in dealing with challenging behaviour. |
| 3. Circle Time (CT) | 1 What CT is; 2 Advantages, demerits and applications of CT; 3 Where (other than classrooms) can we apply CT? 4 Ways to make CT (even more) exciting; 5 A few things to consider while (or before) making use of CT. |
| 4. Dealing with bullying | 1 What really is bullying? 2 Myths and facts 3 Case studies 4 Probable causes 5 Some effects of bullying; 6 Where bullying takes place; 7 Do's and don'ts. |
| 5. Feeling and staying safe on the Internet | 1 The greatness of the Internet 2 How it is especially great for our kids 3 What's there to be careful about on the Internet? 4 How we can help our children stay safe on the Internet 5 Some cyber myths and facts. |
| 6. Helping your child settle well into a new environment | 1 New environments as capital; 2 Things your child can do; 3 Things your child <i>should</i> do; 4 Where you come in; 5 Myths and facts. |
| 7. The joy of homework (and home [or private] study) | 1 Advantages of homework and home study; 2 Disadvantages 3 Some excuses for not doing homework; 4 Some of the <i>real</i> reasons for not doing homework; 5 Ways to help our children study or do their homework and enjoy it; 6 Things to keep <i>strict</i> control of while your child studies; 7 Things to keep close by while your child studies; 8 Key questions parents might ask; 9 Myths and facts. |
| 8. When things go | 1 Why it matters to know this; 2 What could possibly go |



| | |
|---|--|
| wrong: How best to deal with your child's school and other authorities** | wrong? 3 The Fifteen-One Method; 4 Getting the facts straight 5 Understanding and working with procedure 6 The Golden Rule Approach 7 The value of thanks and praise. |
| 9. Surviving your placement/apprenticeship | 1 Why am I here? 2 What can go wrong? 3 What will go right (no matter what happens)? 4 Forces that matter; 5 The right mien 6 Getting it right; 7 Looking well ahead of here and now. |
| 10. Stress management | 1 Who needs stress? You need it. We do - all of us! 2 When stress becomes stressful; 3 How did they manage? 4 How you too can manage; 5 Born to conquer - living above it. |
| 11. Team play: Getting the best out of your team | 1 Who needs teams anyway? 2 Identifying your team; 3 Ideal team v your real team; 4 Like clockwork: Making the different parts work; 5 Keeping it that way; 6 What I need to be; 7 And after that? |
| 12. Fussy Eating | 1 Who eats fussily? 2 Why people do it; 3 Can it be outgrown, tamed, stopped? 4 Fussy eating myths; 5 Do's and don'ts |
| 13. Get a Job - Keep A Job | 1 Why you need a job; 2 What it takes to get one; 3 Is your CV right? 4 Interview tips; 5 Keeping your job; 6 If things get hot; 7 When things go wrong; 8 Looking ahead - "Learn from the wicked servant" 9 Getting fired gracefully; 10 No place for God. |
| 14. Enterprise Empowerment | 1 Scriptures on Prosperity; 2 Enterprising Quotes from outside the Scriptures; 3 Networking and what it does for you; 4 Seed-sowing: What it really is and what its role is; 5 Divine Principles of sowing; 6 Prosperity's Divine Keys; 7 Getting noticed: the Role of communication and good interpersonal skills; 8 How to prospect successfully for clients/customers; 9 Personal qualities you need for success in enterprise; 10 Traps and pitfalls to avoid 11 Charting your way: |



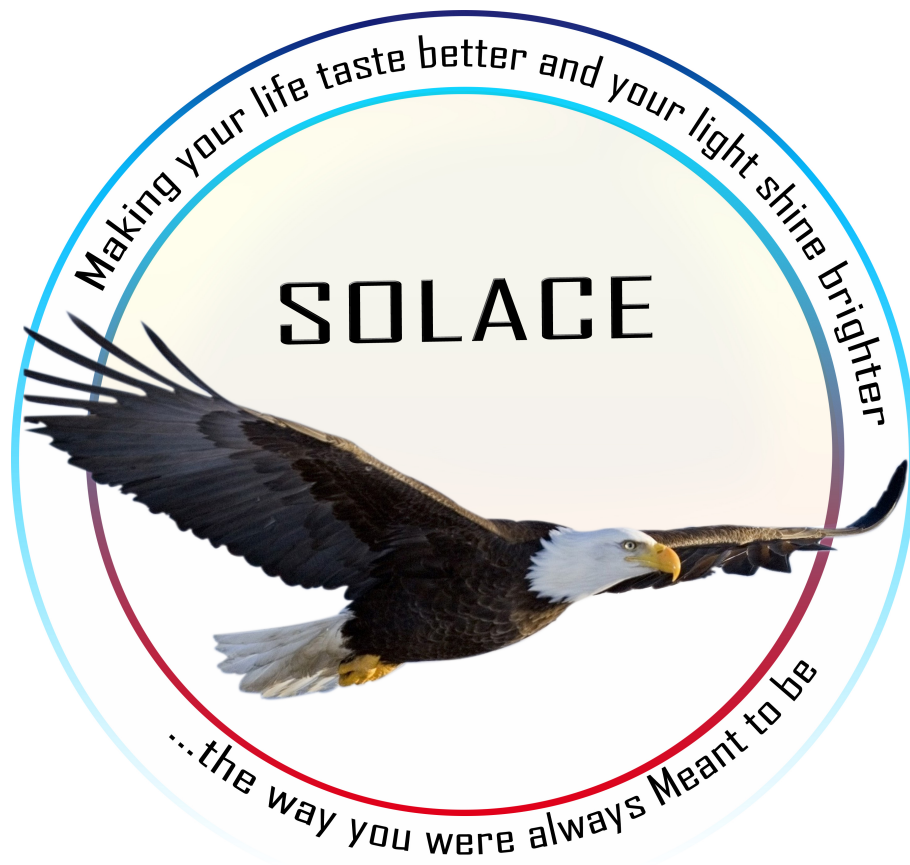
| | |
|--|---|
| | <p>the value of a (good) Business Plan; 12 How to write a Business Plan 13 Contents of a good or strong Business Plan 14 How best to treat your Business Plan.</p> |
| <p>15. Dealing with domestic violence (DV)</p> | <p>1 Some definitions of DV 2 Why does DV happen? 3 Challenging the common/popular narrative 4 A matter of values? Considering what different cultures think, say and do about DV 5 Why we mustn't accept DV 6 What can you do about it? 7 Why intervention is not interfering 8 the Bible-based Christian take on DV 9 You are too good for nonsense.</p> |



Appendix E

Snapshots from the *Solace International* Gallery





Solace: Walking in the Master's Footsteps



The 2021 Solace International Trustees Annual Report



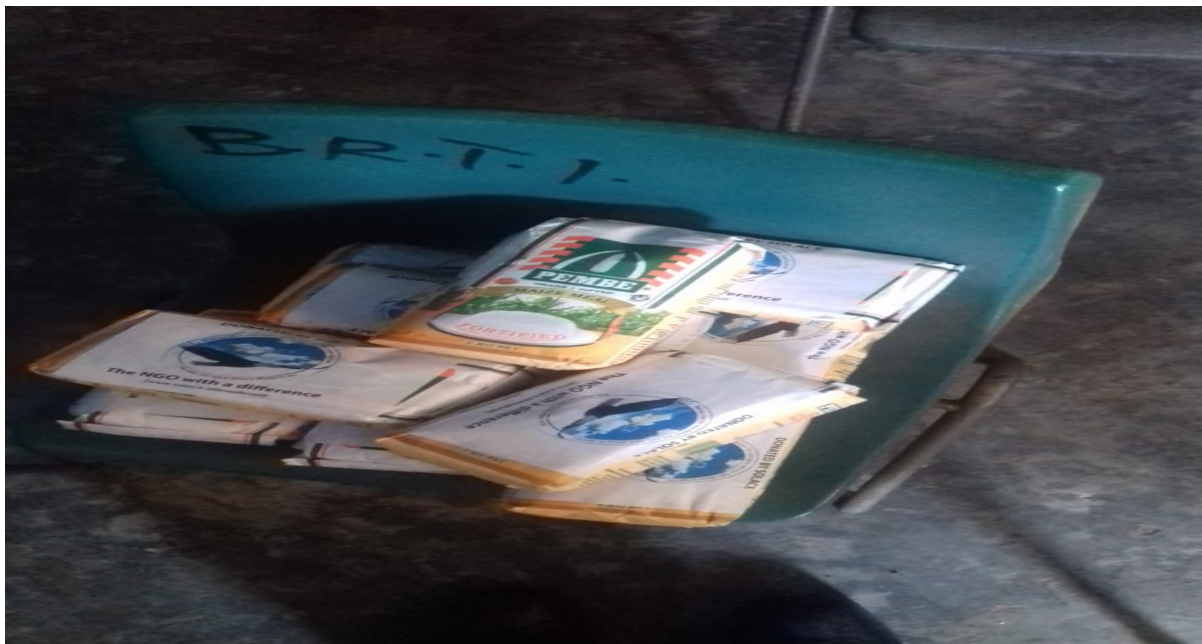
Solace Donations: The fight to defeat COVID-19





Solace donations: Food and clothes parcels for the needy





Specially wrapped longlife food parcels from *Solace*





Do you need help with your CV?

Maybe you need support to write a new one or proofread and/or update an existing one?

Would you like some help with a Cover Letter or Personal Statement?

Have you been asked to address a Job or Person Specification?

Are you in search of other help with finding a job

(e.g. completing an application form, understanding interview techniques, retaining a job beyond probation period, setting up an e-mail address, registering on job websites, etc.)?

*If you have answered 'YES' to one or more of the above, then why not contact us for Solace? We are an NGO focused on helping you get the best out of Life through defeating poverty. By God's Grace, we will help you with any of the above – and it's **FREE**. Yes: no charge.*

All you need to do, is call us on:

0 77 33 14 14 7 or 0 71 62 77 21 7

Please note however, that although our services are totally free, terms and conditions may apply.



Solace International: always glad to help with employability





Solace International, good taste and loveliness make a palatable team!



Furthering the Christian Faith: *Solace International* prayer meetings



A Solace training programme



Standard text: This is the SEEP's main textbook (alongside the Holy Bible); it is also used to generate funds for the Organisation



Some of Solace's fieldworkers



Faces of the future - faces of hope: Pupils from one of the several schools *Solace* is supporting



Collaboration at work:

The Hub, Solace International, H2G, Croydon Council, Brick by Brick...

Matt 25:21-46

As we said, aside from Solace, there are many other Christ-focused organisations which are not churches, yet doing so much in Jesus' Name to help the needy. Why not think about honouring God and helping more people in need through supporting not just Solace, but one more of these? Here is a short list to choose from (there are others, but this is a good place to start)

- 01 CAFOD** (Catholic Fund for Overseas Development), Muggaga Green Westlands P.O. Box 66300 Nairobi. <https://cafod.org.uk/about-us/Where-we-work/Africa/Kenya>. This powerful and remarkable organisation is also contactable via each Roman Catholic diocese in Kenya. CAFOD has many development and anti-poverty projects around the world, including across East Africa. One example is 'Hands On Kitui' which is providing new trees, clean water supply and great opportunities in south-eastern Kenya. Visit <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Voices/Hands-on-Kenya> for more information.
- 02 Christian Mission Aid (CMA)**, P.O. Box 57351, Tel: +254 (020) 2721872, www.cmaid.org/mission-mission/. CMA seeks to develop communities, ensuring they are free from spiritual and socio-economic poverty. In addition to work in the areas of drought, HIV/AIDS and drought recovery, this marvellous organisation runs a Girls' Rescue Centre in Olodottikosh, Kakamega County. CMA has the stated mission of reaching out with Christ's Love through development assistance to desperate communities, emergency relief provision, the raising of church and community leaders, as well as youth mentoring.
- 03 Open Doors Kenya** (Open Doors), Life Ministry, 2nd Floor, P.O. Box 30970, Nairobi. <http://www.opendoors.org/>. This truly intrapod organisation supports Christians facing persecution in different places across the globe – including of course, Africa and Kenya. Open Doors also has a list of countries where it is most dangerous to be a Christian. The work Open Doors does includes things such as: Bible supplies, protection for threatened Christians and financial/material aid to orphans and widows left behind by pastors who have been murdered for their Christian faith.
- 04 The Life Ministry Kenya** (Life Ministry), Rose Avenue, Nairobi. Phone: +254 (0)722 20251 | <https://mkenya.org/what-we-do/>. Life Ministry has been operating in Kenya for over forty-five years. This resilient and ground-breaking organisation is focused on discharging the Great Commission through a variety of pioneering and creativity including education, sports and film. They also run a school among communities such as the Omnis, Manyoye and Somali, where for a variety of reasons such as poverty, nomadism and apathy, it is quite challenging to run a school – especially a Christian school.
- 05 The Salvation Army International Kenya East Territory** (The Salvation Army), Market Avenue, Karen, Nairobi, Kenya; P.O. Box 24927 Nairobi 00502; +254 (020) 240 3260; <https://www.salvationarmy.org/isa/kenyaeast>
- 06 The Salvation Army International Kenya West Territory** (The Salvation Army), Mumia Highway Rd., Kakamega, P.O. Box 650 Kakamega 50100; <https://www.salvationarmy.org/isa/kenyawest>. The Salvation Army has been present informally in Kenya for over 120 years and formally for close to a century. This truly effective organisation is engaged in poverty relief, education, anti-trafficking, etc.



INTERSOLACE ORGANISATION (Solace)

Three questions for you:

1. What do you think of tithing and giving – do you know your church is not the only place to bring God what you have for His Storehouse?
2. Do you support any Christian organisations other than your church – do you even know of any such groups?
3. Have you heard of InterSolace Organisation (also called Solace)?

Whatever your answer to the above, there are many Christian organisations which are doing so much in the community to help others. InterSolace Organisation ('Solace') is one such organisation

Do more than just going to church: support a Christian organisation today. . . please.

InterSolace Organisation Eren House Buruburu Phase One, Nairobi
 Tel: 254 77 33 14 14 7; E-mail: intersolace@gmail.com
 Facebook: [Intersolace organization](https://www.facebook.com/Intersolaceorganization)
 Website (coming soon): www.solace.international

Spreading the word about other organisations: one of our less publicised strengths



Solace International

www.solace.international

Helping God's People – "Salt of the Earth...Light of the World", taste better and shine brighter

Tel: +447 466 379 590, +254 77 33 14 14 7, 56a Mitcham Road CR0 3RG

Email: solaceinternational@yahoo.co.uk; info@solace.international

Friday, September 25, 2020

Reports from the United Kingdom of a police officer killed at the Police Custody Centre located off Whitehorse Road in Croydon Surrey by a man allegedly being questioned although sketchy at the moment, are disconcerting nonetheless. As we await further information on the matter, Solace International wishes to express sadness at this fatal turn of events, solidarity with the victim's colleagues and sympathy for the fallen officer's dear ones. We hope and pray, that the Goodness of God will still Shine through all this, nonetheless and that no matter what happens next, cooler heads will certainly prevail to His Glory.

Solace International is a UK registered charity (No. 1162864)



The 2021 Solace International Trustees Annual Report

Solace speaks:

Some official statements issued by the Organisation on issues of the day (A)





Solace International

www.solace.international

Helping God's People – "Salt of the Earth...Light of the World", taste better and shine brighter

Tel: +44 741 742 5958 , +254 77 33 14 14 7 , 56a Mitcham Road CRO 3RG

Email: solaceinternational@yahoo.co.uk; info@solace.international

Tuesday, 23 March 2021

(Evening Standard, 22:03:2021) "We have been threatened or scared by men, say a third of London women".

A reaction

Solace International notes reports regarding the outcome of a recent survey by the *Evening Standard* in which the newspaper states that: "A third of women in London say they have been threatened or frightened by men". Ignoring the fact that this statement in itself is inherently false, definitely (if not deliberately) misleading and basically impossible – given that the newspaper could not have interviewed all, half – or even a tenth, of the women in London within the specified period and therefore was in no position to speak on behalf of the purported 'third', *Solace International* wishes to state that as an organisation, we do not – and never will, help British society or indeed any other society, commence, continue, condone or in any way contribute to a programme or action which appears to have as its sole or chief purpose, the demonisation of men and/or the fostering of mutual suspicion between the sexes. A society which seeks to solve a problem (whether real or perceived) by creating another (probably worse), based on maligning one group directly or indirectly in favour of another group, will always find itself constantly in trouble as it struggles to clean up its own mess through making another mess.

Solace International is a UK charity focused on poverty alleviation furthering the Christian Faith, thus we take social justice issues indescribably seriously. We understand that newspapers have bills to pay and that free-of-charge ones such as the *Evening Standard* are no exception, despite not charging most of its readers even a penny for the privilege of its daily copies – leaving the newspaper with little choice other than sensational headlines to attract more readers and draw in advertisements which help pay the newspaper's bills. We are also aware of the great work which the *Evening Standard* is doing among the poor and vulnerable of London, helping to address the socioeconomic anomaly and political embarrassment-cum-paradox, of London being capital to one of the world's richest and most powerful countries, but which has an incredibly and inordinately high number people living in abject poverty – forced to sleep 'rough' – outside on the streets and/or to scavenge for food and/or depend on food banks or other oft-humiliating and/or criminalising means to get by. *Solace International* hails the *Evening Standard* as a trailblazer in poverty alleviation.

Solace International is a UK registered charity (No. 1162864)



Solace speaks:

Some official statements issued by the Organisation on issues of the day (B)



The 2021 Solace International Trustees Annual Report



Solace International

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Email: solaceinternational@yahoo.co.uk; info@solace.international

Friday, 09 April 2021

Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh (1921-2021)

It is with sincere regret and deep sadness, that *Solace International* notes the news-stopping news regarding the husband and Consort to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, Earl of Merioneth and Baron Greenwich (Né Mountbatten; né Philippos Andreou (Philip Andrew) of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderberg-Glücksburg, Prince of Greece and Denmark). *Solace International* is of the understanding that Prince Philip sadly passed away aged roughly one hundred years old, having lived by the Matchless Grace of God and to His Eternal Glory, from Friday June 10, 1921 until Friday April 9, 2021. The Duke of Edinburgh was among other things, the United Kingdom's longest-serving consort. The Duke of Edinburgh had a very difficult childhood and upbringing which remain proof that no position or situation in Life is guaranteed – whether for better, or for worse. Colourful, lively and frank, he played a major role in shaping the public concept of the British Monarchy, making it somewhat more accessible, friendly and in effect, human. Avid reader, unheralded author, keen sports enthusiast, profound thinker and fearless speaker, he will be remembered for his exemplary tirelessness, irreverent jocosity, conscientious diligence, gushing confidence and loyalty in royalty. Although God alone Knows the future, it is probably safe to say, that the likes of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh will never be seen again. The entire *Solace* family offers its deepest condolences to Her Majesty the Queen, the Royal Family and the Royal Household in its entirety as well as to the people and Governments of the United Kingdom and nations of the Commonwealth. May God be praised for never ceasing to Bless the world with people in every nation and every sphere who really make a difference. Goodbye, Prince Philip.

Solace International is a UK registered charity (No. 1162864)



***Solace* speaks:**



The 2021 Solace International Trustees Annual Report

Some official statements issued by the Organisation on issues of the day (C)

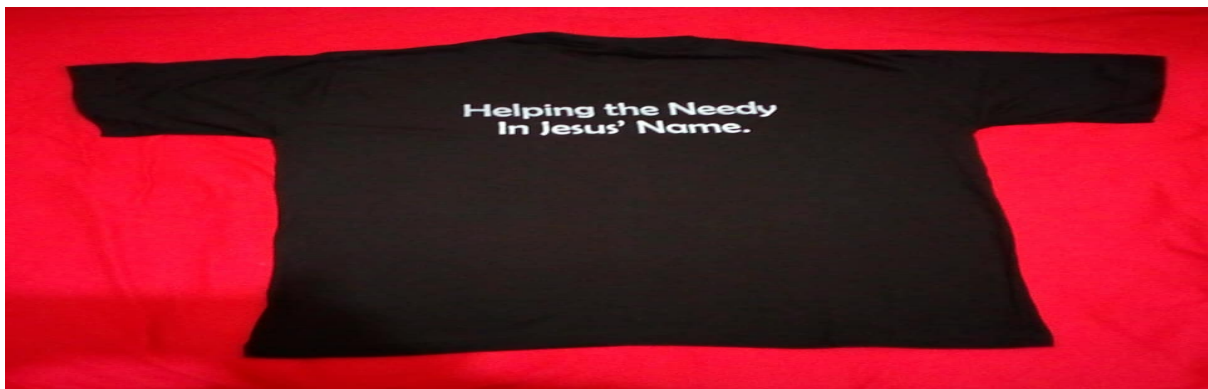


**Images from the *Solace International* Administrative
Headquarters in Kenya**





More images from Solace's international Administrative Headquarters, Kenya



Some Solace-branded t-shirts



Faces from a Solace general meeting



What we do: In two simple words...**Solace helps.**

How we do it: We work with individuals, churches and other organisations to empower Christians against poverty. We offer training, small grants, help with education costs, capacity-building services, employability support, etc.

EEP Training Workbook manual by Pastor Joseph E - CA InterSolace

Where we do it: We have been active in several counties, most notably: Busia, Kakamega, Kiambu, Kilifi, Kisii, Machakos, Meru, Nairobi and Uasin Gishu. —

Who we help: We help individuals mainly, although we have some areas of support such as capacity-building and training which are tailored specifically for organisations. Although we do not discriminate against anyone, our key beneficiaries include women forced out of education or social circles due to pregnancy, Christians interested in setting up businesses or boosting existing ones, orphans, street children, widows, disabled people and people who have no food to eat.

Why we care: We care because...

a.) God Created all people to have dignity; poverty is no reason to lose that Blessing.

b.) It is not the work of the Kenyan Government alone to improve lives: we all must help.

c.) We want to champion a new Kenya where every person thinks more about being nice and helpful to others.



EEP Trainees

EEP Training Session



How you can support us

There are three ways by which you can support us:

1.) Financially and/or materially. You can make a donation of money and material resources; you could also leave us a legacy; the best option of all though, is for you to make a regular commitment like every week, every month, every quarter, etc. Remember: nothing is too little and nothing is too much. But whatever you give, it's all for a good cause and will surely help us give support to even more people.

You can donate to us using at least one of the following means:

a.) M-Changa Paybill No. **891300** Account No. **24732** (no transaction charges)

b.) By cheque. Please make cheques payable to: Intersolace Organisation

c.) Safaricom Lipa Na Mpesa (Buy Goods) Till Number **778471** (Intersolace Organisation)

d.) If you prefer direct payments our account details are: Name of Bank: Family Bank, Cargem Account Number: **014 000 047 225** Account holder: Intersolace Organisation

e.) Cash. We generally do not accept or encourage cash payments. However, if that is the only means convenient to you, please call our number and we will arrange collection.

We also have donation envelopes which can be delivered to you upon request or picked up from our office, during any of our activities, etc. Please note, when making a donation (except in cash), you must include a reference. This will help us know who gave the money; references are also helpful for accounting purposes. Please use Reference: 'DONATION' followed by your name. Thank you and may your gift speak for you in many places – to God's Glory!

2.) Volunteering. We need volunteers. A volunteer is someone who works or gives their time to a cause or organisation without expecting to be paid for it. There are over one billion volunteers in the world and you could be one of them. Time they say is money – but at Solace we disagree: we believe, time is far greater than money. So, support us with your time. There are many volunteer roles at Solace and you could be just the right person to fill one of them.

3.) Talk about us. We need publicity. You could help us by telling other people about us and/or linking us to donors, sponsors and philanthropists. We are doing so much for those in need, but no one will know and nobody will care if we don't get the message out. So, please talk to others about us. Oh – and that includes God. Talk to Him about Solace and all those other lovely organisations doing great stuff for people in need. Pray for us. Please.

See the list at the back of this brochure for more information about other groups like ours which are doing so much for God's People in Kenya



A Solace publicity flier



Solace International: The Glory is God's - and His Alone.





Final Word

Solace will later in the year publish its business plan outlining what we hope to achieve over the next period of years. It will be split into three, outlining our plan for the next one year, the next three years and the next five years but this plan is not going to be part of the current report. It is going to be part of the next report and will likely take effect from 2022. The plan will demonstrate among other things, our determination to do more in support of men. This should help to address - as well as draw attention, to a looming but barely noticeable catastrophe: a coming disempowered and disgruntled male populace. Today, the emphasis of many charitable and community groups around the world is mainly on women and children. This is we believe, laying the unfortunate and dangerous foundation for a more serious problem in the future. Understandably, the reason why a lot of people have been supporting women and families is their belief that in the past men have benefited most from - and/or dominated, the best of the world's resources, while women and children have been losing out. Copious as well as consistent historical and statistical data back this belief up and thus justify actions taken as a result. However, *Solace International* does not believe that the best solution to the perceived historical dominance by men of the world's resources is supporting women and children so much that men in turn begin to lose out - otherwise, in the next few decades - or even years, the world will find itself in a situation where women and children



are quite empowered while men are greatly disempowered – thus forcing Humanity to start again, coming up with a programme to support and (re-)empower men. Thus, the earlier we start on that, the better; as such *Solace* is working on programmes that aim to support men as heads of families and as fathers – as well as in dealing with issues such as anger management, domestic violence, child-rearing, etc.



**Dated Saturday, this twenty-fourth day of September, in the Year
of Our Lord, 2021.**





*"The LORD has Done this, and it is
marvellous in our eyes".*

(Ps 118:23) NIV







CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Solace International
Solace International

No (if any)

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|----|------------------------------|
| For the period from | 01-Oct-19 01-Oct-20 | To | Period end date 30-Sep-21 |
|---------------------|------------------------|----|------------------------------|

Section A Receipts and payments

| | Unrestricted funds to the nearest £ | Restricted funds to the nearest £ | Endowment funds to the nearest £ | Total funds to the nearest £ | Last year to the nearest £ |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| A1 Receipts | | | | | |
| Oct-20 | 1,532 | - | - | 1,532 | 565 |
| Nov-20 | 540 | - | - | 540 | 1,315 |
| Dec-20 | 800 | - | - | 800 | 1,278 |
| Jan-21 | 1,067 | - | - | 1,067 | 1,505 |
| Feb-21 | 645 | - | - | 645 | 680 |
| Mar-21 | 1,101 | - | - | 1,101 | 845 |
| Apr-21 | 146 | - | - | 146 | 2,195 |
| May-21 | 706 | - | - | 706 | 1,135 |
| Jun-21 | 671 | - | - | 671 | 885 |
| Jul-21 | 1,340 | - | - | 1,340 | 1,065 |
| Aug-21 | 1,909 | - | - | 1,909 | 495 |
| Sep-21 | 800 | - | - | 800 | 190 |
| Sub total (Gross income for AR) | 11,257 | - | - | 11,257 | 12,153 |
| A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table). | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total receipts | 11,257 | - | - | 11,257 | 12,153 |
| A3 Payments | | | | | |
| Oct-Dec 20 | 2,906 | - | - | 2,906 | 2,953 |
| Jan-20 | 1,028 | - | - | 1,028 | 1,530 |
| Feb-20 | 533 | - | - | 533 | 695 |
| Mar-20 | 1,189 | - | - | 1,189 | 835 |
| Apr-20 | 578 | - | - | 578 | 2,194 |
| May-20 | 663 | - | - | 663 | 1,130 |
| Jun-20 | 696 | - | - | 696 | 880 |
| Jul-20 | 1,442 | - | - | 1,442 | 1,055 |
| Aug-Sep 2020 | 2,062 | - | - | 2,062 | 594 |
| Sub total | 11,097 | - | - | 11,097 | 11,866 |
| A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table) | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total payments | 11,097 | - | - | 11,097 | 11,866 |
| Net of receipts/(payments) | 160 | - | - | 160 | 72 |
| A5 Transfers between funds | - | - | - | - | - |
| A6 Cash funds last year end | - | - | - | - | - |
| Cash funds this year end | 160 | - | - | 160 | 72 |

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

| Categories | Details | Unrestricted funds to nearest £ | Restricted funds to nearest £ | Endowment funds to nearest £ |
|----------------------|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| B1 Cash funds | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | Total cash funds | - | - | - |
| | (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)) | Agreement Error | OK | OK |

| Categories | Details | Unrestricted funds to nearest £ | Restricted funds to nearest £ | Endowment funds to nearest £ |
|---------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| B2 Other monetary assets | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |

| Categories | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
|-----------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| B3 Investment assets | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |

| Categories | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
|---|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |
| | | | - | - |

| Categories | Details | Fund to which liability relates | Amount due (optional) | When due (optional) |
|-----------------------|---------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| B5 Liabilities | | | - | |
| | | | - | |
| | | | - | |
| | | | - | |
| | | | - | |

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

| Signature | Print Name | Date of approval |
|------------|----------------|------------------|
| N. Lamptey | Naina Lamptey | 22-Sep-21 |
| S. Wamweya | Samuel Wamweya | 22-Sep-21 |