



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
	13	04	2020		12	04	2021

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name OLDALONE UK

Other names charity is known by N/A

Registered charity number (if any) 1166468

Charity's principal address c/o Bridge Renewal Trust, 256 St Ann's Road

Tottenham

London

Postcode

N15 5BN

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Izabela Branisteanu	Chair	From 17/08/2020	
2	Gonzalo Delgado	Finance Director	From 10/02/2016	
3	Yessenia Gallegos	Marketing	From 14/05/2018	
4	Jasmine Sayar	Youth Ambassador	From 23/07/2017	
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Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Luisa Brands

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

"Foundation Model" Constitution

How the charity is constituted
(eg. trust, association, company)

Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Trustee selection methods
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

"Trustees may be appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees"

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

"To relieve the charitable needs of elderly people who, as result of their age are lonely or isolated, in particular to the provision of befriending, companionship and IT skills."

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Due to Covid-19 crisis, this have been a very challenging year inundated with uncertainty and needs affecting everybody especially older people and those belonging to BAME groups. At this difficult time, we have been at the forefront, delivering our Covid-19 Emergency Response projects to help alleviate the extraordinary impact the pandemic has had on the most vulnerable communities.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, when everything came to a halt, we have actively look for ways to maximize our services to comply with the increasing demand prompted by the sanitary emergency. At this time, the economic and social inequalities were exacerbated by the crisis, evidencing as never before the existing gaps in society.

Language barriers marred with lack of ICT Skills difficult our beneficiaries access to general services and opportunities.

Therefore, we had to expand the scope of our services to integrate the food security element to help overcome the desperation and panic of those trapped in the lockdowns as well as the hardship of dozens of people who had lost their jobs and whom had to choose between eating or paying rent.

Through the crisis, and thanks to the funding we had secured, we have been able to mobilize a significant number of volunteers and deploy a strategic lifeline plan to cover a vast area of the capital where older and vulnerable people live. We have also liaised with other organizations such as Homes for Haringey which facilitated the use of a communal lounge to arrange the distribution of food parcels and toiletries.

In order to tackle loneliness, social isolation and depression, we have adjusted our befriending services to be delivered via telephone calls and video conferences. Likewise, theatre, dance and ICT skills were adjusted to be delivered online via Zoom platform.

All these initiatives helped to ease the anguish and anxiety older people was going through and helped to promote their wellbeing. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, all our activities came to a halt. However, we are continuing with our befriending services through weekly telephone calls.

Our aim is to keep beneficiaries calm and reassured while identifying what specific needs they may have, i.e if they require prescriptions to be delivered or if they have any other specific needs, signposting, translation services, etc., while helping alleviate their isolation and fear, boosting their morale and making sure they do not run out of essential items.

Moreover, we are applying for grants to further assist the vulnerable and those who are facing hardship due to the coronavirus crisis.

OLDALONE UK continues working tirelessly to achieve its purpose under the banner of its values: Integrity, Kindness and Empathy in the hope to achieve more inclusive, ever growing age-friendly communities.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Covid-19, has greatly influenced the way community service was normally understood and delivered. Great challenges demand greater solutions and innovation. Although the crisis brought disease, death, grief, uncertainty and impoverishment, it also brought along extraordinary sentiments of solidarity and togetherness in the face of tragedy.

For OLDALONE UK, it was the same but also, has given us the opportunity to become more resilient, and have encouraged us to take our services and commitments to the next level.

The experiences that we and the team of volunteers went through these difficult times have touched our lives in so many ways. We hope to come out of this as survivors but also more determined than ever to promote greater social inclusion.

At OLDALONE UK we take pride in helping to tackle social and economic inequalities by promoting Digital Integration and English Language Skills for older people from the BAME community whose lack of IT skills together with language barriers, difficult their access to general services and connectedness. This is an issue that has been exposed by Covid-19.

We will keep looking for funding opportunities to build up capability and infrastructure to continue delivering what we are most passionate about that is helping the most underrepresented and vulnerable to improve their quality of life

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Further, we keep campaigning on raising awareness about issues affecting older people by feeding our social media platforms with interesting articles about issues affecting people in later life.

By publishing inspirational quotes about life as well as calling on younger generations to understand the limitations our seniors go through their day to day lives and support them in any way they can, we have sent a positive message of solidarity, empathy and integration to our community.

The public response to our campaigns has been amazing and we have seen a fantastic increase in the number of volunteers' applications received this year.

As usual, OLDALONE UK volunteers' team have demonstrated their commitment and enthusiasm during this period. Their hard work and dedication have been essential for the smooth running of the organisation in such a challenging year.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Due to Covid-19, we have managed to adjust several activities to be delivered online. As a young, small sized charity with limited resources, we recognise that all our achievements continue representing a challenge. A challenge we have taken with responsibility to build up trustworthy relations with key stakeholders, beneficiaries and the whole community.

We are fully aware that funding is key to advance our objectives. During this period, we have managed to get several grants including two unrestricted grants from Haringey Council and in-kind supports such as IT equipment (Laptops) to advance our digital inclusion IT program for older people from disadvantaged backgrounds. We have also received individual donations and run an online Christmas Raffle which also contributed to successfully run diverse activities such as:

- Distributing/delivering food parcels.
- IT sessions via Zoom
- Dance sessions via Zoom
- Theatre sessions via Zoom
- An only-women Resilience Project
- Helping older people to do their favourite errands
- Helping non-English speaking beneficiaries with translation and paperwork.
- Conversations/befriending over the phone
- Toiletries provision such as medicated creams and gels
- Assisting homeless people with warm clothing, dry food and soft drinks.

We are satisfied, these activities have helped to ward off loneliness and isolation. Hence reducing the negative mental health consequences, it may cause.

During this period, we have managed to maximise our resources in a responsible and efficient manner. Currently, we are seeking the necessary funding to embark on achievable projects, which would enable us to help our community recover from the devastating effects of the pandemic.

Major Award

- On November 2020 we were shortlisted as finalists for the E&T Innovation Awards 2020 category “Best Diversity & Inclusion Impact” with “Click & Connect 4 All” IT Skills lessons program for older people from disadvantaged backgrounds, alongside Emerson and British Telecom; at the time when the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) was celebrating its 150th anniversary.
- On 19th Nov. 2020 in an online ceremony broadcasted worldwide, Oldalone UK was announced as the absolute winner of the “Best Diversity & Inclusion Impact” E&T Innovation Awards 2020 by English engineer and television presenter Kate Bellingham.
- At the ceremony, our Patron “The Lady Pilar Brennan”, received the nomination and congratulations.
- On 14th Dec 2020 at Lambeth College in the presence of Fiona Morey, Executive Principal of



- Lambeth College, Dr. Safia Barikzai (Associate Professor |School of Engineering | London South Bank University), Izabela Branistenau (Oldalone UK Chairwoman) and Luisa Sofia Brands, Oldalone UK Founder and CEO, Dr. Safia Barikzai on behalf of the Institution of Engineering and Technology presented the Award to Oldalone UK.

Fiona Morey, principal of Lambeth College said: *“To be a winner amongst two of the richest companies in the world, was a very big prestige and we also would like to congratulate you on your achievement and share our college/university facilities at your convenience.”*

Campaigns:

- Launched “My Safe Home” -Mi Hogar Seguro- Campaign.
- “Giving Hands 4 All” Distributed Food parcels and toiletries in the London geographical areas of Haringey, Lambeth, Hammersmith, Newham, Enfield and Barnet.
- “Click & Connect 4 All.” More than 50 people have applied and registered for this ICT course via Zoom
- “Dance 4 All” Folk dance from Peru, Colombia and Dominic Republican. Well attended
- “Theatre Variety 4 All” This program will hopefully soon be presented in a theatre setting.
- “Resilience Plus” Project. This project was specifically tailored for South America women. We distributed food parcels and toiletries, gave initial advice to women, including referrals and signposting, translation services and employability and debt management workshops.
- “FoodParcels2Go” a current project sponsored by City Bridge Trust that will end in June.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

A reserves policy was adopted since the beginning of our activities in order to maintain material costs. The purpose of this policy is to maintain a balance between income and expenditure where operating costs include on-going support costs such as website maintenance, promotional material and miscellaneous. This enabled us to organise additional activities whilst keep on meeting operating costs

Details of any funds materially in deficit

No funds were materially in deficit.

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Through the Covid-19 Crisis, our emergency response programmes have been funded by several organisations, as well as individual donations, and online fundraising activities.

Covid-19 Emergency Response Grants

Is important to mention that due to Covid-19, this year's finances have peaked. This obeys to the need to find the means/funding to help alleviate the impact the pandemic has had on our beneficiaries. We have been granted:

- £5000 from The London Community Response 27/04/2020
- £9430 from The National Lottery 1/05/2020
- £500 from Tesco Bags of Help 22/06/2020
- £166 from Waitrose 30/08/2020
- £4980 Haringey Giving -The Bridge Renewal Trust 21/08/2020
- £3000 Haringey Council 15/10/2020
- £880 Raffle (Unrestricted)
- £26892 Small Wood Trust
- £9996 City Bridge Trust 6/01/2021

We are satisfied expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity. It is indeed, extremely rewarding to have had the resources to reach a greater number of beneficiaries affected by Covid-19.


Section F

Other optional information

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Izabela Branisteanu	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	18/06/2021	