



**CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

## **Trustees' annual report (including Directors' report) for the period**

**From: Period start date January 2022**

**To: Period end date December 2022**

**Charity name: Music For Hope**

**Charity registration number: 1167556**

### **Objectives and activities**

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To actively promote our work as a positive, non-violent alternative to gangs for young people in the Bajo Lempa;</li><li>• To promote confidence and leadership qualities in all the young musicians we work with and create opportunities for cross-project team building;</li><li>• To support La Asociación para el Desarrollo de las Artes y la Cultura en Jiquilisco (ASDACJI) and our team to explore alternative options for funding Music for Hope's activities and team expenses;</li><li>• To support and promote Music for Hope's bands to achieve higher standards and greater exposure inside and outside of the Bajo Lempa;</li><li>• To provide students and teachers with instruments, equipment and various learning materials including online tuition for our teaching team;</li><li>• To continue to improve communication and coordination between Music for Hope collaborators locally and internationally;</li><li>• To continue to improve our music classes;</li><li>• To maintain and develop our social media capacity and build our Facebook community;</li><li>• To capture and record aspects of Music for Hope's cultural history and legacy, as well as that of the Bajo Lempa communities.</li></ul>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	<p>To actively promote our work as a positive, non-violent alternative to gangs for the young people of the Bajo Lempa, we continue to offer music-making opportunities to several communities in the region to encourage connection and personal and societal growth. Our belief in the social value of music within these communities remains steadfast and our Music for Hope psychologist continues to work with our students to illuminate the social and emotional skills that are developed when making music with others. We also opened a new music centre in the community of El Marillo which will give children of this community the opportunity to learn music and to collaborate with music groups from other communities. Music for Hope enables reconciliation between parents, children, and the community, allowing a more harmonious coexistence between residents of the different communities in the area.</p> <p>To promote confidence and leadership qualities in our young people we encourage them to give classes and train other children in the new centre in El Marillo. The creative process of songwriting still has strong roots in Music for Hope across the five music centres, providing exploration of independent and collaborative thinking. Our music teachers listen to the ideas of our students and nurture their contributions by incorporating these ideas into their teaching, therefore encouraging students to offer their own thoughts.</p>

To support our team in exploring alternative funding options we have started hiring out our new sound system. This will help to generate extra income that can help with day to day costs for our work in the communities. We are supporting our team in El Salvador to explore an income generation pilot project that could help to generate funds towards the costs of our work in the future and help the charity become more sustainable. Sustainability is now a fixed agenda item for our Trustee Meetings. Students and teachers also get involved in small scale fundraising activities, the income from which supports instrument repair, refreshments for the students, art material purchases and other small scale purchases.

To ensure that the Music for Hope bands can continue striving for high standards and receive more exposure, our teacher team have sought out various opportunities to participate in community events throughout the year. The music teachers have been using social media platforms to keep our Facebook followers updated about our work, and we also started planning the curation of a CD of poems that will be converted to songs by many different bands and musicians from Music for Hope. The poems are archived in the CAMENA, Mexico, and were written by different people who were fighting in the civil war in El Salvador during the 80's. The aim of this project is to keep the history of the communities alive through those poems and songs. This project will start in earnest in 2023. We also marked our 25 Year anniversary with a range of activities and events including a presentation and workshop at the el Sueño Festival in Wales, and a collaborative Music for Hope banner helping to raise the profile of Music for Hope in the UK.

We have maintained our commitment to providing students and teachers with instruments, equipment, and various learning materials. For example, a new sound system has been purchased which will help improve the performance of the music bands at events.

To continue to improve communication and coordination between Music for Hope collaborators locally and internationally, the UK team meets online bi-monthly and always receive an update from El Salvador before discussing anything else. Our co-ordinator effectively acts as a bridge for communication between the two teams and we have several opportunities throughout the year for both teams to link up more directly, albeit mostly online. Our social media subgroup meets regularly (online) with our teachers to share skills and information on how our social media platforms are performing. One of our trustees travelled to El Salvador again this year and this is always a vital opportunity for deeper connection and collaboration across our two teams.

We always strive to improve our music classes and our teacher team do this through staying in regular contact with one another and sharing learning. They are also proactive in seeking out learning opportunities for themselves. Students who completed their three-year scholarship have consequently been taking on leadership roles within their music centres which helps us in our aim to support the next generation of teachers.

Our active social media platforms in 2022 included Facebook, Twitter as well as the recent addition of an Instagram account which has been kept on private mode whilst we become more familiar with the app and content editing. We have seen growth in our online following and have also continued to regularly update the website and blog.

To capture and record the cultural history and legacy of Music for Hope and the Bajo Lempa we teach in the cultural aural traditions of the region. Our students have written original songs this year helping to preserve the history of the area and of Music for Hope, including setting poems written during the civil war to song. This year we also finalised and publicised an eBook that tells the story of Music for Hope from the perspective of students, teachers,

	and activists through the photos of professional photographer and friend of the charity, Kevin Hayes.
<b>Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit</b>	The trustees of Music for Hope continue to work in accordance with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and always hold this guidance in mind when making decisions and planning activities as trustees.

## Achievements and performance

<b>Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.</b>	<p>In 2022, our teachers in El Salvador delivered music lessons on an individual or group basis in 5 music training centres in Nueva Esperanza, El Zamoran, Amando López, La Papalota and El Marillo. Currently, 130 children, young people, and some adults access Music for Hope. They are aged between 6 to 49 years old and are from 15 communities, in the municipality of Jiquilisco. It is estimated that our total beneficiaries are about 1,000 people, including indirect beneficiaries, such as family members, school teachers, community leaders, and students.</p> <p>The past year was another challenging year full of collaboration and innovation. As we emerged from the global pandemic, and navigated the volatile restrictions imposed by the government, and the ongoing gang issues, we felt it necessary to reflect on our strengths and carry forward learning and new processes that we developed to face the pandemic. We concluded that, regardless of the challenges that Music for Hope and the communities face, our strengths lie in community support, our collaborative organisation, our solidarity friends and the resilience of every person within Music for Hope and the communities we work within. These strengths have enabled Music for Hope to be present in El Bajo Lempa for 25 years and we have tried to capture this throughout our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. It has been 25 years of solidarity and friendship and as ever, this would not be possible without the support of each community of El Bajo Lempa, the music teachers, and Music for Hope's UK board of trustees and volunteers. We are also incredibly grateful for the ongoing support received from our anonymous donor, which have been integral in giving us the means to continue empowering young people across El Bajo Lempa.</p> <p>Thanks to funds received this year we were able to create the E-book <i>Music for Hope, 25 Years of Solidarity</i> by Kevin Hayes and Tony Luna. This book tells the story of Music for Hope from the perspective of students, teachers, and activists. Through the photos of photographer Kevin Hayes and interviews conducted by Tony Luna, it captures the essence, spirit and resilience of Music for Hope and invites a new generation of participants and supporters to get involved in securing the future of the project for the next generation of young people. The aim of this book is to promote Music for Hope's history, raise some funds through the sale of the book and use the proceeds to support our work in El Salvador. The book is now available to be purchased on the new Music for Hope website. We officially launched the book at the El Sueño Existe Festival in Machynlleth, Wales, which we were invited to present at again this year. We chose to do this in the format of a workshop, where we talked about the past, the present, challenges, and the future of the project.</p> <p>The UK based team of the charity worked with a student of Spanish Studies from Lancaster University. The student assisted Music for Hope trustees with a variety of tasks - including developing Music for Hope's social media profile and, the transcription and</p>
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translation of a video interview with one of our Salvadoran teaching team describing their weekly activities of work, study and everyday life - during a work placement that forms part of a professional skills optional module offered to second year students at the Department of Languages and Cultures at Lancaster University. The placement introduces British students to aspects of charity work and enhances their linguistic competencies and cultural knowledge and awareness specifically with regards to El Salvador and Central America. In this way the charity works with young people in the UK, putting Central America onto their mental map, nurturing interests, and creating personal bonds – an opportunity that is open to few young people in the UK, given the scarcity of in-roads for young people into charity and solidarity work with Latin America and the under-representation of Latin America in school curricula.

Our social media engagement has developed further this year both in terms of increasing our follower community and increasing the knowledge and confidence of our team in using social media. The subgroup works closely with the teacher team to ensure suggestions are realistic and reflect the work of Music for Hope. In March 2022 the subgroup and teacher team embarked on exploring the possibility of Instagram for Music for Hope and learning how best to use it. This will be rolled out publicly in 2023. Overall, our online community grew in 2022, despite losing followers on Twitter. We will continue to monitor things as this platform undergoes significant global changes.

In 2022 we also began a pilot project linked to the recovery and transmission of historical memory by taking representatives from the music centres and the teaching team to Morazán, a region of El Salvador that has profound historical links with the communities of the Bajo Lempa due to their shared histories of persecution and resistance during the civil war. We visited the civil war museum in Perkin, and also visited the site of the 1980 massacre of El Mozote in which approximately 1000 civilians were murdered by state forces. The music centre representatives listened to the stories of survivors and reflected on those stories before writing songs about the histories that had been passed on. In this way those histories will be transmitted through music in the Bajo Lempa communities. The trip to Morazán served three key purposes. Firstly, the shared experience helped integrate the students from the different community music centres, facilitating the formation of close friendship-bonds; secondly it allowed the participants to learn about their recent history; thirdly it facilitated the transmission of historical memory through cultural production (song-writing after listening to the histories told by survivors). The songs are now ready for recording and we hope to complete this in the coming year.

Alongside the classes we organise and deliver every week, we are proud to facilitate social activities, encouraging different ages to mix and bond to strengthen the Bajo Lempa communities. As is our tradition at Music for Hope, we ended the year with a Christmas concert. This year the concert was in the community of Nueva Esperanza, and thanks to the good relationships and coordination between Music for Hope and the whole community, the concert was a complete success. Many people from the communities came to the event and others could enjoy the music through Facebook live. We were proud that many people both inside and outside of El Salvador could enjoy the good music produced by our students. We continue to go from strength to strength as an organisation, always reflecting, learning, and changing, whilst providing outlets for children and young people to grow together.

In November 2022, our longstanding chairperson and founding member announced she will be standing down as chair over the coming months, but will still very much be involved in Music For Hope as a trustee, and will support the transition of the next trustee set to become chair. Music For Hope expresses their heartfelt gratitude and will endeavour to carry on the work achieved over the last 25 years.

## Financial review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	This year MfH has agreed to build and hold 3 months' running costs in reserve in El Salvador, to provide a buffer that enables teacher salaries and other expenses to be paid in the event of issues with international bank transfers. These are being built up gradually.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	N/A
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	X
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	X
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	X
Other		X

## Structure, governance and management

Description of charity's trusts:	N/A
Type of governing document: for example, <a href="#">trust deed</a> , <a href="#">memorandum and articles of association etc</a>	Constitution

How is the charity constituted? for example limited company, unincorporated association, CIO	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	<p>Trustees are usually selected after having served as a volunteer for the charity so that they have a thorough understanding of Music for Hope's mission. If we need to, we will advertise for a trustee by creating a job description and circulating to our contacts. The appointment of trustees takes place at our annual general meeting where someone puts themselves forward for election. A motion is officially passed after a vote of confidence is expressed, and only when the charity is quorate. The election and resignation of trustees is set out in our governing document.</p> <p>Music for Hope is a 'horizontally' rather than 'vertically' structured organisation and the work that we do is based on communication and consensus between the two teams.; one based in the UK and one in El Salvador. Both teams work closely together and communicate regularly with each other via online platforms such as Zoom. This communication is facilitated by our contracted coordinator based in the UK who meets monthly with the teacher team in El Salvador, and more frequently with our Salvadoran co-ordinator if necessary. The UK team is there to support the work and needs of the El Salvador team. Updates, needs, queries and issues from the El Salvador team are communicated to the UK team via the UK-based coordinator.</p>

## Reference and administrative details

Charity name	Music For Hope
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1167556
Charity's principal address	23 Fernleigh Avenue, Manchester, M19 3LU

### 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)
Katherine Girling Rogers	Chair		
Sophie Helsby	Treasurer		
Lucie Phillips	Secretary		
Andrew Redden	(Chair at time the report was written as appointed in January 2023)		
Cornelia Graebner			

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

## Exemptions from disclosure



Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A

## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report (including directors' report) above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Andrew Redden	Sophie Helsby
Position (for example Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer
Date	13/10/2023	

# INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

## TO THE TRUSTEES OF Music for Hope

I report on the accounts for the charity for the year ended 31st December 2022 which are set out on pages 9 to 10 and are receipts and payments accounts.

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedure laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

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

*Paul Cowham*

Paul Cowham FCA DChA  
Green Fish Resource Centre  
46 - 50 Oldham St  
Manchester M4 1LE

13 October 2023



# Music for Hope

Year ending 31 December 2022

## Receipts and Payments Accounts

	2022			2021		
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>						
CD and book sales	857	-	857	230	-	230
Donations	2,736	150	2,886	2,482	1,450	3,932
Gift aid	-	-	-	505	-	505
Main project grant	-	16,000	16,000	-	20,000	20,000
Total receipts	3,593	16,150	19,743	2,987	21,450	24,437
<b>Payments</b>						
Bank charges			-	25	-	
Banner painting costs		400	400	-	-	-
Books printing costs		196	196	-	-	
Cd production	-	-	-	502	-	502
Design fee	-	500	500			
Programme delivery in El Salvador	-	22,296	22,296	-	20,015	20,015
Education trip	-	600	600	-	-	-
English Language Support	-	250	250	-	200	
Accountancy and Independent examination	-	-	-	400	-	400
Postage	29	-	29			
Project coordination	-	4,400	4,400	-	4,800	4,800
Travel expenses	44	101	145	36	-	36
Meeting expenses	-	-	-	103	-	103
IT costs	131	173	304	215	-	215
Website development	-	-	-	-	2,400	2,400
Total payments	204	28,916	29,120	1,281	27,415	28,471
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,389	(12,766)	(9,377)	1,706	(5,965)	(4,034)
Transfers	(12,766)	12,766	-	-	-	-
Cash funds last year end	12,025	-	12,025	11,423	4,631	16,054
Cash funds this year end	2,648	-	2,648	13,129	(1,334)	12,020

## Music for Hope

Year ending 31 December 2022

### Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

	Notes	2022			2021		Prior period £
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Unrestricte d funds	Restricted funds	
		£	£	£			
Cash funds	1	2,648	-	2,648	13,129	(1,334)	11,795
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Liabilities							
December 22 relating to the period		950	-	950	400	-	400
		1,698	-	1,698	12,729	(1,334)	11,395

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

Andrew Redden

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Name



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Signed

Sophie Helsby

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Name



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Signed

Date 13/10/2023

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