

EMPOWER INTERNATIONAL

England & Wales · Charity number 1168552

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2016-08-02

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

Contact

Address 49 Normandy Road
Hilton
Derby
DE65 5GW

Phone 07528676821

Website www.empower-international.com

Activities

Objects: 1) THE RELIEF OF UNEMPLOYMENT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC IN SUCH WAYS AS MAY BE THOUGHT FIT, INCLUDING THE PROVISION OF TRAINING TO THOSE SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED TO PROVIDE THEM WITH THE SKILLS TO IMPROVE THEIR EMPLOYABILITY. 2) THE PREVENTION OR RELIEF OF POVERTY (OR FINANCIAL HARDSHIP) ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD BY THE PROVISION OF SERVICES AND THE ASSOCIATED SUPPORT SERVICES, SUCH AS ADVICE, COACHING AND MENTORING, TO ASSIST INDIVIDUALS TO HELP THEMSELVES IN ORDER TO ENABLE THOSE INDIVIDUALS TO GENERATE A SUSTAINABLE INCOME AND BE SELF-SUFFICIENT

Activities: Training and equipping men and women from poor and marginalised communities in Romania, with various skills to help them become employable.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Australia
- Romania
- United States
- Nottinghamshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£820	£534	-	-
2023-12-31	£820	£738	-	-
2022-12-31	£820	£650	-	-
2021-12-31	£1,678	£1,433	-	-
2020-12-31	£8,551	£7,659	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
MANDY SUE SIMPSON	Chair	2015-11-03
MARIE CLAIRE ROGERS		2018-01-04
PHILLIP IAN EDMUNDSON		2015-11-03

EMPOWER INTERNATIONAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1168552

Accounts

EMPOWER **INTERNATIONAL**

Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Annual Report, and Unaudited Accounts
For the Period 1st January - 31st December 2024

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name	Empower International
Charity Registration Number	1168552
Charity Registered Address	49 Normandy Road, Hilton, Derby, DE65 5GW
Trustees	Mandy Simpson
	Phillip Edmundson
	Marie Rogers

Empower International

Trustees' Report

Introduction

Empower International was granted status as a UK charity on 2nd August 2016.

Structure, Governance and Management

Empower International operates within the CIO Foundation Model Structure and Constitution.

The charity decision making process is actioned in accordance with the constitution and our working practice document dated May 2017.

The appointment and retirement of trustees is to be in accordance with the constitution. The lead trustee proposes the appointing of a new trustee to the trustees, and upon a unanimous endorsement by the trustees, is appointed.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charity as set out in its governing document are...

- 1) The relief of unemployment for the benefit of the public, including the provision of training to those socially disadvantaged, to provide them with the skills to improve employability.
- 2) The relief of poverty (or financial hardship) by offering support services such as advice, coaching, mentoring, to assist individuals to help themselves, in order to enable those individuals to generate a sustainable income and be self-sufficient.

Summary of the main activities of the charity in relation to these objectives are...

- 1) To provide employable skills training through the Empower Romania project to both men and women of various ages, including (but not limited to) carpentry, construction, sewing and embroidery.
- 2) Empower Romania training programmes also include mentoring and assistance in developing wider skills necessary to become a valuable part of the workforce. This includes, for instance, encouraging daily consistent attendance, punctuality, the need to retain a good attitude, respect for authority and colleagues, and teamwork.

Empower International have taken the charity commissions' public benefit guidance into account when making any decision that it is relevant to.

Achievements and Performance

We begin our review of 2024 by providing a brief summary on the charitable work we have undertaken in North-West Romania. Empower Romania was a project developed over two sites between 2014 and 2020, presenting opportunities to Roma communities in Lazareni and Sanpaul to be involved in

training programmes, with particular attention given to developing employability skills. Over time we chose smaller groups of people to create 'core' teams with both men and women and did so by providing clear parameters and criteria in which we would make selections about who we could work more closely with, and who would most benefit from the training. This was how we chose an initial team to work with, and we developed and expanded it from there.

In short, Empower Romania consists of two separate training programmes, one an apprenticeship in carpentry and construction, and the other for sewing and embroidery called the Lydia Project. The purpose of the training programmes is for the benefit of the public, to help those in financial hardship, and to help marginalised people from Roma communities to learn skills that could help them to become employable, and also in some cases to see the value of employment. Both programmes were designed to teach employability skills by learning to operate tools and machinery and producing various items and completing assignments to a high standard. Whilst training was taking place, mentoring was also taking place, including learning a wider skill set that could help people become a valuable part of a workforce. These projects operated both simultaneously and separately from the point of launch in October 2014 until November 2020. A consideration of a third site within Romania did not proceed due to the interruption of both Brexit and the Covid-19 pandemic, but also training opportunities had become more widely available to Roma communities in Romania through EU funding in recent years, and with the close proximity of the Caleb Foundation and the Corabia Foundation (our former partner organisations) to the communities, adequate ongoing support is available to the people we have had the honour and privilege to work with during our time in Romania.

2021 was a challenging year to be able to offer support packages from the UK to Romania. During 2022 and 2023 we continued to contemplate ways to develop our charitable aims through consideration of how value could be added by the charity in a more local context. The lead trustee has recently completed further education in the UK with the intention of using the qualifications gained to champion causes in the UK and begin guiding the work of Empower International into a new direction. This endeavour would require a repurposing of the charitable aims since international projects were affected by Covid-19 interruptions, and having not resumed as planned, the pandemic has meant changes to both the short-term and long-term work of Empower International.

Looking forward to 2025

It has not been possible to make meaningful decisions about future directions during 2024 as the lead trustee required time to complete her higher education training, so throughout 2025, it is our intention to continue considering a plan to repurpose and restructure the charity and further consideration will be given to this as we continue moving forward in the coming year.

Financial Review

Our funding was received through individuals who chose to support the charity during 2024 and its transition period.

Donations	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£819.72		£ 819.72
Expenses	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
Banking Fees	£ 60.00		£ 60.00
Website	£ 379.49		£ 379.49
Accountancy	£ 67.20		£ 67.20
Administrative Expenses	£ 27.22		£ 27.22
	£ 533.91		£ 533.91

Carryover from Community Account 31 December 2023		£2,900.81
Opening Balance	01/01/2024	£2,900.81
Donations		£819.72
Accountancy, Online Support and Administrative and Banking Fees		£533.91
Closing Balance	31/12/2024	£3,186.62

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Trustees by Mandy Simpson
(Chair of Trustees)



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Empower International	1168552
-----------------------	---------

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/01/2024	To	31/12/2024
------------------------	------------	----	------------

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					
	820	-	-	820	820
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	820	-	-	820	820
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	820	-	-	820	820
A3 Payments					
	534	-	-	534	738
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	534	-	-	534	738
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	534	-	-	534	738
Net of receipts/(payments)	286	-	-	286	82
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	2,901	-	-	2,901	2,819
Cash funds this year end	3,187	-	-	3,187	2,901

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		3,187	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	3,187	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

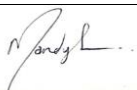
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

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
	Mandy Simpson	10/06/2025

EMPOWER INTERNATIONAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1168552

Accounts

EMPOWER **INTERNATIONAL**

Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Annual Report, and Unaudited Accounts
For the Period 1st January - 31st December 2023

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name	Empower International
Charity Registration Number	1168552
Charity Registered Address	49 Normandy Road, Hilton, Derby, DE65 5GW
Trustees	Mandy Simpson
	Phillip Edmundson
	Marie Rogers

Empower International

Trustees' Report

Introduction

Empower International was granted status as a UK charity on 2nd August 2016.

Structure, Governance and Management

Empower International operates within the CIO Foundation Model Structure and Constitution.

The charity decision making process is actioned in accordance with the constitution and our working practice document dated May 2017.

The appointment and retirement of trustees is to be in accordance with the constitution. The lead trustee proposes the appointing of a new trustee to the trustees, and upon a unanimous endorsement by the trustees, is appointed.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charity as set out in its governing document are...

- 1) The relief of unemployment for the benefit of the public, including the provision of training to those socially disadvantaged, to provide them with the skills to improve employability.
- 2) The relief of poverty (or financial hardship) by offering support services such as advice, coaching, mentoring, to assist individuals to help themselves, in order to enable those individuals to generate a sustainable income and be self-sufficient.

Summary of the main activities of the charity in relation to these objectives are...

- 1) To provide employable skills training through the Empower Romania project to both men and women of various ages, including (but not limited to) carpentry, construction, sewing and embroidery.
- 2) Empower Romania training programmes also include mentoring and assistance in developing wider skills necessary to become a valuable part of the workforce. This includes, for instance, encouraging daily consistent attendance, punctuality, the need to retain a good attitude, respect for authority and colleagues, and teamwork.

Empower International have taken the charity commissions' public benefit guidance into account when making any decision that it is relevant to.

Achievements and Performance

We begin our review of 2023 by providing a brief summary on the charitable work we have undertaken in North-West Romania. Empower Romania was a project developed over two sites between 2014 and 2020, presenting opportunities to Roma communities in Lazareni and Sanpaul to be involved in

training programmes, with particular attention given to developing employability skills. Over time we chose smaller groups of people to create 'core' teams with both men and women and did so by providing clear parameters and criteria in which we would make selections about who we could work more closely with, and who would most benefit from the training. This was how we chose an initial team to work with, and we developed and expanded it from there.

In short, Empower Romania consists of two separate training programmes, one an apprenticeship in carpentry and construction, and the other for sewing and embroidery called the Lydia Project. The purpose of the training programmes is for the benefit of the public, to help those in financial hardship, and to help marginalised people from Roma communities to learn skills that could help them to become employable, and also in some cases to see the value of employment. Both programmes were designed to teach employability skills by learning to operate tools and machinery and producing various items and completing assignments to a high standard. Whilst training was taking place, mentoring was also taking place, including learning a wider skill set that could help people become a valuable part of a workforce. These projects operated both simultaneously and separately from the point of launch in October 2014 until November 2020. A consideration of a third site within Romania did not proceed due to the interruption of both Brexit and the Covid-19 pandemic, but also training opportunities had become more widely available to Roma communities in Romania through EU funding in recent years, and with the close proximity of the Caleb Foundation and the Corabia Foundation (our former partner organisations) to the communities, adequate ongoing support is available to the people we have had the honour and privilege to work with during our time in Romania.

2021 was a challenging year to be able to offer support packages from the UK to Romania. During 2022 we continued to contemplate ways to develop our charitable aims through consideration of how value could be added by the charity in a more local context. The lead trustee is currently engaging in further education in the UK with the intention of using the qualifications gained to champion causes in the UK and begin guiding the work of Empower International into a new direction. This endeavour would require a repurposing of the charitable aims since international projects were affected by Covid-19 interruptions, and having not resumed as planned, the pandemic has meant changes to both the short-term and long-term work of Empower International.

Looking forward to 2024

It has not been possible to make meaningful decisions about future directions during 2023 as the lead trustee completes higher education training, so throughout 2024 and 2025, it is our intention to continue considering ways in which we can add value to supporting people in the UK. It will be necessary to repurpose and restructure the charity and further consideration will be given to this as we continue moving forward.

Financial Review

Our funding was received through individuals who chose to support the charity during 2023 and its transition period.

Donations	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£819.72		£ 819.72
Expenses	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
Banking Fees	£ 60.00		£ 60.00
Website	£ 286.57		£ 286.57
Accountancy	£ 324.00		£ 324.00
Administrative Expenses	£ 67.63		£ 67.63
	£ 738.20		£ 738.20

Carryover from Community Account 31 December 2022		£2,819.29
Opening Balance	01/01/2022	£2,819.29
Donations		£819.72
Accountancy, Online Support and Administrative and Banking Fees		£738.20
Closing Balance	31/12/2023	£2,900.81

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Trustees by Mandy Simpson
(Chair of Trustees)



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Empower International	1168552
-----------------------	---------

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/01/2023	To	31/12/2023
---------------------	------------	----	------------

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					
	820	-	-	820	820
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	820	-	-	820	820
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	820	-	-	820	820
A3 Payments					
	738	-	-	738	650
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	738	-	-	738	650
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	738	-	-	738	650
Net of receipts/(payments)	82	-	-	82	170
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	2,819	-	-	2,819	2,650
Cash funds this year end	2,901	-	-	2,901	2,820

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		2,901	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	2,901	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

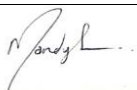
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

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
	Mandy Simpson	28/09/2024

EMPOWER INTERNATIONAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1168552

Accounts

EMPOWER **INTERNATIONAL**

Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Annual Report, and Unaudited Accounts
For the Period 1st January - 31st December 2022

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name	Empower International
Charity Registration Number	1168552
Charity Registered Address	49 Normandy Road, Hilton, Derby, DE65 5GW
Trustees	Mandy Simpson
	Phillip Edmundson
	Marie Rogers

Empower International

Trustees' Report

Introduction

Empower International was granted status as a UK charity on 2nd August 2016.

Structure, Governance and Management

Empower International operates within the CIO Foundation Model Structure and Constitution.

The charity decision making process is actioned in accordance with the constitution and our working practice document dated May 2017.

The appointment and retirement of trustees is to be in accordance with the constitution. The lead trustee proposes the appointing of a new trustee to the trustees, and upon a unanimous endorsement by the trustees, is appointed.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charity as set out in its governing document are...

- 1) The relief of unemployment for the benefit of the public, including the provision of training to those socially disadvantaged, to provide them with the skills to improve employability.
- 2) The relief of poverty (or financial hardship) by offering support services such as advice, coaching, mentoring, to assist individuals to help themselves, in order to enable those individuals to generate a sustainable income and be self-sufficient.

Summary of the main activities of the charity in relation to these objectives are...

- 1) To provide employable skills training through the Empower Romania project to both men and women of various ages, including (but not limited to) carpentry, construction, sewing and embroidery.
- 2) Empower Romania training programmes also include mentoring and assistance in developing wider skills necessary to become a valuable part of the workforce. This includes, for instance, encouraging daily consistent attendance, punctuality, the need to retain a good attitude, respect for authority and colleagues, and teamwork.

Empower International have taken the charity commissions' public benefit guidance into account when making any decision that it is relevant to.

Achievements and Performance

As we begin our review of 2022 it may be advantageous to provide a brief summary on the charitable work we have undertaken in North-West Romania. Empower Romania was a project developed over two sites between 2014 and 2020, presenting opportunities to Roma communities in Lazareni and

Sanpaul to be involved in training programmes, with particular attention given to developing employability skills. Over time we chose smaller groups of people to create 'core' teams with both men and women and did so by providing clear parameters and criteria in which we would make selections about who we could work more closely with, and who would most benefit from the training. This was how we chose an initial team to work with, and we developed and expanded it from there.

In short, Empower Romania consists of two separate training programmes, one an apprenticeship in carpentry and construction, and the other for sewing and embroidery called the Lydia Project. The purpose of the training programmes is for the benefit of the public, to help those in financial hardship, and to help marginalised people from Roma communities to learn skills that could help them to become employable, and also in some cases to see the value of employment. Both programmes were designed to teach employability skills by learning to operate tools and machinery and producing various items and completing assignments to a high standard. Whilst training was taking place, mentoring was also taking place, including learning a wider skill set that could help people become a valuable part of a workforce. These projects operated both simultaneously and separately from the point of launch in October 2014 until November 2020. A consideration of a third site within Romania did not proceed due to the interruption of both Brexit and the Covid-19 pandemic, but also training opportunities had become more widely available to Roma communities in Romania through EU funding in recent years, and with the close proximity of the Caleb Foundation and the Corabia Foundation (our former partner organisations) to the communities, adequate ongoing support is available to the people we have had the honour and privilege to work with during our time in Romania.

2021 was a challenging year to be able to offer support packages from the UK to Romania. During 2022 we continued to contemplate ways to develop our charitable aims through consideration of how value could be added by the charity in a more local context. The lead trustee is currently engaging in further education in the UK with the intention of using the qualifications gained to champion causes in the UK and begin guiding the work of Empower International into a new direction. This endeavour would require a repurposing of the charitable aims since international projects were affected by Covid-19 interruptions, and having not resumed as planned, the pandemic has meant changes to both the short-term and long-term work of Empower International.

Looking forward to 2023

It has been challenging to make meaningful decisions about future directions during 2022, so throughout 2023 and 2024, it is our intention to continue considering ways in which we can add value to supporting people in the UK, whilst the lead trustee completes a higher education course. It will be necessary to repurpose and restructure the charity and further consideration will be given to this as we continue moving forward.

Financial Review

Our funding was received through individuals who chose to support the charity during 2022 and its transition period.

Donations	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£819.72		£ 819.72
Expenses	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
Banking Fees	£ 60		£60
Website	£ 287.93		£ 287.93
Accountancy	£ 302.40		£ 302.40
	£ 650.33		£650.33

Carryover from Community Account 31 December 2021		£2,649.90
Opening Balance	01/01/2022	£2,649.90
Donations		£819.72
Accountancy, Online Support and Banking Fees		£650.33
Closing Balance	31/12/2022	£2,819.29

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Trustees by Mandy Simpson
(Chair of Trustees)



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Empower International	1168552
-----------------------	---------

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/01/2022	To	31/12/2022
---------------------	------------	----	------------

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					
	820	-	-	820	1,678
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	820	-	-	820	1,678
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	820	-	-	820	1,678
A3 Payments					
	650	-	-	650	1,433
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	650	-	-	650	1,433
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	650	-	-	650	1,433
Net of receipts/(payments)	170	-	-	170	245
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	2,650	-	-	2,650	2,405
Cash funds this year end	2,820	-	-	2,820	2,650

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		2,820	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	2,820	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

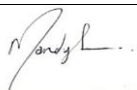
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

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
	Mandy Simpson	22/09/2023

EMPOWER INTERNATIONAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1168552

Accounts

EMPOWER **INTERNATIONAL**

Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Annual Report, and Unaudited Accounts
For the Period 1st January - 31st December 2021

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name	Empower International
Charity Registration Number	1168552
Charity Registered Address	49 Normandy Road, Hilton, Derby, DE65 5GW
Trustees	Mandy Simpson
	Phillip Edmundson
	Marie Rogers

Empower International

Trustees' Report

Introduction

Empower International was granted status as a UK charity on 2nd August 2016. We consider it a privilege to work towards reaching, empowering, and resourcing marginalised and disadvantaged people in Romania and beyond.

Structure, Governance and Management

Empower International operates within the CIO Foundation Model Structure and Constitution.

The charity decision making process is actioned in accordance with the constitution and our working practice document dated May 2017.

The appointment and retirement of trustees is to be in accordance with the constitution. The lead trustee proposes the appointing of a new trustee to the trustees, and upon a unanimous endorsement by the trustees, is appointed.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charity as set out in its governing document are...

- 1) The relief of unemployment for the benefit of the public, including the provision of training to those socially disadvantaged, to provide them with the skills to improve employability.
- 2) The relief of poverty (or financial hardship) by offering support services such as advice, coaching, mentoring, to assist individuals to help themselves, in order to enable those individuals to generate a sustainable income and be self-sufficient.

Summary of the main activities of the charity in relation to these objectives are...

- 1) To provide employable skills training through the Empower Romania project to both men and women of various ages, including (but not limited to) carpentry, construction, sewing and embroidery.
- 2) Empower Romania training programmes also include mentoring and assistance in developing wider skills necessary to become a valuable part of the workforce. This includes, for instance, encouraging daily consistent attendance, punctuality, the need to retain a good attitude, respect for authority and colleagues, and teamwork.

Empower International have taken the charity commissions' public benefit guidance into account when making any decision that it is relevant to.

Achievements and Performance

As we begin our review of 2021 it may be advantageous to provide a brief summary on the charitable work we have undertaken in North-West Romania. Empower Romania was a project developed over two sites between 2014 and 2020, presenting opportunities to Roma communities in Lazareni and Sanpaul to be involved in training programmes, with particular attention given to developing employability skills. Over time we chose smaller groups of people to create 'core' teams with both men and women and did so by providing clear parameters and criteria in which we would make selections about who we could work more closely with, and who would most benefit from the training. This was how we chose an initial team to work with, and we developed and expanded it from there.

In short, Empower Romania consists of two separate training programmes, one an apprenticeship in carpentry and construction, and the other for sewing and embroidery called the Lydia Project. The purpose of the training programmes is for the benefit of the public, to help those in financial hardship, and to help marginalised people from Roma communities to learn skills that could help them to become employable, and also in some cases to see the value of employment. Both programmes were designed to teach employability skills by learning to operate tools and machinery and producing various items and completing assignments to a high standard. Whilst training was taking place, mentoring was also taking place, including learning a wider skill set that could help people become a valuable part of a workforce. These projects operated both simultaneously and separately from the point of launch in October 2014 until November 2020. A consideration of a third site within Romania was not made due to the interruption of both Brexit and the Covid-19 pandemic, but also training opportunities had become more widely available to Roma communities in Romania through EU funding in recent years, and with the close proximity of the Caleb Foundation and the Corabia Foundation (our former partner organisations) to the communities, adequate ongoing support is available to the people we have had the honour and privilege to work with during our time in Romania.

2021 was a challenging year to be able to offer support packages from the UK to Romania. Schools continued to intermittently close and often only had learning online which created many barriers for Roma communities being able to access online learning. The three Lydia Project attendees who had been enrolled in a sewing school in the city of Cluj-Napoca were unable to attend and complete their course. The women were learning traditional Romanian embroidery patterns for clothing and other items that can be sold locally. The 3 women taught other women what they were learning so that all were able to benefit from this teaching. The ability to create these traditional patterns and clothing is hugely beneficial to the women, creating sustainable empowerment in these women's lives, with the flexibility to work around their often complex personal commitments.

Empower International sent funds to support people in the Roma community during 2021 with the help of our friends in the Corabia Foundation but did not visit or organise any visitors due to coronavirus restrictions and travel uncertainty.

During 2021 it was our intention to consider ways to develop our charitable aims through working more locally within a UK context. International projects have become more challenging since the Covid-19 global pandemic and changed how Empower International works within Romania. With the pandemic ongoing it has been difficult to make meaningful decisions about the future directions we intend to develop into.

Looking forward to 2022

After the completion of the Empower Romania projects, it is our intention to continue considering ways in which we can add value in a UK context to supporting people suffering marginalisation,

oppression and injustice. It may be necessary to repurpose and possibly restructure the charity and further consideration will be given to this during 2022 as we continue to recover collectively from the global pandemic which has affected people's lives in so many different ways.

Financial Review

Our funding was received through individuals and churches who chose to support the charity during 2021.

Donations	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£1,358.12	£319.71	£ 1,677.83
Expenses	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
Charitable Activity	£ 237.87	£ 319.71	£ 557.58
Website	£ 284.52		£ 284.52
Accountancy	£ 288.00		£ 288.00
General Administration	£ 125.33		£ 125.33
Legal Fees	£ 177.87		£ 177.87
	£ 1,113.59	£ 319.71	£1,433.30

Carryover from Community Account 31 December 2020		£2,405.37
Opening Balance	01/01/2020	£2,405.37
Donations		£1,677.83
Direct Charitable Expenses		£557.58
Legal Fees, Support & Administration		£875.72
Closing Balance	31/12/2021	£2,649.90

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Trustees by Mandy Simpson
(Chair of Trustees)

EMPOWER INTERNATIONAL

England & Wales - Charity number 1168552

Accounts

EMPOWER **INTERNATIONAL**

Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Annual Report, and Unaudited Accounts
For the Period 1st January - 31st December 2020

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name	Empower International
Charity Registration Number	1168552
Charity Registered Address	59 Colston Road, Nottingham, NG6 9JN
Trustees	Mandy Simpson
	Phillip Edmundson
	Marie Rogers

Empower International

Trustees' Report

Introduction

Empower International was granted status as a UK charity on 2nd August 2016. We consider it a privilege to work towards reaching, empowering, and resourcing marginalised and disadvantaged people in Romania and beyond.

Structure, Governance and Management

Empower International operates within the CIO Foundation Model Structure and Constitution.

The charity decision making process is actioned in accordance with the constitution and our working practice document dated May 2017.

The appointment and retirement of trustees is to be in accordance with the constitution. The lead trustee proposes the appointing of a new trustee to the trustees, and upon a unanimous endorsement by the trustees, is appointed.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charity as set out in its governing document are...

- 1) The relief of unemployment for the benefit of the public, including the provision of training to those socially disadvantaged, to provide them with the skills to improve employability.
- 2) The relief of poverty (or financial hardship) by offering support services such as advice, coaching, mentoring, to assist individuals to help themselves, in order to enable those individuals to generate a sustainable income and be self-sufficient.

Summary of the main activities of the charity in relation to these objectives are...

- 1) To provide employable skills training through the Empower Romania project to both men and women of various ages, including (but not limited to) carpentry, construction, sewing and embroidery.
- 2) Empower Romania training programmes also include mentoring and assistance in developing wider skills necessary to become a valuable part of the workforce. This includes, for instance, encouraging daily consistent attendance, punctuality, the need to retain a good attitude, respect for authority and colleagues, and teamwork.

Empower International have taken the charity commissions' public benefit guidance into account when making any decision that it is relevant to.

Achievements and Performance

As we begin our review of 2020 it may be advantageous to provide a brief summary on the charitable work we have undertaken in North-West Romania in our latest project during the past 3 years. In 2017, we presented opportunities to the whole community of Sanpaul to be involved in training programmes called 'Empower Romania'. Over time we needed to choose smaller groups of people to create 'core' teams with both men and women and did so by providing clear parameters and criteria in which we would make selections about who we could work more closely with, and who would most benefit from the training. This was how we chose an initial team to work with. In 2018 we worked closely with a team of 5 men and 5 women, and in 2019 we were able to extend the programme with the women further and successfully work with 10 women (including the original 5).

In short, Empower Romania consists of two separate training programmes, one an apprenticeship in carpentry and construction, and the other for sewing and embroidery called the Lydia Project. Our Apprenticeship programme which offers training in carpentry and construction skills did not operate during 2019 or 2020.

The Lydia Project is a programme designed to teach employability skills whilst both learning to operate a sewing machine, and produce hand-embroidered items to a high standard. Whilst the women are creating products, they are also being mentored, and learning a wider skill set that could help them to become a valuable part of a workforce. The programme also encourages the women to independently consider how they may use their skills to enhance their homes, to be able to help others, and also work and earn money in a flexible way whilst navigating their complex family commitments.

2020 was a year when our planned transition of departure from Romania suffered major disruption due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Having worked very closely with families in Sanpaul for over 3 years, we had planned a phased withdrawal that was due for completion by June 2020. Training opportunities have become more widely available to Roma communities in Romania through EU funding in recent years, and with the close proximity of the Corabia Foundation (our former partner organisation) to the community, we are encouraged that there is adequate ongoing support available to the people we have had the privilege to serve during our time in Romania.

In March 2020 the trustees of Empower International were forced to return to the UK due to travel restrictions in Europe and there was an unexpected pause to the Lydia Project training programme. Travel to Romania remained against UK government advice for several months and Romania remained in a lockdown situation with several restrictions lasting for much of the year. Schools remained closed and only operated remotely during 2020, which meant that 3 of the Lydia Project attendees who had been enrolled in a sewing school in the city of Cluj-Napoca were unable to attend and finish their course, although they were still able to access help and support online. The women were learning traditional Romanian embroidery patterns for clothing and other items that can be sold locally. The 3 women were able to teach the other 7 women what they were learning so that all 10 women were able to benefit from this teaching. The ability to create these traditional patterns and clothing is hugely beneficial to the women, creating sustainable empowerment in these women's lives.

During the first 3 months of 2020 we were focused primarily on the Lydia Project, but also involved in some children and youth work through our partnership with the Corabia Foundation. Consequently, we were able to offer their international visitors the opportunity to engage with the Lydia Project. Empower International did not directly organise any visitors other than trustees of the charity during 2020 due to coronavirus restrictions and travel uncertainty.

After our sudden and unexpected departure from Romania in March 2020 we planned to return at the earliest viable opportunity to finalise the ongoing packages of support that all 10 women in the Lydia Project would receive, as well as organising the closing down of all rented premises and the transportation of possessions to the UK. During July 2020, the trustees successfully organised and accomplished a fundraising event to provide sufficient funds to deliver support packages for the Lydia Project women. The packages consisted of a Singer Mademoiselle Sewing Machine, materials, threads, embroidery supplies, and patterns worth in excess of £175 per person. The team were finally able to return to Romania during late September to complete this work and departed for the final time on 1st November 2020.

During our time in Sanpaul from 2017 to 2020, we have been excited to receive visitors from the first Empower Romania project we implemented in Lazareni from 2014. The visitors have included previous graduates from the training programmes, who have been able to help teach new recruits the skills they have learnt, but also and perhaps most importantly, they have provided inspiration to both men and women to join and stay involved and committed to the Apprenticeship and Lydia Project programmes in Sanpaul.

The purpose of the training programmes is for the benefit of the public, to help those in financial hardship, and to help marginalised people from Roma communities to learn skills that could help them to become employable, and also in some cases to see the value of employment. The men and women in Sanpaul have limited education and literacy skills. Since our first visit to Romania in 2013, Empower International trustees have witnessed a cycle of relative poverty which affects many Roma communities. We have been steadfast in our commitment to assist the dismantling of this and have been encouraged by the results we have witnessed through the Empower Romania project training programmes, and the individual and group mentoring.

Looking forward to 2021

After the completion of the Sanpaul Empower Romania project, it is our intention to consider ways in which we can add value in a UK context to supporting people suffering marginalisation, oppression and injustice. It may be necessary to repurpose and possibly restructure the charity and due consideration will be given to this during 2021 as we recover collectively from the global pandemic which has affected people's lives in so many different ways.

Financial Review

Our funding was received through individuals and churches who chose to support the charity during 2020.

Donations	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£5,680.23	£2,870.86	£ 8,551.09

Expenses	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
Charitable Activity	£ 2,861.52	£ 3,998.85	£ 6,860.37
Website	£ 244.99		£ 244.99
Accountancy	£ 373.90		£ 373.90
Funds Transfer Fees	£ 32.57		£ 32.57
General Administration	£ 71.96		£ 71.96
Legal Fees	£ 75.57		£75.57
	£ 3,662.16	£ 3,997.20	£7,659.36

Carryover from Community Account 31 December 2019		£1,513.64
Opening Balance	01/01/2020	£1,513.64
Donations		£8,551.09
Direct Charitable Expenses		£6,860.37
Support & Administration		£798.99
Closing Balance	31/12/2020	£2405.37

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Trustees by Mandy Simpson
(Chair of Trustees)



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Empower International

1168552

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01/01/2020	To	31/12/2020
---------------------	------------	----	------------

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					
	5,680	2,871	-	8,551	7,152
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	5,680	2,871	-	8,551	7,152
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	5,680	2,871	-	8,551	7,152
A3 Payments					
	3,662	3,997	-	7,659	8,203
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	3,662	3,997	-	7,659	8,203
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	3,662	3,997	-	7,659	8,203
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,018	1,126	-	892	1,051
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	387	1,126	-	1,513	2,564
Cash funds this year end	2,405	-	-	2,405	1,513

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	2,405	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

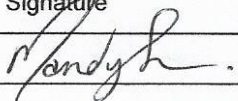
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

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 Mandy Simpson	Date of approval 08/06/2021
--	-----------------------------	--------------------------------