

# GO DHARMIC ANNUAL REPORT

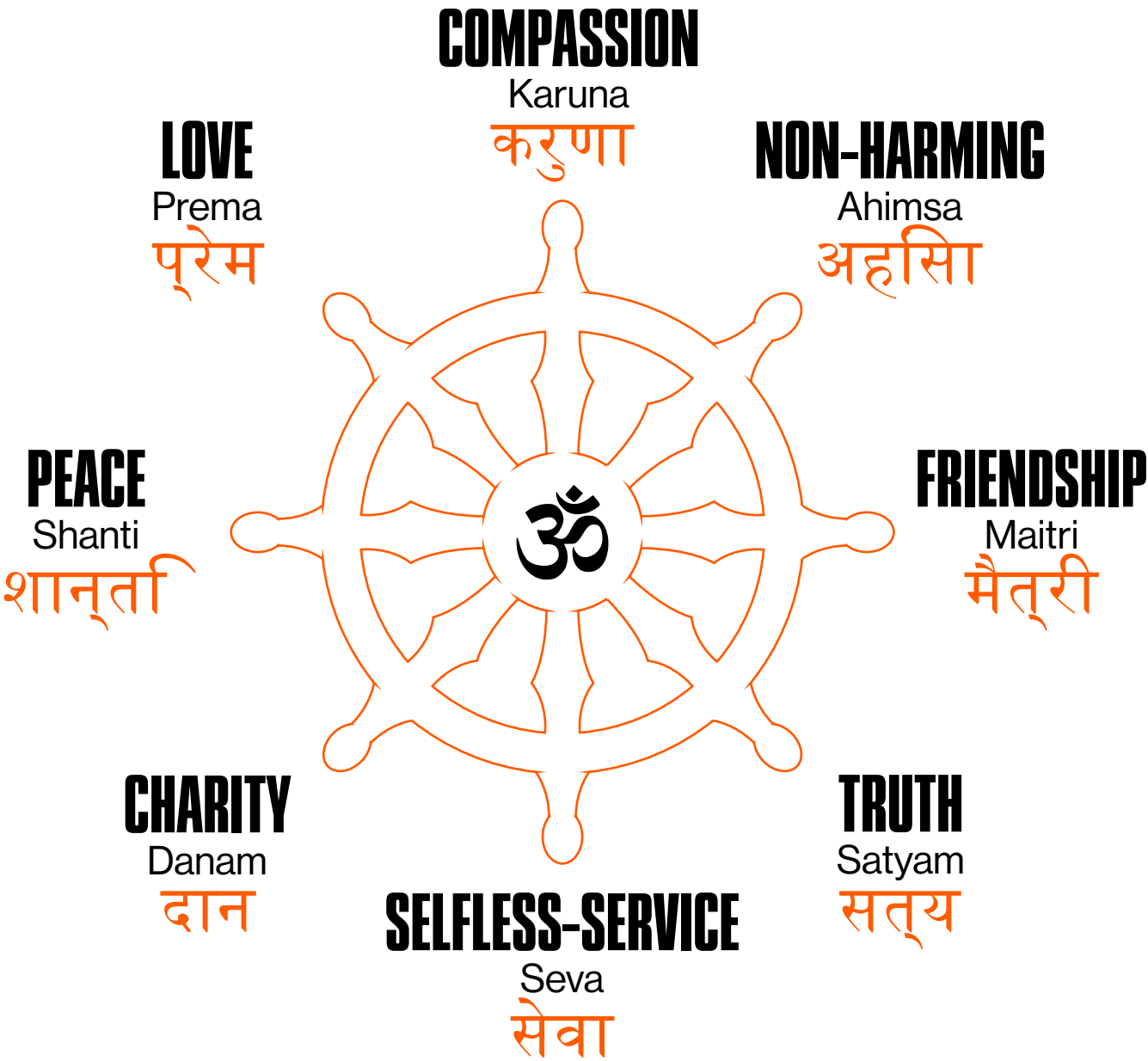
01 April 2023 – 31 March 2024



Go  
Dharmic

**BE THE CHANGE**

England and Wales Charity Number: 1171619  
Scotland Charity Number: SC050775



Reference and Administrative Information:

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The Charity Trustees for the purposes of the Charities Act 2011, present their Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2024 under the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011, together with their financial statements for the year. The Trustees confirm that the latter comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities; Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015).

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# ABOUT GO DHARMIC

Go Dharmic Welfare UK is a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) dedicated to serving all living beings and our planet through acts of kindness, compassion, and love. Inspired by the ancient principles of **vasudhaiva kutumbakam**—"the world is one family"—and **dharma**, the universal principle guiding right action and social harmony, Go Dharmic works tirelessly to alleviate suffering and foster global compassion through meaningful social action.

We work to extend our humanitarian efforts to all who need support, regardless of nationality, creed, or circumstance. Our initiatives include disaster relief, education, environmental protection, and social campaigns aligned with the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Powered by an incredible network of volunteers and staff, we create a culture of empathy, fostering compassion and a relentless drive to help others.

The Trustees continue to follow the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit as we pursue our objectives. Go Dharmic is a forward-thinking, digital-first charity that unites people under the ethos to **Love All, Feed All, Serve All**. Through our app, local WhatsApp groups, social media, and other technology platforms, we connect individuals passionate about making a difference in their communities and beyond.

Our local groups, led by dedicated community leads, have the autonomy to identify and address local needs within Go Dharmic's guiding principles. This decentralised approach allows us to launch impactful campaigns tailored to specific areas, creating tangible change at the grassroots level.

From fighting poverty and promoting education to addressing environmental concerns, we act on the pressing issues of our time. Our food distribution programmes, a cornerstone of our outreach, embody our principles of love and compassion—bringing communities together to serve the most vulnerable.





# MISSION

Our mission is rooted in love and compassion. At the heart of **Sanatana Dharma** is the call to **Love All, Serve All, and Feed All**. Whether in moments of peace or times of crisis, Go Dharmic serves as a beacon of hope, alleviating suffering wherever it arises.

We are a grassroots movement of individuals dedicated to selfless service, driven by the desire to make the world a kinder, more equitable place. Across towns and cities, Go Dharmic communities unite to express love and compassion through various social action initiatives. These efforts not only assist those in need but also extend to protecting animals and the environment.

The teachings of the **Mahabharata** remind us to uphold our dharma, to uphold our human purpose and dignity. Just as King Yudhisthira chose to care for a dog over entering heaven alone, we are committed to acts of service that reflect deep integrity and compassion for all beings.



# A MESSAGE FROM GO DHARMIC THE FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR

Namaste,

Go Dharmic is a movement inspired by the timeless principles of Sanatana Dharma and guided by a deep commitment to ahimsa, non-harming. At its heart, it is about action—delivering love, compassion, and service to those in need. Since our humble beginnings, when volunteers distributed just a handful of bananas, our journey has grown into a global network of kindness, with over 10,000 volunteers dedicating themselves to creating a better, more compassionate world.

Our motto, “Love All, Feed All, Serve All,” is not just a guiding philosophy but a call to action. It reminds us that we can create meaningful change when we come together with a shared purpose. Through selfless service, we have extended hope and relief to people across the globe—feeding the hungry, supporting education, responding to natural disasters, and addressing the urgent need for environmental sustainability.

Central to Go Dharmic’s success is its vibrant, ever-growing network of volunteers. Coordinated through hundreds of WhatsApp groups, this community operates as a rapid-response team, enabling us to adapt to challenges as they arise. Whether it’s a flood in India, a cost of living crisis in the UK, or food insecurity in the USA, our volunteers mobilise quickly to meet the needs of each situation. This dynamic structure allows us to act with agility and ensure that compassion reaches where it’s needed most—it is the “Go” in Go Dharmic.

Compassion in action is the essence of our work. Through our global partnerships—with organisations and communities across the UK, India, the USA, and beyond—we are building bridges of support. These collaborations enable us to amplify our efforts, whether through large-scale food distributions, delivering essential supplies during disasters, or implementing sustainable, long-term solutions to protect the planet.

At the core of our efforts is the belief that community and selfless service are the most powerful tools for transformation. By embracing the values of Sanatana Dharma, we strive to lead with love and unity, fostering harmony among all beings. Ahimsa remains a guiding principle in our work, encouraging us to reduce harm wherever possible—whether by minimising animal product dependency, avoiding conflict, or striving to protect and heal the environment.

This year, we reflect on how far we’ve come and how much more we can do together. From small beginnings to a global movement, the journey of Go Dharmic has been one of learning, growing, and serving. Every act of kindness, no matter how small, has the potential to inspire change and bring light into the world.

With unwavering gratitude to our volunteers, supporters, and partners, we remain committed to delivering compassion in action. By aligning our actions with dharmic values, we aim to create a future where peace, kindness, and love are the foundation of all that we do.

With love and gratitude,

## Hanuman Dass

FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR





# A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Namaste,

The last year has been a remarkable journey for Go Dharmic, marked by significant achievements and a deepening commitment to our mission. It is with immense pride and gratitude that I share our progress and the unwavering spirit of our community.

We have been honoured with several accolades, a testament to the tireless efforts of our dedicated volunteers and supporters. Martin Dover, our esteemed lead volunteer in Scotland, was recognised as a King's Coronation Champion for his invaluable contributions in distributing over a million meals. Our visionary founder and director, Hanuman Dass and, his wife and Go Dharmic trustee, Sheena Randerwala, received the Prime Minister's Points of Light award, and well-deserved commendations from Charity Times and the Third Sector awards. These honours are a reflection of the transformative impact of our work and the growing recognition of our compassionate approach.

As we navigate a world still grappling with the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic and the escalating cost of living crisis, we remain steadfast in our mission to alleviate suffering and empower communities. From the bustling metropolises of London to the far-reaching corners of the globe, we have witnessed first-hand the increasing vulnerability of individuals and families. Through our many partnerships with esteemed organisations like GIC, Point72, and Acuiti, we are harnessing the power of corporate social responsibility to drive positive change. These collaborations enable us to implement innovative projects, engage employees in meaningful volunteer work, and foster a culture of giving back.

In the face of natural disasters, such as the devastating earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria and the wildfires in Maui, Go Dharmic has mobilised its resources to provide immediate relief and long-term support. By forging strong partnerships with local organisations and volunteers, we have been able to deliver essential aid and rebuild lives.

It is truly inspiring to witness the evolution of Go Dharmic from a small-scale food distribution initiative to a global movement of compassion and action. Our journey is a testament to the power of human kindness and the collective impact we can achieve when we work together. As we look to the future, we remain committed to our core values of empathy, love, and social responsibility. Let us continue to inspire, uplift, and empower, creating a more compassionate and equitable world for all.

Sub Ek! All One!

**Sejal Patel**

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES



# PRINCIPLES

Go Dharmic's founder, Hanuman Dass, and Dr Nicholas Sutton, Professor at the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies, formulated eight principles of Dharma grounded in sacred texts. They express the heart of Go Dharmic's mission and campaigns. These principles, as part of Sanatana Dharma, are applicable for every one of us, regardless of caste, creed, colour, nation; regardless of belief. It is these principles that will enable the flourishing of our world and we should make them the foundation of our lives.

**Our Principles are our Call to Action:**

## PREMA. LOVE EVERYONE:

"Love is the most powerful force for good in the world. It reflects the universal unity and oneness of all living beings, and that's what we at Go Dharmic represent. Dharma is love for all beings."

## DANAM. GIVE CHARITY:

"Giving your time and money to help others is to fulfil a higher purpose here on Earth. Charity is a real expression of compassion, not just in thoughts or words but in action."

## SEVA. SERVE EVERYONE:

"Selfless service for the community is a catalyst of change. We work at grass-roots level, supporting youth to help communities transform themselves into peaceful and actively engaged societies."

## KARUNA. BE COMPASSIONATE:

"To genuinely feel the suffering of other living beings is compassion. Our lives are filled with difficult choices and we have to look within our hearts. To choose Shreyas (good action) over Preyas (pleasurable action), and to recognise that we are all in this together, is compassion."

## SATYAM. TELL THE TRUTH:

"Truth is accepting reality as it is and acting with the highest level of accountability. Realising the truth that we are in a position to help and serve others is a step on the path of realising the love we have within us."

## SHANTI. SPREAD PEACE:

"If we cannot be peaceful, we cannot create the conditions for peace. We must have peace within ourselves as well as within our societies. Peace is cultivated through loving and caring for others."

## MAITRI. BE FRIENDLY:

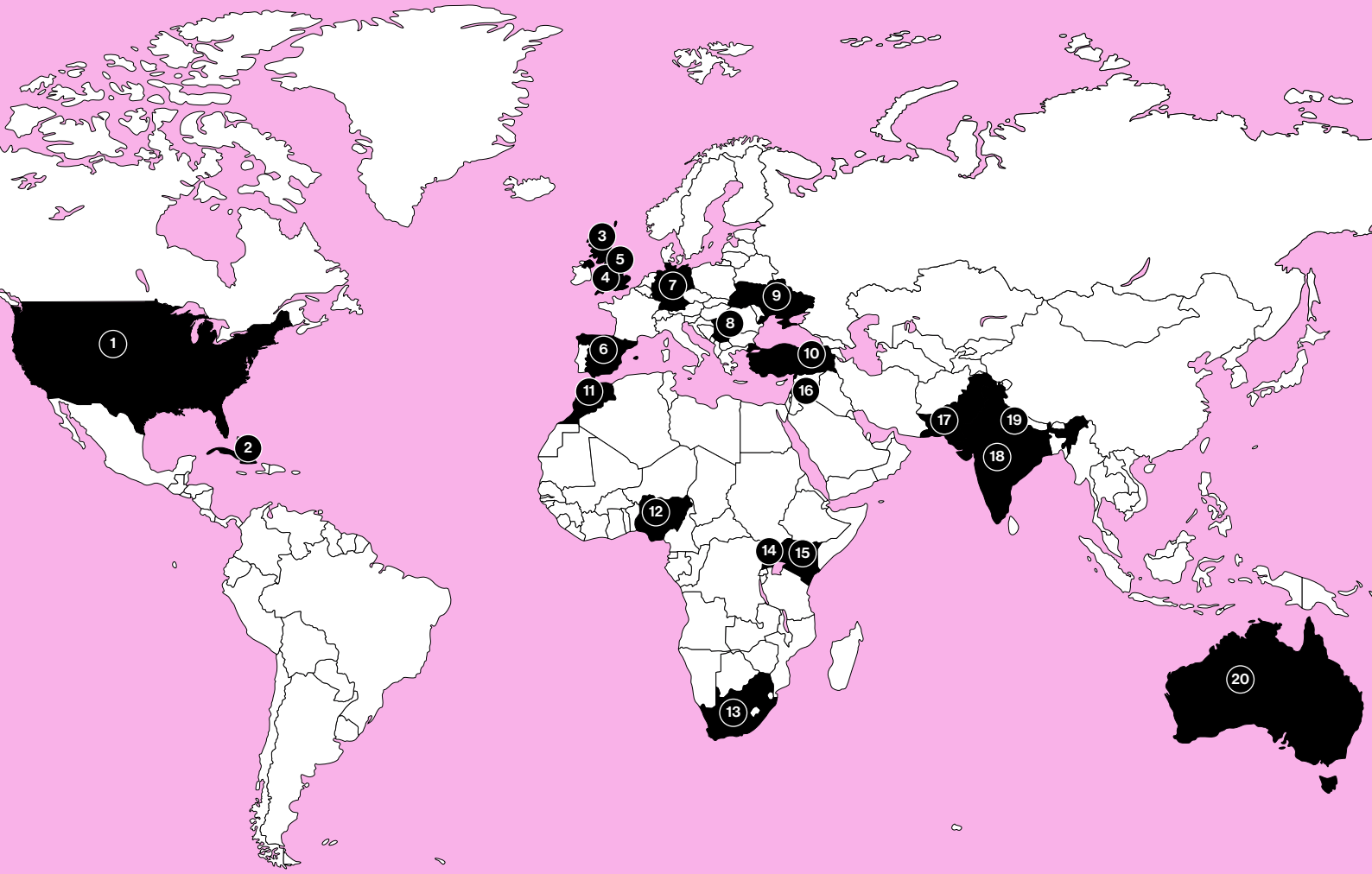
"Friendship is the ideal spiritual and humanitarian states. To be a friend to all living beings is like the sun shining brightly, warming all without discrimination."

## AHMISA. EMBRACE NON-VIOLENCE:

"Ahimsa (non-harming) is the highest Dharma (duty and responsibility). Through the practical application of non-harming, we can restore nature, end all war, respect all life and create the conditions for peace on Earth."



# GLOBAL FOOTPRINT



- |            |           |                 |              |
|------------|-----------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1 USA      | 6 Spain   | 11 Morocco      | 16 Lebanon   |
| 2 Cuba     | 7 Germany | 12 Nigeria      | 17 Pakistan  |
| 3 Scotland | 8 Serbia  | 13 South Africa | 18 India     |
| 4 Wales    | 9 Ukraine | 14 Uganda       | 19 Nepal     |
| 5 England  | 10 Turkey | 15 Kenya        | 20 Australia |

# IMPACT OF 2023 – 2024

Served more than  
**2 MILLION MEALS**  
globally

Nurtured  
**160 THOUSAND MANGROVE**  
trees

Benefitted  
**30,000 CHILDREN**

Over  
**560 TONNES OF FOOD WASTE**  
was saved

Over  
**100 HECTARES OF LAND**  
were transformed

Continuing to support rural schools with  
**50 MODULAR TOILETS**  
in schools

More than  
**2,400 TONNES OF GREENHOUSE GASES WERE AVOIDED**

Over  
**20 THOUSAND TONNES OF CARBON**  
sequestered

Provided  
**RELIEF ACROSS MAJOR DISASTERS**  
across the globe

Supporting  
**108 SCHOOLS LIBRARIES and COMPUTER LABS**  
with our

Over  
**2 MILLION VOLUNTEER HOURS**  
given



# FOOD POVERTY





# FOOD POVERTY

## Building a Future Beyond Hunger

At Go Dharmic, our mission to alleviate poverty is two-fold: to provide immediate support through food-security and to tackle the underlying social issues intertwined with food insecurity. Our food distributions aim to build connections, reduce loneliness, alleviate mental health struggles, and combat environmental challenges such as food waste. By fostering a spirit of care, compassion, and love, we strive to create lasting change in the lives of those most affected.

Since our inception, Go Dharmic has distributed over 24 million meals and meal kits across the world, with significant operations in England, Scotland, Wales, the United States, India, and other regions. This ongoing commitment has made a measurable difference in the fight against food insecurity while addressing its profound social and emotional effects.



## Understanding the Challenge: Food Poverty in the UK

Food poverty remains one of the most pressing issues in the UK, exacerbated by the cost of living crisis. Rising inflation, stagnant wages, and increased household expenses have left millions of families struggling to afford even basic necessities.

According to the House of Commons Library report on food poverty, published in 2023, 7.2 million people in the UK, or 11% of the population, lived in households experiencing food poverty in 2022/23. Among these, 17% of children faced food insecurity, highlighting the devastating impact on younger generations.

Food bank reliance has also surged, with the same report revealing that 2.3 million people in the UK used a food bank in 2022/23, representing 3% of the population. This marked an alarming increase from pre-pandemic levels, as many families have been pushed further into financial hardship.

In London, the situation is particularly dire. According to data from London's Poverty Profile, 24% of Londoners live in poverty, the highest rate in the UK. A separate report by HACT (Housing Associations' Charitable Trust) found that 40% of children in London experienced food insecurity in the last month, compared to a national average of 25%.

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation's UK Poverty 2024 report highlights the cascading effects of food insecurity during the cost of living crisis. It notes that, as of October 2023:

- **Nearly 47%** of the poorest fifth of households were in arrears on essential bills.
- **72%** of households reported going without basic necessities like food, heating, and clothing.
- **Over 58%** of households lacked enough money for food, forcing them to skip meals or rely on food banks.

Food poverty not only undermines physical health but also has far-reaching consequences for mental well-being, education, and social cohesion. Malnutrition among children, for example, has been linked to stunted growth, cognitive impairment, and behavioural issues. Families struggling to provide meals often face social stigma, further isolating them from their communities.



# Our Intervention

Go Dharmic has developed a holistic and efficient approach to address the complex issue of food poverty. Our food distributions are designed to meet the immediate food needs of individuals and to empower them, promote environmental sustainability, and create spaces for community building for long-term progress.

Across the UK, we provide hot meals, home grocery kits, and essential food supplies to vulnerable individuals and families. Our food parcels are carefully curated to include nutritionally dense vegetarian and vegan options, such as fresh fruits, nuts, seeds, and vegetables. These items are selected not only for their health benefits but also for their alignment with our commitment to reducing environmental impact.

In line with our ethos, we strive to preserve the dignity and independence of those we serve. By including ingredients that families can use to cook their own meals, we empower them to maintain a sense of self-reliance while receiving much-needed support. Many of our beneficiaries express gratitude for this approach, which allows them to feed their families without losing confidence or self-worth.

Our food distribution hubs serve as more than supply centres—they are gathering spaces where communities can come together to share experiences, build relationships, and foster a sense of belonging. Over the past year, our volunteer network has grown significantly, with more than 1,000 new volunteers joining our efforts across the UK. This inclusive approach blurs the lines between beneficiary and supporter, empowering individuals to give back to their communities in meaningful ways.

## Over 15 UK distributions take place at the following locations:

- **Central London**
- **Queensbury**
- **Wembley**
- **Harrow**
- **Maida Vale**
- **Northampton**
- **Watford**
- **Leicester**
- **Luton**
- **Birmingham**
- **Glasgow**
- **Edinburgh**

In Scotland alone, we've delivered over 1 million meals and kits, directly addressing hunger in Glasgow and Edinburgh.

## UK



## GREATER LONDON



1 Central London	2 Maida Vale	3 Queensbury	4 Wembley
5 Harrow	6 Watford	7 Glasgow	8 Edinburgh
9 Birmingham	10 Northampton	11 Leicester	12 Luton

## Global Reach

Go Dharmic's impact extends to:

- **USA:** Distributions in Los Angeles and New York combat poverty, with 26.6% of children in LA County living in poverty.
- **India and Beyond:** We continue to expand globally, ensuring no one is left behind.



In the UK:

- **12 MILLION MEALS DISTRIBUTED IN THE UK**
- **3,360 TONNES OF FOOD WASTE SAVED IN THE UK**
- **OVER 14,000 TONNES OF GREENHOUSE GASES AVOIDED**





## CSR Project Highlight

### GIC Partnership at Essendine Primary School

One of our most impactful initiatives this year has been our collaboration with our corporate partner GIC, a leading global investor, to support families at Essendine Primary School in Maida Vale, London. This bespoke project addresses the unique challenges faced by the school's predominantly low-income, EAL (English as an Additional Language) population.

#### The Need

Essendine Primary School serves children aged 3–11, with over 85% of its pupils speaking English as an additional language. Many of these families have fled conflict zones in the Middle East, North Africa, and Eastern Europe, bringing with them the psychological scars of displacement and trauma. Additionally, over 50% of families at the school rely on free school meals, compared to the national average of 23%, reflecting the significant socio-economic challenges they face.

#### Our Intervention

The Essendine project, launched in early 2023, involves monthly food distributions tailored to the specific needs of families. Over the course of 10 months, the initiative has provided approximately 800 food packs to support 60–70 families. Each pack contains long-shelf-life essentials, such as pasta, lentils, rice, tea, and coffee, selected in collaboration with the school and adjusted based on regular feedback.

This iterative approach has been key to the programme's success. For example, while initial distributions included large quantities of flour, feedback revealed that families required fewer flour-based items and more staples like rice and lentils. Adjustments like these ensure that our support remains relevant and impactful.

#### Impact on Families

Parents at Essendine have reported significant relief from financial and emotional pressures. One mother of five shared, **“The double bag helped me save money for other essentials. It has made a big difference in our budget.”** Another parent shared, **“It helped me when my benefits were suspended for a period of time, as I had limited access to food banks but the Go Dharmaic food parcels came on time to help me.”**

Teachers have also observed positive changes, noting that parents are now more comfortable approaching the school to request support. This shift in attitude underscores the trust and sense of security that the project has fostered within the community.



**“THIS IS A VERY EXPENSIVE TIME, YOU KNOW, SO WHEN WE GET SOME FOOD FROM THE GO DHARMIC CHARITY, WE CAN SAVE SOME MONEY TO BUY OTHER ESSENTIALS. IT IS VERY HELPFUL.”**

ESSENDINE PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT



# Building a Future of Food Security

Through initiatives like the Essendine Primary School project and our broader food distribution efforts, Go Dharmic is making tangible progress in the fight against hunger. By addressing the immediate needs of vulnerable families and empowering communities to thrive, we are building a foundation for long-term food security.

We remain deeply grateful to our partners, volunteers, and donors, whose unwavering support makes this work possible. Together, we can continue to create a world where no one goes hungry, and every individual has the opportunity to live with dignity and hope.





# ENVIRONMENT



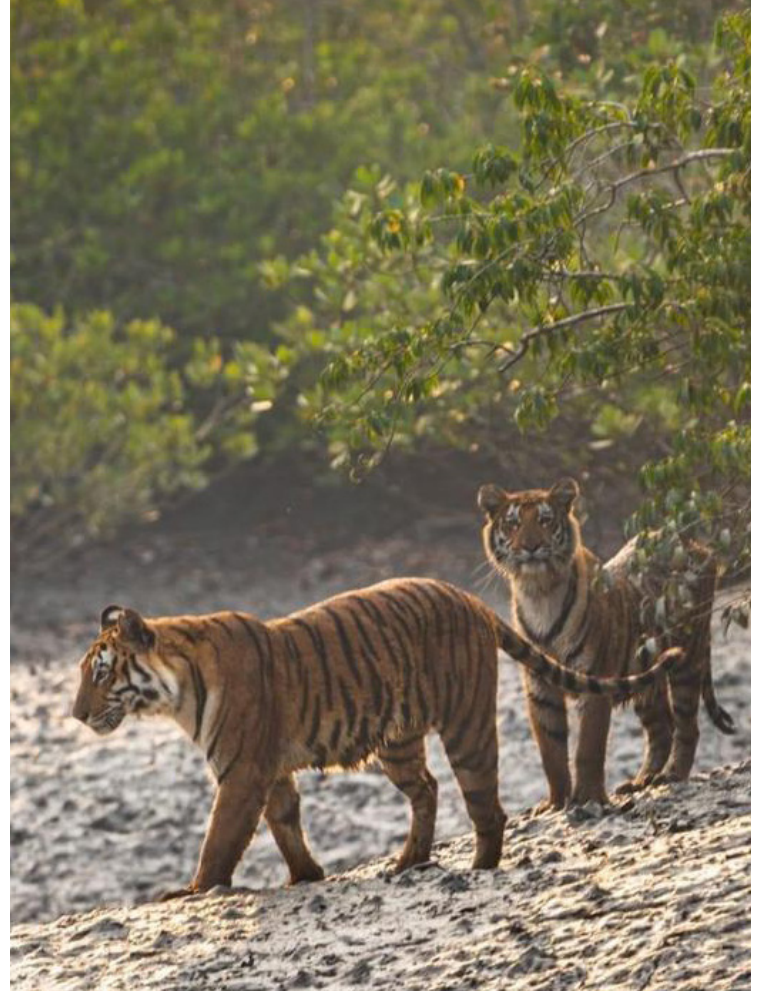


# ENVIRONMENT

## A Cleaner Planet for All

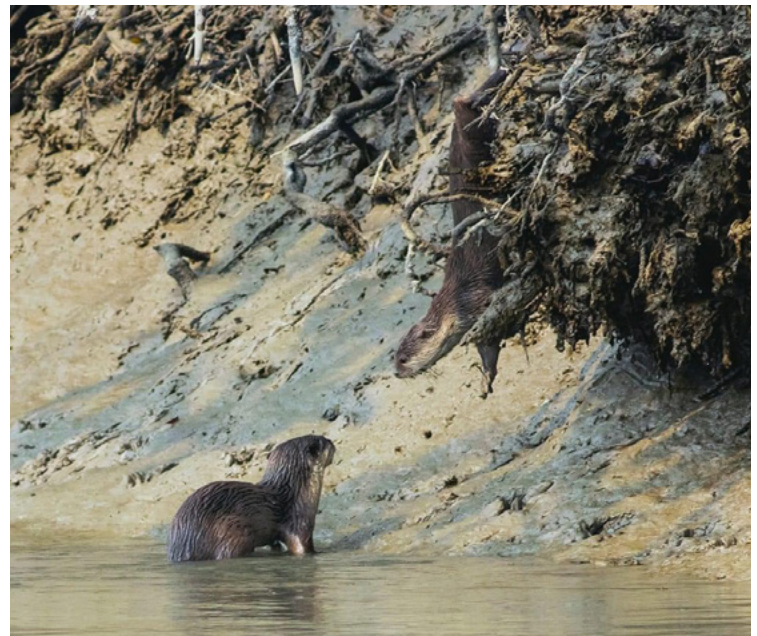
The health of the planet underpins every aspect of life, shaping the well-being of ecosystems, communities, and economies alike. In the face of an escalating climate crisis, the need for decisive and compassionate action has never been more urgent. Our commitment extends to restoring ecosystems, protecting biodiversity, and addressing the complex interdependencies between humanity and nature. Recognising that the environment holds the key to a thriving future, we focus on initiatives that safeguard natural habitats and create sustainable opportunities for generations to come.

One such effort is the protection and restoration of mangrove ecosystems, particularly in the Sundarbans. This unique mangrove forest not only provides a lifeline for millions of people but also serves as a critical habitat for countless species, including the Bengal tiger. As one of the most endangered big cats on Earth, the Bengal tiger depends on the v for survival, as do myriad other animals, such as estuarine crocodiles, olive ridley sea turtles, and various bird species. Preserving this habitat is integral to maintaining biodiversity and ensuring the survival of species that are crucial to the ecological balance of our planet.



**“WE NEED TO MAKE  
PEACE WITH NATURE.  
WE’VE BEEN HARMING  
OUR WORLD AROUND US,  
HARMING BEAUTIFUL  
ANIMAL SPECIES, AND  
HARMING OUR OWN FUTURE.”**

HANUMAN DASS





## Why Mangroves?

Mangroves are among nature's most extraordinary ecosystems, playing an indispensable role in maintaining the health of coastal environments and addressing global climate challenges. These salt-tolerant trees and shrubs thrive in intertidal zones, where land meets sea, and their unique adaptations allow them to flourish in some of the harshest conditions. Despite their resilience, mangroves are among the most threatened ecosystems on Earth, making their conservation a matter of global urgency.

The importance of mangroves extends far beyond their striking appearance. They are among the planet's most efficient carbon sinks, capable of sequestering carbon up to four times faster than terrestrial forests. This remarkable ability is due to their anoxic soils, which slow down the decomposition of organic matter, allowing carbon to be stored for millennia. A single mangrove tree can absorb as much as 308 kilograms of carbon dioxide over its lifetime, making these forests vital allies in combating climate change. Moreover, their dense root systems stabilise soil, prevent erosion, and serve as natural barriers against storm surges, tsunamis, and rising sea levels. This makes mangroves indispensable for protecting coastal communities from the escalating impacts of climate change.

Beyond their environmental benefits, mangroves are biodiversity hotspots, providing critical habitats for a wide variety of species. They act as nurseries for fish, shrimp, and other marine life, sustaining both the ecosystems they inhabit and the livelihoods of communities that depend on them. Mangroves also filter pollutants from water, improving water quality and supporting the health of nearby ecosystems such as coral reefs and seagrass beds. In essence, mangroves are ecological powerhouses, offering a wealth of services that are vital to the planet and its inhabitants.

## The Importance Of The Sundarbans

The Sundarbans, the largest continuous mangrove forest in the world, spans over 10,000 square kilometres across the coastal regions of West Bengal, India, and Bangladesh. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is a marvel of biodiversity and a linchpin in the fight against climate change.

This remarkable mangrove forest provides a natural shield against the ravages of extreme weather events, such as cyclones and tidal waves. Its dense root systems stabilise the soil, preventing erosion and reducing the destructive impact of floods. Additionally, the Sundarbans play a pivotal role in carbon sequestration, storing millions of tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> that would otherwise exacerbate global warming. The forest's immense ecological and economic value cannot be overstated, as it supports the livelihoods of over four million people who depend on it for resources such as fish, honey, and wood.

However, the Sundarbans face mounting threats. Rising sea levels, increased salinity, and intensified cyclones driven by climate change are eroding this fragile ecosystem. Human pressures, including deforestation, pollution, and unsustainable resource extraction, further jeopardise the forest's survival. These challenges demand urgent and sustained efforts to restore and protect this irreplaceable habitat.

## Go Dharmic's Dharma Forest

In response to the challenges facing the Sundarbans, Go Dharmic has launched the Dharma Forest Initiative, a transformative project aimed at restoring this vital ecosystem. With a goal to plant two million mangroves by 2026, this initiative is a testament to our commitment to environmental stewardship and community empowerment. To date, the project has successfully planted 160,000 mangroves, revitalising 100 hectares of degraded land and directly benefiting 15,000 people. These efforts have already sequestered an estimated 100,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, contributing significantly to climate mitigation.

Central to the Dharma Forest Initiative is the involvement of local communities. From nurturing seedlings in nurseries for 3-4 months to replanting and maintaining the mangroves in select locations, local families play an integral role in the project. This approach not only ensures the sustainability of the reforestation efforts but also provides much-needed income and empowerment to marginalised communities. By creating sustainable livelihoods and fostering a sense of ownership among local residents, the initiative aligns environmental restoration with social development.

The Dharma Forest is more than an environmental project—it is a vision for a sustainable future. By restoring mangroves, we aim to enhance coastal resilience, protect biodiversity, and inspire future generations to value and protect the natural world. The project also serves as a learning hub for schools, researchers, and conservationists, demonstrating the potential of community-driven environmental action.



## Climate Action and Biodiversity Conservation

The challenges facing the Sundarbans reflect the broader environmental crises confronting the planet. Since 1880, Earth's average temperature has risen by 1.2°C, with the rate of warming accelerating in recent decades. In 2022 alone, global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reached a record 36.8 gigatonnes, driven by increased energy consumption and deforestation. These alarming trends underscore the urgent need for action to protect natural ecosystems like the Sundarbans, which serve as critical buffers against the impacts of climate change.

Biodiversity conservation is equally critical. The loss of species diminishes the resilience of ecosystems, threatening their ability to provide essential services such as water filtration, pollination, and climate regulation. By protecting habitats like mangroves, we can safeguard the intricate web of life that sustains our planet.

## Food Waste and Greenhouse Gases

Our food poverty programmes address immediate needs by redistributing surplus food to vulnerable individuals and families while promoting sustainable, plant-based diets to minimise environmental impact.

In the UK alone, food waste reached an estimated 10.7 million tonnes in 2021, with 70% of this occurring at the household level. This waste accounts for roughly 25% of all food purchased in the country. The environmental impact is profound, with food waste contributing 4.2 tonnes of greenhouse gases per tonne wasted. London alone discards approximately 890,000 tonnes of food annually, with significant portions still edible. This waste could instead support the nearly 1 in 10 London households struggling to afford food

## Our Impact

Approximately 80% of the food distributed through our global initiatives—including in the UK, India, and the USA—is surplus saved from going to waste. By collaborating with restaurants, shops, and markets, our volunteers collect edible food destined for waste. Through these efforts, Go Dharmic has nourished thousands and also significantly reduced greenhouse gas emissions. We estimate avoiding over 28,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases since 2011 through our redistributive approach.

This holistic model simultaneously combats food insecurity, promotes ethical consumption, and mitigates climate change. By transforming waste into opportunity, we exemplify how immediate action can drive long-term systemic change.



**2,500 TONNES OF GREENHOUSE GASES ARE AVOIDED ANNUALLY.**

## Environmental Pledges

Beyond our nature-based tree planting solution and our food waste reduction programs, Go Dharmic works to exponentially increase environmental support through individual and group pledges to healthier and greener living.

### GO PLANT-BASED

Switching to a plant-based diet reduces the strain on our planet’s resources, including land, water, and air, while safeguarding animal welfare. This shift not only curbs the cruelty of industrial farming and animal testing but also promotes sustainability for future generations.

### GO ORGANIC

Organic farming protects both our health and the environment. Free from harmful chemicals, organic products are not only more nutritious but also support biodiversity and a pollution-free planet.

### COMPASSION FOR ANIMALS

Animal testing and the meat and dairy industries inflict immense suffering on animals. Through this pledge, we encourage a plant-based lifestyle and advocacy against cruel practices, fostering a more compassionate world for all living beings.

### GIVE IT A GROW

Planting trees and reducing products linked to deforestation are vital steps toward restoring nature’s balance. Our Dharma Forest initiative embodies this pledge, creating a tangible, lasting environmental impact one tree at a time.

### CHANGE THE WORLD

Reducing reliance on fossil fuels is crucial for combating climate change. Opt for walking, cycling, car-sharing, or public transport whenever possible to minimise your carbon footprint and support a greener planet.

Together, these pledges represent a collective commitment to long-term environmental change.





# EDUCATION & SKILL DEVELOPMENT





# EDUCATION AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT

## The Foundation for a Brighter Future

Education is the cornerstone of security and prosperity, providing individuals with the tools to build better lives. At Go Dharmic, we believe every child deserves equal access to learning opportunities, regardless of their socioeconomic status or geographic location. Through our education initiatives, we strive to empower children with the skills and resources needed to thrive in an increasingly interconnected and digital world.

## The Challenge: India's Digital Divide

India's rapid advancements in technology and digital infrastructure have created new opportunities, but they have also widened the gap between urban and rural communities. According to the India Inequality Report 2022, around 70% of the population still lacks reliable digital connectivity, and only 38% of households are digitally literate. The divide is especially stark for the poorest 20% of the population, where just 2.7% have access to a computer and only 8.9% have internet access.

This disparity is most evident in rural areas, where internet usage stands at 31%, far below the 67% seen in urban areas. For millions of children in these rural regions, the digital divide means a lack of access to online education, digital tools, and the skills necessary to compete in a modern economy. These challenges were magnified during the COVID-19 pandemic when online learning became essential, leaving many students unable to continue their education effectively.



**“EDUCATE THE GIRLS AND  
THEY WILL EDUCATE THE REST  
OF SOCIETY.”**

NEEM KAROLI BABA



## Our Impact

One of Go Dharmic's core initiatives is the creation of libraries in underprivileged schools through our Shape a Future initiative. Recognising the importance of literacy and learning resources, we have established 108 libraries and two computer labs in schools across India.

Each library is equipped with over 1,500 books, ranging from fiction and non-fiction to encyclopaedias, ensuring that children from all backgrounds have access to high-quality learning materials. These libraries play a vital role in improving students' reading and writing skills, fostering a love for learning, and equipping them with the tools they need to make informed decisions and seize better opportunities in the future.

The success of this initiative is reflected in its reach. To date, we have distributed over 80,000 books and provided over 20 computers to schools, directly benefiting more than 100,000 children. These libraries are more than just spaces for books; they are safe havens of knowledge and opportunity, enabling children to dream bigger and achieve more.

## Digitising Education

In 2022, Go Dharmic partnered with BYJU's Education for All to provide free access to BYJU's educational platform for underprivileged schools. This collaboration has been instrumental in integrating digital tools into classrooms, offering students a blend of traditional and modern teaching methods. This on-going project continues to support children to learn remotely with devices, supporting teachers and making learning interactive and fun.

The programme, which started at Shahpur Primary School in Gujarat, has now expanded to other schools across the state. By incorporating BYJU's Think and Learn Premium app into their curriculum, students are gaining exposure to cutting-edge educational technology. This initiative not only enhances their academic performance but also equips them with essential digital skills, preparing them to navigate an increasingly tech-driven world.

These efforts represent a significant step toward bridging the digital divide, ensuring that rural students have access to the same opportunities as their urban counterparts.





## The Way Forward

While significant progress has been made, much work remains to ensure equal access to education for all. Rural areas still face considerable challenges, including inadequate infrastructure, limited digital literacy, and a lack of educational content in regional languages.

Addressing these issues requires a multi-faceted approach:

- **Infrastructure Development** is essential to provide schools with reliable electricity and broadband connectivity.
- **Digital Literacy Training** for students, teachers, and parents is vital to ensure they can effectively use technology to enhance learning.
- **Localised Content Creation** is necessary to cater to the diverse linguistic needs of India's population, enabling students from all regions to benefit from digital education.
- **Public-Private Partnerships** can accelerate progress by leveraging the resources and expertise of government bodies, private enterprises, and civil society organisations.

By tackling these challenges head-on, India can create a more equitable education system that empowers every child, regardless of their socioeconomic background or geographic location.

## A Vision of Opportunity

At Go Dharmic, our education initiatives reflect our commitment to fostering compassion, inclusion, and opportunity. From building libraries to digitising classrooms, we are helping to bridge the gap between urban and rural education, ensuring that children everywhere have the tools they need to succeed.

With the continued support of our donors, partners, and volunteers, we can expand these efforts and shape a brighter future for generations to come. Together, we can create a world where education truly is the foundation of a better tomorrow.

## The Clockwork Foundation Partnership in Government Schools in India

In partnership with the Clockwork Foundation, Go Dharmic implemented a transformative education initiative aimed at bridging critical gaps in resources and opportunities for underserved government schools in India. With a generous grant of £5,000, two significant projects were executed: the establishment of a library at the Government Middle School in Kanakapura, Gujarat, and a computer laboratory at the Government Higher Secondary School in Wazirabad, Gurugram, Haryana. These efforts were designed to empower students by providing access to essential educational and technological tools, promoting literacy, and fostering digital literacy skills.

## A Library for Kanakapura

A portion of the grant was allocated to creating a fully equipped library at the Government Middle School in Kanakapura, Anand District, Gujarat. After a thorough needs assessment, the project focused on procuring a wide range of educational materials, including textbooks, reference materials, and periodicals, along with the necessary infrastructure such as bookshelves, tables, and chairs.

The library, designed in collaboration with school authorities and community members, now serves as a hub of learning for the school's 550 enrolled students and is projected to benefit at least 50 additional children annually. Beyond its role as a repository of knowledge, the library has successfully fostered a culture of reading and self-directed learning among students, equipping them with the tools to excel academically and develop critical thinking skills.

## Digital Empowerment in Gurugram

The remaining funds were utilised to establish a state-of-the-art computer laboratory at the Government Higher Secondary School in Wazirabad, Sector 52, Gurugram, Haryana. Recognising the widening digital divide, this initiative aimed to provide students with access to technology, preparing them for a world increasingly driven by digital skills.



The project included the procurement and installation of computers, monitors, keyboards, and other peripherals, as well as software and internet connectivity for selected systems. To ensure the lab's long-term effectiveness, training was provided to teaching staff to incorporate the use of digital resources into the curriculum. The lab now benefits 1,800 students annually and is expected to impact an additional 1,100 students in the coming years, enabling them to pursue online education, research, and career opportunities.

## Long-Term Impact

The creation of these resources has significantly improved the educational landscape in these communities. The library in Kanakapura has become a cornerstone of literacy and learning, empowering students with knowledge and enhancing their overall academic performance. Meanwhile, the computer lab in Gurugram has equipped students with crucial digital skills, opening up pathways to higher education, better career prospects, and greater social mobility.

These initiatives exemplify the lasting impact of targeted educational interventions. By addressing systemic gaps, they have created an environment where children can thrive, regardless of their socio-economic backgrounds.

Before Intervention:



After Intervention:



## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

### Kanakapura Library:

- Serves 550 students annually.
- Estimated to benefit 50 additional children each year.

### Gurugram Computer Laboratory:

- Currently benefits 1,800 students.
- Estimated to benefit an additional 1,100 students annually.



# DISASTER RELIEF





# DISASTER RELIEF

## A Commitment to Humanity in Times of Need

In a world increasingly defined by its challenges, Go Dharmic has steadfastly dedicated itself to alleviating human suffering. Over the past two decades, with more than 2,500 disasters and 40 major conflicts affecting two billion people, the need for swift and compassionate action has never been more urgent. Through our trained relief teams and global network of volunteers, we have risen to meet these crises, offering essential aid such as food, water, shelter, medical supplies, and hope to those in desperate need.

Our approach is rooted in meticulous planning and collaboration. By conducting detailed evaluations and working directly with affected communities, we ensure that every effort maximises impact and addresses real needs. The 2023–2024 period brought unprecedented challenges, from devastating earthquakes and wildfires to floods and humanitarian crises. Yet, through resilience and compassion, Go Dharmic made a tangible difference.

## Türkiye and Syria Earthquake

In February 2023, a catastrophic earthquake struck Türkiye and Syria, displacing 1.5 million people and claiming nearly 60,000 lives. The destruction was apocalyptic, leaving cities in ruins and millions of civilians grappling with unimaginable loss. Go Dharmic's team, led by volunteer Gökhan Sezer, was on the ground from the outset and through to August, delivering vital aid such as tents, camping stoves, food parcels, clothing, and blankets to survivors.

Volunteer Onur Kaygisiz vividly described the devastation: "The destruction is on an unimaginable scale. With each donation, we shine a little more light, letting survivors know the world cares. We stand with them. We are all one."

Our efforts extended beyond immediate relief, addressing the long-term needs of survivors in bitter sub-zero temperatures. With over £15,000 raised for this cause, Go Dharmic has helped restore dignity and hope, providing food parcels and supplies critical for survival. Despite these strides, the needs remain vast, and our commitment to the affected regions continues unabated.





## Pakistan Refugees

In May 2023, Go Dharmic Disaster Relief teams swiftly mobilized to aid refugees fleeing religious persecution and violence in Pakistan. Within 36 hours, teams were on the ground, establishing shelters, providing essential supplies like food and water, and offering support to over 60 displaced families. The plight of these refugees, many of whom had endured harrowing experiences including kidnapping and assault, is a stark reminder of the urgent humanitarian crisis unfolding in the region. As these individuals sought refuge in India, they faced extreme conditions, including scorching temperatures and limited access to basic necessities. Go Dharmic remains steadfast in its commitment to alleviating the suffering of these refugees and calls upon the global community to extend their support.

## Floods in Punjab and Cyclone Biparjoy in Gujarat

Natural disasters in India also posed significant challenges. In July 2023, severe floods in Punjab left hundreds of families stranded, with roads and bridges rendered impassable. Go Dharmic partnered with emergency services to rescue 500 families, providing hot meals and clean water to those in dire need in just 56 hours.

Similarly, in June 2023, Cyclone Biparjoy wreaked havoc in Gujarat, displacing countless families. Our crisis response team acted swiftly, distributing emergency food kits and water bottles to the affected areas, ensuring that 70 families had their immediate needs met.





## Wildfires in Maui

In August 2023, Maui, Hawaii, experienced the deadliest US wildfire in over a century, claiming 102 lives and obliterating the historic town of Lahaina. Thousands of families were displaced, and the destruction of homes and livelihoods left the community reeling. Go Dharmic, in partnership with local organisations and the Love, Serve, Remember Foundation, stepped in to provide essential goods, shelter, and healthcare to those affected, helping over 800 locals.

This cause held special significance for us, as Maui was the home of spiritual teacher Ram Dass, whose teachings inspire our mission of love and service. In his memory, we supported efforts to rebuild lives, ensuring that the spirit of compassion continued to guide our work.



## Cuba Crisis

The humanitarian crisis in Cuba has reached alarming proportions, with malnutrition affecting 35% of the population and severe vitamin deficiencies impacting 80%. Economic challenges, exacerbated by political blockades, have left many unable to afford basic necessities despite the availability of food.

In response, Go Dharmic launched the “Feed Me Now” campaign in October 2023, in collaboration with Casa El Delfin. Our volunteers distributed beans to the most vulnerable in Trinidad, Cuba, and worked with local gardeners to grow fresh vegetables. By providing seeds, vitamins, and financial support, we fed 100 people a month for 4 months and addressed some root causes of food insecurity.

Our efforts extended beyond sustenance. Through events like a Vegan Salsa Night fundraiser, we raised awareness and funds to continue supporting the Cuban community. By March 2024, Go Dharmic volunteers had reached over 800 local villagers, delivering essential food supplies and hope.



## Beyond Borders

The crises of 2023–2024 underscore the fragility of human life and the resilience of the human spirit. Go Dharmic remains unwavering in its mission to offer solace, dignity, and hope. With your support, we continue to make a difference, proving that together, we can overcome even the most daunting challenges.



# HEALTH AND SANITATION



# HEALTH AND SANITATION

In the year 2023-2024, Go Dharmic continued its unwavering support for the maintenance of sanitation facilities in girls' schools across Assam. These efforts addressed critical challenges related to hygiene and safety, particularly for female students. Go Dharmic ensured the upkeep of 50 modular toilets in government schools, thereby providing young girls with access to safe, clean, and dignified sanitary conditions.

Go Dharmic also prioritised sustained engagement with frontline officers and their families who had previously benefited from health checks under the Mission Health initiative. Through regular contact—whether in-person, digitally, or through written communication—Go Dharmic staff diligently followed up to monitor health conditions, offer guidance, and support overall well-being. Such consistent follow-ups play a pivotal role in addressing lingering health concerns and ensuring the long-term physical and mental welfare of the beneficiaries.

By maintaining these meaningful connections, Go Dharmic facilitated the development of community ties, enhanced self-confidence, and contributed to improved decision-making among the families. These interactions also promoted mental well-being, reinforcing a sense of self-worth and belonging, essential for creating a healthier and more empowered society.



## A Snapshot of the Sanitation Challenges:

- Handwashing practices and microbial contamination in homes and communities increase the spread of diarrhoeal and waterborne diseases.
- While sanitation access in rural India has improved, the progress is uneven. Among the poorest 20%, open defecation remains widespread, exposing women and girls to risks that compromise their dignity and safety.
- The absence of toilets forces many women and girls to delay relieving themselves until night-time, resulting in potential health hazards, discomfort, and the risk of assault.

Source: UNICEF India, [unicef.org/india/campaigns/take-poo-loo](https://unicef.org/india/campaigns/take-poo-loo)



## Sanitation

We believe that hygiene is as fundamental as eating or breathing—a necessity for preserving human dignity. This conviction drove our continued collaboration with ONGC in maintaining modular toilets in 50 government schools across Assam, specifically in girls' schools. These facilities eliminated the need for students to resort to unsafe and unsanitary locations, such as fields, rubbish dumps, or roadside ditches.

Such situations not only posed significant safety risks from strangers, but also created deep embarrassment and discomfort, often compelling girls to abandon their education. By ensuring clean and accessible sanitation facilities, Go Dharmic took proactive steps to safeguard the dignity, safety, and educational prospects of these young girls. This initiative remains a testament to our commitment to creating a supportive environment where every girl can thrive academically without compromising her self-esteem or health.

## Mission Health

As part of the Mission Health initiative, Go Dharmic partnered with Marico Ltd to provide comprehensive medical check-ups for frontline police officers and their families across five locations in India—Guwahati, Pondicherry, Perundurai, Jalgaon, and Sanand. This project underscored our gratitude for the invaluable contributions of these individuals during challenging times.

To date, Go Dharmic has conducted over 1,500 check-ups. These check-ups included a wide array of diagnostics: thyroid function, vitamin B12 and D levels, liver, kidney, and heart function, as well as screenings for diabetes, iron deficiency, and testosterone levels. Additionally, ENT specialists conducted hearing tests to identify and address potential auditory issues.

By ensuring early detection and proper management of health concerns, the initiative supported the physical and mental well-being of the participants. Beyond the immediate benefits, the programme exemplified the importance of sustained care and follow-up, essential to fostering long-term health outcomes for these families.

Before Intervention:



After Intervention:



## Our Vision:

This campaign prioritises both mental and physical well-being. We strive to heal the sick and maintain the health of the well.



# ADVOCACY





# ADVOCACY

Guided by principles of compassion, dharma, and collective well-being, our advocacy work spans global challenges such as climate change, violence, education, and inequality. This year, we expanded our reach and deepened our impact, mobilising communities and engaging decision-makers across the UK, USA, and India to drive sustainable change.

Our initiatives in the 2023–2024 financial year included the impactful Peace Letters campaign, an education collaboration with RE Today, and a series of events that brought communities together around key causes.

## Peace Letters: Moving by Love

The Peace Letters campaign led by Hanuman Dass emerged as a central feature of Go Dharmic's advocacy this year. With over 500 letters dispatched to world leaders, policymakers, and influencers, we sought to amplify the voices of communities affected by violence, conflict, and neglect. Rooted in the principle of Shanti (peace), these letters called for action on pressing global issues, fostering dialogue and accountability.



## Gun Violence in the USA

Our letters to U.S. President Joe Biden and key policymakers highlighted the human toll of gun violence. Addressing the prevalence of school shootings, we urged leaders to prioritise stricter gun control laws and invest in programmes that foster compassion and conflict resolution in schools.

**“We must prioritise the value of life over the pursuit of profit or political gain. The lives lost to gun violence are a collective failure of humanity. Let us work together to end this cycle of destruction and build a society that nurtures, protects, and uplifts all its children.”**

This message resonated with many grassroots organisations, sparking dialogue among advocacy groups and offering a platform for survivors to share their stories.

## Peace in Ukraine

Amid the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, Go Dharmic reached out to Russian and Ukrainian leaders, advocating for an immediate cessation of hostilities. Volunteers on the ground documented the suffering of displaced families, amplifying their voices through our campaign.

**“War only serves to divide and destroy; peace rebuilds, renews, and reconciles. We implore you to embrace dialogue over destruction, to choose compassion over conquest.”**

The campaign not only highlighted the devastating impact of war but also inspired communities worldwide to support relief efforts, underscoring the power of advocacy in mobilising change.

## Climate Action and Animal Welfare

Environmental sustainability and animal welfare also formed a significant focus of our Peace Letters initiative. Addressing leaders across the globe, we advocated for policies that promote green energy, reduce reliance on fossil fuels, and encourage plant-based diets. These efforts align with the principle of Ahimsa (non-violence) and reflect our commitment to protecting both the planet and its inhabitants.

Through our Peace Letters campaign, we demonstrated that advocacy rooted in compassion and dialogue can influence public discourse and inspire action on some of the world's most pressing issues.

## Partnering with RE Today

Education plays a critical role in building an informed and compassionate society. This year, Go Dharmic collaborated with RE Today, a leading UK publication for religious education in primary and secondary schools, to create resources that bring the principles of Sanatana Dharma into classrooms and communities.



## The Sanatana Dharma Poster

Designed to demystify Hindu philosophy, our educational poster outlined key tenets of Sanatana Dharma, such as Dharma (righteous living), Karma (action and its consequences), and Ahimsa (non-violence). The poster aimed to help educators present Hinduism in an accessible and engaging manner, encouraging students to reflect on its universal values.

## In-Depth Exploration of Hindu Philosophy

A follow-up article in RE Today delved deeper into the stories and teachings of Hindu scriptures, such as the Mahabharata and Bhagavad Gita. The article explored how these ancient texts remain relevant in addressing contemporary issues like inequality, environmental degradation, and mental well-being.

**“The teachings of Sanatana Dharma remind us that our duty is not to seek personal gain but to serve the greater good. This timeless wisdom is a guide to creating a more just and compassionate world.”**

By equipping educators with these resources, Go Dharmic helped promote interfaith understanding and counter misconceptions about Hinduism, fostering a more inclusive and harmonious society.



## Gunialekh Retreat and Seva Centre: A Vision for Holistic Impact

Go Dharmic is proud to announce the development of the Gunialekh Retreat and Seva Centre, a transformative project in the serene Kumaon Hills of North India. This initiative represents our commitment to fostering community welfare, spiritual growth, and holistic wellbeing, while creating a sustainable and inclusive future.

Nestled near Kainchi, home to Neem Karoli Baba's renowned ashram, Gunialekh is a place rich in spiritual heritage. Attracting seekers from across the globe, the area exudes an atmosphere of love, compassion, and peace. Building on this foundation, Go Dharmic envisions the Gunialekh Retreat Centre as more than a sanctuary for personal rejuvenation. It will serve as a pivotal hub for advocacy, education, poverty alleviation, and community engagement, supporting both local and global campaigns.

The centre's design integrates comfort with sustainability, offering eco-friendly accommodations that include single rooms, shared rooms, and dormitories. With serene meditation halls, yoga studios, and outdoor spaces, it will provide a nurturing environment for mindfulness, self-reflection, and physical wellbeing. Construction is already well underway, and the centre is poised to welcome an international community of visitors seeking both physical and spiritual enrichment.

## A Catalyst for Local Empowerment

What truly distinguishes Gunialekh from other wellness retreats is Go Dharmic's unwavering dedication to uplifting the local community. From the construction phase to the centre's ongoing operations, the project will generate meaningful employment opportunities and equip residents with valuable skills.

The economic impact will be profound, bringing increased tourism and revenue to local businesses. Training programmes will enhance vocational skills and entrepreneurship, enabling individuals to secure a sustainable livelihood. Additionally, the centre will foster cultural exchange through partnerships with local organisations, community events, and volunteer programmes that actively involve residents in its activities.



## Features of the Gunialekh Retreat and Seva Centre

- **Eco-Friendly Accommodation:** Thoughtfully designed lodging options that blend sustainability with comfort, offering single, shared, and dormitory rooms.
- **Meditation and Yoga Spaces:** Purpose-built halls and serene outdoor settings for self-reflection, yoga practice, and relaxation.
- **Community Centre:** A versatile space for workshops, cultural events, seminars, and community gatherings.
- **Organic Farm and Gardens:** A self-sustaining initiative to cultivate organic produce, offering farming workshops and agricultural education.
- **Develop and support** local school children for sport, education and well being.

## Promoting Wellbeing and Education

The Gunialekh Retreat and Seva Centre will provide accessible wellness programmes for the local community, including yoga, meditation, and workshops on stress management, personal growth, and sustainable living. These initiatives aim to enhance both individual wellbeing and community resilience, empowering participants to lead healthier, more balanced lives.

## A Holistic Vision for the Future

At its core, the Gunialekh Retreat and Seva Centre embodies Go Dharmic's mission of compassion, service, and positive impact. By integrating spiritual growth with social responsibility, this project will be a beacon of hope and transformation.

We look forward to making Gunialekh a cornerstone of our efforts to serve humanity, inspire change, and create a brighter future for all.



# EVENTS:

## Mobilising Communities for Change

Events serve as a powerful platform to inspire action and unite communities around shared causes. In 2023–2024, Go Dharmic organised a series of impactful events that brought together diverse groups to address critical issues, raise funds, and celebrate the spirit of compassion and service.

## Eddie Stern's Talk on Dharma and Selfless Service

In June 2023, renowned yogamaster Eddie Stern joined Go Dharmic founder Hanuman Dass for an evening of soulful discussions in London. The event highlighted the importance of selfless service in achieving inner peace and global harmony, drawing over 200 attendees.

## Faiths Unite for Climate Action

In September 2023, Go Dharmic partnered with faith leaders at Lloyd's of London to demand an end to insurance for fossil fuel projects. Hanuman Dass, representing the dharmic community, emphasised the principle of Ahimsa, calling for urgent action to address the climate crisis.

**“We cannot turn a blind eye to the destruction we are causing to our planet. It is our dharma to protect all life and ensure a sustainable future for generations to come.”**

This interfaith initiative underscored the power of collective action in addressing global challenges.





## Mumbai City Dinner

Our annual dinner in Mumbai raised over £25,000 for Go Dharmic initiatives, bringing together supporters, corporate partners, and cricket legends. Special guest Ashish Nehra shared stories of resilience and community, inspiring attendees to contribute generously.

## Diwali Celebrations (November 2023)

Go Dharmic hosted several Diwali events to share the message of light, love, and compassion:

- At the House of Commons, our team joined the Hindu Forum of Britain to celebrate the festival with 300 attendees, distributing the latest edition of Dharma magazine.
- In London, a Diwali dinner at Om Nom united diverse groups, including the Hindu Forum of Britain, City Hindus and City Sikhs, to celebrate cultural richness and raise funds for humanitarian causes.

These events embodied the essence of Diwali – triumph of light over darkness – and strengthened bonds within the community.





## Barclays CSR Workshop

On November 6, 2023, Hanuman Dass, addressed Barclays employees at their headquarters. The presentation focused on the organisation's mission and the importance of love and compassion, particularly during the Diwali festival. Barclays has been a consistent supporter of Go Dharmic's endeavors, with numerous employees volunteering their time and contributing to various initiatives.

## Climate Justice with Faith Leaders

During November's Interfaith Week, Go Dharmic organised a gathering at the Robert Clive Memorial to advocate for climate justice. Speakers highlighted the disproportionate impact of climate change on vulnerable nations, emphasising the need for a unified global response rooted in compassion and sustainability — galvanised by the phrase "Make Polluters Pay" as part of a mission to redress Loss and Damage.





## Acuiti Partnership Christmas Dinner

In December 2023, Acuiti launched a Christmas dinner for the derivatives industry, with Go Dharmic selected as the charity partner. Acuiti CEO, Will Mitting, gave a moving speech before handing over to Hanuman Dass to give a Go Dharmic presentation and take questions. The event was a great success raising over £25,000. Furthermore, the partnership introduced Go Dharmic to leading companies in the derivatives industry, and marked the beginning of collaborations with major corporations like ABN AMRO Clearing, fostering future CSR initiatives.



## International Women's Day

Go Dharmic celebrated International Women's Day in March 2024 with a workshop in Kolkata addressing human trafficking and child marriage in coastal communities. Led by Inspector Sougata Ghosh and the Go Dharmic team in India, the event empowered over 60 women with tools to combat these pressing social issues, underscoring our dedication to uplifting vulnerable populations.

## Global Spirituality Mahotsav

At the Global Spirituality Mahotsav in Hyderabad, March 2024, Go Dharmic joined luminaries such as India's President Droupadi Murmu to discuss the journey from inner peace to global peace. The event reaffirmed our mission to promote universal compassion and foster global partnerships for a kinder future.





## Celebrating Diversity and Empowering Change

Go Dharmic's advocacy efforts extend beyond campaigns and events, reflecting a broader commitment to celebrating diversity and empowering marginalized communities. From Diwali celebrations at the House of Commons to workshops addressing human trafficking in Kolkata, our initiatives bring hope, knowledge, and tangible solutions to those in need.

**“Compassion is not just an emotion; it is a force for change. By uniting as one, we can create a world where no one is left behind.”**

Through our advocacy, Go Dharmic continues to inspire action and create a brighter future for all. This year's achievements reaffirm the power of compassion to transcend barriers and drive meaningful change across borders.

# AWARDS





# ADVOCACY

## Recognising Exceptional Leadership and Compassionate Action

This year has been monumental for Go Dharmic as the organisation's tireless efforts to alleviate suffering, foster education, and protect the environment have been recognised at the highest levels. GD's commitment to the universal principles of love and compassion has garnered significant acclaim, celebrating the extraordinary work of its volunteers and leaders.

## Prime Minister's Points of Light Award

On 8th November 2023, Founder, Hanuman Dass, and Trustee, Sheena Randerwala, were honoured with the prestigious Points of Light Award at 10 Downing Street by Prime Minister Rishi Sunak. This recognition, awarded during the auspicious festival of Diwali, highlights their remarkable contributions to social change across the UK and globally.

Go Dharmic, founded over 13 years ago by Hanuman Dass, began as a small initiative to address poverty and homelessness in London. Inspired by the principles of Sanatana Dharma, its mission is rooted in compassion, with the guiding principle: "Love All. Feed All. Serve All." The organisation has since expanded into a global humanitarian movement, distributing over 22 million meals worldwide, creating libraries and computer labs in India, and mobilising disaster relief teams for victims of natural calamities, such as the recent North India floods.

A standout environmental initiative, Dharma Forest, aims to plant 2 million trees in the Sundarbans by 2026 to combat climate change and protect vulnerable coastal communities. Reflecting on this honour, Hanuman Dass offered:

**"Go Dharmic's mission is to increase love, peace, and compassion. Receiving the Points of Light Award inspires us to continue our work for a harmonious world."**

Sheena Randerwala echoed this sentiment, dedicating the award to GD's volunteers and encouraging more people to join their transformative work.



## Charity Times and Third Sector Recognition

Hanuman Dass' dedication was also acknowledged with a Highly Commended recognition at the Charity Times Awards 2023. Under his leadership, GD has grown into a movement of over 10,000 volunteers across 180 locations, delivering impactful campaigns on poverty alleviation, education, environmental sustainability, and disaster relief. From distributing meals to the homeless in London to organising cataract surgeries and medical aid worldwide, Hanuman Dass exemplifies compassionate leadership, empowering communities and creating lasting change.

## A Royal Acknowledgement in Scotland

GD's work in Scotland achieved royal recognition this year through the Coronation Champion Award presented to Martin Dover, a GD trustee and lead volunteer, by the Royal Voluntary Service. Awarded live on BBC's The One Show, Martin's tireless efforts to combat food poverty and support communities were celebrated as part of the King's Coronation.

Since joining GD at the age of 16, Martin has transformed food poverty efforts in Scotland, securing resources such as a van, storage facilities, and partnerships to expand food distribution networks. His efforts have resulted in the distribution of over 1 million meals to vulnerable communities in Scotland, including hospitals, schools, and underserved areas. His commitment extends beyond Scotland, with participation in global initiatives such as the Salt Ride in India, promoting Mahatma Gandhi's principles of ahimsa (non-violence).

Martin's recognition underscores the potential of youth to lead positive change. Reflecting on his achievement, he shared:

**"With every meal we give out, we try to put a smile on people's faces. Through Go Dharmic, we want to spread positivity and help as many people as possible."**

Hanuman Dass added:

**"Martin's award is a testament to the boundless potential of young people to shape a better world. His dedication embodies the very essence of GD's mission."**

Engaging with Leaders for a Better World

In another landmark event, GD's leadership, including Martin Dover and Hanuman Dass, attended the King's Coronation Garden Party at Holyrood Palace in Edinburgh. There, they met King Charles III and Scotland's First Minister Humza Yousaf, discussing Go Dharmic's vision of a more compassionate and interconnected world. These interactions signify the growing recognition of GD's role as a driving force for positive societal transformation.

## Looking Ahead

As Go Dharmic reflects on its milestones in 2023-2024, the focus remains unwavering: to serve humanity and the planet with love and compassion. The accolades received this year celebrate the collective efforts of GD's global community of volunteers and supporters. Whether distributing meals, building libraries, planting trees, or responding to disasters, Go Dharmic's mission is clear: to inspire and implement compassion in action.



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show**





# CONTRIBUTING TO THE U.N. SDGs



# CONTRIBUTING TO THE U.N. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

At Go Dharmic, our mission directly supports the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through targeted campaigns that address global challenges. With a focus on six core areas, we align our efforts with the broader vision for sustainable development. Below is a summary of how our initiatives create meaningful contributions to these critical goals:

## SDG 1: No Poverty

We actively combat poverty through hunger relief, disaster support, and community empowerment. By providing essential resources and equipping youth with employable skills, we break the cycle of poverty and foster economic independence and stability.

## SDG 2: Zero Hunger

Through surplus food redistribution and grocery kits, we tackle hunger and ensure food security. Relief kits address immediate nutritional needs during crises, while awareness campaigns encourage sustainable solutions to food-related challenges.

## SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being

Our relief efforts provide nutritious meals and vital supplies during emergencies, promoting healthier lives. Initiatives like health camps, cataract surgeries, and sanitation facilities improve access to healthcare, while our advocacy for plant-based lifestyles inspires healthier living.

## SDG 4: Quality Education

We build libraries, computer labs, and implement skill development programmes in schools to promote literacy and inclusive education. By providing sanitation facilities for girls, we create a supportive environment for their education, ensuring equal opportunities for all.

## SDG 5: Gender Equality

Our programmes empower women through skill training, enabling them to support their families. By creating safe spaces for education and hosting events that promote gender inclusion, we foster equality and advocate for women's empowerment.

## SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

We construct toilets and provide hygiene facilities, particularly for teenage girls, ensuring access to clean water and sanitation. Mangrove plantations naturally filter water for safe consumption, complementing our advocacy for sustainable water management.

## SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

Through advocacy and pledges, we raise awareness about clean energy solutions and sustainable practices. By promoting renewable energy adoption, we contribute to ensuring reliable and affordable energy access for all.

## SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

Our focus on education and skills training empowers individuals to secure sustainable livelihoods. These efforts enhance employability, reduce unemployment, and foster local economic growth.

## SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure

From modular toilet construction to mangrove plantation techniques, we champion innovative solutions. Our education programmes and advocacy for sustainable transport further contribute to community development.

## SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

We bridge social gaps by providing education and vocational training to underserved communities. Our food distribution efforts and advocacy campaigns create opportunities for equitable growth and inclusion.



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### SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

We enhance urban resilience through environmental protection, disaster relief, and sustainable practices. Initiatives like mangrove plantations, libraries, and health facilities build inclusive and thriving communities.

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### SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

Redistributing surplus food and promoting plant-based living are at the heart of our sustainable initiatives. Advocacy events amplify our mission, driving widespread adoption of responsible consumption patterns.

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### SDG 13: Climate Action

Our Dharma Forest initiative, plant-based campaigns, and mangrove plantations are direct actions against climate change. These efforts integrate sustainability into everyday practices, contributing to global climate solutions.

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### SDG 14: Life Below Water

Through mangrove plantations and advocacy for plant-based living, we support marine ecosystems. Our campaigns address water pollution and promote practices that protect aquatic life.

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### SDG 15: Life on Land

Mangrove plantations, organic pledges, and food relief initiatives safeguard terrestrial ecosystems. These efforts ensure biodiversity and promote sustainable living for thriving ecosystems.

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### SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

Our Disaster Relief campaigns deliver critical support during crises, fostering stability and peace. Advocacy efforts promote inclusive societies and sustainable development, building stronger communities.

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### SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Collaboration is at the core of our approach. By engaging with sponsors, organisations, and influencers, we maximise impact and deliver tailored solutions to global challenges.

Through these efforts, Go Dharmic continues to contribute meaningfully to a more equitable, sustainable, and compassionate world.

# STAFFING, VOLUNTEERS, AND ORGANISATION

Go Dharmic is a volunteer-based organisation, with over 10,000 volunteers globally. We operate through a small team, which allows us to employ the vast majority of the donations we receive in our numerous campaigns. The majority of our distributions are set up, led, and coordinated entirely by volunteers, including: food collection, meal preparation, marquee and table setup, communication, and distribution. We take every effort to train each new volunteer with our Safeguarding Policy and perform a DBS check for lead Volunteers operating within the UK.

For the campaigns and projects that operate outside of the UK – such as Global Disaster Relief – we principally utilise volunteer teams that are composed of locals, or utilise staff from our various partners. In certain instances we will send a UK member of our staff to coordinate a project, as occurred in our relief efforts on the Romanian and Polish borders with Ukraine.

We believe that this acting structure maximises our flexibility, permitting us to act and mobilise quickly and perform campaigns in locations where it may be impractical or costly to send UK staff. As our volunteers are typically composed of locals, this also ensures that the communities where the charitable impact is taking place are consulted and closely involved. We do not believe in simply imposing what we may believe to be a benefit, when the local beneficiaries do not. This is avoided by involving locals in the planning, organisation, and execution of projects. It is, however, a structure that we carefully monitor and review annually with the Board of Trustees.



# RESERVES POLICY

Go Dharmic's free reserves are held in order to manage the risks to which the charity is exposed in the course of its activities. The Trustees ensure that the charity is in a responsible and secure financial position to provide services, to absorb unforeseen setbacks and to take advantage of opportunities that are in line with our charitable mission.

The reserves policy is reviewed annually by the Trustees, to take account of changes to the situation, and any other internal or external risk factors that might impact on the level of reserves required.

The reserves policy is based on the level of free reserves.

# SAFEGUARDING

Go Dharmic Welfare recognises that the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults is paramount and that they all, regardless of ability or culture, have equal rights of protection. GD has a duty of care and will do everything it can to provide a safe, caring and secure environment for them whilst they are engaged in GD activities.

Go Dharmic ensures that its safeguarding policy and any associated procedures and training comply with the Charity Commission's guidance on good practice in safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults, and that safeguarding arrangements are proportionate to the risks involved.

Go Dharmic will:

- Ensure all staff have access to, are familiar with, and know their responsibilities within this policy.
- Design and undertake all its programmes and activities in a way that protects people from any risk of harm that may arise from their coming into contact with Go Dharmic Welfare. This includes the way in which information about individuals in our programmes is gathered and communicated.
- Implement stringent safeguarding reporting procedures when recruiting, managing and deploying staff and associated personnel.
- Ensure staff receive training on safeguarding at a level commensurate with their role in the organisation
- Follow up on reports of safeguarding concerns promptly and according to due process

Staff members who have a complaint or concern relating to safeguarding should report it immediately to their Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or immediate manager. If the staff member does not feel comfortable reporting to their Designated Safeguarding Lead or immediate manager (for example if they feel that the report will not be taken seriously, or if that person is implicated in the concern) they may report to any other appropriate staff member.

Go Dharmic will accept complaints from external sources such as members of the public, partners and official bodies.

The DSL will receive and deal with any complaints made against GD staff and volunteers in terms of safeguarding.



# RISK MANAGEMENT

Our approach to risk management is organised around a potential cost-benefit analysis, composed of staff, volunteer, and beneficiary safety. Our central staff judiciously consider the likelihood and gravity of any negative consequences that could take place from any and all of our campaigns and projects, and weigh these against the potential benefits. The team performs this calculation giving greater weight to potential risks, prioritising safety.

To illustrate with an example of this process, for our Kyiv relief efforts, we concluded that we could not send a disaster relief team, nor send any staff from the UK, as even if a team could enter Ukraine the danger the team would be placed in would be too high, as well as disproportionate to the aid that they could provide; instead, we worked out that we could make a more substantial impact and minimise risk by supporting volunteers that were already in Kyiv.

For our distributions, we have a dedicated risk assessment guide and response sheet, divided between 11 Hazard criteria, with categories for:

- **Type of Risk** (Falls, Cuts, Loss of Property, Food Poisoning, Mental Harm, etc.)
- **To Who** (Volunteer, Staff, Beneficiary)
- **Likelihood** (Low-High)
- **Magnitude of Risk** (Low-High)
- **Mitigation**
- **Review Period**

# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

## Beneficiary of Assistance

Someone who directly receives goods or services from Go Dharmic's programme. Note that misuse of power can also apply to the wider community that the Go Dharmic Welfare serves, and also can include exploitation by giving the perception of being in a position of power.

## Child

A person below the age of 18. In this document, as in the Children Act 1989 and 2004, a Child is anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday. 'Children' therefore means 'Children and Young People' throughout. The fact that a Child has reached 16 years of age, is living independently, is in further education, is a member of the armed forces, is in hospital, in prison or in a Young Offenders' Institution, does not change his or her status or entitlement to services or protection under the Children Act 1989 and 2004.

## Harm

Psychological, physical and any other infringement of an individual's rights.

## Psychological Harm

Emotional or psychological abuse, including (but not limited to) humiliating and degrading treatment such as bad name calling, constant criticism, belittling, persistent shaming, solitary confinement and isolation.

## Abuse

A form of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm or by failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting by those known to them or, more rarely, by others (e.g. via the internet). They may be abused by an adult or adults or another child or children.

## Physical Abuse

A form of abuse which may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.

## Emotional Abuse

The persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to a child that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond a child's developmental capability as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyber bullying), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, although it may occur alone.

## Sexual Abuse

The term 'sexual abuse' means the actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions, involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.

## Sexual Exploitation

The term 'sexual exploitation' means any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another. This definition includes human trafficking and modern slavery.



## Child Sexual Exploitation

A type of sexual abuse. Children in exploitative situations and relationships may receive gifts, money or affection in return for performing sexual activities. Children or young people may be tricked into believing they are in a loving, consensual relationship. They might be invited to parties and given drugs and alcohol. They may also be groomed online.

## Neglect

The persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to: provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment); protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger; ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers); or ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment. It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.

## Survivor

The person who has been abused or exploited. The term 'survivor' is often used in preference to 'victim' as it implies strength, resilience and the capacity to survive, however it is the individual's choice how they wish to identify themselves.

## Recognising Types of Abuse and Neglect

Abuse can take a number of forms including physical, emotional or sexual abuse, child sexual exploitation and neglect. Examples of such abuse (as noted in the Department of Education publication "Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015") are contained in Appendix 4. All GD staff and volunteers should be aware that abuse, neglect and safeguarding issues are rarely standalone events that can be covered by one definition or label. In most cases multiple issues will overlap with one another.

## Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

The term is used by the humanitarian and development community to refer to the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse of affected populations by staff or associated personnel. The term derives from the United Nations Secretary General's Bulletin on Special Measures for Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (ST/SGB/2003/13).

## Safeguarding

Safeguarding means taking all reasonable steps to prevent harm, particularly sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment from occurring; to protect people, especially vulnerable adults and children, from that harm; and to respond appropriately when harm does occur. This definition draws from our values and principles and shapes our culture. It pays specific attention to preventing and responding to harm from any potential, actual or attempted abuse of power, trust, or vulnerability, especially for sexual purposes.

Safeguarding applies consistently and without exception across our programmes, partners and staff. It requires proactively identifying, preventing and guarding against all risks of harm, exploitation and abuse and having mature, accountable and transparent systems for response, reporting and learning when risks materialise. Those systems must be survivor-centred and also protect those accused until proven guilty. Safeguarding puts beneficiaries and affected persons at the centre of all we do.

## At Risk Adult / Vulnerable Adult

Sometimes also referred to as a vulnerable adult, a person who is or may be in need of care by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness; and who is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation. The definition of vulnerable adult in "Who Decides?" (Lord Chancellor's Office 1997) and as used in this document is anyone who is over 18 who:

- Is or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness; and
- Is or may be unable to take care of himself or herself; or
- Is unable to protect themselves against significant harm or serious exploitation.

## Volunteer

In this document, as in the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Glossary of Terms 2012, a Volunteer is a person who is engaged in any activity which involves spending time, unpaid (except for travelling and other approved out-of-pocket expenses), doing something which aims to benefit some third party other than or in addition to a close relative. For the purposes of this policy this encompasses but is not limited to Company Based Volunteers, Class Based Volunteers, Local Volunteer Board (LVB) Members and GD Trustees.

## Staff Member

A Staff Member is anyone employed by GD. For the purposes of this policy this encompasses, but is not limited to, permanent staff, casual staff, Associates and Consultants as well as Seconded/ Interns.

## Position of Trust

Any person connected with GD who comes into contact with children or vulnerable adults in the performance of their role is in a position of trust and subject to this policy

# FINANCIALS



# REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 FOR GO DHARMIC WELFARE UK

Charity Registration No. 1171619

# CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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# REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)

## Structure, governance and management

### Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

## Reference and administrative details

### Registered Charity number

1171619

### Principal address

Suite 119C, Business Design Centre  
52 Upper Street, Islington, London, N1 0QH

### Trustees

Claire Missingham  
Ram Goyal  
Dimple Mistry  
Joshua Fields  
Sejal Patel  
Shivani Deepti Patel  
Dr. Nicholas Sutton  
Swaminathan Vaidyanathan  
Sheena Randerwala

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 31 December 2024  
and signed on its behalf by:



**Sejal Patel**

CHAIR OF GO DHARMIC

# ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

## Accountants' report to the directors of Go Dharmic Welfare UK

You consider that the charity is exempt from an audit for the year ended 31 March 2024. You have acknowledged, on the balance sheet, your responsibilities for complying in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts. These responsibilities include preparing accounts that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year and of its statement of income and expenditure for the financial year.

In accordance with your instructions, we have prepared the charity accounts which comprise the Statement of financial activity, the Balance Sheet and the related notes from the accounting records of the charity and on the basis of information and explanations you have given to us.

We have not carried out an audit or any other review, and consequently we do not express any opinion on these accounts.

*Rshah Accounting Services*

**Rshah Accounting Services Ltd**

ACCOUNTANTS & TAX ADVISERS

35A High Street, Ruislip, Middlesex, HA4 7AU

Date: 31 December 2024



# INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Go Dharmic Welfare UK I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Go Dharmic Welfare UK (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

## Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

## Independent examiner's statement

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*Dharmendra Jeshani*

**Dharmendra Jeshani, FCCA**  
**Frasers Young Limited**

ASSOCIATION OF CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS

Alpha House, 296 Kenton Road, Harrow, HA3 8DD

Date: 31 December 2024

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	247,103	232,495	479,598	458,988
		247,103	232,495	479,598	458,988
EXPENDITURE ON					
	4				
Charitable Giving:					
UK Food Poverty Alleviation		17,174	132,276	149,450	184,277
International Social Development Programs		52,722	95,833	148,555	129,789
Advocacy Campaign		35,385	12,283	47,674	67,995
Cost of Raising Funds:					
Wages and Salaries		116,599	-	116,599	97,021
Fundraiser Platform Subscription		2,119	-	2,119	1,575
Other Admin Expenses		43,117	25,994	69,111	68,609
Total resources expended		267,116	266,392	533,508	549,266
Net (expenditure) / Income for the year					
Net movement in funds		(20,013)	(33,897)	(53,910)	(90,278)
Total funds brought forward		56,831	131,429	188,260	278,538
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		36,818	97,532	134,350	188,260



BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	6	28,234	32,189
Current assets			
Cash at bank		113,685	162,554
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	(7,569)	(6,483)
Net current assets		106,116	156,071
Net assets	8	134,350	188,260
Income funds			
Restricted funds		97,532	56,831
Unrestricted funds		36,818	131,429
Total funds		134,350	188,260

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 31 December 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



Sejal Patel

CHAIR OF GO DHARMIC

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

## 1 Accounting policies

### 1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The accounts have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

The GODHARMIC WELFARE UK Charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

### 1.2 Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charity's accounting policies the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying value of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimation and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on-going basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods if the revision affects the current and future periods.

In the view of the Trustees, no assumptions concerning the future or estimation uncertainty affecting the assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date are likely to result in a material adjustment to their carrying amounts in the next financial year.

### 1.3 Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

### 1.4 Income

Voluntary income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when Go Dharmic is legally entitled to the income, receipt is probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty.

Services donated by GO DHARMIC WELFARE UK International plc are included within incoming resources and resources expended at an estimate of their value to the Trust.

### 1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as each liability is incurred. Charitable activities include grants awarded and associated support costs.

Services donated by GO DHARMIC WELFARE UK International plc are included as above and relate to the provision of staff time absorbed by the charity. The Trustees received no remuneration or expenses during the current or preceding period. Currently no Trustees are employees of GO DHARMIC WELFARE UK.

### 1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

### 1.7 Foreign currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the prevailing rate of exchange on the date of the transaction.

### 1.8 Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised when Go Dharmic has a constructive or legal obligation to make a payment to a third party.



1.9 Taxation

No provision is made for corporation tax, as Go Dharmic is able to claim full statutory exemption subject to the proper application of all its charitable resources.

1.10 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds held by the charity are those which can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees

Restricted funds are where specific conditions are imposed by the donor which restricts the use of unspent funds. The income is taken directly to the relevant restricted funds.

1.11 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised when the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third-party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

1.12 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

2 Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 £	2023 £
Income from donations and legacies	247,103	232,495	479,598	458,988
Included within income relating to Income donations and legacies				
Donations	155,335	57,444	212,779	277,052
Gift Aid	5,543	-	5,543	5,659
In-kind Donations	85,445	-	85,445	113,927
Other Grants	-	175,051	175,051	37,400
Other Donations	780	-	780	24,950
	247,103	232,495	479,598	458,988

3 RAISING FUNDS

	2024 £	2023 £
Raising donations and legacies		
Support costs	533,507	549,266

**4 Activities undertaken directly**

	2024 £	2023 £
Fundraiser Platform Subscription	2,119	1,575
Website & Software expenses	7,522	16,371
Rent	43,079	30,450
UK Food Poverty Alleviation	149,450	184,277
International Social Development Programs	148,555	129,789
Advocacy Campaign	47,674	67,995
Telephone expenses	706	481
Accountancy Fees	1,030	1,000
Depreciation	6,670	10,459
General Expenses	1,832	946
Bank Charges	1,583	230
Repairs & Maintenance	-	29
Insurance	6,688	8,643
Wages and Salaries	116,599	97,021
	<b>533,507</b>	<b>549,266</b>

**5 Trustees' remuneration and benefits**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the period ended 31 March 2023.

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the period ended 31 March 2023.

**6 Tangible fixed assets**

	Land and buildings £
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2023	52,143
Additions	2,715
At 31 March 2024	<b>54,858</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2023	19,954
Charge for the year	6,670
At 31 March 2024	<b>26,624</b>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 March 2024	<b>28,234</b>
At 31 March 2023	<b>32,189</b>

**7 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals	1,200	1,200
Other creditors	6,369	5,283
	<b>7,569</b>	<b>6,483</b>



8 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 £	2023 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	28,234		28,234	32,189
Current assets	113,685	-	113,685	162,554
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(7,569)		(7,569)	(6,483)
	134,350	-	134,350	188,260

9 Reserves policy

GoDharmic’s free reserves are held in order to manage the risks to which the charity is exposed in the course of its activities. The Trustees ensure that the charity is in a responsible and secure financial position to provide services, to absorb unforeseen setbacks and to take advantage of opportunities that are in line with our charitable mission.

The reserves policy is reviewed annually by the Trustees, to take account of changes to the situation, and any other internal or external risk factors that might impact on the level of reserves required.

The reserves policy is based on the level of free reserves.

10 Related party disclosure

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.

# DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts

	2024 £	2023 £		2024 £	2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS			EXPENDITURE		
Donations	212,779	277,052	Fundraiser Platform Subscription	2,119	1,575
Gift Aid	5,543	5,659	Website & Software expenses	7,522	16,371
In-kind Donations	85,445	113,927	Rent	43,079	30,450
Other Donations	780	24,950	UK Food Poverty Alleviation	149,450	184,277
Other Grants	175,051	37,400	International Social Development Programs	148,555	129,789
	479,598	458,988	Advocacy Campaign	47,674	67,995
			Telephone expenses	706	481
			Accountacy Fees	1,030	1,000
			Depreciation	6,670	10,459
			General Expenses	1,832	946
			Bank Charges	1,583	230
			Repairs & Maintenance	-	29
			Insurance	6,688	8,643
			Wages and Salaries	116,599	97,021
			Pension Cost	-	-
				533,507	549,266



