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# **Newborn, Infant and Child Health Education International**

**Registered Charity Number: 1174977**

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## **Trustees' Report and Accounts**

For the Year Ended  
3<sup>rd</sup> October 2021

*sjn consultants*

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**LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

Charity Name: Newborn, Infant and Child Health Education International  
also known as NICHE International

Charity Number: 1174977

Principal Address: 66 Ambler Road  
London  
N4 2QR

**Charity Trustees:**

Trustees who served during the year:

Alison Earley

Alison Grove

John Madar

Alistair Morris

Chair

Sebastian Palmer

Julia Thomson

**Independent Examiner:**

Sandra J Nairn ACMA CGMA  
SJN Consultants Ltd  
The Slipway  
Inverasdale  
Poolewe  
Wester Ross  
IV22 2LN

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

Newborn, Infant and Child Health Education International (also known as NICHE International) is a Charity registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales with effect from 4<sup>th</sup> October 2017, with registration number 1174977.

The charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The charity is governed and administered in accordance with its constitution, which was adopted on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2017 and amended with effect from 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

Trustees are appointed for a term of two years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

There are 6 trustees, 4 of whom are doctors, and the chair of the trustees rotates. Trustees have experience working for teaching and medical charities in Cameroon, Liberia and other resource poor countries, in project management, post-graduate teaching and business. The charity Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits in return for their work.

The charity operates a safeguarding policy and a code of conduct to which all trustees and volunteers must adhere.

In Cameroon, the charity works in partnership with the Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Services (CBCHS). Course candidates come from both the CBCHS health facilities and the government hospitals in all areas of Cameroon.

The charity has a Memorandum of Understanding in place with two other health education charities working in developing countries:

- MCAI (Maternal & Childhealth Advocacy International) registered as a SCIO No. SC043467
- Advanced Life Support Group (ALSG) Registered Charity 1045478

Risks relate to travelling and working in middle- and low-income countries with poorly resourced health systems and/or political instability. Each trip is risk assessed with reference to in-country advisors, the RSA travel assistance mobile app from healix.com and Foreign & Commonwealth Office guidelines.

The charity provides comprehensive travel and medical insurance. A Security and Safety Operating Procedures handbook (SOPS) is provided to all trustees and volunteers.

### **Objectives and Activities**

#### **Charitable Objects**

To relieve sickness and to promote and protect the good health of babies and children. To work to reduce mortality rates in low- and middle-income countries, by assisting in the provision of training courses and other healthcare projects.

#### **Main Activities**

In planning our activities for the year, we have kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustees' meetings.

Our focus is to continue to teach the Neonatal Care provider courses to frontline practitioners from all healthcare sectors in Cameroon and other poorly resourced areas of the world.

These courses have been designed by ALSG and MCAI especially for resource limited settings and we have made further adaptations for our work in Cameroon and Liberia. Two of the charity trustees sit on the



ALSG Strengthening Emergency Care committee, which oversees the educational content of the Neonatal Care Course.

The course covers resuscitation at birth and problems which occur in the first weeks of life. Simple equipment is used and there is an emphasis on basic care such as breast feeding and skin-to-skin care in line with the World Health Organisation's 'Every Newborn Action Plan'.

We aim to promote sustainability by training local staff to become instructors and to teach the Neonatal Care course to others. Training local trainers is done through the ALSG / Resus Council Generic Instructor Course (GIC), which covers educational theory and practical teaching, assessment and feedback skills.

We believe that training local instructors is vital for embedding new ways of working and for the sustainability of the project.

We work to encourage peer to peer skills practice among local health care staff.

We continue to develop partnerships with our in-country hosts in order to deliver these courses as widely as possible, and also with organisations in the UK which develop and promote healthcare courses and course materials which are designed for middle- and low-income countries.

The volunteers who work for NICHE International are doctors, nurses and resuscitation officers with appropriate clinical backgrounds who have been accredited by the Advanced Life Support Group (ALSG) and/or the Resuscitation Council (RC(UK)) to teach neonatal and other life support courses in the UK. All have considerable experience of instructing, some of them as course directors, and also have knowledge of teaching in low- and middle-income countries. Instructors are recruited through ALSG, and through teaching contacts of current instructors.

These volunteers give their time and expertise to deliver the Neonatal Care course alongside the qualified NICHE trustees.

### **Achievements and Performance**

The charity's activities were severely constrained by travel restrictions related to the pandemic and no teaching visits were undertaken during the period of this report.

However, members of the charity and volunteers have updated and edited the latest edition of the Neonatal Care Course pocket book in collaboration with MCAI. They have also edited and updated a new Paediatric pocket book to support MCAI training in Liberia.

Plans to return to Cameroon, to provide some instructor development to maintain the skills of the current instructors there, had to be postponed due to the travel restrictions. We have worked on developing distance delivered material for an Instructor Development Day, but internet facilities in Cameroon were not adequate to deliver this online. We aim to deliver this in person in 2022.

In June 2021, members supported and quality assured one locally delivered Newborn Care Course in Cameroon, in conjunction with the Cameroon Baptist Convention grant and local instructors. UK instructors joined the course faculty meetings online. A total of 30 doctors, nurse and midwives were trained. The faculty in Cameroon is becoming increasingly self-sustainable in their training.

Members have also worked on expanding NICHE's bank of international instructors with a range of experience and expertise.

### **Future Plans**

The charity remains ready to commence delivery of our programme once travel restrictions allow.

**Cameroon:** Two courses to be delivered in April 2022: Training in Instructor Development, Generic Instructor Course (training the trainers course) and Newborn Care Course. Four NICHE International instructors will be involved in delivering these courses.



**Uganda:** Form a partnership with the charity, Child Health Matters (reg charity no. 1174977) to deliver Newborn Care Courses in Bwindi Community Hospital, South West Uganda in March 2022. This will be followed by 'Train the Trainers' courses in November 2022. Our instructors will include a senior neonatal nurse from Cameroon, who has qualified as a Newborn Care Course Instructor and led training in Cameroon.

Fuller details of NICHE International's background, achievements and future plans, including costings, are detailed in the charity's current business plan which may be found here: [www.nicheinternational.org.uk](http://www.nicheinternational.org.uk)

## **Financial Review**

### **Policy on reserves**

The charity currently holds no substantial reserves. The funds available have been used for charitable activities.

Fund raising activities ceased whilst training activities have not been able to be performed. All time given to online support of courses and material developed listed above was through the charity's volunteers.

Should the charity be in the position to build up reserves in unrestricted funds, this would be used in the first instance to provide an emergency fund for the extraction of the charity's volunteers working overseas.

### **Review of accounts**

During first part of the year, funding came from a mixture of grants and fundraising by the trustees.

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, we have not been in a position to carry out our usual training activities. As a result, we have been unable to apply for funding for specific projects.

The online support of courses and material developed, which is listed above, was carried out by the charity's volunteers.

Funds currently held will be used to deliver our training courses – Neonatal Care Course (NCC) and Generic Instructor Course (GIC) – once travel restrictions are lifted.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above. Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature(s):



Full name(s):

Alison Earley

Sebastian Palmer

Position:

Trustee

Trustee

Date:

19 Apr 22

19 Apr 22

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

### **Independent examiner's report to the Trustees/members of NICHE International**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2021 which are set out on pages 8 to 9.

### **Trustees' responsibilities**

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

### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

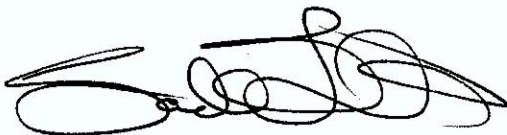
### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~\*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

Signed:



Dated: 19 Apr 22

Sandra J Nairn ACMA CGMA

SJN Consultants Ltd  
The Slipway  
Inverasdale  
Poolewe  
Wester Ross  
IV22 2LN

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS**

**For the year ended 03 October 2021**

	2021 Unrestricted Funds £	2021 Restricted Funds £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
<b>Receipts</b>				
Public Donations	1,528	-	1,528	599
Donor Funds	3,000	-	3,000	7,170
Fees	-	-	-	1,173
Repayments	-	-	-	-
Transfer from Other Assets	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid Claimed	-	-	-	290
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>4,528</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,528</b>	<b>9,232</b>
<b>Payments</b>				
Postage	-	-	-	20
Customs	-	-	-	45
Equipment	126	-	126	630
Travel Expenses Cameroon	-	-	-	-
Travel Expenses Liberia	-	-	-	12,671
Course Expenses Cameroon	157	123	280	-
Course Expenses Liberia	-	-	-	248
Communications	115	-	115	-
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>13,614</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for year</b>	<b>4,130</b>	<b>(123)</b>	<b>4,007</b>	<b>(4,382)</b>
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Cash funds at 04 Oct 20	8,385	1,810	10,195	14,577
<b>Cash Funds at 03 Oct 21</b>	<b>12,515</b>	<b>1,687</b>	<b>14,202</b>	<b>10,195</b>



**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

**As at 03 October 2021**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
<b>Cash Funds</b>			
Bank account	12,314	1,687	14,001
Cash	50	-	50
Paypal	151	-	151
<b>Total Cash Funds</b>	<b>12,515</b>	<b>1,687</b>	<b>14,202</b>
<b>Other Monetary Assets:</b>			
Debtors – ALSG fund	71	-	71
<b>Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use:</b>			
Equipment - Laerdal Manekins	348	-	348
<b>Liabilities:</b>			
Professional fees – I.E.	144	-	144

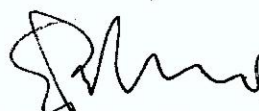
The financial statements were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Signature(s): 

Full name(s): Alison Earley

Position: Trustee

Date: 19 Apr 22



Sebastian Palmer

Trustee

19 Apr 22

Charity Registration Number: 1174977