

THE BEATRICE PROJECT

England & Wales · Charity number 1175299

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2017-10-23

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

Contact

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Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE THE EDUCATION OF GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN IN ZIMBABWE THROUGH THE PROVISION OF SANITARY PROTECTION AND SEXUAL HEALTH WORKSHOPS.

Activities: The Beatrice Project raises funds in UK which enable the work of the charity to continue in Zimbabwe. We fund the distribution of sanitary protection to a group of 300 girls of menstruating age which helps them to stay in school and complete their education. The practical provision is supported by regular training workshops, delivered by locals but funded by the project.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- Zimbabwe

Finances

| Period end | Income | Expenditure | Assets | Employees |
|------------|----------|-------------|--------|-----------|
| 2024-10-31 | £107,051 | £62,133 | - | - |
| 2023-10-31 | £51,593 | £45,582 | - | - |
| 2022-10-31 | £21,479 | £18,590 | - | - |
| 2021-10-31 | £15,093 | £18,632 | - | - |
| 2020-10-31 | £32,146 | £28,831 | - | - |

Trustees

| Name | Role | Appointed |
|-------------------------|-------|------------|
| Susan Hutchinson | Chair | 2017-06-23 |
| Anthony Andrew Arthur | | 2020-05-31 |
| Roger John Snowdon | | 2020-05-31 |

THE BEATRICE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1175299

Accounts

The Beatrice Project

‘Restoring dignity and opportunity
to
young women in Zimbabwe’

Trustees’ Annual Report
for the period
1 November 2023- 31 October 2024





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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This report has been produced to satisfy the requirements of the Charities Commission and to provide information to the supporters of the Beatrice Project.

1.2 Scope

This report covers the period 01 November 2023 to 31 October 2024. It provides a narrative on the developments of the Beatrice Project (BP) during this period along with the associated finances.

1.3 The Beatrice Project

The Beatrice Project (BP) is a small UK based charity supporting the work of Ntombi Nto (NN), a Zimbabwean registered trust. Ntombi Nto means 'a wholesome, confident young woman'. The BP began life when it was formally launched by Mrs Joy Khumalo in Zimbabwe in 2015 in partnership with Susan Hutchinson in the UK. This was in response to the concerns of local community and church leaders in the rural areas south of Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, about girls dropping out of school because of a lack of affordable sanitary protection.

The objectives of the BP are:

To advance in life, and relieve the needs of, girls and young women by providing help, advice and resources as a means of:

- a) developing their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals;
- b) enabling them to continue in their education;
- c) providing education on reproductive health and psychosocial issues;
- d) supporting locally led child protection measures.

Trustees: Susan Beatrice Hutchinson
Roger John Snowdon (identified and appointed as Safeguarding Officer)
Anthony Andrew Arthur

Treasurer: Richard Mills

2 General Overview of the Year

Throughout the reporting year, The Beatrice Project (BP), has once more needed to increase its efforts in fundraising to support the work in Zimbabwe. The Ntombi Nto (NN) team has continued to apply enthusiasm and dedication to what they do and we have seen some encouraging growth. Email and phone communication, has continued throughout the year, but the most significant event of the year was the visit to UK of Mrs Joy Khumalo.

The political situation in Zimbabwe continues to bring challenges to NN, and this was particularly so during the months surrounding the introduction of the Zig (Zimbabwe Gold) in April. This was to become the official currency, re-placing the Zimbabwe dollar, but its introduction brought increased instability and confusion, and prices once more rose exponentially. Despite the problems this created, NN is implementing the programme and making good progress, pursuing links with other agencies in the country and growing in stature.

Progress in the Gweru region has been maintained and two more secondary schools have been added, with many more seeking support from NN. The sense of ownership of the project by community leaders, both men and women, in the rural settlements continues to be hugely helpful to the growth of the work.

The shared ambition of BP and NN remains to enable underprivileged girls from these rural communities to maximise their potential through completing their education, finding work and contributing to their communities.

3 Highlights of the Last Year

3.1 Visit to UK of NN National director

In April, and largely through the fundraising efforts of the Beatrice Project, Mrs. Joy Khumalo was able to visit UK for three weeks. This was a very significant time during which donors, supporters and potential supporters were able to meet and speak with Mrs. Khumalo. She was able to give presentations about her work in Zimbabwe in 10 different venues around the south of England and funds raised for the project were impressive. This has facilitated the continuation of the work in all the participating schools and growth in a number of areas. Increasing numbers of girls are receiving menstrual cups while some have been learning to make re-usable pads in the sewing rooms set up by NN. The teaching and support programme, involving boys as well as girls, is continuing and we are very grateful for the generous donations of sweets and biscuits from the main baker and confectionery firm in Zimbabwe, Lobels. Although these had to be suspended for a time because of economic pressures faced by the company, they were resumed as soon as possible, showing the local endorsement and support for NN.

3.2 Employment of NN team members

In May of the reporting year the team of three supporting Mrs. Khumalo in the work has been consolidated by BP being able to employ them three days a week. They are growing in confidence and their skills and commitment add to the strength of the team. NN has also received support from The Training and Resource Support Centre (TARSC) – who generate the Aunty Stella kits – by Bonani Medina (local youth leader working under the auspices of the Solon Foundation) and by volunteers and professionals from the rural communities.

3.3 Replacement Vehicle

During the year, the first project vehicle, funded by the Bright Future Trust, has been used extensively on very rough terrain and has, consequently, begun to need replacing. In February, we were very grateful to receive the funding, again from BFT, for the purchase of a replacement (second hand) vehicle, a Toyota Hilux. This will prove a little less expensive to repair or service and will facilitate the continuing work in Zimbabwe.

3.4 Growing engagement by community leaders

The good reputation of Ntombi Nto and the Beatrice Project is spreading throughout the area around Gweru and the sense of support and engagement from the local community leaders continues to be most encouraging. There is now an increased level of ownership of the work not only from the school teachers but from a wide variety of cultural leaders including the kraal (village) heads and the area chiefs as well as councillors, who are the political leaders of the larger communities. Encouragingly, these highly respected leaders are not always men and their support and endorsement of NN's work is key to the progress of the project.

4 Looking Forward

Plans for 2025 include a visit to Zimbabwe for three of the BP trustees. These plans are contingent on two developments.

- a. Progress towards meeting new regulations issued by the Zimbabwe government, requiring that trusts and charities funded from overseas be registered as a Private Voluntary Organisation (PVO). This means we have to work with a new partner organisation (TBD) that has the necessary registration, which may take several weeks or months.
- b. In May 2025 we became aware that some grant money sent to Zimbabwe had been misappropriated. This has resulted in changes to the leadership of our current partner organisation (NN).

These two events will delay our programme of activities for 2025.

Our objectives for the visit are, first and foremost, to give opportunity for the BP trustees to meet members of the NN team, to further bolster relationships and provide a more personal forum for reviews and discussion between NN and BP regarding the future growth and development of the project. If possible, the trustees would also visit schools to see firsthand the impact of the work.

We hope to see the work consolidated and the group identity of the NN team established as the work into the Gweru schools, in particular, grows.

5 Statement of Financial Activities for FYE 31 Oct 2023

5.1 Income and Fund Raising

As a charity, we are very fortunate to be supported by a growing number of regular donors, on whose committed giving we rely for a known amount each month. Regular updates to supporters give information on the activities, needs and plans of the Trustees and the charity, and these often prompt further giving.

We are grateful to St James' Place for their interest and support, and to ETCH from whom we receive assistance in terms of advice and finance.

We are further indebted to the Bright Future Trust whose continued commitment to our work has enabled NN to purchase a replacement NN Project vehicle.



All money received or raised by BP is used to support the work of NN.

5.2 Risk Mitigation Reserves

As principal funders of the work undertaken by NN in Zimbabwe, BP recognises the need to be able to provide the quarterly support grants on a regular and timely basis.

Whilst the trustees wish to see all funds raised by BP transferred to Zimbabwe within as short a time scale as possible, they recognise the need to hold some funds in reserve to ensure continuity of support.

With quarterly support grants currently around £7,000, the trustees consider that a reserve of £10,000 is appropriate at the present time.

5.3 Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31 Oct 2023

5.3.1 Independent examiner's report on the accounts

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity (The Beatrice Project) for the year ended 31 /10 / 2024

As the charity's trustees, 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 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

The charity's gross income exceeded £25,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

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.

Simon Wield

Member - Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

21/08/2025

5.3.2 Income and Expenditure

| | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Total funds | Prior year funds |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Income (note 2) | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 62,236 | 5,000 | 67,236 | 34,004 |
| Charitable activities | 643 | - | 643 | 1,886 |
| Grants received | 1,250 | 37,375 | 38,625 | 15,600 |
| Total | 64,129 | 42,375 | 106,504 | 51,490 |
| Expenditure (note 3) | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 28,352 | 31,757 | 60,109 | 40,816 |
| Administrative costs | 2,024 | - | 2,024 | 4,766 |
| Total | 30,376 | 31,757 | 62,133 | 45,582 |
| Net income for the reporting period | 33,753 | 10,618 | 44,371 | 5,908 |
| Interest income | 547 | - | 547 | 103 |
| Net movement in funds | 34,300 | 10,618 | 44,918 | 6,011 |
| Reconciliation of funds: | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | 12,451 | 401 | 12,852 | 6,841 |
| Total funds carried forward | £46,751 | £11,019 | £57,770 | £12,852 |

5.3.3 Balance Sheet

| | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total this year £ | Total last year £ |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Current assets | | | | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 46,751 | 19,996 | 66,747 | 19,852 |
| Total | 46,751 | 19,996 | 66,747 | 19,852 |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (note 4) | - | 8,977 | 8,977 | 7,000 |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| Net current assets | 46,751 | 11,019 | 57,770 | 12,852 |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| Total net assets | £46,751 | £11,019 | £57,770 | £12,852 |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| Funds of the Charity | | | | |
| Restricted funds | | 11,019 | 11,019 | 401 |
| Unrestricted funds | 46,751 | | 46,751 | 12,451 |
| Total | £46,751 | £11,019 | £57,770 | £12,852 |

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

Signed on behalf of all the trustees:



Name

Susan Hutchinson

Date of approval

27.08.25

5.4 Accounting Policies

- a. **Basis of preparation.** The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

- b. **Funds structure.** Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed. There is a single restricted fund, the vehicle fund, restricted to funding the costs of a motor vehicle essential to carrying out the work of the charity. Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.
- c. **Income recognition.** All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, and it is received. In the case of performance related grants, income is only recognised to the extent that the charity has provided the specified goods or services as entitlement to the grant only occurs when the performance related conditions are met (5.16 FRS 102 SORP).
- d. **Tax reclaims on donations and gifts.** Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.
- e. **Expenditure recognition.** Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

5.5 Income

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Unrestricted funds | | |
| Donations | 57,803 | 30,143 |
| Gift aid | 4,433 | 3,861 |
| Events | 643 | 1,886 |
| Grants | 1,250 | 3,600 |
| Total | £64,129 | £39,490 |
| Restricted funds | | |
| Grant for vehicle purchase and running costs | £37,375 | £12,000 |
| Donation for sewing rooms and cups | £5,000 | - |
| Total | £42,375 | £12,000 |

5.6 Expenditure

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Unrestricted funds | | |
| Grants to Ntombi Nto Trust | 15,674 | 21,668 |
| Employment costs in Zimbabwe | 12,627 | 4,747 |
| Sanitary supplies | 50 | 2,122 |
| Administration | 1,982 | 4,737 |
| Bank charges | 43 | 75 |
| Total | £30,376 | £14,224 |
| Restricted funds | | |
| Grants for vehicle purchase and expenses | £31,757 | £4,366 |

5.7 Debtors

N/A

5.8 Creditors

Grant income received, but related services not yet provided: £8,925 (2023 – £7,000).

A total grant of £15,300 was received during the year to cover vehicle running costs for 12 months to 31 July 2025. At the year-end, £6,375 of this had not been spent, and is due to be spent in the following year.

5.9 Trustee and Related Party Transactions

One Trustee had direct expenses reimbursed during the year totalling £1,290. These expenses related to travel and event expenses reimbursed at cost. (2023 – \$5,858).

5.10 Post Balance Sheet Event

In May 2025 we became aware that some grant money sent to Zimbabwe had been misappropriated. This has resulted in changes to the leadership of our partner organisation. In addition, the Zimbabwe government introduced new rules requiring that trusts and charities funded from overseas need to register as a Private Voluntary Organisation (PVO). This means we have to work with a partner organisation that has the necessary registration, which may take several weeks or months. These two events will delay our programme of activity for 2025.



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Accounts

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for the period
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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This report has been produced to satisfy the requirements of the Charities Commission and to provide information to the supporters of the Beatrice Project.

1.2 Scope

This report covers the period 01 November 2022 to 31 October 2023. It provides a narrative on the developments of the Beatrice Project (BP) during this period along with the associated finances.

2 The Beatrice Project

The Beatrice Project (BP) is a small UK based charity supporting the work of Ntombi Nto (NN), a Zimbabwean registered trust. Ntombi Nto means 'a wholesome, confident young woman'. The BP began life when it was formally launched by Mrs Joy Khumalo in Zimbabwe in 2015 in partnership with Susan Hutchinson in the UK. This was in response to the concerns of local community and church leaders in the rural areas south of Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, about girls dropping out of school because of a lack of affordable sanitary protection.

The objectives of the BP are:

To advance in life, and relieve the needs of, girls and young women by providing help, advice and resources as a means of:

- a) developing their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals;
- b) enabling them to continue in their education;
- c) providing education on reproductive health and psychosocial issues;
- d) supporting locally led child protection measures.

Trustees: Susan Beatrice Hutchinson
Roger John Snowdon (identified and appointed as Safeguarding Officer)
Anthony Andrew Arthur

Treasurer: Richard Mills

3 General Overview of the Year

Throughout the reporting year, The Beatrice Project (BP), has increased its efforts in fundraising to support the work in Zimbabwe. The Ntombi Nto (NN) team has continued to apply enthusiasm and dedication to what they do and we have seen some encouraging growth. Susan Hutchinson (Founder Trustee) visited the project in March and valuable video and interview material, much of which is now on the website, was garnered. As well as this personal contact, email and phone communication, enabled through the provision of funds to pay for an office and wifi for the NN team, has been regular throughout the year.

The political situation in Zimbabwe continues to bring challenges to NN, and this was particularly so during the months surrounding the election held in September. Despite the attendant problems of continuing economic instability, NN is implementing the programme and making good progress, working with other agencies in the country and growing in stature.

NN has made particularly great strides in the Gweru region and has been approached there by more schools than it could realistically commit to helping this year. The sense of ownership of the project by community leaders, both men and women, in the rural settlements, is truly impressive.

There are now 15 schools around Gwanda and Gweru on the programme. The shared ambition of BP and NN remains to enable underprivileged girls from these rural communities to maximise their potential through completing their education, finding work and contributing to their communities.

4 Highlights of the Last Year – Growth and cultural change.

Mrs. Khumalo has gradually been developing a team of young people, three individuals in particular, who are beginning to contribute significantly to the work of the project. Continued further support has been provided by The Training and Resource Support Centre (TARSC) – who generate the Aunty Stella kits – by Bonani Medina (local youth leader working under the auspices of the Solon Foundation) and by volunteers and professionals from the rural communities.

4.1 Employment of NN National director

In April of the reporting period, and largely through the fundraising efforts of the Beatrice Project, Mrs. Joy Khumalo became salaried full time. This was seen as a huge step forward, recognising the immensely valuable work she does and allowing her to devote herself more fully to the work of the charity. As a result, the NN team have seen a new school in the Gwanda region and two new schools in the Gweru region fully signed up to the programme: disposable sanitary pads are no longer offered, menstrual cups have been distributed (almost 1000 since their introduction on the programme) and sewing rooms have been established for making reusable sanitary pads. A teaching and support programme, involving boys as well as girls, is now running at all of them. The attraction of these Sexual and Reproductive Health workshops has this year been enhanced by generous donations of sweets and biscuits from Lobels, a local baker and confectionery firm. This is another example of local endorsement and support for NN.

4.2 Widespread engagement by community leaders

The good reputation of Ntombi Nto and the Beatrice Project is spreading throughout the area around Gweru and the sense of support and engagement from the local community leaders has been hugely encouraging. There is now a real sense of urgency and a degree of competition being demonstrated by the rural schools to become involved and begin to receive the help being offered to them. This is coming not only from the school teachers but from a wide variety of cultural leaders including the kraal (village) heads and the area chiefs as well as councillors, who are the political leaders of the larger communities. Encouragingly, these highly respected leaders are not always men and their support and endorsement of NN's work is key to the progress of the project.

5 Looking Forward

Plans for 2024 include a visit to UK by Mrs. Khumalo. First and foremost, this will give opportunity for her to meet other members of the BP board and to share with them firsthand the impact of their work. It will also give ample opportunity to promote the project through presentations and talks, generate further income to the project and raise the profile of the work. This will bolster the development of relationships and provide a more personal forum for reviews and discussion between NN and BP regarding the future growth and development of the project.

In Zimbabwe, we hope to see the work consolidated and the group identity of the NN team established as the work into the Gweru schools in particular is developed.

6 Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31 Oct 2023

6.1 Income and Fund Raising

As a charity, we are very fortunate to be supported by a growing number of regular donors, on whose committed giving we rely for a known amount each month. Regular newsletters and updates on our website give information on the activities, needs and plans of the Trustees and the charity, and these often prompt further giving.

We are grateful to St James' Place for their interest and support.

We are further indebted to the Bright Future Trust whose generosity has enabled NN to run and maintain the NN Project vehicle in Zimbabwe.

All money received or raised by BP is used to support the work of NN.

6.2 Risk Mitigation Reserves

As principal funders of the work undertaken by NN in Zimbabwe, BP recognises the need to be able to provide the quarterly support grants on a regular and timely basis.

Whilst the trustees wish to see all funds raised by BP transferred to Zimbabwe within as short a time scale as possible, they recognise the need to hold some funds in reserve to ensure continuity of support.

With quarterly support grants currently around £4,500, the trustees consider that a reserve of £5,000 is appropriate at the present time.

6.3 Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31 Oct 2023

6.3.1 Independent examiner's report on the accounts

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity (The Beatrice Project) for the year ended 31/10/2023

As the charity's trustees, 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 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

The charity's gross income exceeded £25,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

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.

Simon Wield

Member - Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

30/07/2024

6.3.2 Income and Expenditure


| | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Total funds | Prior year funds |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Income (note 2) | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 34,004 | - | 34,004 | 14,601 |
| Charitable activities | 1,886 | - | 1,886 | 1,878 |
| Grants received | 3,600 | 12,000 | 15,600 | 5,000 |
| Total | 39,490 | 12,000 | 51,490 | 21,479 |
| Expenditure (note 3) | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 28,612 | 12,204 | 40,816 | 17,974 |
| Administrative costs | 4,737 | 29 | 4,766 | 616 |
| Total | 33,349 | 12,233 | 45,582 | 18,590 |
| Net income for the reporting period | 6,141 | (233) | 5,908 | 2,889 |
| Interest income | 103 | - | 103 | - |
| Net movement in funds | 6,244 | (233) | 6,011 | 2,889 |
| Reconciliation of funds: | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | 6,207 | 634 | 6,841 | 3,952 |
| Total funds carried forward | £12,451 | £401 | £12,852 | £6,841 |

6.3.3 Balance Sheet

| | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total this year £ | Total last year £ |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Current assets | | | | |
| Debtors (note 4) | - | - | - | 191 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 12,451 | 7,401 | 19,852 | 13,650 |
| Total | 12,451 | 7,401 | 19,852 | 13,841 |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (note 5) | - | 7,000 | 7,000 | 7,000 |
| Net current assets | 12,451 | 401 | 12,852 | 6,841 |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| Total net assets | £12,451 | £401 | £12,852 | £6,841 |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| Funds of the Charity | | | | |
| Restricted funds | | 401 | 401 | 634 |
| Unrestricted funds | 12,451 | | 12,451 | 6,207 |
| Total | £12,451 | £401 | £12,851 | £6,841 |

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

Signed on behalf of all the trustees:

| Name | Date of approval |
|---|------------------|
|  Susan Hutchinson | 16.Aug. 24 |

6.4 Accounting Policies

- a. **Basis of preparation.** The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.
- b. **Funds structure.** Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed. There is a single restricted fund, the vehicle fund, restricted to funding the costs of a motor vehicle essential to carrying out the work of the charity. Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.
- c. **Income recognition.** All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, and it is received. In the case of performance related grants, income is only recognised to the extent that the charity has provided the specified goods or services as entitlement to the grant only occurs when the performance related conditions are met (5.16 FRS 102 SORP).
- d. **Tax reclaims on donations and gifts.** Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.
- e. **Expenditure recognition.** Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

6.5 Income

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Unrestricted funds | | |
| Donations | 30,143 | 13,692 |
| Gift aid | 3,861 | 909 |
| Events | 1,886 | 1,878 |
| Grants | 3,600 | - |
| Total | £39,490 | £16,479 |
| Restricted funds | | |
| Grant for vehicle running costs | £12,000 | £5,000 |

6.6 Expenditure

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Unrestricted funds | | |
| Grants to Ntombi Nto Trust | 21,668 | 12,905 |
| Employment costs in Zimbabwe | 4,747 | - |
| Sanitary supplies | 2,122 | 703 |
| Administration | 4,737 | 339 |
| Bank charges | 75 | 277 |
| Total | £33,349 | £14,224 |
| Restricted funds | | |
| Grants for vehicle expenses | £12,233 | £4,366 |

Administration includes £3,605 for a trip by a Beatrice project Trustee and volunteer to monitor project progress in Zimbabwe.

6.7 Debtors

Donations received but not yet credited to bank accounts: Nil (2022 – £191)

6.8 Creditors

Grant income received, but related services not yet provided: £7,000 (2022 – £7,000).

A total grant of £12,000 was received during the year to cover vehicle running costs for 12 months to 31 July 2024. At the year-end, £7,000 of this had not been spent, and is due to be spent in the following year.

6.9 Trustee and Related Party Transactions

One Trustee had direct expenses reimbursed during the year totalling £5,858. These expenses related to foreign travel and event expenses reimbursed at cost. (2022 – Nil),

THE BEATRICE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1175299

Accounts

The Beatrice Project

‘Restoring dignity and opportunity
to
young women in Zimbabwe’

Trustees’ Annual Report
for the period
1 November 2021- 31 October 2022



Principal address: 23, Rockleigh Road, Southampton, SO16 7AQ

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This report has been produced to satisfy the requirements of the Charities Commission and to provide information to the supporters of the Beatrice Project.

1.2 Scope

This report covers the period 01 November 2021 to 31 October 2022. It provides a narrative on the developments of the Beatrice Project (BP) during this period along with the associated finances.

2 The Beatrice Project

The Beatrice Project (BP) is a small UK based charity supporting the work of Ntombi Nto (NN), a Zimbabwean registered trust. Ntombi Nto means 'a wholesome young woman'. The BP began life when it was formally launched by Mrs Joy Khumalo in Zimbabwe in 2015 in partnership with Susan Hutchinson in the UK. This was in response to the concerns of local community and church leaders in the rural areas south of Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, about girls dropping out of school because of a lack of affordable sanitary protection.

The objectives of the BP are:

To advance in life, and relieve the needs of, girls and young women by providing help, advice and resources as a means of:

- a) developing their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals;
- b) enabling them to continue in their education;
- c) providing education on reproductive health and psychosocial issues;
- d) supporting locally led child protection measures.

Trustees: Susan Beatrice Hutchinson
Dr Karen Trewinnard (identified and appointed as Safeguarding Officer)
Roger John Snowdon
Anthony Andrew Arthur

3 General Overview of the Year

Following the lifting of most Covid restrictions imposed by the government in UK, the Beatrice Project (BP), has stepped up its fundraising efforts to support the work in Zimbabwe. During the reporting period, the Ntombi Nto (NN) team has continued to deliver with enthusiasm and dedication and we have seen some encouraging growth. A brief visit to Zimbabwe was made by Susan Hutchinson (Trustee) in August, and throughout the year email and phone communication has been regular. The NN team has been implementing the programme and making good progress.

The political and economic situation in Zimbabwe continues to bring challenges to NN, but despite these, the team is continuing to work with other agencies in Zimbabwe, and is growing both in confidence and in

the scope of its work. NN has now expanded its reach into the Gweru region and has been approached there by several schools seeking help. The sense of ownership of the project by community leaders, both men and women, in the rural settlements, is truly impressive.

The shared ambition of BP and NN remains to enable underprivileged girls from these rural communities to maximise their potential through completing their education, finding work and contributing to their communities.

At the end of this reporting year, 12 schools have been enrolled and over 2000 girls have been through the BP/NN programme. Rates of absence from school due to menstruation have dropped from 95% to 5%.

4 Highlight of the Last Year – Cultural Change

The highlights of the last year are chiefly in seeing two changes of attitude towards the subject of menstruation. These developments are, in large measure, attributable to the tireless work put in by Mrs. Joy Khumalo (NN National Director) and her team, and with crucial input from Nobuhle Shumba of the Butterfly Cup Company. Further support has been provided by The Training and Resource Support Centre (TARSC), by Bonani Medina (local youth leader working under the auspices of the Solon Foundation) as well as by cultural leaders in the communities.

The two key changes are:

4.1 Boys Requesting Training

The beneficiaries of the educational workshops delivered through NN, now include boys. This has arisen at the request of the boys themselves and represents a very welcome indication that the taboo of menstruation is fading. In the past, the boys' attitudes have been part of the reason for girls dropping out of education.

This follows on from the enthusiastic endorsement of NN's programme, and assistance offered to NN, by the local cultural leaders of the communities – both men and women.

4.2 Developments in Technology

BP is moving away from the distribution of disposable sanitary pads. High quality re-usable menstrual pad kits are now being made by the girls under the supervision of qualified adults, in sewing facilities equipped and funded by BP. Each room is provided with sewing machines and all the necessary materials and fabrics to produce the pads. After each girl has made a kit for herself, she is required to make two more pads for newcomers to the project or for sale to raise funds for further materials.

By far the most exciting development has been in the acceptance by girls and their communities of the menstrual cup. Despite long established cultural reservations, the cup is now being much more readily embraced, and has begun to change radically the girls' experience of menstruation. With the potential to solve the three challenges of affordability, hygiene and disposal, it is seen by BP as the preferred means of sanitary protection.

5 Looking Forward

Plans for 2023 include a visit to Zimbabwe by a BP team. This will enable thorough reviews and discussion regarding the project to take place and will provide opportunities to meet the school and cultural heads, particularly in the Gweru region, and to gather additional data. It is also anticipated that increasing numbers of girls will have made re-usable pad kits or will have been successful in their use of the cup, and that numbers requesting disposable pads will have diminished significantly. BP will continue to support NN, particularly as it reaches more schools in this new region, to set up and establish similar projects.

6 Financial review

6.1 Income and Fund Raising

As a charity, we are very fortunate to be supported by a growing number of regular donors, on whose committed giving we rely for a known amount each month. Regular newsletters and updates on our website give information on the activities, needs and plans of the Trustees and the charity, and these often prompt further giving.

We are grateful for the ongoing input and support of Etch, a digital advisory firm specialising in helping businesses grow through the use of digital platforms and marketing.

We are grateful to St James' Place for their interest and support.

We are further indebted to the Bright Future Trust whose generosity has enabled NN to run and maintain the NN Project vehicle in Zimbabwe.

All money received or raised by BP is used to support the work of NN.

6.2 Risk Mitigation Reserves

As principal funders of the work undertaken by NN in Zimbabwe, BP recognises the need to be able to provide the quarterly support grants on a regular and timely basis.

Whilst the trustees wish to see all funds raised by BP transferred to Zimbabwe within as short a time scale as possible, they recognise the need to hold some funds in reserve to ensure continuity of support.

With quarterly support grants currently around £4,500, the trustees consider that a reserve of £1,000 is appropriate at the present time.

6.3 Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31 Oct 2022

| | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total funds £ | Prior year funds £ |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Income (note 2) | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 14,601 | - | 14,601 | 13,399 |
| Charitable activities | 1,878 | - | 1,878 | 1,695 |
| Grants received | - | 5,000 | 5,000 | - |
| Total | 16,479 | 5,000 | 21,479 | 15,093 |
| Expenditure (note 3) | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 13,608 | 4,366 | 17,974 | 18,002 |
| Administrative costs | 616 | - | 616 | 630 |
| Total | 14,224 | 4,366 | 18,590 | 18,632 |
| Net income for the reporting period | | | | |
| | 2,255 | 634 | 2,889 | - |
| Other gains/(losses) | - | - | - | - |
| Net movement in funds | 2,255 | 634 | 2,889 | - |
| Reconciliation of funds: | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | 3,952 | - | 3,952 | 7,491 |
| Total funds carried forward | £6,207 | £634 | £6,841 | £3,952 |

| | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total this year £ | Total last year £ |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Current assets | | | | |
| Debtors (note 4) | 191 | - | 191 | 402 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 6,016 | 7,634 | 13,650 | 3,550 |
| Total | 6,207 | 7,634 | 13,841 | 3,952 |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (note 5) | - | 7,000 | 7,000 | - |
| Net current assets | 6,207 | 634 | 6,841 | 3,952 |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| Total net assets | £6,207 | £634 | £6,841 | £3,952 |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| Funds of the Charity | | | | |
| Restricted funds | | 634 | 634 | 1,674 |
| Unrestricted funds | 6,207 | | 6,207 | 2,278 |
| Total | £6,207 | £634 | £6,841 | £3,952 |

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

6.4 Notes to the Financial Statements for Year Ending 31 Oct 2022

1. Accounting Policies

- a. **Basis of preparation.** The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.
- b. **Funds structure.** Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed. There is a single restricted fund, the vehicle fund, restricted to funding the costs of a motor vehicle essential to carrying out the work of the charity. Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.
- c. **Income recognition.** All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, and it is **received**. In the case of performance related grants, income is only recognised to the extent that the charity has provided the specified goods or services as entitlement to the grant only occurs when the performance related conditions are met (5.16 FRS 102 SORP).
- d. **Tax reclaims on donations and gifts.** Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of **that** gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.
- e. **Expenditure recognition.** Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or **constructive** obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

2. Income

| | 2022 | 2021 |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Unrestricted funds | | |
| Donations | 13,692 | 12,102 |
| Gift aid | 909 | 1,297 |
| Events | 1,878 | 1,694 |
| Total | £16,479 | £15,093 |
| Restricted funds | | |
| Grant for vehicle running costs | £5,000 | Nil |

3. Expenditure

| | 2022 | 2021 |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|
| Unrestricted funds | | |
| Grants to Ntombi Nto Trust | 12,905 | 14,004 |
| Sanitary supplies | 703 | 1,009 |
| Administration | 339 | 319 |
| Bank charges | 277 | 311 |
| Total | £14,224 | £15,643 |
| Restricted funds | | |
| Grants for vehicle expenses | £4,366 | £2,989 |

4. Debtors

- Donations received but not yet credited to bank accounts: £191 (2021 – nil)
- Loan to Ntombi Nto Trust: nil (2021 - £402)

5. Creditors

Grant income received, but related services not yet provided: £7,000 (2021 – nil).

A total grant of £12,000 was received during the year to cover vehicle running costs for 12 months to 31 July 2023. At the year-end, £7,000 of this had not been spent, and is due to be spent in the following year.

Signed: S.B Hutchinson 

Signed: A.A Arthur 

THE BEATRICE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1175299

Accounts

The Beatrice Project

**‘Restoring dignity and opportunity
to
young women in Zimbabwe’**

**Trustees’ Annual Report
for the period
1 November 2020- 31 October 2021**



Registered charity number: 1175299

Principal address: 23, Rockleigh Road, Southampton, SO16 7AQ

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1 Introduction

1.1 General Overview of the Year

Despite the pandemic, The Beatrice Project (BP), has continued its fundraising efforts to support the work in Zimbabwe and, against considerable odds, the Ntombi Nto (NN) team continues to deliver with enthusiasm and dedication. It has been another year in which the BP has been subject to UK government restrictions regarding travel and this has meant another year without our visiting Zimbabwe. However, communication has been regular and the NN team has been implementing the programme and progress in some key areas.

The political and economic situation in Zimbabwe continues to bring challenges to NN, and the Covid situation has meant school closures and restrictions on meetings. Despite this, NN is continuing to work with other agencies in Zimbabwe, and is growing both in confidence and in the scope of its work. Since being recognised by the Gwanda District Council, NN has been legally able to access school attendance data, though this has obviously been affected by schools being closed for long periods and is therefore very limited. NN has been approached by several schools for help and the sense of ownership of the project by community elders, both men and women, in the rural settlements, is truly impressive.

Our shared ambition remains to enable underprivileged girls from these rural communities to maximise their potential through completing their education, finding work and contributing to their communities.

1.2 Background

The Beatrice Project (BP) is a small UK based charity supporting the work of Ntombi Nto (NN), a Zimbabwean registered trust. Ntombi Nto means 'a wholesome young woman'. The BP began life when it was formally launched by Mrs Joy Khumalo in Zimbabwe in 2015 in partnership with Susan Hutchinson in the UK. This was in response to the concerns of local community and church leaders in the rural areas south of Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, about girls dropping out of school because of a lack of affordable sanitary protection.

The purpose of the report is to provide information on the background to the BP, its current state and its plans for the future.

1.3 Objectives and activities

The objectives of the BP are:

To advance in life, and relieve the needs of, girls and young women by providing help, advice and resources as a means of:

- a) developing their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals;
- b) enabling them to continue in their education;
- c) providing education on reproductive health and psychosocial issues;
- d) supporting locally led child protection measures.

A specific group defined by age and gender (menstruating girls) and geographical area (the Gwanda region, some 100km outside Bulawayo) was selected by local elders, school teachers and church leaders and was based on past school attendance and positive attitude towards education. The girl beneficiaries in the pilot group typically walk 5-10 kilometres to attend health education workshops and to receive support in the provision of menstrual protection whether re-usable pads, menstrual cups or disposable pads.

1.4 Structure, Governance and Management

Trustees: Susan Beatrice Hutchinson
Dr Karen Trewinnard (identified and appointed as Safeguarding Officer)
Roger John Snowdon
Anthony Andrew Arthur

2 Looking Back Over the Last Year

2.1 BP visit to NN

It has not been possible for the BP team to visit Zimbabwe this year because of the Covid pandemic. However, regular communication, by phone and email, has supported the continued running of the work.

2.2 Training

The UK team appointed Dr Karen Trewinnard as Safeguarding Officer and some Trustee training was undertaken as well as a review of the charity's Safeguarding policy. Since the team has been unable to visit since 2018, no further training has been delivered by BP this year. Work has, however, continued, under Mrs. Joy Khumalo's guidance. This has been with the support and backing not only of TARSC (The Training and Resource Support Centre) but of Bonani Medina (local youth leader working under the auspices of Solon Foundation) as well as some of the cultural leaders in the communities. When possible, smaller group training sessions have been held.



Figure 1: Joy delivering to one of the sites

2.3 Reusable Pads

With funding from BP, NN has been able to set up sewing rooms at the original sites, providing them with manual sewing machines and all the necessary start-up materials. Girls are able to work, under the supervision of qualified adults, to produce high quality re-usable menstrual pad kits. Materials to be transported to one of the sites



Figure 2: Materials to be transported to one of the sites

2.4 Menstrual Cups

The menstrual cup (now sourced from India) was introduced to the girls and their leaders and adult carers in August 2018. This remains a relatively new concept in the rural communities but discussion and education delivered to the girls and their parents/guardians has resulted in an increasing acceptance of this method. With the potential to change radically the girls' experience of menstruation, and solve the three challenges of affordability, hygiene and disposal, the cup is seen by BP as a very realistic alternative to the current means of sanitary protection.

2.5 Disposable Sanitary Pads

BP has continued to fund the distribution of sanitary pads as needed at the three initial sites plus an additional school site. However, the sites were put on notice by Mrs Khumalo, via the Gwanda District Council, that disposable pads would be phased out as soon as possible in 2022. Against all odds, the pads continue to be available for sale in Harare, the capital, at a reduced price made available to NN. However, free transportation of the pads from Harare is no longer available to us, so they have to be collected from Harare and taken to the sites by Mrs Joy Khumalo (NN).



Figure 3: Signing for a delivery

3 Looking Forward

Plans for 2022 include a proposed visit to Zimbabwe by the BP team. This will enable thorough reviews and discussion regarding the project to take place and will provide the team with opportunities to meet the school and cultural heads and to gather some much needed data. Boys have begun to be included in the training programme, using the tried and tested Auntie Stella materials (SRH course materials produced in Zimbabwe by The Training and Resource Support Centre), but this may need resourcing and developing. It is also hoped that increasing numbers of girls will have made re-usable pad kits or will have been successful in their use of the cup, and that numbers using disposable pads will gradually diminish. BP will continue to support NN as it responds to requests from schools to set up and establish similar projects.

4 Financial review

4.1 Income and Fund Raising

As a charity, we are very fortunate to be supported by a number of regular donors, on whose committed giving we rely for a known amount each month. Regular newsletters and updates on our website give information on the activities, needs and plans of the Trustees and the charity, and these often prompt generous giving.

We are grateful for the ongoing input and support of Etch, a digital advisory firm specialising in helping businesses grow through the use of digital platforms and marketing. Their support has enabled us to run virtual fundraising events which have boosted our income considerably.

All money received or raised is used by BP to fund the work of NN.

4.2 Risk Mitigation Reserves

As principal funders of the work undertaken by NN in Zimbabwe, TBP recognises the need to be able to provide the quarterly support grants on a regular and timely basis.

Whilst the trustees wish to see all funds raised by TBP to be transferred to Zimbabwe within as short a time scale as possible, they recognise the need to hold some funds as a reserve to ensure continuity of support.

With quarterly support grants currently around £2,500 the trustees consider that a reserve of £1000 is appropriate at the present time.

4.3 Receipts and Payments Accounts for the period Nov 20 to Oct 21

| | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total Funds | Last Year |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Receipts | | | | |
| Donations | 10601.95 | 1,500.00 | 12101.95 | 12359.46 |
| Gift Aid | 1296.64 | | 1296.64 | 820.70 |
| Grants Received | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 18000.00 |
| Fund Raising | 1694.55 | | 1694.55 | 966.60 |
| Sub Total | 13593.14 | 1,500.00 | 15093.14 | 32146.76 |
| Assets/Investment sales | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - |
| Sub Total | - | - | - | - |
| Total Receipts | 13593.14 | 1,500.00 | 15093.14 | 32146.76 |
| Payments | | | | |
| Grants Made | 14003.82 | 2,989.01 | 16992.83 | 27113.98 |
| SanitaryProtection Supplies | 1008.85 | - | 1008.85 | 1415.42 |
| Cost of Fundraising | 0.00 | - | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Administration | 319.53 | - | 319.53 | 117.60 |
| Bank Charges | 310.94 | - | 310.94 | 184.53 |
| Sub Total | 15643.14 | 2,989.01 | 18632.15 | 28831.53 |
| Asset/Investment Purchases | | | | |
| Loan to Ntombi Nto | - | - | - | - |
| Sub Total | - | - | - | - |
| Total Payments | 15643.14 | 2989.01 | 18632.15 | 28831.53 |
| Net Receipts/Payments | -2050.00 | -1,489.01 | -3539.01 | 3315.23 |
| Transfers between Funds | 0.00 | 0 | | - |
| Cash Funds last year end | 3926.21 | 3,163.02 | 7089.23 | 3774.00 |
| Cash Funds this year end | 1876.21 | 1,674.01 | 3550.22 | 7089.23 |

Figure 4: Income and Expenditure

4.4 Statement of assets and liabilities at 31 October 2021

| | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total Funds |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Cash Funds | | | |
| Bank Accounts | 1,876.21 | 1,674.01 | 3,550.22 |
| Total Cash Funds | 1,876.21 | 1,674.01 | 3,550.22 |
| Other Assets | | | |
| Loan to Ntombi Nto | 402 | - | 402 |
| | - | - | - |
| Total Other Assets | 402 | - | 402 |
| Liabilities | | | |
| | - | - | - |
| Total Liabilities | - | - | - |

Signed by Two Trustees




Date of Approval

27.4.22

Figure 5: TBP Assets and Liabilities

5 The Impact of NN/BP Pre-Covid

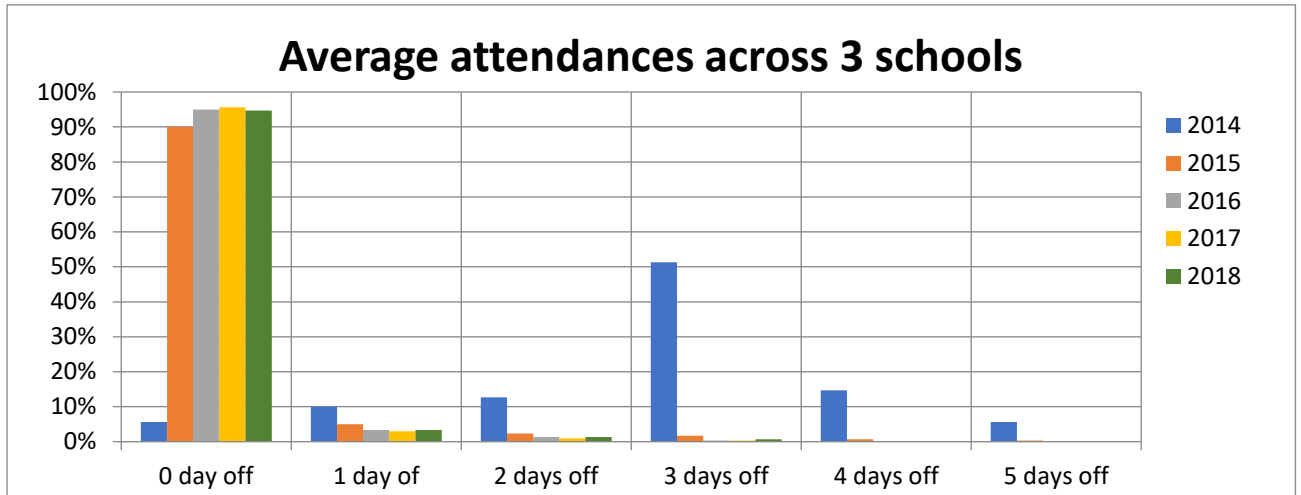



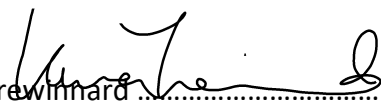
Figure 6: The Impact of NN/BP

This exciting graph indicates the provisional records of attendances across the schools for the years 2014-2018. The attendance figures for girls have improved very dramatically. It has not been possible, largely because of protracted school closures, to gather comparable data for the years affected by the Covid pandemic.

Declaration:

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report.

Signed: S.B Hutchinson 

Signed: K.R. Trewinard 

THE BEATRICE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1175299

Accounts

The Beatrice Project

**‘Restoring dignity and opportunity
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**Trustees’ Annual Report
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1 Introduction

1.1 General Overview of the Year

It has been a quieter year for the Beatrice Project (BP), with no visit to Zimbabwe but with continuing progress in some key areas. The political and economic situation continues to bring challenges to our partners in Zimbabwe, Ntombi Nto, (NN). Despite this, the team continues to deliver the project with enthusiasm and dedication.

NN has continued to work with other agencies in Zimbabwe, growing both in confidence and in the scope of their work. Since being recognised by the Gwanda District Council, NN has been able to access school attendance data, though this has obviously been affected by school closures. NN has been approached by several schools for help and the sense of ownership of the project in the rural settlements, particularly by male community leaders, is truly impressive.

Our shared ambition remains to enable underprivileged girls from these rural communities to maximise their potential for finding work and contributing to their communities.

1.2 Background

The Beatrice Project (BP) is a small UK based charity supporting the work of Ntombi Nto (NN), a Zimbabwean registered trust. Ntombi Nto means 'a wholesome young woman'. The BP began life when it was formally launched by Mrs Joy Khumalo in Zimbabwe in 2015 in partnership with Susan Hutchinson in the UK. This was in response to the concerns of local community and church leaders in the rural areas south of Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, about girls dropping out of school because of a lack of affordable sanitary protection.

The purpose of the report is to provide information on the background to the BP, its current state and its plans for the future.

1.3 Objectives and activities

The objectives of the BP are:

To advance in life, and relieve the needs of, girls and young women by providing help, advice and resources as a means of:

- a) developing their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals;
- b) enabling them to continue in their education;
- c) providing education on reproductive health and psychosocial issues;
- d) supporting locally led child protection measures.

A specific group defined by age and gender (menstruating girls) and geographical area (the Gwanda region, some 100km outside Bulawayo) was selected by local elders, school teachers and church leaders and was based on past school attendance and positive attitude towards education. The girl beneficiaries in the pilot group typically walk 5-10 kilometres to attend the distributions of sanitary pads and the workshops where they are also given some food and drink.

1.4 Structure, Governance and Management

Names of Trustees: Susan Beatrice Hutchinson
Dr Karen Rosemary Trewinnard
Roger John Snowdon
Anthony Andrew Arthur

Governing document Constitution 23.10.18

2 Looking Back Over the Last Year

2.1 BP visit to NN

The planned trip for the early Summer of 2020 had to be cancelled. Regular communication, by phone and email, has supported the continued running of the work.

2.1 Training

Since the team was unable to visit in 2020, no further training has been delivered by BP this year. Work has, however, continued, under Mrs. Joy Khumalo's guidance. Support and backing has come from TARSC (The Training and Resource Support Centre), from Bonani Medina (Solon Foundation) who works locally with young people, particularly peer educators, and from some of the cultural leaders in the communities. An alternative weekend of training, arranged by NN, ran in August.



Figure 1: Community Elders in Discussion



Figure 2: Social Distancing at a Group Session

2.2 Sanitary Pads

During the year, BP has continued to fund the distribution of sanitary pads at the three initial sites plus an additional school site. Against all odds, the pads continue to be available for sale in Harare, the capital, at a reduced price made available to NN. However, free transportation of the pads from Harare is no longer available to us, so they have to be collected from Harare and taken to the sites by Mrs Joy Khumalo (NN).



Figure 3: Delighted Girls Receiving Their Pads

2.3 Menstrual Cups

The menstrual cup (now sourced from India) was introduced to the girls and their leaders and adult carers in August 2018. This is still a relatively new concept to the rural communities and its introduction has needed careful and sensitive handling. With the potential to change radically the girls' experience of menstruation, and solve the three challenges of affordability, hygiene and disposal, the cup is seen by BP as a very realistic alternative to the current means of sanitary protection. There is a gradual but growing desire to use this means of protection.

2.4 Reusable and Disposable Pads

BP is continuing to provide disposable sanitary protection for around 200 girls in the target group. Others are using locally made washable pads and some girls are making their own with sewing machines and start up materials provided by BP.



Figure 4: The Presentation of the Sewing Machines

3 Looking Forward

Plans for 2020-2021 have been impacted by the Covid- 19 pandemic, but BP is supporting and funding the continuing of regular Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) workshops conducted in the local areas by health

professionals and other qualified or semi-qualified adults. These will begin to include boys as well as girls, using the tried and tested Auntie Stella materials (SRH course materials produced in Zimbabwe by The Training and Resource Support Centre) Additional sewing rooms are planned, in conjunction with textile teaching in schools, whilst, it is hoped, increasing numbers of girls will be successful in their use of the cup, and that numbers using disposable pads will gradually diminish. The Project continues to explore all available methods of sanitary protection and seek sustainable solutions to issues of affordability, hygiene and disposal. We expect to continue our support of NN as they respond to requests from schools to set up similar projects.

4 Financial review

4.1 Income and Fund Raising

We are indebted to Bright Future Trust for their grant of £18,000 for the purchase of a suitable field vehicle for the work in Zimbabwe. We are also grateful for the input and support of Etch, a digital advisory firm specialising in helping businesses grow through the use of digital platforms and marketing.

All other funds have so far been donated or raised through specific fundraising events.

As a charity, we are very fortunate to be supported by a number of regular donors, on whose committed giving we rely for a known amount each month. Regular newsletters, particularly following a trip or at notable times of the year (eg Christmas) give information on the activities, needs and plans of the Trustees and the charity, and these often prompt generous giving.

Other fundraising activities have included:

- December 2019: a Line Dancing group held a Christmas raffle and raised £55
- March 2020: a 'Come and Sing' (classical) was held and raised just under £1000. This was led by BBC Singer, Jamie W Hall and the accompanist was Cherith Kingsley-Smith, both of whom gave their services free of charge
- From March one of the founder trustees, Karen Trewinnard, began producing masks and raised in excess of £2500

This money has been used by BP to fund the work of NN.

4.2 Risk Mitigation Reserves

As principal funders of the work undertaken by NN in Zimbabwe, TBP recognises the need to be able to provide the quarterly support grants on a regular and timely basis.

Whilst the trustees wish to see all funds raised by TBP to be transferred to Zimbabwe within as short a time scale as possible, they recognise the need to hold some funds as a reserve to ensure continuity of support.

With quarterly support grants currently around £2,500 the trustees consider that a reserve of £1000 is appropriate at the present time.

4.3 Receipts and Payments Accounts for the period Nov 19 to Oct 20

Receipts and Payments

| | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total Funds | Last Year |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Receipts | | | | |
| Donations | 12,159.46 | 200.00 | 12,359.46 | 6,418 |
| Gift Aid | 820.70 | | 820.70 | 921 |
| Grants Received | | 18,000.00 | 18,000.00 | 1000 |
| Fund Raising | 966.60 | | 966.60 | 2,515 |
| Sub Total | 13,946.76 | 18,200.00 | 32,146.76 | 10,854 |
| Assets/Investment sales | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - |
| Sub Total | - | - | - | - |
| Total Receipts | 13,946.76 | 18,200.00 | 32,146.76 | 10,854 |
| Payments | | | | |
| Grants Made | 12,077.00 | 15,036.98 | 27,113.98 | 6,793 |
| SanitaryProtection Supplies | 1,415.42 | - | 1,415.42 | 3,071 |
| Cost of Fundraising | 0.00 | - | 0.00 | 176 |
| Administration | 117.60 | - | 117.60 | 55 |
| Bank Charges | 184.53 | - | 184.53 | 175 |
| Sub Total | 13,794.55 | 15,036.98 | 28,831.53 | 10,270 |
| Asset/Investment Purchases | | | | |
| Loan to Ntombi Nto | - | - | - | 402 |
| Sub Total | - | - | - | 402 |
| Total Payments | 13,794.55 | 15,036.98 | 28,831.53 | 10,672 |
| Net Receipts/Payments | 152.21 | 3,163.02 | 3,315.23 | 182 |
| Transfers between Funds | 1,000 | -1,000 | | - |
| Cash Funds last year end | 2,774 | 1000 | 3,774 | 3,592 |
| Cash Funds this year end | 3,926.21 | 3,163.02 | 7,089.23 | 3,774 |

**Figure 5:
Income and
Expenditure**

4.4 Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Statements of assets and liabilities at the end of 31 October 2020

| | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total Funds |
|-------------------------------|--|---------------------|-----------------|
| Cash Funds | | | |
| Bank Accounts | 3,926.21 | 3,163.02 | 7,089.23 |
| Total Cash Funds | 3,926.21 | 3,163.02 | 7,089.23 |
| Other Assets | | | |
| Loan to Ntombi Nto | 402 | - | 402 |
| Total Other Assets | 402 | - | 402 |
| Liabilities | | | |
| Total Liabilities | - | - | - |
| Signed by Two Trustees | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;">S. B. M. M. M.</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Karen Trust</div> | | |
| Date of Approval | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">1. June 2021</div> | | |

Figure 6: TBP Assets and Liabilities

5 The Impact of NN/BP Pre-Covid

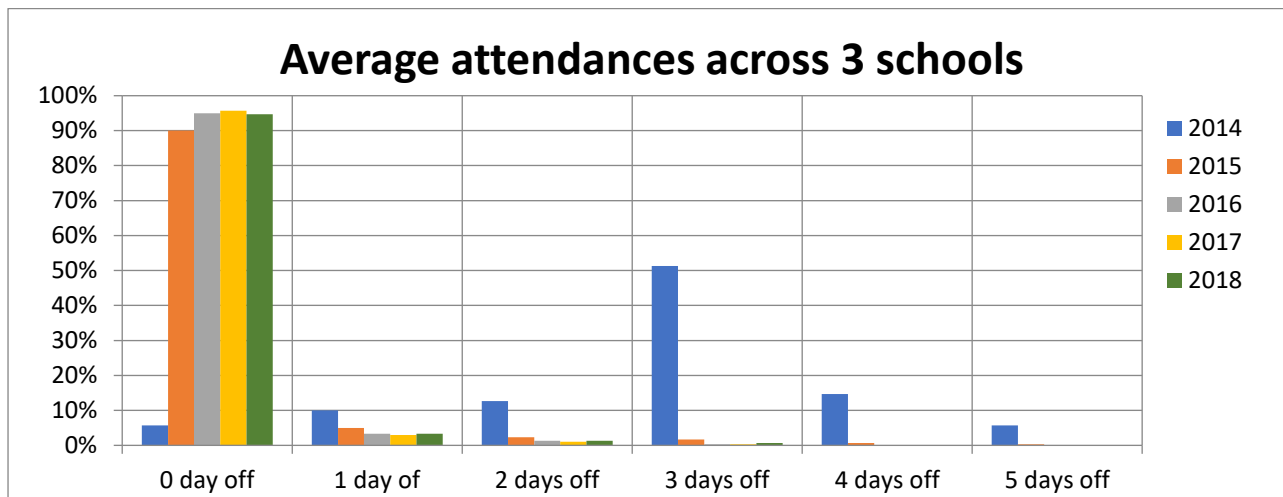


Figure 7: The Impact of NN/BP

This exciting graph indicates the provisional records of attendances across the schools for the years 2014-2018. The attendance figures for girls have improved very dramatically.

We have also received letters from some of the girls telling us how they have been impacted by the project:

- [The] Beatrice [Project] taught us about hygiene and behaviour. As girls we have got vital roles to play in our lives.
- Thank you for the lessons you taught us as girls. You taught us about menstrual hygiene, ... to treat ourselves as worthwhile people showing that we are valuable and disciplined.
- As peer educator, I realised that long back we were stranded, life was so difficult to many.
- We feel proud, precious, special and more cherished with you. The care you have for us gives us courage

Declaration:

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report.

Signed: S.B Hutchinson 

Signed: K.R.Trewinnard 

Signed: R.J.Snowdon.....

Signed: A.A. Arthur