

Casa Mea UK

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

Year ending: 31st December 2024

Charity registration number: 1175421

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Charity information

Address

Heronston, Old Mill Road, Lisvane, Cardiff, CF14 0XP

Trustees

Miss Emma Coalter

Mrs Jenny McMillan

Dr Carwyn Shires

Mr Tim Toase (Joint Chair)

Mrs Kezia Toase (Joint Chair)

Mr Paul Willis

Mrs Patricia Jones

Miss Pamela Marsden (appointed 13th May 2024)

Miss Maureen Wise

Mr Marc Schyrr

Officers

Dr Jay Lewington (Treasurer)

Mrs Ann Lewington (Committee secretary)

Independent Financial Examiner

Andrew Lee, FCCA

Charitable Object

“To meet the spiritual needs, family needs and material needs of people with any disabilities, both children and adults, in institutions and in their homes, preventing discrimination of any kind because of social background, culture, sex, religion or nationality and to promote their rights”. Casa Mea UK supports the work of Fundatia Casa Mea in Moldova where this work takes place.

Trustees' Report

Objectives and Activities

The principal purpose of the charity is the spiritual, emotional, social, physical and material well-being of adults with disabilities who have lived or are living in long stay institutions in Moldova. In order to achieve its principal objective, four homes for such adults have been set up since 2006 to provide life-long support and as normal a life as possible within the community. The homes are named Casa Bucuriei, Casa Matei, Casa Alex and Casa Ana. Each of them is staffed by Moldovans who are employed by Fundatia Casa Mea and supported by staff meetings and training. All members of staff have a job description and terms of service. There are strong links with the local churches in the villages in which each of the houses are situated and staff are drawn from those local churches.

The trustees group represents a strong range of professional experience which includes financial, social work, management, architectural and building, carpentry, speech and language therapy, dietetics and medical expertise.

The trustees give advice on a variety of matters such as property maintenance, policy development, staff development and training, future strategy and use of available funds – all in collaboration with those managing the work in Moldova. They are all members of local churches and undertake to pray for the work regularly. Some members of the group undertake speaking engagements about the work in different churches and a prayer letter continues to be distributed to several hundred people every few months. More regular news is circulated to those who are very committed to the work.

In Moldova, Liliana Golovatii is the Administrator of Fundatia Casa Mea. She and her colleagues are responsible for the day-to-day running of the work and oversight of the four community homes which run for a total of twenty-three adults with disabilities at different locations in the country. The first home was established in 2006. Visits have continued to large institutions for adults with disabilities in Moldova. A Summer camp was held in August 2024 and services have continued to be held in the institution throughout the year.

The website continues to be active, and the trustees are monitoring activity to assist with further developing this. There is both an English and Romanian version of the website.

Organisational Structure and Decision-making processes

The trustees and officers met together six times during 2024. One of these meetings was held face-to-face in Cardiff in April 2024. All other meetings were held virtually via Zoom. Two of these meetings were additional special meetings. The first special

meeting was called to discuss changes to staff salaries. It was agreed that all staff salaries should be increased by 15%, with increased grant giving to fulfil this. The second special meeting was held to approve Pamela Marsden as a new trustee. This was approved unanimously.

It continues to be a joy to have one of the houses join via Zoom at the start of each trustees' meeting. They provide information about activities they have recently been involved in and it gives an opportunity for any feedback to be given directly to trustees.

Achievements and Performance

It has been recognised that the ongoing war in Ukraine continues to have an impact on Moldova in many ways. There has been substantial increase in energy costs, groceries, and household items.

Fifth house

Building work on the fifth house commenced in March 2024. The work was carried out by a team of Moldovan builders. Various volunteer work teams from other countries supported the project, including a team from the UK and from Holland. The fifth house was named Casa David in August 2024. It is planned that the house will be formally opened in Spring 2025. It has been a privilege to watch the work progress on this purpose-built house. The team in Moldova are considering who might be suitable to move into the new house from the institutions they visit.

Developments in Fundatia Casa Mea

Sadly, one of the men in Casa Alex passed away in July 2024 after a period of illness. A funeral was held in the local church. Two new ladies have since moved into Casa Alex. They have expressed their delight at being there and continue to settle in well.

The trustees provided an increased grant to Fundatia Casa Mea in January 2024 in order to provide for an increase in staff salaries for those working in the houses, and also for the management team.

A service user feedback form is completed by all those living in the houses prior to each trustee meeting. This allows the trustees to be aware of any issues that are reported and to hear about their well-being. Issues that arise are dealt with by the team in Moldova.

Ben and Esther Smith are not employed by Casa Mea UK, but continue to support the work of Fundatia Casa Mea. Ben has continued to develop in his language study and has started to hold Bible studies with the people living in the houses. He is regularly involved in training staff and has been working on developing and updating policies for Fundatia Casa Mea.

Management and governance

There has been a significant amount of work completed and commenced in terms of governance. Work continues on a Collaboration Agreement between Casa Mea UK and Fundatia Casa Mea. Legal advice has been sought to inform this piece of work and a final draft is now with the team in Moldova with a plan to sign this off in Spring 2025.

Electronic spreadsheets have been rolled out to all of the houses in Moldova. Staff in Fundatia Casa Mea have expressed the positive impact this has had on their data input and it has also resulted in improved transparency.

A range of policies have been developed and approved by the trustees including serious incident reporting, trustee conflict of interest, and trustee expenses. Work has commenced on a risk assessment and data protection policy which will be completed in 2025.

A grant monitoring procedure has been developed to assist with monitoring of grants used. A reserves policy was also agreed by the Trustees.

The trustees have discussed the importance of looking to the future in considering the direction of the work. Discussion has been given to planning for future leadership for Fundatia Casa Mea, and for new trustees for Casa Mea UK. It has been recognised that there are some skill gaps on the trustee board that would be helpful to fill.

Volunteers

The trustee board continues to greatly appreciate the hard work of our volunteers. Jay Lewington, our Treasurer, has provided very helpful monthly financial updates and analysis throughout the year. We have hugely benefited from his input and work, which has enabled the trustees to make well-informed financial decisions. Ann Lewington's work as our secretary continues to be invaluable. Ann's work on organizing upcoming meeting agendas and recording and collating meeting minutes, to name but a few, have been a tremendous help to the trustees.

The image shows two handwritten signatures in dark ink. The signature on the left is 'T Toase' and the signature on the right is 'K Toase'.

Prepared on behalf of the trustees by Mr Tim and Kezia Toase (Joint Chairs)

Financial Review for the year 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

Accounts are prepared on an accrual basis according to Charities SORP (FRS102).

Income & Expenditure

Gross Income was £183,163

Gross Spending on charitable activities was £224,474, of which £117,807 was spent on the building of a 5th Home (Casa David).

There was a net (loss) of (£41,311)

Excluding payments from the reserve fund for the 5th home there was a net gain of £26,022.

Principal Funding Sources

Principal sources of income were from donations made by individuals, Giftaid and donations from churches, charities and other not-for-profit organisations. A large proportion of donors make regular donations.

The charity was not in receipt of any income from government contracts or government grants

A total of £181,238 was received from individuals (£81,458), Giftaid and GASDS (£17,449), churches and other not for profit organisations (£82,332)

All donations were from UK individuals or UK not for profit organisations. No donations were received from corporate donors.

The single largest value donation was £15,000 from the Coverdale foundation, a UK charity.

The single largest donation received from a related party was £1,700

Casa Mea UK is primarily a grant making charity so there was no income from trading or other charitable activities.

Expenditure in support of charitable purposes

Grant making is the main way that Casa Mea UK carries out its charitable purposes

The following grants were made

- a. £196,805 to Fundatia Casa Mea in Moldova to cover the build of a fifth home and to cover running costs for the existing four homes
- b. £17,525 to individuals based in Moldova
- c. £0 to other organisations that are not charities.

One individual is a related party and received £550 during the accounting period

A payment of £100 was made to one trustee. This was a restricted donation from an individual and was used to part fund the trustees' attendance at a charity function in Moldova.

All funds were spent in the Republic of Moldova in the form of grants to charities and individuals.

£117,926 was sent to Moldova in cash using couriers. All couriers were trustees or individuals known to the trustees. A procedure is in place to track the journey of funds and receipt by the intended beneficiary.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Prepared on behalf of the trustees by Dr Jay Lewington (Treasurer)

Balance Sheet

Casa Mea UK - 1175421

Balance Sheet Detail

		As at 31/12/2024	As at 31/12/2023
Current assets			
	Lloyds Current	14,850	12,237
	Lloyds Savings	24,838	55,934
	United Savings & Cash	12,320	25,000
	Accounts receivable	1,202	1,351
	Total Current assets	53,211	94,522
Liabilities			
	Accounts payable		
	Total Liabilities		
	Net Asset surplus (deficit)	53,211	94,522
Reserves			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	(41,311)	(22,678)
	Starting Balances	94,522	117,200
	Total Reserves	53,211	94,522

Represented by Funds

Unrestricted	32,626	12,580
Designated	7,327	2,657
Restricted	13,258	79,285
Endowment		
Total	53,211	94,522

Statement Of Financial Activities

Casa Mea UK - 1175421					
Statement of Financial Activities					
For the period from 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024					
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds	Prior Year total funds
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and Legacies	33,465	23,300		56,765	31,703
Other Income	90,665	35,734		126,398	56,632
Total Income	124,129	59,034		183,163	88,335
Expenditure on:					
Expenditure on charitable activities	88,943	135,026		223,969	110,753
Other expenditure	505			505	260
Total Expenditure	89,448	135,026		224,474	111,013
Gains / losses on investments					
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	34,681	(75,992)		(41,311)	(22,678)
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds - in		10,000			
Gross transfers between funds - out	(10,000)				
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use					
Net movement in funds	24,681	(65,992)		(41,311)	(22,678)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	15,237	79,285		94,522	117,200
Total funds carried forward	39,918	13,293		53,211	94,522
Minor rounding discrepancies may occur in totals if pence are not shown					

Analysis of Income and Expenditure

Analysis of Income and Expenditure						
Selected Period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024						
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Totals	
					This Year	Last Year
Income and endowments						
Donations and legacies						
Gift aided income (from individuals)	28,549	4,544	20,415		53,508	30,533
Gift aid tax claim	7,230	1,136	5,825		14,191	6,818
Non -Gift aid donations (from individuals)	18,950	2,480	6,520		27,950	
Non -Gift aid donations (from churches and institutions)	44,827	15,700	21,806		82,332	49,329
Cash Donations (eligible for GASDS)	372		2,885		3,257	1,170
Donations and legacies Totals	99,928	23,860	57,451		181,238	87,850
Other Income						
Interest	72		1,583		1,655	486
Miscellaneous (Inc. cash not eligible for GASDS)	270				270	
Other Income totals	342		1,583		1,925	486
Income and endowments grand total	100,269	23,860	59,034		183,163	88,336
Expenditure						
Expenditure on charitable activities						
Gifts to Institutions	78,998				78,998	68,605
Gifts to individuals	870	1,875			2,745	2,500
Other Gifts						
Printing & Literature Costs	543				543	240
Invoiced Services	117				117	470
Payments to Trustees						
Other expenses for charitable aims	63				63	
Maintenance						
Refunds received						
Postage	33				33	36
Miscellaneous						
Camp Expenses		6,445			6,445	
Other expenses not for charitable aims						
Bank Charges	505				505	260
Gifts to Ben & Esther Smith			969		969	8,255
5th House Expenses			117,807		117,807	25,540
Gifts To Vanya Barbu			13,261		13,261	4,695
Gifts To Anea Granici			550		550	412
Travel Costs			2,339		2,339	
Gifts to Carwyn & Galina			100		100	
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	81,128	8,320	135,026		224,474	111,013
Other Expenditure						
Other expenses not for charitable aims						
Other Expenditure totals						
Expenditure Grand totals	81,128	8,320	135,026		224,474	111,013

Fund Movement Summary

Casa Mea UK - 1175421						
Fund Movement Summary						
Selected Period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024						
Fund	Fund Balances Brought Forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and losses	Fund Balances carried forward
General	12,580	100,269	(80,223)			32,626
Camp	2,657	6,110	(6,445)			2,322
Gifts to Individuals		2,750	(2,745)			5
Coverdale Grant		15,000		(10,000)		5,000
Ben&Esther	644	325	(969)			0
5th House	78,584	41,660	(118,994)	10,000		11,251
Anea	1	555	(550)			6
Fr Vanya	56	16,393	(14,448)			2,002
Carwyn&Galina		100	(100)			
Totals	94,522	183,163	(224,474)			53,211

Income and Expense Accruals

Casa Mea UK - 1175422									
Income Accruals									
Selected Period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024									
Reference	Date	Account	Code Description	Debit	Credit	Credit Description	Fund	Fund Type	
	02/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-17.50			C General	Unrestricted	
	02/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-25.00			C General	Unrestricted	
	02/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-25.00			C General	Unrestricted	
	02/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-12.50			C General	Unrestricted	
	02/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-30.00			C General	Unrestricted	
	02/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-12.50			C General	Unrestricted	
	03/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-25.00			C General	Unrestricted	
	04/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-2.50			C General	Unrestricted	
	04/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-18.75			C General	Unrestricted	
	09/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-6.25			C General	Unrestricted	
	10/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-3.75			C General	Unrestricted	
	16/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-12.50			C General	Unrestricted	
	16/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-12.50			C General	Unrestricted	
	16/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-55.00			C General	Unrestricted	
	17/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-400.00			C Fr Vanya	Restricted	
	18/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-90.00			C General	Unrestricted	
	18/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-13.75			C General	Unrestricted	
	20/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-7.50			C General	Unrestricted	
	22/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-25.00			C General	Unrestricted	
	24/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-250.00			C 5th House	Restricted	
	26/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-7.50			C General	Unrestricted	
	31/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-37.50			C General	Unrestricted	
	31/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-12.50			C General	Unrestricted	
	31/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid	-100.00			C General	Unrestricted	
	31/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid		552.50	Accounts receivable	C General	Unrestricted	
	31/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid		250.00	Accounts receivable	C 5th House	Restricted	
	31/12/2024	Lloyds	Giftaid		400.00	Accounts receivable	C Fr Vanya	Restricted	
Total				-1202.50	1202.50				

There were no Expense accruals

Independent Examiners Report

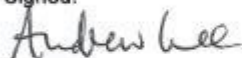
INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION

I, Andrew James Lee, being a Fellow of the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants (FCCA), confirm that I have carried out an independent examination of the accounts and financial system for Casa Mea UK (registered charity number 1175421).

As a result of carrying out this examination, I would confirm that I have not identified any matters of concern to be drawn to the attention of the Trustees or the Charity Commission. I would further confirm that I am content with the format of the accounts and the accounting records kept, and that these records agree with the accounts. Finally, I am also content that all of the Directions, as set out in the Charity Commission guidance entitled "Independent examination of charity accounts: Directions and guidance for examiners (CC32)", have been adequately satisfied.

I would also confirm that this independent examination and certification has been provided free of charge.

Signed:



Andrew Lee, FCCA

Date:

29/8/25