

SISTAH SPACE (SANCTUARY)

England & Wales · Charity number 1179934

Details

Other names SISTAH SPACE SANCTUARY, SISTAH SPACE

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2018-09-14

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

Contact

Address Bootstrap Co
18-22 Ashwin Street
London
E8 3DL

Phone 07951826878

Email info@sistahspace.org

Website www.sistahspace.org

Activities

Objects: 1. TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH AND RELIEVE THE NEEDS OF WOMEN AND FAMILIES AFFECTED BY DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL ABUSE (DSA), PRIMARILY AFRICAN HERITAGE WOMEN AND GIRLS, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY (I) PROVIDING A SAFE SPACE WHERE THOSE AFFECTED BY DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL ABUSE CAN MEET.(II) PROVIDING COUNSELLING, SELF-HELP GROUPS AND SUPPORT FOR SUCH PEOPLE.(III) PROVIDING TRAINING IN HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS.2. TO ADVANCE EDUCATION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BY DELIVERING EDUCATIONAL TALKS AND WORKSHOPS ABOUT DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL ABUSE TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AND STATUTORY AND VOLUNTARY GROUPS.

Activities: Sistah Space advocate for African heritage women and girls of African and Caribbean heritage affected by abuse. We offer one to one or group supportWe attend court, housing and other relevant agencies where support might be required. We host & attend events to deliver diversity training to individuals & organisations with a DV remit.Charity shop for DV survivors to access necessities

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- Throughout London

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£161,259	£174,026	-	-
2024-03-31	£317,659	£893,415	-	-
2023-03-31	£331,803	£183,034	-	-
2022-03-31	£442,155	£163,562	-	-
2021-03-31	£363,506	£163,298	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Barbara Noel		2021-03-30
Carrise Forde Ms		2020-08-01
SONIA WATERMAN		2015-11-01

SISTAH SPACE (SANCTUARY)

England & Wales - Charity number 1179934

Accounts

SISTAH SPACE (SANCTUARY)

A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION (CIO)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2025

SISTAH SPACE (SANCTUARY)

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Trustees

Sonia Waterman (Chair)
Barbara Noel
Carrise Forde

Charity Number

1179934

Registered Office

Bootstrap Co
18-22 Ashwin Street
London
E8 3DL

Bankers

Barclays Bank
1 Churchill Place
London
E14 5HP

Independent Examiner

Cangaf Accountants & Business Advisers
235
Tonge Moor Road
Bolton
BL2 2HR

SISTAH SPACE (SANCTUARY)

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SISTAH SPACE (SANCTUARY)

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The Trustees are responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of the charity and for ensuring that it operates in accordance with its charitable objectives and legal requirements. The Board remained actively involved in overseeing financial controls, safeguarding arrangements, and organisational sustainability during the year.

Objectives and Public Benefit

Sistah Space exists to relieve distress and suffering among Black women who are survivors of domestic and sexual abuse, and to advance education and awareness around gender-based violence, racial inequality, and safeguarding.

In setting objectives and planning activities, the Trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The Trustees confirm that the charity's activities during the year were carried out in furtherance of its charitable purposes and for the public benefit.

Activities, Achievements, and Performance

During the year ended 31 March 2025, Sistah Space continued to provide specialist, culturally competent services to Black women and girls affected by gender-based violence.

Services included:

Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy (IDVA)
Crisis intervention and safety planning
Practical assistance with housing, benefits, and safeguarding processes

Trauma-informed community outreach and informal support
Training for mainstream statutory and voluntary services, including police and the violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) sector agencies.

Demand for services remained high, reflecting both the prevalence of abuse and continued barriers within statutory systems. Many survivors supported by the charity had previously disengaged from mainstream services due to experiences of discrimination, disbelief, or inappropriate responses.

Alongside frontline work, the charity continued to contribute to professional and public discussions about racialised safeguarding failures and underreporting of abuse within Black communities.

Successes and Challenges

The year represented a period of consolidation following the exceptional challenges experienced in previous years. While the immediate security risks that affected staff and volunteers in 2022-2023 had reduced, the impact of those events continued to influence operational capacity and survivor need.

A major organisational achievement remains the purchase of a dedicated refuge and respite property, secured through earlier fundraising and donations. During 2024/25, work continued toward preparing the property for opening, with a target opening date of November 2025, subject to regulatory approvals and funding.

Financial pressures remained a significant challenge, with overall income reduced compared to previous years and rising operational costs affecting staffing capacity. The charity continued to prioritise frontline service delivery while managing limited unrestricted funds.

Safeguarding and Risk Management

Safeguarding remains central to all aspects of the charity's work. Policies are in place covering safeguarding, data protection, lone working, and health and safety. Staff and volunteers receive appropriate training and supervision.

Key risks identified by the Trustees include:

Financial sustainability and reliance on short-term funding

High demand for services

Emotional wellbeing of staff and volunteers

Safeguarding of high-risk survivors

Risks are reviewed regularly by the Trustees and management, and mitigating actions are taken where possible through partnership working, supervision, and operational safety planning.

This report was approved by the trustees and signed on its behalf by:



**Sonia Waterman (Chair)
Trustee**

Date : **26 January 2026**

SISTAH SPACE (SANCTUARY)
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Sistah Space (Sanctuary)

I report to the Charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 which consists of the statement of financial activities, balance sheet and the related notes

Responsibilities and basis of report

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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.
- I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Name: **Cecilia Asamoah**
for and on behalf of **Cangaf Accountants & Business Advisers**

Date: **23 January 2026**

SISTAH SPACE (SANCTUARY)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Recommended categories by activity	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	2	161,259.00	161,259.00	303,292.00
Investments	3	-	-	14,368.00
Total		161,259.00	161,259.00	317,660.00
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	4	174,026.00	174,026.00	593,541.00
Total		174,026.00	174,026.00	893,415.00
Net income/(expenditure)		(12,767.00)	(12,767.00)	(575,755.00)
Net movement in funds		(12,767.00)	(12,767.00)	(575,755.00)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward		332,761.00	35,341.00	611,096.00
Total funds carried forward		319,994.00	22,574.00	35,341.00

SISTAH SPACE (SANCTUARY)

BALANCE SHEET

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Recommended categories by activity	Notes	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand	7	22,574.00	35,341.00
Total current assets		22,574.00	35,341.00
Net current assets/(liabilities)		22,574.00	35,341.00
Total net assets		22,574.00	35,341.00
Funds of the Charity			
Unrestricted funds	8	319,994.00	332,761.00
Restricted funds	8	(297,420.00)	(297,420.00)
Endowment funds	8	-	-
Total funds		22,574.00	35,341.00

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 26 January 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

**Sonia Waterman (Chair)
Trustee**

Date : **26 January 2026**

SISTAH SPACE (SANCTUARY)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1. Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted by the Charity, which is a public benefit entity, in the preparation of the accounts are as follows.

1.1 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the inclusion of charitable properties and fixed asset investments and investment properties at valuation.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

These accounts are presented in pounds sterling and rounded to the nearest pound.

1.2 Going concern

The Trustees have prepared financial projections, taking into consideration the current economic conditions and have, at the time of approving these accounts, a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

1.3 Donated goods

Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as income from donations when receivable.

- **a) Donated goods for distribution to beneficiaries**

The cost of any stock of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those gifts at the time of their receipt and they are recognised on receipt. In the reporting period in which the stocks are distributed, they are recognised as an expense at the carrying amount of the stocks at distribution.

- **b) Donated goods for resale**

Donated goods for resale are measured at fair value on initial recognition, which is the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale, and recognised in 'Income from other trading activities' with the corresponding stock recognised in the balance sheet. On its sale the value of stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds from sale are also recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'.

- **c) Donated goods and services capitalised as Tangible fixed assets**

Goods donated for on-going use by a charity in carrying out its activities are recognised as tangible fixed assets with the corresponding gain recognised as income from donations within the SoFA.

1.4 Donated services and facilities

Donated services and facilities are included in the SOFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably.

Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with an equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SOFA.

1.5 Income from charitable activities

Income from charitable activities is recognised over the period to which the income relates. Concert fees are recognised at the date of the event. Membership fees are recognised over the period of the membership. Rent is recognised over the period to which it relates. Any amounts relating to future periods are deferred.

1.6 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when a present legal or constructive obligation exists at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation, and the amount can be estimated reliably. It is inclusive of VAT which cannot be recovered.

Direct costs are those costs which directly attribute to its activities. Wages and salaries are allocated to direct costs based on an estimate of time spent on charitable activities by staff members.

Support costs include staff costs and are those which do not produce a direct output. Staff costs relate to specific activities and this is reflected in the allocation of payroll costs based on the percentage of time spent.

All costs, including governance costs, are allocated between the expenditure categories of the charity on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are charged directly; others are apportioned on an appropriate basis.

Support costs and overheads have been calculated by allocating staff time to the level of involvement in the various activities of the Charity.

1.7 Taxation

The organisation is a registered charity and has no liability to income tax or corporation tax on its charitable activities during the year.

Value added tax is accounted for on an accruals basis.

1.8 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are those funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

1.9 Debtors

Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

2. Income from Donations and Legacies

Analysis	Unrestricted funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£
Contracts and Commissions	-	-	68,287.00
Donation and gifts	161,259.00	161,259.00	211,200.00
Grants	-	-	23,805.00
Total	161,259.00	161,259.00	303,292.00

3. Income from Investments

Analysis	Total funds 2024
	£
Investments and other income	14,368.00
Total	14,368.00

4. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

Analysis	Total funds 2024
	£
Project costs	293,667.00
Total	293,667.00
Support Costs	299,874.00
	593,541.00

5. Support Costs

	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
	£	£
Analysis		
Support Costs		
Staff costs	98,420.00	-
Supplies	6,807.00	40.00
Travelling expense	3,923.00	-
Administration expense	10,892.00	31,689.00
Operational costs	53,984.00	562,426.00
Maintenance	-	5,593.00
	174,026.00	599,748.00

6. Details of certain Items of Expenditure

	This year	Last year
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees	1,200	1,200
Assurance services other than audit or independent examination		
Tax advisory fees		
Other fees (for example: financial advice, consultancy, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner		

7. Cash at bank and in hand

	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	22,574.00	35,341.00
Total	22,574.00	35,341.00

8. Charity funds

8.1 Details of material funds held and movements during the CURRENT reporting period

Fund names	Fund balances brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains and losses	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	332,761.00	161,259.00	174,026.00	-	-	319,994.00
Restricted funds	(297,420.00)	-	-	-	-	(297,420.00)
Total	35,341.00	161,259.00	174,026.00	-	-	22,574.00

8.2 Details of material funds held and movements during the PREVIOUS reporting period

Fund names	Fund balances brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains and losses	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	638,654.00	293,855.00	599,748.00	-	-	332,761.00
Restricted funds	(27,558.00)	23,805.00	293,667.00	-	-	(297,420.00)
Total	611,096.00	317,660.00	893,415.00	-	-	35,341.00

SISTAH SPACE (SANCTUARY)

England & Wales - Charity number 1179934

Accounts

Charity registration number: 1179934

SISTAH SPACE (Sanctuary)

Accounts for period ending
March 31, 2024

Principal Office

c/o Bootstrap

16-18 Ashwin Street

London E8 3DL

Bankers

Barclays Bank

1 Churchill Place

London E14 5HP

Trustees

Sonia Waterman (Chair)

Barbara Noel

Carrise Forde

Chief Executive Officer

Ngozi Fulani

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Trustees' Report

Achievements and Performance Financial review

Trustees' Report

Sistah Space (Sanctuary) Charity present their annual report and accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023 and beginning 1st April 2024, and confirm they comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the trust deed and the Charities SORP (FRS102)

Trustees

The trustees serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Sonia Waterman (Chair)

Barbara Noel

Carrise Forde

Successes and Challenges

It has been both a very rewarding and successful year, and a difficult one. Yet we have managed to circumvent the events of the previous year that saw Sistah Space face the most challenges since the charity was founded in 2015. We achieved one of our greatest aims thus far, while at the same time, faced our greatest challenges.

We have had a very traumatic early start to the year. On the back of the events of 2022, the event was still very much in the public eye, and we had to find shelter in hotels out of the area. We had to close the shop for a short time as the racist threats were coming to our homes and to our place of work. The fall out continues. Media was an everyday event. We had to consider the impact on the service users and our reputation. The charity Commission were amazingly supportive and empathetic which at a time when we were suffering a lot of racism, was very appreciated. A lot of our work was done remotely.

Positive is that we were able to finally purchase a space of respite and refuge. We received some donations from people who were quite literally disgusted at the unfair and relentless attack on our charity and

our CEO who had attended an event in support of service users on the 16 Days of Activism. November is usually the month that the United Nations dedicates to highlighting violent offences against women. At that event, the CEO was subjected to a racist interrogation by a person who was there on behalf of the host., and an event that should have seen the eradication of violence against women, escalated violence against us as Black women. Managing the Sistah Space became increasingly difficult during that time, because we were under police protection for the duration of that entire financial year, of 2022/23 and 2023 completely. We had to meet remotely and pay for additional volunteers to be around for the entire time. We also had to pay for Ubers and cabs to attend any function such was the continuing threat.

Achievements and Performance

We received a great deal of support from the public, and donations reflected this as we saw an elevation of financial and other donations such as clothes and other items.

Our food donations continue to be successful as we collect food from M&S three times a week and support over 200 service users, homeless people and the public weekly. This was somewhat interrupted by the events of late 2022 that continued into 2023. Although we continued to be affected by past events, we have managed to support thousands of victims of abuse throughout the year.

Principal risks and uncertainties Statement of Trustees

We continue to work in pairs to safeguard our service users, staff and volunteers. The Trustees and management have ensured that all safeguarding measures remain in place by regular checks and monitoring of all events.

Financial Review

Sistah Space total income for the year was £318K. 7% of our income was restricted to funding specific services. Income for Operational costs came from donations and fundraising. We continue to keep our

overhead cost as low as possible and are on the way to securing premises for our first refuge.

Fundraising

The charity undertakes fundraising activity to its supporters mainly through building corporate relations and online fundraising. Our fundraising promise outlines when you support us, you can be sure of the following:

- We will never sell your contact details to anyone
- If you are an individual supporter, we will only contact you if you have expressed an interest in our work
- If we phone you, we will always check you are happy to take the call
- If you ask us to change how we communicate with you, or stop, we will respect that
- We do not engage in cold-calling, door-to-door or street fundraising. We try hard to ensure no one ever feels pressurised to support our work
- We are registered with the Fundraising Regulator and adhere to the Fundraising Code of Practice All our activities are open, fair, honest and legal

Sistah Space has ongoing fundraising activities to generate voluntary donations towards our vital services to survivors and service users.

Sistah Space are incredibly grateful for the new and continued support we have received from our corporate partners, community, trusts and individuals. Without this, we simply couldn't deliver the vital services we provide.

Going Concern

The Trustees have reviewed the projected operations and activities of the company, including consideration of securing future contracts and fundraising income. Based on the available financial information, we are of the opinion that adequate resources will continue to be

available to fund the activities and operations of the charity, therefore Sistah Space is a going concern.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

Sonia Waterman

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Incoming Resources	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2024	Total 2023
Grants	-	23,805	23,805	91,534
Project Funding	-	-	-	-
Contracts and Commissions	68,287	-	68,287	16,966
Donations/ Fundraising	211,200	-	211,200	225,485
Transfer from unrestricted Fund	-	-	-	-
Investment and other income	14,368	-	14,368	2,094
Total	293,854	23,805	317,659	336,079
Resources Expended				
Salaries/ENIC	-	-	-	-
Project Costs	-	293,667	293,667	119,277
Operational Costs	562,426	-	562,426	44,603
Utility Costs	-	-	-	820
Maintenance	5,594	-	5,594	1,998
Repairs	-	-	-	-
Supplies	40	-	40	52
Administration	31,689	-	31,689	44,004
Transfer to Restricted Fund	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-
Total	599,748	293,667	893,415	210,754
Net incoming	(305,894)	(269,862)	(575,755)	125,325
Balance brought forward			611,096	485,771
Balance carried forward			35,341	611,096

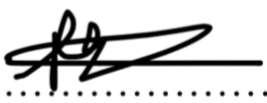
BALANCE SHEET

	2024	2023
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	-	-
	-	-
Current assets		
Debtors	33,333	33,333
Cash at bank and in hand	35,341	573,637
	68,674	606,970
Creditors	-	
	-	
Net current Assets	<u>68,674</u>	<u>606,970</u>
	<u>68,674</u>	<u>606,970</u>
Net Assets	<u>68,674</u>	<u>606,970</u>
Funds		
Unrestricted funds	332,760	638,654
Restricted funds	(297,420)	(27,558)
	<u>35,341</u>	<u>611,096</u>

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed

Signed for and on behalf of Sistah Space (Sanctuary)

Name Sonia Waterman

Signature.....

SISTAH SPACE (SANCTUARY)

England & Wales - Charity number 1179934

Accounts

Charity registration number: 1179934

SISTAH SPACE (Sanctuary)

Accounts for period ending
March 31, 2023

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Trustees

Sonia Waterman (Chair)
Barbara Noel
Carrise Forde

Chief Executive Officer

Ngozi Fulani

Charity Registration Number

1179934

Principal Office

% Bootstrap
16-18 Ashwin Street
London E8 3DL

Trustees' Report

Sistah Space Charity present their annual report and accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023 and confirm they comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the trust deed and the Charities SORP (FRS102)

Trustees

The trustees serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Sonia Waterman (Chair)
Barbara Noel
Carrise Forde

Achievements and Performance

'Due to recent events and after much consideration, Ngozi has temporarily stepped down as CEO to bring the focus back to the charity and the work they do. This change is for the safety of our staff, service users and volunteers. Ngozi remains a core part of the Sistah Space team and will be involved in other areas. We are delighted and happy to introduce Rose, a core member who has been a pillar of the charity for years as the new CEO. Sistah space would like to clarify that it has always been a community-based charity with all members pulling together from volunteers to senior IDVAS. We do not anticipate any major changes going forward that will impact the service. Sistah space looks forward to refocusing on service users and creating positive change.'

Our online presence had declined following the incident. This in turn slowed incomes yet increased costs. Donations maintained its expectations of equating to last year's figures. Grants, however, fell below our expectations. We continue to receive some support from our existing donors.

From 1st April 2022 through to the 31st of March 2023 we have provided emergency accommodation and support to 44 women and 68 children. A further 29 families and 35 individual women have been provided with resettlement support and additional extended support after leaving emergency accommodation and moving into the community. We have signposted 81 women to other specialist support services. Feedback from service users regarding the support and service they've received was 'outstanding'.

Victim Support and Charity Projects have continued to fund ongoing operations of the charity including IDVAs and other specialist support during the course of the year. It was greatly appreciated through a volatile year and demand for services continued to increase.

Financial review

The charity sought professional advice and has made robust attempts to incorporate advice given. The charity and its external examiner can produce the following accounts and subsequent notes.

Policy on reserves

Sistah Space aims to achieve and maintain a reserve amount of 6 months running costs to cover unexpected and unplanned events so that the charity's work can continue.

These may include

- Covering unforeseen day-to-day operational costs, for example: employing temporary staff to cover a long-term sick absence.
- A fall in a source of income, such as reduction or cessation in funding arrangements.
- Planned commitments, or designations, that cannot be met by future income alone, for example plans for a major capital project.
- The need to fund potential deficits in a cash budget, for example money may need to be spent before a funding grant is received.

To decide the amount of reserves, trustees will take into consideration Sistah Space's annual budget.

The trustees may designate reserves for an identified purpose (maternity leave/sickness cover/settlement) with the consideration of the going concern of the charity.

The trustees are responsible for ensuring that the amount and use of reserves is monitored. They will

- Compare the amount of reserves held with the target amount or target range set for reserves.
- Explain any action being taken or planned to bring reserves into line with the target.
- Include this information in the Accounts and Annual Report.

Principal risks and uncertainties

Lack of income

Our current year has highlighted to trustee's and core management the importance and need for this concern. The charity has attained in its reserves £600,000 to attain a property. This was a campaign that was started in 2020 via GoFundMe. We also received a significant donation from a private source that will contribute solely to attaining a property.

Insurance and Fraud

Insurance and fraud is always a concern and even more so that we aim to acquire a property for extreme emergencies. So, it's been on the agenda to liaison with legal and finance professionals in regards to financial management policies for both the charity and the property it seeks to attain.

Statement of Trustees

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations. The report and accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Extenuating circumstances and unforeseen costs.

During this financial year of 2022/23, Sistah Space has experienced an unprecedented period which could not have been foreseen. Although we have a contingency plan to prepare for any unforeseen financial occurrences, we were not prepared for the events of November 2023 that had greatly affected our ability to function effectively and has impacted our ability to record finance in our usual way. From November 2022 Sistah Space have had to suddenly and drastically change the way we work. For the last five months of the financial year, we were unable to conduct our business safely, which led to long and frequent absences of staff. We were unable to have any staff meetings and were forced to conduct much of our work from various locations.

In November/December 2022, we had to take the sudden decision to temporarily cease operations as it related to service users. The threats were frequent and the risks to service users was too great. We halted operations.

Extenuating circumstances meant that we had to ringfence a substantial amount of funds to deal with safeguarding service users, volunteers and staff. We engaged the services of drivers, security staff and minders.

Unexpected costs included paying £5000 for protection for five days to prevent the continuous harassment of the CEO and other staff, by the reporters and the media. The terrorist unit of the Metropolitan police attended the home of some members of Sistah Space and installed alarms and a bomb-proof letterbox. Security cameras had to be fitted in the shop, at our offices and homes of staff. Members of staff had to be temporarily relocated to various accommodation for their safety.

In addition to the costs of hotels, and cabs, we lost revenue because we had to close the shop for long periods on end. Additional volunteers and staff were brought in as a safeguarding measure to ensure that there were at least three members of staff/volunteers on duty at any one time.

We had to pay unexpected costs for someone to monitor our social media, emails and post as death threats had become a daily occurrence.

In addition, during this period of great difficulty, Sistah Space were the victim of false claims made to the Charities Commission about variety of things. Thankfully, the Charities Commission were aware of the circumstances and the avalanche of racist abuse that led to these false claims. This extended episode has negatively impacted our ability to function fully and has negatively impacted our service on every level including management meetings

where we discuss everything including accounts. Although we still receive the occasional death threats via email, post and social media, we have done our very best to function according to the Charities Commission guidelines and have benefitted from their advice and understanding.

We anticipate a little more turbulence before things finally settle down and we continue to lean on the Charities Commission's understanding as we negotiate this difficult time.

Sonia Waterman
For and on behalf of Trustees.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Sonia Waterman', written in a cursive style.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Incoming Resources	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2023
Grants		91,534	91,534
Project Funding		-	-
Contracts and Commissions	(0)	13,766	13,766
Donations/ Fundraising	221,208		221,208
Transfer from unrestricted Fund	0	-	-
Investment and other income	5,294		5,294
Total	<u>226,502</u>	<u>105,300</u>	<u>331,803</u>
Resources Expended			
Salaries/ENIC	-	-	-
Project Costs		127,019	127,019
Operational Costs	46,343		46,343
Utility Costs	-	-	-
Maintenance	1,998	-	1,998
Repairs	-	-	-
Supplies	52	-	52
Administration	7,622		7,622
Transfer to Restricted Fund	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	-
Total	<u>56,015</u>	<u>127,019</u>	<u>183,034</u>
Net incoming	170,487	(21,718)	148,769
Balance brought forward			485,756
Balance carried forward			<u>634,525</u>

Charity registration number: 1179934

SISTAH SPACE (Sanctuary)

Accounts for period ending
March 31, 2023

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Trustees

Sonia Waterman (Chair)
Barbara Noel
Carrise Forde

Chief Executive Officer

Ngozi Fulani

Charity Registration Number

1179934

Principal Office

% Bootstrap
16-18 Ashwin Street
London E8 3DL

Trustees' Report

Sistah Space Charity present their annual report and accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023 and confirm they comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the trust deed and the Charities SORP (FRS102)

Trustees

The trustees serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Sonia Waterman (Chair)
Barbara Noel
Carrise Forde

Achievements and Performance

'Due to recent events and after much consideration, Ngozi has temporarily stepped down as CEO to bring the focus back to the charity and the work they do. This change is for the safety of our staff, service users and volunteers. Ngozi remains a core part of the Sistah Space team and will be involved in other areas. We are delighted and happy to introduce Rose, a core member who has been a pillar of the charity for years as the new CEO. Sistah space would like to clarify that it has always been a community-based charity with all members pulling together from volunteers to senior IDVAS. We do not anticipate any major changes going forward that will impact the service. Sistah space looks forward to refocusing on service users and creating positive change.'

Our online presence had declined following the incident. This in turn slowed incomes yet increased costs. Donations maintained its expectations of equating to last year's figures. Grants, however, fell below our expectations. We continue to receive some support from our existing donors.

From 1st April 2022 through to the 31st of March 2023 we have provided emergency accommodation and support to 44 women and 68 children. A further 29 families and 35 individual women have been provided with resettlement support and additional extended support after leaving emergency accommodation and moving into the community. We have signposted 81 women to other specialist support services. Feedback from service users regarding the support and service they've received was 'outstanding'.

Victim Support and Charity Projects have continued to fund ongoing operations of the charity including IDVAs and other specialist support during the course of the year. It was greatly appreciated through a volatile year and demand for services continued to increase.

Financial review

The charity sought professional advice and has made robust attempts to incorporate advice given. The charity and its external examiner can produce the following accounts and subsequent notes.

Policy on reserves

Sistah Space aims to achieve and maintain a reserve amount of 6 months running costs to cover unexpected and unplanned events so that the charity's work can continue.

These may include

- Covering unforeseen day-to-day operational costs, for example: employing temporary staff to cover a long-term sick absence.
- A fall in a source of income, such as reduction or cessation in funding arrangements.
- Planned commitments, or designations, that cannot be met by future income alone, for example plans for a major capital project.
- The need to fund potential deficits in a cash budget, for example money may need to be spent before a funding grant is received.

To decide the amount of reserves, trustees will take into consideration Sistah Space's annual budget.

The trustees may designate reserves for an identified purpose (maternity leave/sickness cover/settlement) with the consideration of the going concern of the charity.

The trustees are responsible for ensuring that the amount and use of reserves is monitored. They will

- Compare the amount of reserves held with the target amount or target range set for reserves.
- Explain any action being taken or planned to bring reserves into line with the target.
- Include this information in the Accounts and Annual Report.

Principal risks and uncertainties

Lack of income

Our current year has highlighted to trustee's and core management the importance and need for this concern. The charity has attained in its reserves £600,000 to attain a property. This was a campaign that was started in 2020 via GoFundMe. We also received a significant donation from a private source that will contribute solely to attaining a property.

Insurance and Fraud

Insurance and fraud is always a concern and even more so that we aim to acquire a property for extreme emergencies. So, it's been on the agenda to liaison with legal and finance professionals in regards to financial management policies for both the charity and the property it seeks to attain.

Statement of Trustees

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For and on behalf of Trustees.

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SISTAH SPACE (SANCTUARY)

England & Wales - Charity number 1179934

Accounts

Since we were founded in 2015 after the tragic and avoidable murders of Valerie Forde and her 23- month-old daughter, RJ. We are still the only African and Caribbean heritage domestic violence of its kind in the UK. Our continued aims are to educate, enlighten, review prevention methods, implement policy reform and bring awareness to individuals, communities and organisations that will easily identify domestic violence in its many forms.

Since our establishment, 7 years ago, we have extended our reach to Pan London. This was achieved by working with Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) and being their lead organisation in relation to Victim Support. Our contract has been extended twice and will continue through 2022/3. We have also joined forces with Independent and Witness Services (IVWS). Our recent collaboration with Black Lives Matter UK has aided in the outreach across London. Alongside this, we continue our work with organisations such as, Victim Support, NHS Safe Lives and other organisations that provide Domestic Violence services. We have recently renewed our contract to have our Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs) based at Homerton University Hospital (HUH).

Statement from Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

As we approach the end of the pandemic we can see how government regulations, such as work from home and social distancing, has affected our focus in departments. As reflected in our profit and loss statement, our Grants have increased from the previous year whereas there has been a decrease in donations. We have seen the effect of the pandemic as it relates to restrictions and how we access funding.

We continue our duties in our outreach and services.

Our core staff members continue to donate their time in visits, food donations, organising workshops and events to victims of abuse. This dedication to service is now an integral part of the day to day operation of Sistah Space.

Our charity shop which opened in October 2021 is serving its purpose to facilitate a safe environment where DV advisors are readily available should they be required. The shop also serves as a guise for women to report abuse without raising suspicion from perhaps an abusive person. It also takes into account that victims/survivors of abuse don't always want to be offered 'pre-loved' items. Receiving a brand-new gift can sometimes be quite therapeutic and allows women also be able to shop for loved ones.

The shop is supported by donations of new items from individuals and companies, this means we are able to gift any essential items free of charge to women and children newly fleeing abuse.

We continue our training programme to include Valerie's Law and Black and Blue which focuses primarily on issues faced by black women affected by domestic and sexual abuse.

Special Thanks

We would like to take this opportunity in recognising the dedication and efforts of staff, volunteers and organisations who have and continue to work alongside us in changing the policies, hearts and minds in a favourable direction towards victims of abuse. Special thanks to staff and volunteers for putting in the greatest effort in keeping a needed yet undervalued service in operation. Many individuals and organisations have also played a pivotal role in our service. Our gratitude also extends to those who were not named but their involvement did not go unnoticed.

Trustees' Report

Sistah Space Charity present their annual report and accounts for the year ended 31st March 2022 and confirm they comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the trust deed and the Charities SORP (FRS102)

Public Benefit Statement

The charities services operate for public benefit. The trustees confirm that they complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, "Charities and Public Benefit".

Equality and Diversity Statement

The charity values diversity and works to improve services to grassroots African heritage communities. In line with this we have developed programmes, policies and procedures to ensure that services meet our equality and diversity principles. Sistah Space will make reasonable adjustments to service provision in order to accommodate any client who would otherwise have difficulty accessing the services.

Strategic Report

Following last year's strategic report, Sistah Space is still on target, regardless of a pandemic, in its goals. Previously mentioned, Sistah Space planned more structured facilities (venue, processes and policies) to effectively exercise developing, monitoring and evaluating our agendas. Sistah Space has achieved this and is continuing to do so through recruitment of specialist advisors and trainers. The continuous effort is to broaden our range to enlighten the public on easily recognising victims, highlighting preventative methods, to readily be able to support those already made victims and aftercare facilities.

A short term yet effective initiative in achieving this is to establish a retail store. This will aid in the outreach, fundraising and create another point of contact for clientele. Sistah Space is aware of the work ethic needed to fulfill our agenda.

More staff, volunteers and in particular Domestic Violence specialists are essential to achieve our goal as we aim to become an organization with a national rather than a regional reach.

Financial Review

In our plan to formulate a payroll for our volunteers and IDVAs, we started contributing to their efforts. In our efforts to provide a more succinct statement, we have absorbed last year's project funding with Grants

Funds acquired year ending 2022 has increased since the previous year. The charity has been able to increase its funding due to the exponential demand of its services and the Black Lives Matter movement bringing awareness.

The diligent work of its key members, trustees and volunteers has raised the profile of the charity. Sistah Space has attracted the attention of numerous entertainments, political and athletic figure heads. The attention has significantly contributed to donations and funds raised during the pandemic.



Miss Sonia Waterman

07.02.2023

Profit and Loss								
	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Income								
Grants		£0.00	£463,679.00	£241,862.00	£103,519.00	£95,298.00	£19,000.00	£4,000.00
Contracts/Commission		£0.00	£114,353.00	£0.00	£52,346.00	£31,172.00	£22,835.00	£8,000.00
Donations/Fundraising		£491,176.00	£0.00	£173,904.00	£200,943.00	£104,729.00	£8,892.00	£2,708.00
Sales		£26,389.00	£0.00	£26,389.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Transfer from Unrestricted Fund		£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Total		£517,565.00	£578,032.00	£442,155.00	£356,808.00	£231,199.00	£50,727.00	£14,708.00
Expense								
Volunteers		£31,688.67	£0.00	£31,688.67	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Project Costs		£0.00	£240,314.00	£66,903.00	£89,469.00	£50,820.00	£21,650.00	£11,472.00
Operational Costs		£95,746.56	£0.00	£33,854.56	£19,500.00	£18,802.00	£17,464.00	£6,126.00
Administration		£90,320.00	£0.00	£31,116.00	£54,330.00	£1,131.00	£2,487.00	£1,256.00
Transfer to Restricted Fund		£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Depreciation		£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Total		£217,755.23	£240,314.00	£163,562.23	£163,299.00	£70,753.00	£41,601.00	£18,854.00
Net Income		£299,809.77	£337,718.00	£278,592.77	£193,509.00	£160,446.00	£9,126.00	-£4,146.00
Balance B/F				£363,506.00	£169,997.00	£9,551.00	£425.00	£4,571.00
Balance C/F				£642,098.77	£363,506.00	£169,997.00	£9,551.00	£425.00



Miss Sonia Waterman

07.02.2023

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Strategic Report

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Miss Sonia Waterman

07.02.2023

SISTAH SPACE (SANCTUARY)

England & Wales - Charity number 1179934

Accounts

SISTAH SPACE

Accounts for period ending

31 March 2021

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees

Sonia Waterman (Chair)

Barbara Noel

Carrise Forde

Principal Office

c/o Bootstrap
16-18 Ashwin Street
London E8 3DL

Bankers

Barclays Bank
1 Churchill Place
London E14 5HP

The charity is incorporated in UK.
Charity Registration Number 1179934

March 31st UPDATED TRUSTEE REPORT.

This financial year 2021 has proved to be our most challenging but equally our most successful year.

The impact of covid 19 pandemic has had a substantial effect on our charity and in particular our ability to secure regular financial meetings as our accounts officer was off for a very long time due to covid issues. It was difficult trying to find a replacement as for a while we were assured that he would be returning shortly. Finding a temporary replacement was also a massive issue as the charity deals with the delicate subject of domestic abuse and safeguarding is key.

Eventually the finance person had to retire and that caused a massive disruption in the organisations ability to record accounts in a timely manner. We were able to secure a replacement, but that also took significant time. Meanwhile it was left to Trustees and key workers to maintain records and manage a unique set of circumstances that affected people and business worldwide.

In October 2021 we opened a charity shop and that required a second account to be opened. We now have two accounts. With continual staff/volunteer shortages, it seemed like an uphill task to keep up with the unusually high volume of donations. The sudden increase meant we had to develop a new way of working to ensure we were current with financial regulations and reporting.

A number of projects, plus our core work of domestic abuse support meant that we had double the work with less than half the staff.

Various personal issues with all three Trustees meant we had to wait extended periods for responses. A lot of responsibilities were placed on the the CEO, the Operations Manager and the senior Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs). This at a time when the campaign for Valerie's Law was at it's peak and the Charity was struggling to get the required 100,000 signatures to enable the Valerie's Law campaign to be debated in Parliament. This successfully occurred on the 28th March and plans are being made to see how this can be implemented UK wide. We acknowledge that this could have quite an impact on our finances, and we are preparing for that.

Finally, we had problems with the Charities Commission's log-in as repeated requests for password updates, later finding that they had been sent to a different email address. We are pleased to say that has all now been resolved.

We have now engaged an independent accounting firm and are confident that any issues are a thing of the past.

Sistah Space was founded in 2015 after the tragic and avoidable murder of Valerie Forde and her 23- month-old daughter, RJ. It was their deaths that prompted the founding of Sistah space, the only African and Caribbean heritage domestic violence of its kind in the UK.

Since our establishment 6 years ago, we have managed to extend our reach to Greater London. This was achieved by working with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) and being their lead organisation in relation to Victim Support. We have also joined forces with Independent and Witness Services (IVWS). Our recent collaboration with Black Liberation Movement UK has aided in the outreach across London. Alongside this, we continue our work with organisations such as Imkaan, Safe Lives and other organisations that provide Domestic Violence services.

Statement from Project Director

Similar to last year, we have ended the year in the midst of the Coronavirus pandemic. As much of our outreach programme has been affected due to Government regulations, such as work from home and social distancing. Victims of domestic violence are less likely to interact with our services via telephone as opposed to in-person interaction. This has resulted in our agenda for 2020-2021 to be delayed. Nevertheless, Sistah Space continues to provide this in-demand and specialist service.

With our consistent campaign for change in policies and laws, Sistah Space has a growing influence in the way the Afro-Caribbean community view domestic abuse and their victims. Our training service has also aided in highlighting the cause and effects of domestic violence. Organisations such as Safe Lives (Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVA) qualifiers), Hackney Council and a few others have benefitted from our specialist training service. We also plan on continuing working with Homerton University Hospital where we are on call to support their domestic violence and sexually assaulted victims.

Rosanna and Djanomi are two of our volunteers who donated their time in visits, food donations, organising workshops and events to victims of abuse, who through their dedication and countless hours of support, are now IDVA qualified. Their exemplary behaviour has led to many of our volunteers looking to follow suit. This pair is now an integral part of the day-to-day operation of Sistah Space. In the last quarter, we have expanded our team. This is to better delegate roles and responsibilities to specific individuals and to better cope our ever-increasing clientele midst the pandemic.

In the past 2 years we have faced a few issues in attaining a safe and discreet location for staff, volunteers and clients. We have previously highlighted the issues of our previous location in Lower Clapton; flickering and temperamental lighting, poor roofing, exposed wiring, easy entry to members of the public which would put staff and victims at risk. We are now pleased to report that Sistah Space has secured a safe place to work with the vulnerable. Our new location has allowed for our Pan London initiative thus increasing our staff and client base.

Special Thanks

We would like to take this opportunity in recognising the dedication and efforts of staff, volunteers and organisations who have and continue to work alongside us in changing the policies, hearts and minds in a favourable direction towards victims of abuse. Special thanks to Rosanna, Senait, Djanomi, Cordell, Lloyd, Maxine and Hugh in putting in the greatest effort in keeping a needed yet undervalued service in operation. MOPAC, Safe Lives and the Black Liberation Movement have also played a pivotal role in our service. Our gratitude also extends to those who were not named but their involvement did not go unnoticed.

Thank you to the local community who have turned out to support our events, workshops and fundraising. A special thanks to Andrew Muhammed aka The Investigator, Auntie Jean of the African Market and Charmaine Simpson of Black History Studies in helping to highlight our cause on their platform, through fundraising and granting event spaces.

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FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
Income	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2021	Total 2020	Total 2019						
Grants			41000	95298	19000						
Project funding			200	-	-						
Contracts/Commission			52346.29	31172	22835						
Donations/Fundraising			263461.84	104729	8892						
Transfer from Unrestricted Fund			-	-	-						
Investment and other Income			-	-	-						
Total	0	0	357008.13	231199	50727						
Expense											
Salaries/ENIC			26950								
Project Costs			17126								
Operational Costs			19500								
Utility Costs			1539.58								
Maintenance			1124.1								
Repairs			-								
Supplies(equipment)			24407.12								
Administration			47467.29								
Transfer to Restricted Fund			-								
Depreciation			-								
Total			138114.09								
Net Income			218894.04								
Balance B/F											
Balance C/F											

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

Signed on behalf of Trustees

Ngozi Fulani

Financial Statement

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted
Income			
Grants			£41,000.00
Project funding			£62,518.74
Contracts/Commission		£52,346.29	
Donations/Fundraising		£200,943.10	
Transfer from Unrestricted Fund		£0.00	£0.00
Investment and other Income		£0.00	
Total		£253,289.39	£103,518.74
Expense			
Salaries/ENIC		£0.00	£0.00
Project Costs		£0.00	£89,468.74
Operational Costs		£19,500.00	£0.00
Administration		£54,330.16	£0.00
Transfer to Restricted Fund		£0.00	£0.00
Depreciation		£0.00	£0.00
Total		£73,830.16	£89,468.74
Net Income		£179,459.23	£14,050.00
Balance B/F			
Balance C/F			

atement- profit and los

	2021	2020	2019	2018
	£41,000.00	£95,298.00	£19,000.00	£4,000.00
	£62,518.74	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£52,346.29	£31,172.00	£22,835.00	£8,000.00
	£200,943.10	£104,729.00	£8,892.00	£2,708.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£356,808.13	£231,199.00	£50,727.00	£14,708.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£89,468.74	£50,820.00	£21,650.00	£11,472.00
	£19,500.00	£18,802.00	£17,464.00	£6,126.00
	£54,330.16	£1,131.00	£2,487.00	£1,256.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£163,298.90	£70,753.00	£41,601.00	£18,854.00
	£193,509.23	£160,446.00	£9,126.00	-£4,146.00
	£169,997.00	£9,551.00	£425.00	£4,571.00
	£363,506.23	£169,997.00	£9,551.00	£425.00

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2021

Emergency Financial Management Meeting

Our financial journey has been an incredibly swift and complex one, especially at the height of the covid-19 academic.

Sistah Space have acquired a sudden influx of donations from the community and business meant that our finances suddenly more than tripled.

We acquired an additional expense of a charity shop and we were still maintaining an office in the same building. We had been given a reduction on the rent and were told that at some point the rent might have to increase. We were approached in this regard and the rent was almost doubled. We managed to negotiate a delay in the increase, but we expect that this will be almost imminent.

We are looking to purchase a Respite house/refuge with donations raised thus far. We have not identified an amount, but do have set funds ringfenced for this purpose. We expect to spend a minimum of about £450,000 on a property.

Sistah Space had a Virgin Just Giving account that was held for us by another charity as we did not have charity status at the time we joined. The Go Fund Me account closed this financial year and we received the balance of donations.

We successfully debated Valerie's Law in Parliament on the 28th March 2022 and if this law is made compulsory as per our request, it will have a significant effect on our income. This will be reflected in our finances for the coming year.

Covid-19 Pandemic meant that we had many periods where the majority of staff were on extended leave, including our Trustees. This included our finance officer who was off for a lengthy period and was unable to confirm when he would be able to return. It took a while before he confirmed that he was unlikely to be able to return. We engaged a finance officer who was overwhelmed by the sudden increase in our accounts and unfamiliar with procedures for charities and income over a specified amount. It took a long while before we were able to catch back up as the finance officer had certain information and we were obliged to wait until we could contact him.

We have engaged a government recommended auditing company and are confident of timely reports going forward.