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Registered Charity Number: 1183705

Reports And Accounts For The Year Ended 31/12/22

Migrant Empowerment Group (MEG)

MEG Trustees:

Alvine Dongmo-Noumey (Chair)

Dr Femi Obatomi (Secretary)

Alex Kamgaing Kamguia (Treasurer)

Executive Director:

Alvine Dongmo-Noumey (Project Manager)

The trustees present their annual reports and independently examined financial statements for the year ended 31st December, 2021. The trustees confirm that the reports and the financial statement comply fully with the Charities Act 1993, as amended by the charities act 2006, the Migrant Empowerment Group's constitution and the charities SORP 2005.

Key Aim:

The Migrant Empowerment Group was founded by a former asylum seeker in July 2013, in Wolverhampton, in the West Midlands. The Migrant Empowerment Group's constitution is her approved governing document. This document states clearly that the sole aim of our charity is to prevent or relieve poverty among migrant in the United Kingdom, especially for those seeking refuge and asylum. Our main focus is to help migrant integrate within their communities in the West Midlands. Our range of services enable migrants to seek better health, education, employment, family life and also to adapt quickly to multicultural life in the United Kingdom. MEG also aims to reduce negative stereotypes and break down barriers within local communities

Organizational Structure:

The overall responsibility for the management of the charity rest upon the trustees as a body. This group of trustees constitute the board of trustees which is led by the chairman of the board. There is no fixed term of service for a trustees. All trustees are appointed and removed at the beginning of the year by the existing trustees at their first meeting for that year based on a majority decision. The chairman of the board of trustees is not appointed by the election of the trustees, but shall serve in an ex officio capacity as the executive director and project manager of the charity. At least half of the number of trustees are required to form a quorum for a valid meeting to be held, however, the chair can waive the requirement for a quorum in order to hold emergency meetings.

The project manager who is also, an executive director and chair of the board of trustees is responsible for the day to day running of the charity. She works with a number of trained volunteers to deliver the services to the users. Her roles includes planning, organizing and coordinating the service delivery process. The project manager reports to the board as a group.

Dr. Alvine Dongmo-Noumey, Project Manager Report

My heart is full when reflecting on the work at Migrant Empowerment Group over the past year. We are truly blessed to have such an extraordinary group of dedicated staff, volunteers, and funder's supporters. We have seen another extraordinary year, not without challenges and uncertainty along the way, with some remarkable achievements. Hard to imagine now that we have spent two years in significant lockdowns, compelling all of us to dig a little deeper, living with the impacts and consequences as many were directly impacted with covid through sickness or deaths. The ability to navigate the COVID environment and the uncertainties around funding and programming, creatively and flexibly, is a true testament to the human condition. We are extremely proud of the hard work, enthusiasm & resilience of MEG, staff and volunteers. Notwithstanding, these complexities of the challenges, we managed to achieve, deliver a range of existing & innovative projects providing more options for people to choose how they want to shape their lives. Our service delivery and reach has increased substantially as our budget. So now we're determined to do more, driven by the needs of the people who need our support. There is much more to report on our achievements for the past 12 months. We look ahead, grateful for what has been achieved, open to the challenges and more committed than ever to our mission and fulfilling our full potential to support families at the critical time of life.

Achievements and Performance

Throughout the year our activities have been guided by our commitment to fulfill the objective of alleviating poverty among those seeking refuge and asylum. The beneficiaries of our projects constitutes a significant proportion of the BAME group who have been hard hit financially by the cost of living crisis. This group is also facing difficult financial choices after having been battered by the Covid-19 pandemic.

During the year under review, there was a steady increase in the use of our service throughout Wolverhampton and West Midlands. Our strength comes from our staff, volunteers and supporters commitment, time and donations.

The rising number of trained volunteer (Befrienders) has helped us to meet the continuous demand for our services; this year we have seen a marked increase in the number of referrals. During 2022, a total of 2568 people received a service from Migrant Empowerment Group (MEG).

Sewing projects remain at the core of our services during the year 2022. The majority of our service users again fall within the 18 – 70 age bracket, all of our service users came from West Midland and

around Wolverhampton & Walsall: 52% Black Africans; 15% white British & Caucasian ; 22% Asians & Middle Easterners and 11% Eastern Europeans. As usual, asylum seekers and refugees make up the biggest number, 59% for the year in 2022.

-55% of those asked increased their sense of life satisfaction.

-30% felt a decrease in the levels of loneliness.

-100% of those who answered said they'd gained greater social connection from participation in the online groups.

-92% of those who answered felt their sense of belonging and their skills and knowledge (generally) increase

-80% of those who answered felt an increase in self-confidence.

This year our befriending sewing service has continued to offer a free and culturally sensitive listening ear, support, friendship and understanding at a time when most women are vulnerable and isolated across Wolverhampton. During the year 2022 MEG distributed 135 Tablets and 26 Laptops to most vulnerable people in the community to access our services.

Access to food and basic necessities was one of the main issues that our service users faced during these unprecedented times. MEG quickly responded by setting up a local food bank which provides food parcels to families facing food shortages in and around Walsall and Wolverhampton. A significant proportion of our service users facing high food prices and heating bills had to rely on our food parcel to survive the current economic crisis. This project is ongoing and we hope to make a permanent feature of it.

During 2022, MEG improved and enhanced its therapeutic service to provide a holistic outlook on the wellbeing of people who are experiencing the devastating and damaging consequences of domestic violence and abuse. We worked hard to ensure a seamless transition to ongoing support within the organization, especially for women who are suffering isolation without knowing who to turn to, or how and where to seek help.

MEG Impact 2021/2022

Community Support & Outreach of 9000 hours, IT Equipment 6890 hours, Befriending Support 9067 hours, Counselling Support 2129 hours, Food Distribution 4874 hours, Telephone Helpline Support 2654 hours, Volunteers 50, Workshop Support 876, Crisis Intervention over 656, Children & Young People Supported 1456, Women & Men Attended Groups 756.

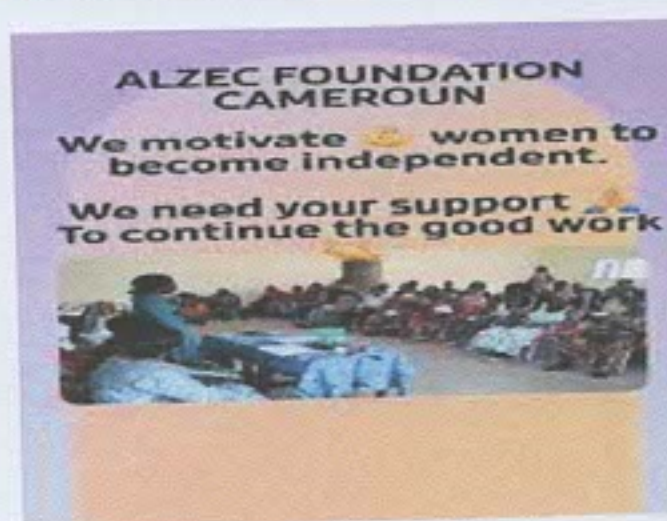
CHRISTMAS GIFTS

We provided gifts for 800 families, reaching a total of 624 children. The reality is that many of the families who we have worked with throughout the year often don't have enough money to support their families day-to-day, never mind having enough money to indulge at Christmas. The aim of our Christmas party is not just to provide some fun and normality for a child but it's about dignity and comfort at a time that's extremely difficult financially to so many parents. Each gift bag was donated with love, thanks to the generous donations received especially from Interfaith & Minority Ethnic Council Wolverhampton. The party successfully achieved its aim of each family feeling loved and supported by the community at a time when so many people feel very isolated and lonely.

Financial Review

During the year under consideration, our charity received a total of 87648, a bulk of this amount represents donations and grants. The magnanimity of the public was on full display. There was a strong desire to be there for one another and to share with those in need. The community spirit rose to a full

force like we have never seen. Our activities were mainly funded by contributions from individuals. We also received some finance support from our charity shop, we also received some grant support from some external organizations. For the year under review we recorded an excess of income over expenditure of £24,483 and a closing bank /cash balance of £25,922. There was no significant financial risk associated with running the charity. However, all risk have been assessed and policies have been put in place to mitigate and avert all risk.



Conclusion:

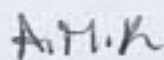
The year under review was quite challenging for all sectors of the economy and public life. The energy crisis and the resultant inflationary spiral affected every sector of the economy. The charity sector was hit harder and most charities had to fold. For us at MEG it offered both opportunities and challenges. We had the opportunity to learn new skills to be able to be more effective in our service delivery and to better prepare for such eventualities. The key bottlenecks that we faced during the year were lack of dwindling resources in the face of mounting needs. Our volunteers were also overstretched during this

period. Notwithstanding, our committment to be a helpline for the needy in Wolverhampton and Walsall is intact inspite of the tumultous year.

We want to thank our trustees, volunteers, donors, members, other benefactors, beneficiaries and the public at alrge for all your support and goodwill towards MEG. Without you we could not have achieved anything this year. We did it together and hopefully next year we shall do better.



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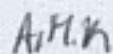
MIGRANT EMPOWERMENT GROUP**CHARITY NUMBER 1183705****RECEIPTS AND PAYMENT ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

DETAILS		AMOUNT	AMOUNT
		31/12/22	31/12/21
Receipts:			
Grants	Notes 1	48,815.00	8,450.00
Membership Fees & Charity Shop		6,413.00	2,100.00
Donations	Notes 2	30,186.00	46,705.00
Fundraising Events	Notes 3	2,234.00	17,150.00
Total Receipts For The Period		87,648.00	74,405.00
Payments:			
Allowances	Notes 4	9,700.00	5,755.00
Travelling & Transport		700.00	1,480.00
Training & Development	Notes 5	2,400.00	3,100.00
Equipment	Notes 6	15,600.00	31,000.00
Repairs		800.00	544.00
Refreshments		1,200.00	940.00
Foodbank	Notes 7	11,900.00	12,880.00
Publicity		800.00	1,220.00
Utilities		2,040.00	705.00
Rent		2,600.00	1,700.00
Workshops	Notes 8	1,911.00	2,501.00
Donations		1,000.00	900.00
Lodging & Hotels		394.00	650.00
Furniture & Fittings		1,200.00	2,600.00
Printing & Stationery		1,120.00	810.00
Audio Visual Expenses	Notes 9	2,400.00	2,840.00
Decorations		1,300.00	900.00
Miscellaneous		2,110.00	780.00
Fabric materials		3,990.00	2,350.00
Total Payments For The Period		63,165.00	73,655.00
Excess of Receipts Over Payments		24,483.00	750.00
Opening Cash Balance As At 1st January, 2021		1,439.00	689.00
Closing Cash Balance As At 31st December, 2021		25,922.00	1,439.00

This account have been approved by The Migrant Empowerment Group board of trustees on the 01 March 2023



Miss Alvine Dongmo-Noumey
(Board Chair)



Alex Morel Kamguia
(Treasurer)

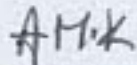
MIGRANT EMPOWERMENT GROUP
CHARITY NUMBER 1183705
STATEMENT OF ASSET AND LIABILITY AS 31/12/2022

Details	Amount 31/12/22
Cash & Bank Balances	25,922.00
Equipment For Distribution(Sewing Machine, tablets, etc)	4,910.00
Furniture & Fittings	4,300.00
Audio Visual Equipment	6,630.00

This account have been approved by The Migrant Empowerment Group board of trustees
on the 01 March 2023



Miss Alvine Dongmo-Noumey
(Board Chair)



Alex Morel Kamguia
(Treasurer)

MIGRANT EMPOWERMENT GROUP
CHARITY NUMBER 1183705
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31/12/2022

Notes 1: The total grants comprises amounts received from the Wolverhampton City Council, Arnolt Clark, Ethnic Minority Council, Alzec Vision , Interfaith etc

Notes 2: The Donations represents contribution from private individuals in the community both in cash and kind. A significant proportion went into supporting people who had been hard hit financially by the cost of living crisis

Notes 3: Our fundraising events yielded the sum reported for the year under review. Our cultural and fashion shows received attracted a significant audience in and out of the local community.

Notes 4: This represents mainly payments made to volunteers who run the various projects we carry out in support of the vulnerable people.

Notes 5: This amount consist of the cost of carrying out regular training for our volunteers and also induction for new volunteers who join our charity

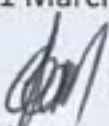
Notes 6: This represents the cost of sewing machines, kids sewing kits, tablets, laptops etc which we purchased and distributed as part of our on going projects

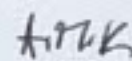
Notes 7: We had a foodbank programme to support people during the pandemic. This has been extended to support people who have been hard hit by the cost of living crisis. The amount represents food parcel and other supplies distributed during the period.

Notes 8: During the year under review we had workshops for volunteers and trustees to enable them understand their role in a rapidly changing environment. The amount consist of payments to external experts who conducted the workshop.

Notes 9: The cost invested in equipments use in house for meetings, seminars, workshops, conferences etc

This account have been approved by The Migrant Empowerment Group board of trustees on the 01 March 2023


Miss Alvine Dongmo-Noumey
(Board Chair)


Alex Morel Kamguia
(Treasurer)

THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE MIGRANT EMPOWERMENT GROUP.

I report on the financial Statements and the accompanying notes of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2022

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The charity's trustee considers that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

1. Examine the financial statements under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
2. Follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
3. State whether particular matters have come to my attention

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the charity's trustee as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustee those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustee as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements I have made.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison with the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanation from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements presents a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
 - to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Kenneth Mensah (MSc)
1 Dulverton Grove,
LS11 0LD, Leeds.
15 March 2023

