

# ANNUAL REPORT

## The Together Free Foundation

For the year ending 31 December 2022



### Charitable Status

The Together Free Foundation is a registered charity in England. Charity Number 1185728

#### Registered Address

6 Clarence Road  
Southend-on-Sea  
Essex  
SS11AN

### Trustees Serving During 2022

Peter Dominey

Diane Watts

Jackie Raja

Dan Pratt  
Retired Dec 2022

The charity is established by means of a constitution with trustees appointed by the trustee body.

## Summary of Objectives and Activities

The Together Free Foundation (TFF) helps local communities, faith groups and charities end modern slavery and human trafficking (MSHT). This is done through catalysing and supporting local communities, including charities, grassroots community groups, the local authority and law enforcement to find local solutions for local problems of exploitation through: 1) developing localised antislavery partnerships to partner towards slavery-free communities; 2) raising awareness within the community and among at-risk groups; 3) developing and delivering training to community groups and front-line responders, 4) developing referral pathways to ensure the effective safeguarding of victims and; 4) supporting victims and survivors of modern slavery through long-term community-based survivor care. During 2022 the charity employed three part-time staff and relied on volunteer and community engagement, thereby offering excellent value for money for its output.

### Public Benefit Statement

The charity's trustees continue to have regard for both the charitable objects set out in the governing document and to ensuring that the activities of the charity, as described, meet the public benefit test. In so doing, they take account of the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when planning the charity's programme of activities. The trustees of the Together Free Foundation are confident that the activities of the charity demonstrate strong evidence of public benefit.

## Strong Progress Post-Pandemic and During the Cost of Living Crisis

2022 continued to be challenging for TFF. There has however, been strong progress and adaptability. Increased opportunities for face to face partnership engagement, training and awareness raising resulted in new opportunities of working.

Although employed staff-time decreased during 2022, the charity sought revised ways to be strategic in its operations, priorities and outputs through developing the Survivor Care Project work and starting a new Antislavery Partnership in Chelmsford.

## World Day Against Trafficking, 30th July

An awareness campaign coordinated by SAMS included:

- 10 participating organisations
- 138 conversations with the public
- Art mural painted on Southend High Street
- Artwork and awareness posters at Southend Central Train Station
- Social media campaign in partnership with Southend City Council
- 14,357 Social Media Impressions and 674 Engagements
- 1 Article in local newspaper
- Press releases from Southend Council and Police



During 2022 twenty-five partner organisations participated within SAMS, including charities, faith groups and the local council and police. Best practice and increased partnership work emerged through developing joint actions towards a slavery-free community, including:

- Organising and facilitating quarterly partnership meetings with national and local stakeholders
- Delivering specialist training for front-line professionals . 287 people were trained. Workshops were conducted with South Essex College, Southend-on-Sea City Council, Social workers and local charities and faith groups
- Six local community leaders are on the SAMS steering group, giving accountability and guidance.
- The SAMS Survivor Care Project continued to develop, offering community-based support to survivors of MSHT.
- Research undertaken exploring volunteer contributions within antislavery partnerships. To be published in 2023.
- Facilitating the Word Day Against Trafficking awareness campaign within the Borough of Southend



Above: World Day Against Trafficking, 30th July, stall and public engagement.

Below: Mural commissioned for 30th July.



## ◆ Survivor Care Project

The Survivor Care Project provides community-based support to survivors of modern slavery and trafficking in the City of Southend, including sexual exploitation, labour exploitation, domestic servitude, and criminal exploitation.

The project provides long-term and bespoke wrap-around support in the form of befriending, mentoring, casework, and practical help. The project is delivered through trauma-informed trained volunteers with enhanced DBS who meet with survivors 1-1 in the community, on a weekly basis. The project aims to increase well-being, encourage community integration, improve access to local services and build resilience and new skills. All services and support are person-centred and tailored to the interests, needs and aspirations of each survivor we work with.

In 2022 the Project supported 12 survivors of modern slavery and their families (7 children). The survivors we work with originate from 10 different countries and the majority are asylum seekers with no recourse to public funds. Many have additional health challenges and mental health conditions.

A total of 315 hours of support was offered to the survivors. Volunteer befrienders provide essential regular contact and support, meeting survivors to talk, go for a walk, visit a café or park or museum. Survivors feedback of the support, is it makes a significant difference to their well-being and confidence. They feel cared for and more a part of the community. Volunteer mentors help survivors to work towards specific goals in volunteering, education and employment.

One survivor was helped by her mentor to access a local 8-week training programme for careers in health and social care and with encouragement and support she is now doing some part time work in this sector. The project is now helping her to find a placement so that she can enrol at a local college to continue her studies of Health and Social Care Level 2.

A wide range of practical help has been provided to the survivors we work with, for example regular financial support for clothing and food, toiletry hampers, Christmas hampers, DIY projects, and sourcing household furniture. Practical help and emergency support makes a huge difference to survivor well-being.





Community Based Survivor Care © Jacky Douglas

## Survivor Care in Numbers, 2022

12 survivors of modern slavery receiving support

7 children supported through practical help

10 countries from which the survivors originate from

9 volunteers offering support as befrienders and mentors

315 hours of total support given including:

85 hours of befriending

45 hours of mentoring

75 hours of case work

6 hours of group work

110 hours of practical help

## Survivor Care Case Study

One family who live in poor quality, shared asylum housing, wished that the families in their house could make use of the garden and outdoor space. The garden was in a poor state, so the befriender and survivor spent some weeks creating a garden plan together. They sourced some free garden furniture and a free lawnmower. The volunteers arranged for the garden to be cleared of rubbish and weeds. Then a day was arranged where the volunteers and families living in the home all worked together to plant the flowers and vegetables. It was a lovely day and the survivor talked about how much joy it had brought.

**Feedback:** *'I have been able to interact well, and SAMS has been of great help to me. I have learnt yoga, cycling a bit, and funding me with money for jackets'.*

*'With the mentor and befriender I can't thank them enough. I love seeing my befriender and mentor for as long as they still want to see me'.*

## Funding

TFF appreciates the 2022 grant funding to enable its work from:

- Essex Community Foundation
- NS Community Fund
- Eastern Baptist Association
- The Swire Charitable Trust
- Shared Space
- The Hilden Charitable Trust

- Jerome Booth Charitable Fund
- Southend Emergency Fund
- The National Lottery
- British Airways Crowdfunding
- The Rosca Trust



## ◆ Chelmsford Against Slavery Partnership

In 2022 Together Free in partnership with Chelmsford City Council and their Safer Chelmsford Partnership launched the Chelmsford Against Slavery Partnership (CASP). This builds on the best-practice of the Southend Against Modern Slavery Partnership. CASP uses SAMS community organising and assets based approach to mobilise partners towards a slavery-free community. Forty people attended the launch event with representatives including the lead of the Council, the Police, local charities and faith groups and national antislavery organisations. Bi-monthly CASP meetings are being co-delivered and facilitated by Together Free and the Council in order to work on: awareness raising; training and resourcing; developing referral pathways and victim support maps, intelligence sharing and partnership development.

*Below: Launch event in the Council Chamber at Chelmsford City Council*



### Reserves Policy

Reserves will be maintained to ensure core activity can continue during any period of unforeseen difficulty. A proportion of reserves will be maintained in a readily realisable form. The calculation of the required level of reserves is an integral part of the organisation's planning, budget and forecast cycle. It considers:

1. Risks associated with each stream of income and expenditure being different from that budgeted
2. Planned activity level
3. The charity's commitments

On this basis, and having reviewed the policy during the year, the Trustees believe that for 2022 a reserve equivalent to three months' running costs should be maintained. The reserves policy will be reviewed annually.

### Accounting Basis

*The accounts were prepared on a receipts and payments basis.*

Report prepared by: D Pratt  
Signed on behalf of the Trustees  
by P. Dominey

24.03.23



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

### Section A

### Independent Examiner's Report

#### Report to the trustees

Charity Name

THE TOGETHER FREE FOUNDATION

#### On accounts for the year ended

31.12.2022

Charity no  
(if any)

1185728

#### Set out on pages

8-11

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2022

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

#### 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 [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [ ] if not applicable.

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.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

*Christine Warner*

Date:

26/03/2023

Name:

CHRISTINE FRANCES WARNER

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

MAAT



(if any):

Address:

386 SOUTHBORNE GROVE

WESTCLIFF ON SEA

ESSEX SS000AP

**Section B****Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.



**THE TOGETHER FREE FOUNDATION**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY**  
**FOR YEAR ENDED 31/12/2022**

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b><u>Incoming Resources</u></b>				
<b>Voluntary income</b>				
Donations	1,012	817	1,829	1,105
Grants	3,485	38,730	42,215	34,600
Other	216	70	286	708
Other - Furlough Claims	-	-	-	5,818
<b>Total Voluntary Income</b>	<b>4,713</b>	<b>38,800</b>	<b>44,330</b>	<b>42,230</b>
<b>Investment income</b>				
Interest	81	-	81	-
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>4,794</b>	<b>38,800</b>	<b>44,411</b>	<b>42,230</b>
<b><u>Resources Expended</u></b>				
Charitable activities				
Operational Costs	801	4,254	5,055	4,092
Staffing	2,080	40,422	42,502	42,461
Awareness resources	-	437	437	258
Survivor Care Support	-	1,825	1,825	494
Other	-	88	88	2,657
<b>Total Resources Used</b>	<b>2,882</b>	<b>47,026</b>	<b>49,908</b>	<b>49,962</b>
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources	1,912	(8,226)	(5,497)	(7,731)
Transfer between funds	(5,834)	5,834	-	-
Net movement in funds for year	(3,922)	(2,392)	(5,497)	(7,731)
Fund Balance at 31 December 2021	6,365	20,621	26,986	34,718
Fund Balance at 31 December 2022	2,443	18,229	21,490	26,986

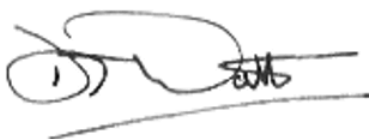
**THE TOGETHER FREE FOUNDATION**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSET AND LIABILITIES**  
**FOR YEAR ENDED 31/12/2022**

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
<b>CASH FUNDS</b>				
CAF Bank	2,443	19,046	21,490	26,986
Cash in hand	-	-	-	-
	<u>2,443</u>	<u>19,046</u>	<u>21,490</u>	<u>26,986</u>

REPRESENTED BY	2022	2021
<b>Unrestricted</b>		
General Fund	2,443	6,365
	<u>2,443</u>	<u>6,365</u>
<b>Restricted</b>		
SAMS & Survivor Care	11,593	26,126
National (Together Free)	-	(5,504)
Chelmsford (CASP)	7,453	-
	<u>19,046</u>	<u>20,621</u>
Total reserves	£ <u>21,490</u>	£ <u>26,986</u>



Trustee: Peter Dominey  
06-Apr-23



Trustee: Diane Watts  
06-Apr-23

**THE TOGETHER FREE FOUNDATION**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR YEAR ENDED 31/12/2022**

**1) Accounting Policies**

**Basis of preparation**

Receipts and Payment accounts have been prepared.

**2) Voluntary Income**

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund		Total 2022	Total 2021
	General Fund	SAMS & Survivor Care	Chelmsford (CASP)		
Donations	1,012	817	-	1,829	1,105
Grants	3,485	26,730	12,000	42,215	34,600
Books Sales	216	-	-	216	708
Other	-	70	-	70	5,818
	4,713	27,617	12,000	44,330	42,230

**3) Resources Expended**

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund		Total 2022	Total 2021
	General Fund	SAMS & Survivor Care	Chelmsford (CASP)		
Operational Costs	801	3,828	426	5,055	4,092
Staffing	2,080	36,301	4,121	42,502	42,461
Awareness resources	-	437	-	437	258
Survivor Care Support	-	1,825	-	1,825	494
Other	-	88	-	88	2,657
	2,882	42,479	4,547	49,908	49,962

**4) Movement of funds**

2022
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	31/12/2021	Incoming	Out goings	Transfers	31/12/2022
<b>Unrestricted</b>					
General Fund	6,365	4,794	2,882	(5,834)	2,443
<b>Restricted</b>					
SAMS & Survivor Care	26,126	27,617	42,479	330	11,593
National (Together Free)	(5,504)	-	-	5,504	0
Chelmsford (CASP)		12,000	4,547	-	7,453
	26,986	44,411	49,908	-	21,490



**THE TOGETHER FREE FOUNDATION**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR YEAR ENDED 31/12/2022**

**5) Trustee Remuneration and benefits**

Trustees received a total remuneration of £33,619 (£33,571 2021) inclusive of salary and pension contributions.

<b>6) <u>Staff Costs</u></b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Wages and salaries	36,502	42,452

During the year the Charity employed 3 members of staff. All staff are on part time basis and various hours depending on grant funding.

As permitted by the Charity Commission, the ex-officio trustee received a salary for employment as the Antislavery Co-ordinator. Total remuneration received was £33,619 (£33,571 2021), inclusive of salary and pension contributions.