

Life Skill Project International Annual Report 2023

We continued to run two sewing and literacy centres in Talley near village Hair and Jaaman, which started in 2022 and will complete the two-year course in October 2024. The centres have received a grant demand and support from the local Muslim community, and one centre has 1/3 and the other 2/3 Muslim girls. Currently, a total of 55 girls are attending in two centres. When these girls complete their training next year, a total of 242 girls will have been trained in 9 centres since 2011, when the first centre was opened. We are grateful to our dedicated and hardworking staff in Pakistan, without whom this success was not impossible, and praise God for giving us such a passionate team and trustees who carry out our vision and plans.

In March 2023, while on a family visit to Lahore, the LSPI Chair and Founder, Mrs Mussarat Iqbal, was able to visit and inspect the centres. She was taken to a house in Tatley and was delighted to meet a lady who was trained in our first-ever centre in Tatley. Mussarat learnt that this lady was now running her own sewing business from home and teaching others. It was an emotional encounter for her to realise that LSPI had finally started to fulfil its vision of enabling girls to be independent, pass on their skills and mindsets, and set up a chain of change in society. The trustees look ahead with hope that God's gracious providence and generosity of our donors will enable us to continue the good work as in previous years.

The fundraising in 2023 was better than expected, and the generosity of one particular church through their harvest festival raised enough funds for the new sewing machines when the new centres are to be opened in 2024. Mrs Mussarat Iqbal, our founder and chair and The Rev Jackie Bullen, our treasurer, thanked the trustees and donors for their commitment, passion, hard work and support for Like Skill Project International, which enables us to help the disadvantaged, underprivileged, marginalised and poor girls gain skills and basic literacy to empower them to be independent and employable. We look ahead to 2024 with the hope that God's gracious providence and generosity of our donors will enable us to continue the excellent work of making a positive difference to create a respectful society where women play a vital and equal role.

In 2023, we said farewell to our longstanding trustees, Mr Javed Inayat and Mrs Riffat Zamuad, who both resigned for personal reasons. The chair and the board of trustees are thankful for their faithful service and commitment to LSPI and its aims and objectives. Their resignations have created up to four vacancies on the board, so we will be looking for new trustees to serve alongside the eight serving trustees.

We continue to use social media for publicity and to promote our charity. The Life Skills Project International website was launched in 2022 and can be accessed at www.lifeskillprojectinternational.org and provides the necessary information along with the Charity Commission UK website.

Life Skill Project International

Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Accounts Summary 2023					
Balance Brought forward 1st January 2023					2,229.95
Receipts					
Regular Donations			1,919.00		
Individual Donations			1,867.32		
Fundraising			1,030.47		
Sale of bags			452.00	5,268.79	
Payments					
Centre Exp				2,966.53	
Other costs				43.68	3,010.21
Balance as at 31st December 2023					<u>4,488.53</u>
Balance per bank statement 31st December 2023					<u>4,488.53</u>

Accounts prepared by Jacqueline Bullen

Independently examined by Yvette Magri