

Joy of Learning

Trustee Report of the financial year ending 31st March 2022

Joy of Learning present their annual trustee report and accounts for the year ending 31st March 2022, and confirm they comply with the requirements of Charities Act 2011.

Joy of Learning was registered with Charity Commission on 7th June 2021 and has the legal structure of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Joy of Learning was officially launched via a Zoom launch night on 22nd January 2022.

Objectives

Our objectives, as outlined in our Constitution are:

1. For the public benefit to advance the education of children who are either current or former residents of Sanyu Babies' Home and on occasion their siblings or children living in the same household of the primary caregiver in Uganda by providing or assisting in the provision of school fees, relevant educational goods, equipment and materials and food and clothing.
2. The prevention or relief of poverty or financial hardship in Uganda for the primary caregivers of children who are either current or former residents of Sanyu Babies' Home by providing or assisting in the provision of education, training, healthcare projects and all the necessary support designed to enable individuals to generate a sustainable income and be self-sufficient in order to independently support the child.

Aims for the Year

1. Launch Joy of Learning and build up awareness and public support for the charity.
2. Start to meet our objectives, as set out in our constitution, by beginning 'work on the ground' and supporting children and their siblings who are either current or former residents of Sanyu Babies' Home, Uganda.

When planning the aims and activities for the year, the trustees of Joy of Learning considered and have had due regard to the commission's public benefit guidance, particularly the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of education and the prevention or relief of poverty.

Review of activities and achievements

General

Joy of Learning has begun meeting its objectives but on a limited scale due to the lack of appropriate banking facilities. Unfortunately, we have encountered considerable difficulties in opening a charity bank account and the process is taking much longer than anticipated. As a result, though we have met with families and carried out limited and necessary support, we have not been able to do everything we planned. We hope to be able to resolve this issue in the near future.

Although our primary aim of the charity is to advance education, we cannot enable a child to attend school who is malnourished, unwell or without adequate clothing to wear which is why we make sure each child's basic needs are also met. Social media accounts were set up for Joy of Learning in the beginning of 2022, to start to raise awareness of the charity. A website for the charity was also set up with the help of Grassroots Web Design Agency. At the charity launch, attendees were given the opportunity to add their email address to a mailing list. We plan to send out regular updates via a newsletter to supporters bi-monthly.

Family Referrals

21 families were referred to Joy of Learning by the Social Workers from Sanyu Babies' Home. The Social Workers refer families by completing purpose-made forms outlining details of each child, information about their schooling (or lack of) and about their home situation. Out of the 21 families referred, Joy of Learning was able to meet and partner with 17 of them during the year. Joy of Learning reimburses any transport costs incurred when the Sanyu Social Workers are required to visit a family purely to make a referral to Joy of Learning. Social Workers are also given a small allowance for each day/visit they do for Joy of Learning that aims to cover their meals etc. needed that day.

Initial Visits

Following referrals, initial visits were conducted to 17 families in total during the year June 7th 2021 to March 31st 2022. On these visits, the Social Workers from Sanyu Babies' Home introduced the families to Trustees from Joy of Learning. With each family we met, we told the families about Joy of Learning and what the charity had been set up to do. We completed some paperwork with each family including photo consent for each child and vulnerable adult. Consent and agreement was confirmed either with a written signature or with a fingerprint using an ink pad. Assessments were made for each family with regards to the additional support that might be needed from Joy of Learning. It was at this initial meeting of each family that we assessed whether each child might need basic clothing.

support, whether there were any major medical concerns and whether the family would need food support and how often. We inquired about each child's attendance to school, and if they were attending school, if school fees and requirements had been fully met. We also gave the option to each child over the age of 2 and each adult in the family, to take a deworming tablet as in Uganda it is recommended that they are taken every 3 months. We presented each family with some food items and also some hygiene products. At each initial visit, we took family photographs and individual photographs of each family member for our records.

Food

Each family's needs were assessed on the initial visit and from that we drew up a tailored plan for each family for future visits. The families we work with are families who are struggling, therefore all families assessed were deemed to need food support to some degree. Most families were deemed to need food quarterly and so we decided we would take long life food like rice, sugar, maize flour and salt, in the hope that with the little money they have, they can buy the fresh food that does not keep. Some of the families were deemed to need food more urgently so it was decided that monthly support would be the most appropriate. These families get smaller quantities as it only needs to last a month, but they get some extra items like beans and groundnuts that help to make up a meal. If there are young children in the family, then millet or soya flour that is used to make porridge will be given as this is a staple for young children in Uganda. If the children are older, this is not a necessity so at this stage is not being considered for all families.

Clothing and Shoes

For many of the families we are working with in Uganda, their level of poverty means that particularly the children don't have enough basic clothing items that fit them, preserves their decency and keeps them warm during the nights and rainy seasons. Some children had already been outlined to us as in desperate need of clothing, so clothing items were sorted and appropriate clothes were selected for each of those children to be given to them at the initial visit. Each child was given a warm layer, a few outfits, and some underwear and socks. It was decided at these initial visits that in the future, we would meet the children first so that we can give clothing based on their actual sizes rather than what their age might suggest, as with some of the children we found that this did not match up well.

Second hand clothing collections were made in the UK and some clothing items were purchased in Uganda through local sellers supporting local businesses.

The children who did not receive clothes on their initial visit were assessed to see if they needed clothes to be given on future visits. Only 2 out of the 17 families visited were deemed not to need clothing support currently, but will be monitored in case the need changes in the future.

We also assessed each child's need for shoes, and where needed gave shoes out. In Uganda, especially in the villages where most of our families live, there is a big risk of jiggers. Jiggers are tiny parasites that bury in your feet and lay eggs and can cause immense pain, infection and problems when left untreated. One way to reduce the risk of jiggers is by wearing shoes, which is why we ensure each of our children has shoes to wear. Some shoes were donated to us in the UK, but we also bought plastic croc style shoes in a local wholesale market, as we realised that the need of shoes was far surplus to the number of appropriate shoes that were being donated.

Hygiene

On our initial visits we took some simple hygiene products to each family and saw that they were very much needed. Each family received soap that can be used to wash themselves, their clothes, their cooking utensils etc., and toiletry items like toothbrushes and toothpaste. Families will continue to receive these items quarterly, in the hope that better hygiene can reduce the risk of illness and dental problems in the future. Education towards hygienic practices is planned for future quarterly visits to ensure items given are being used properly.

Medical

Despite only being in operation for just over two months of the financial year that this report is covering, we had several children needing urgent medical support. There was one child needing a simple surgery to remove tongue-tie as it was causing problems for his development, but the family could not afford the surgery and post-surgery medication. Two children needed surgery to remove hernias. Both children were in immense pain, and were very unwell but surgery was too expensive for the families to manage. Joy of Learning paid the medical bills, and supported the families with receiving the best care they could, attending follow-up appointments, and purchasing any follow-up medication. One of these children was also becoming malnourished when we first met the family, so a specific plan was devised for him, and food items were given that would give him extra nutrients.

Education

In Uganda, you not only pay school fees but also school requirements which includes things like pens, books, toilet paper and brooms to sweep the compound. Due to this, school is very expensive and a luxury that many cannot afford. Lots of the families we work with have children who have attended school for some time, but haven't been able to fully pay either the fees or requirements so haven't progressed to the next level. Some of the children might even have been sent home from school and not allowed back until the balance has been paid. Each child that is of a school going age has been assessed to see if they are in need of educational support from Joy of Learning. Due to the delays that we have had in

opening a charity bank account, we haven't launched our educational sponsor programme yet as we wanted to wait until we had a secure account for monthly sponsorship donations to be paid into. There has been interest in people wishing to be sponsors, but we haven't pursued this programme yet until we can confidently match a sponsor to a child knowing we can enable that child to attend school.

Fundraising

Money was raised in memory of the Grandfather of one of our Trustees which helped us to start our work. People donated to a fundraising page in lieu of donating flowers at the funeral and this was the first fundraising done whilst the charity was still in the initial stages of being set up.

Despite only launching on the 22nd January 2022 and the financial year for which this report is on ending 31st March 2022, we did have an external organisation do some fundraising for us in this time. Showdance, a Dance Club from Aberystwyth University, do several fundraising events throughout the year, and they chose to do a Charity Challenge across the month of February 2022 raising money for Joy of Learning. Members of the club did challenges like running 50km over the month and giving up chocolate for the month, and people donated in support of their efforts.

Financial Review

As previously mentioned, we have had difficulties obtaining a Charity Bank account. Therefore, so far fundraising and public donations have been limited. The charity has been running on donations from fundraising efforts and private donations from family members of trustees. Out of the £2587 income during the financial year, £567 of this was from fundraising efforts and £2000 was from private donations. Out of the £1626 outgoings, all of this was spent in cash in Uganda.

Currently, due to the lack of official banking facilities, a reserve supply of money is not held. When a charity bank account is held, reserves will be held to ensure that in times of economic uncertainty, the charity would be able to stay afloat whilst plans are put in place to stabilise the finances.

Future plans

As soon as our bank account is confirmed, we plan to register with HMRC so that we can claim gift aid.

When our bank account is confirmed, we aim to attract sponsors who will make a monthly donation of £15 and they will be matched with a child who will be enabled to go to school by that donation. We also aim to spread awareness of Joy of Learning and engage with more people to increase public support, and therefore increase general donations.

We will send out a regular newsletter to our supporters to keep them up to date with what we are doing and ways they can support us.

As and when our budget allows, we also aim to meet and partner with more families, as we already have a referral list and know that will increase.

In the longer term, we hope to work more with caregivers regarding their income. We want to look at if it can be increased by setting up a new business, mentoring their current business or the like. This would mean that in the future, some of our families might become more self-sufficient.

Trustees, Structure, Governance and Management

Joy of Learning is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and is governed by its trustees. Joy of Learning has five trustees who have all served throughout the year: Emily Cheer, Barbara Nankya Mutagubya, Amy Mason, Angharad Denham and Hollie Glanfield. The trustees are responsible for the overall management of Joy of Learning and meet regularly on Zoom. All trustees gave their time freely and no expenses were needed to be paid in the year. The five trustees are all the first trustees of the charity, having been appointed as the charity began, and their first term to serve is 5 years. After 5 years, they can be re-instated for another 3 years should they wish, or they can step down as trustee. When selecting new trustees, current trustees will be making their decision considering the skills, knowledge and experience needed. New trustees will be appointed for a term of 3 years by a resolution at a trustee meeting.

Safeguarding

Joy of Learning has a safeguarding policy drawn up that has been signed by two trustees. Joy of Learning has an appointed Welfare Officer (Barbara Nankya Mutagubya) who is responsible for reporting any safeguarding concerns to the appropriate parties in Uganda. Any trustee or future volunteer who will be working directly with any children and vulnerable adults, is required to have a valid DBS or police check.

Volunteers

There were no volunteers during this financial year.

Conclusion

Joy of Learning has had a difficult start to operations due to difficulties opening a charity bank account. We have been lucky enough to start our work though, with the support of fundraising efforts and private donations. Through our work, we have seen the immense

need for our support and have identified lots of ways that Joy of Learning can help families... all over Uganda. The cost of living in Uganda has been steadily increasing, and has made... everyday essentials much more expensive than many families can afford. This, coupled with the on-going effects of Uganda's long and strict lockdowns to prevent the spread of Covid-19, has left lots of families really struggling. The need for food support is greater than we originally imagined, but we hope with time that this will stabilise as the country's economy stabilises.

Administrative Details

Joy of Learning

Registered Charity Number: 1194700

Registered address: 52 Gospel End Road, Sedgley, Dudley, DY3 3YT

www.joyoflearningug.com

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above. Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signature Emily Cheer

Name EMILY CHEER

Position TRUSTEE

Date 31/01/23



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Joy of Learning

No (if any)
1194700

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 07/06/2021	To	Period end date 31/03/2022
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Section A Receipts and payments

Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
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A1 Receipts

Fundraising	567	-	-	567	-
General donations	2,000	-	-	2,000	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	2,567	-	-	2,567	-

A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).

	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-

Total receipts	2,567	-	-	2,567	-
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A3 Payments

Charitable activities and expenses	1,626	-	-	1,626	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	1,626	-	-	1,626	-

A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)

	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-

Total payments	1,626	-	-	1,626	-
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Net of receipts/(payments)	941	-	-	941	-
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A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
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A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
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Cash funds this year end	941	-	-	941	-
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Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		941	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	941	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets			Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Emily	EMILY CHEER	31/01/23