

Joy of Learning

Trustee Report of the financial year ending 31st March 2023:

Joy of Learning present their annual trustee report and accounts for the year ending 31st March 2023, 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

- Build up awareness and public support for the charity.
- Work to meet our objectives, as set out in our constitution by supporting children who have been reunited with family members after living at Sanyu Babies' Home, and their families.
- Work towards enabling education for the reunited children and their siblings by finding Educational Sponsors.

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 continued to begin meeting its objectives but still on a somewhat limited scale due to the continued lack of banking facilities. We have tried with numerous UK banks and have encountered countless hinderances. We have continued to support families on a limited basis running from donations from friends and family and a few fundraising events. We will continue working to resolve the issues with obtaining a charity bank account.

We have grown our presence on social media and now send out a bi-monthly newsletter to our supporters. Our newsletter mailing list has steadily grown and we are reaching more supporters every time. We have worked on our website that was originally set up with the help of Grassroots Web Design Agency and have spent time personalising it. We have had limited fundraising opportunities due to our lack of charity bank account, but we are grateful to those who have supported us through this time.

During the last financial year, we have worked with 18 families in total. We received an urgent referral for a family due to their concerning living situation so partnered with this family and continued to work with the 17 families we partnered with previously. We carry out quarterly visits to each family providing essential food, hygiene, shoes and basic clothing support. Each family is yearly assessed so that their needs are met most efficiently, and tailored support is provided to each family. Throughout the year we have also provided essential medical support through quarterly deworming medication, funding essential medical interventions and the purchase of necessary medications.

We have a waiting list of families who have been referred to us and when our finances allow, we shall conduct initial visits to these families to assess their needs and initiate the partnership.

Education in Uganda is expensive as you not only pay school fees, you also pay for school requirements including items like books, pencils, toilet paper and brooms. Due to a lack of adequate banking facilities, we have not yet been able to launch our Educational Sponsorship programme, but we hope to do so at our earliest convenience. Once our programme is launched, we will look for Educational Sponsors who will pay £15 a month that will support a particular child's education. Some children will require multiple sponsors depending on their schooling costs. We have gained interest from several potential sponsors, who would like to pursue Educational Sponsorship as soon as they are able to. We are really pleased that we already have significant interest though the programme has not yet been launched or advertised greatly.

Fundraising

We are very grateful that a number of fundraising events have been held to raise money for Joy of Learning. Most of these fundraising events collected donations in cash, and we made the decision to safely store this cash as petty cash and bank it when our bank account is opened. One fundraising event raised donations online, and that sum was used to pay for essential food, hygiene and medical support for the families we work with...

There was a variety of fundraising events organised by supporters including organ recitals, lemonade stands, bake sales and even a half marathon. The total sum of money fundraised for Joy of Learning during this financial year is £1950.31 with £345.23 of this being used during this financial year. The remainder has been stored as petty cash ready to bank as soon as our charity bank account is opened. The total of funds stored as petty cash is £1605.18.

Financial Review

As previously mentioned, we have had continued 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 £5514.08 income during the financial year, £1950.31 of this was from fundraising efforts and £3563.77 was from private donations. Out of the £4850 outgoings, all of this was spent in cash in Uganda or sent over to Uganda to reimburse for payments using a money transfer service.

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

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

As soon as we have a functioning charity bank account, one of our biggest priorities will be trying to attract Educational Sponsors. Sponsors 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. People have expressed interest both in Educational Sponsorship and supporting the charity on a regular basis as a whole, so we eagerly look forward to working with those supporters in the future and building our network.

As and when our budget allows, we 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 started off this financial year with five trustees: Emily Cheer, Barbara Nankya Mutagubya, Amy Mason, Angharad Denham and Hollie Glanfield. Emily Cheer, Angharad Denham and Hollie Glanfield have served as trustees throughout the year. On 31st January 2023, Amy Mason decided to resign as trustee but continues her work with the charity as newly appointed Publicity Officer. On 19th January 2023, Barbara Nankya Mutagubya resigned from her position as trustee but has continued her work with the charity as her new role as In-Country Coordinator. The trustees are responsible for the overall management of Joy of Learning and meet regularly on Zoom with other team members such as the Publicity Officer and In-Country Coordinator. All trustees and team members gave their time freely and no expenses were needed to be paid in the year. Emily Cheer, Angharad Denham and Hollie Glanfield are all among 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/team members. 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, team member or volunteer who will be working directly with any children and vulnerable adults, is required to have a valid DBS or police check.

Volunteers

During the last financial year, we have started to have some volunteers help out with the running of the charity. In total, we had 4 individuals volunteer their time who were not already part of the Joy of Learning team. Two of these volunteers represented Joy of Learning at an event in the UK, and the other volunteers went out on family visits in Uganda.

The two volunteers who volunteered in Uganda were required to show proof of DBS check, as they were interacting with children and vulnerable adults that we support...

As we begin to grow over the next few years, we hope to increase the number of volunteers both in the UK and in Uganda.

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 on a limited scale, with the support of some 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 particularly for food and medical support is greater than we originally imagined, but we hope with time that this will stabilise as the country's economy stabilises. Although we haven't been able to get going quite as we had originally imagined we would, we have been able to really get to know the families that we have partnered with and are grateful of the time spent with them whilst we are working hard to get the charity off the ground! We have gained a lot of interest in our Educational Sponsorship programme, and have increased our network of supporters, so have made small but definite steps towards growing the charity.

Administrative Details

Joy of Learning

Registered Charity Number: 1194700

Registered address: 8 Hampton Road, Cardiff, CF14 4AH

www.joyoflearningug.com

Declarations

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

Signature: 

Name: EMILY CHEER

Position: TRUSTEE

Date: 31/01/24



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Joy of Learning

1994700

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01.04.2022

To

Period end date
31.03.2023

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 £
A1 Receipts					
Fundraising	1,950	-	-	1,950	-
General donations	3,564	-	-	3,564	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	5,514	-	-	5,514	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	5,514	-	-	5,514	-
A3 Payments					
Charitable activities and expenses	4,850	-	-	4,850	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	4,850	-	-	4,850	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	4,850	-	-	4,850	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	664	-	-	664	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	941	-	-	941	-
Cash funds this year end	1,605	-	-	1,605	-

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		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	1,605	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

[illegible]

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

[illegible]

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name _____

Date of approval

Enghas

EMILY CHEER

31/01/24