

ANNUAL REPORT

MARTHA HOUSE
ASSOCIATION

2023-24



OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES



OUR CHARITABLE OBJECTS ARE:

“TO RELIEVE POVERTY AND FINANCIAL HARDSHIP AMONG REFUGEES, ASYLUM SEEKERS, MIGRANT WORKERS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS LIVING IN LONDON BY PROVIDING HOUSING, PASTORAL AND PRACTICAL SUPPORT.”

WE CARRY THIS OUT THROUGH OUR PRINCIPLE ACTIVITIES, OUTLINED BELOW:

THE PROVISION OF ACCOMMODATION

MARTHA HOUSE, THE ORIGINAL PROJECT OF MHA, IS A HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY FOR DESTITUTE ASYLUM SEEKERS, REFUGEES AND OTHER FORCED MIGRANTS. IT IS RUN BY TWO HOSTS, THE CO-COMMUNITY LEADS JO AND CONOR WHO ARE ALSO TRUSTEES OF THE CHARITY, WHO LIVE IN THE HOUSE WITH THE GUESTS. IT PROVIDES FOR BASIC NEEDS OF THOSE WHO ARE DESTITUTE – FOOD, ACCOMMODATION, LAUNDRY FACILITIES, INTERNET ACCESS – RELIEVING THE HARDSHIP THAT THIS MARGINALISED GROUP FACES.

BEYOND ACCOMMODATION, MARTHA HOUSE CREATES A SAFE, CARING AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT WHERE RESIDENTS CAN HEAL FROM THE STRESS OF HOMELESSNESS AND ISOLATION. WE SUPPORT GUESTS TO BE INVOLVED IN THE RUNNING OF THE HOUSE, TO ESTABLISH LINKS AND FRIENDSHIPS WITH OTHERS AND CONNECT THEM TO LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES. MUCH OF THE WORK IS PASTORAL – LISTENING TO GUESTS AND HELPING THEM PROCESS INFORMATION AND ADVICE FROM CASE-WORKERS.

GUESTS ARE REFERRED TO US BY ADVOCACY AND CASE-WORKERS FROM ORGANISATIONS LIKE HARINGEY MIGRANT SUPPORT CENTRE, CRISIS AND THE RED CROSS. IF THERE ARE NO ISSUES WITH CHALLENGING BEHAVIOUR OR SUBSTANCE ABUSE, ETC, THEIR STAY IS OPEN ENDED UNTIL ANOTHER OPTION OF ACCOMMODATION BECOMES AVAILABLE SO WE AIM TO WORK CLOSELY WITH GUESTS' CASE-WORKERS TO ENSURE MOVE-ON OPTIONS AND THEIR IMMIGRATION CASE ARE PROGRESSED.

MULBERRY TREE COMMUNITY GARDEN

THE MULBERRY TREE COMMUNITY GARDEN IS A SMALL COMMUNITY GARDENING PROJECT RUN JOINTLY BETWEEN MHA AND TOTTENHAM QUAKER MEETING. IT HAPPENS IN TOTTENHAM QUAKERS' FORMER BURIAL GROUND. EVERYONE IS WELCOME BUT IT IS PRIMARILY AIMED AT THOSE WHO ARE MARGINALISED BECAUSE OF THEIR IMMIGRATIONS STATUS, PRECARIOUS HOUSING SITUATIONS AND/OR POVERTY.



ADVOCACY SUPPORT WORK

MANY PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN MARTHA HOUSE OR WHOM WE MEET THROUGH OUR GUESTS AND OTHER COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS, NEED SUPPORT UNDERSTANDING WHAT THEIR HOUSING OR IMMIGRATIONS CASEWORKERS ASK THEM TO DO, OR EXTRA HELP UNDERSTANDING STATUTORY ORGANISATIONS, PATHWAYS OUT OF HOMELESSNESS OR THE BENEFITS SYSTEM. THIS OFTEN REQUIRES MORE TIME THAN OVERSTRETCHED LAWYERS OR CASEWORKERS CAN GIVE AND, AFTER A THREE MONTH FUNDED PILOT, THIS HAS BECOME A CORE PART OF OUR WORK.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT: THE TRUSTEES ENSURE THAT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHARITY ARE CONSISTENT WITH ITS CHARITABLE OBJECTS AND AIMS. IN AGREEING OUR ANNUAL PLANS, THE TRUSTEES TAKE INTO ACCOUNT PUBLIC BENEFIT AS SET OUT IN THE CHARITY COMMISSION'S GENERAL GUIDANCE ON PUBLIC BENEFIT IN RELATION TO THE PREVENTION AND RELIEF OF POVERTY, THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND THE RELIEF OF THOSE IN NEED. THE TRUSTEES BELIEVE THERE IS CLEAR PUBLIC BENEFIT DERIVED FROM THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHARITY.



PERFORMANCE AND ACHIEVEMENTS

AUGUST 2023 – JULY 2024

THE PROVISION OF ACCOMMODATION

COINCIDING WITH HOME OFFICE PUSH TO CLEAR THE ASYLUM BACKLOG AND STOP USING HOTELS, MOST OF OUR GUESTS THIS YEAR HAVE BEEN YOUNG MEN LEAVING HOTELS WHO HAVE RECENTLY BEEN GRANTED THEIR REFUGEE STATUS. SOME OF THEM WERE NEW CLAIMANTS AND OTHERS HAD BEEN IN HOTELS OR THE BIBBY STOCKHOLM BARGE FOR SOME TIME.

THIS HAS SEEN A DIFFERENCE IN THE KIND OF COMMUNITY WE CAN CREATE WHEN THERE HAS BEEN A SLIGHTLY SHORTER THAN AVERAGE STAY AND THE GUESTS HAVE SEEN MARTHA HOUSE AS A STEPPING-STONE FROM HOTEL TO SETTLED ACCOMMODATION, WHILE THEY LOOK FOR WORK OR ACCESS EDUCATION AND TRAINING. IN THE PAST WHEN THE MAJORITY OF GUESTS HAVE BEEN REFUSED ASYLUM SEEKERS, THEY HAVE HAD FEWER OPPORTUNITIES AND MONEY SO HAVE SPENT MORE TIME IN THE HOUSE.

WE CONTINUE TO FINISH OFF THE RENOVATIONS AND LOOK FORWARD TO COMPLETING BESPOKE, BUILT IN FURNITURE IN THE BEDROOMS TO MAXIMISE SPACE. THE YOUNG MEN WHO HAVE STAYED WITH US HAVE ENJOYED HELPING OUT WITH SOME WOOD WORK PROJECTS.



CRAFTING ON OUR TRIP TO MINSTERACRES



HALLOWEEN CARVING AT OUT OPEN MEAL

MULBERRY TREE COMMUNITY GARDEN

THE WEEKLY GARDENING PROJECT HAS HAD A STEADY GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR WITH SOME NEW FACES ARRIVING AND SOME MOVING ON FOR HEALTH OR WORK REASONS. IN THE SUMMER OUR AVERAGE NUMBER ON A FRIDAY WAS 9, WHICH IS ALMOST AS MANY AS WE CAN ACCOMMODATE FOR A SESSION.

EACH VOLUNTEER BRINGS DIFFERENT INTERESTS AND SKILLS AND IT IS A JOY TO SEE PEOPLE GET SO MUCH FROM THIS PROJECT AND FORM COMMUNITY WITH EACH OTHER.

WE WERE LUCKY TO RECEIVE AN AWARDS FOR ALL GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL LOTTERY TO ENABLE THE CONTINUATION OF THE PROJECT FOR ANOTHER 18 MONTHS.



ADVOCACY SUPPORT WORK

AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE ADVOCACY SUPPORT PROJECT, THIS WORK HAS NATURALLY CONTINUED AS A CORE PART OF WHAT MARTHA HOUSE OFFERS, ALBEIT WITHOUT SPECIFIC FUNDS. A STEADY FLOW OF PEOPLE WHO ARE PUT IN CONTACT WITH US THROUGH FRIENDS HAVE COME FOR HELP WITH HOUSING ISSUES, UNIVERSAL CREDIT, PENSION AND MORE. OTHERS ARE EX-RESIDENTS WHO ARE STILL NOT FULLY SET UP AND BEING FOBBED OFF BY STATUTORY SERVICES WHO ARE TOO OVERWHELMED TO DEAL WITH THEM AND ARE UNABLE TO ACCESS ENTITLEMENTS.



FINANCIAL REVIEW

AUGUST 2023 – JULY 2024



FINANCIAL POSITION

THERE ARE NO CURRENT FINANCIAL RISKS TO THE CHARITY AND NO MATERIAL DEFICITS.

OUT HARDSHIP FIGURES ARE HIGH AFTER A GRANT FROM THE NAWAAL TRUST FOR SOME INDIVIDUALS AND SOME VOUCHERS

RESERVES STATEMENT AND AMOUNT

WE MAINTAIN RESERVE FUNDS OF £7,000 TO COVER 6 MONTHS OF CORE COSTS.

PRINCIPAL SOURCES OF FUNDING

REGULAR DONATIONS OF ON AVERAGE £350 PER MONTH ALLOW US TO HANDLE OPERATING COSTS FOR MARTHA HOUSE.

IN THIS FINANCIAL YEAR WE RECEIVED GRANTS FROM THE GUARDIAN'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2023 AND AWARDS FOR ALL

ACCOUNTS

	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 £
Income					
Donations	14,625	1,800	-	16,425	6,365
Grants	14,291	13,500	-	27,791	3,000
Fundraising Activities	-	-	-	-	75
Community House rental Income (project closed)	-	-	-	-	17,367
Food Coop	-13	-	-	-13	-35
Other Incoming Resources	-	-	-	-	420
Totals	28,903	15,300	-	44,203	27,192
Expenses					
Fundraising Activities	162	-	-	162	-
Charitable Activities	-	-	-	-	-
Community House Project Rent & Council Tax	-	822	-	822	15,579
Advocacy Support Project	2,300	2	-	-	180
Mulberry Tree Community Garden	-	3,020	-	-	1,965
Community Activities	1,711	-	-	1,711	1,051
Hardship assistance	586	2,300	-	2,886	499
Operational Costs	9,928	2,173	-	12,101	16,266
Building maintenance	31	2,054	-	2,085	3,359
Management and Administration	1,605	-	-	1,605	2,221
Personnel expenses	94	-	-	94	250
Totals	16,417	10,371	-	26,788	41,370
Total payments	16,417	10,371	-	26,788	41,370
Net of receipts/ (payments)	12,486	4,929	-	26,788	-41,295
Cash funds last year end	23,907	15,494	-	39,401	53,579
Cash funds this year end	36,393	20,423	-	56,816	39,401
			Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
			to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
Cash Funds	Cash/Undeposited Funds		658	65	-
	Martha House Bank Account		6,984	-	-
	Unity Account		28,751	20,358	-
	Total cash funds		36,393	20,423	-

MARTHA HOUSE ASSOCIATION HAS NO ASSETS OR LIABILITIES

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT



MHA IS A CIO FOUNDATION TRUST, GOVERNED BY A CONSTITUTION. ORIGINALLY WE INCORPORATED AS A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE BUT WILL WIND THIS DOWN AS IT IS NO LONGER NECESSARY. TRUSTEES WERE SELECTED FOR HISTORY WITH PROJECT AND THEIR EXPERTISE IN HOMELESSNESS SUPPORT, MIGRANT ISSUES AND FUNDRAISING.

WE CONTINUE TO DEVELOP OUR SUITE OF POLICIES. MHA HAS STRONG WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER LOCAL MIGRANT SUPPORT GROUPS SUCH AS THE LONDON CATHOLIC WORKER AND HARINGEY MIGRANT SUPPORT CENTRE. WE ARE ALSO PARTNERED WITH THE ORDER TO THE PASSION OF JESUS CHRIST (THE PASSIONISTS) WHO OWN THE HOUSE THAT MARTHA HOUSE OPERATES IN. WE CONTINUE TO USE CLAPTON PARK URC AS OUR REGISTERED ADDRESS.

REFERENCE AND ADMIN DETAILS

REGISTERED ADDRESS:

CLAPTON PARK UNITED REFORMED CHURCH,
ROUND CHAPEL OLD SCHOOL ROOMS,
2 POWERSCROFT ROAD,
LONDON, E5 0PU.

TRUSTEES: CONOR CREGAN,, MARY FAGAN, JOANNA FREW, BETELEHEM GIRMAY, JAMIE RAE, ELEANOR SMITH,





CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name Martha House Association	No (if any) 1196328
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CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01/08/2023	To	Period end date 31/07/2024
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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 £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	14,625	1,800	-	16,425	6,365
Grants	14,291	13,500	-	27,791	3,000
Fundraising Activities	-	-	-	-	75
Community House rental Income (project closed)	-	-	-	-	17,367
Food Coop	13	-	-	13	35
Other Incoming Resources	-	-	-	-	420
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	28,903	15,300	-	44,203	27,192
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	28,903	15,300	-	44,203	27,192
A3 Payments					
Fundraising Activities	162	-	-	162	-
Charitable Activities	-	-	-	-	-
Community House Project Rent & Council Tax	-	822	-	822	15,579
Advocacy Support Project	2,300	2	-	-	180
Mulberry Tree Community Garden	-	3,020	-	-	1,965
Community Activities	1,711	-	-	1,711	1,051
Hardship assistance	586	2,300	-	2,886	499
Operational Costs	9,928	2,173	-	12,101	16,266
Building maintenance	31	2,054	-	2,085	3,359
Management and Administration	1,605	-	-	1,605	2,221
Personnel expenses	94	-	-	94	250
Sub total	16,417	10,371	-	26,788	41,370
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	16,417	10,371	-	26,788	41,370
Net of receipts/(payments)	12,486	4,929	-	17,415	- 14,178
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	23,907	15,494	-	39,401	53,579
Cash funds this year end	36,393	20,423	-	56,816	39,401

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				
	Cash/Undeposited Funds	658	65	-
	Martha House Bank Account	6,984	-	-
CCXX R1 accounts (SS)				
16/04/2025				

Unity Account		28,751	20,358	-
Total cash funds		36,393	20,423	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

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

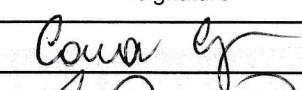
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

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

B5 Liabilities

Details	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
	CONOR CREGAN	29/04/25
	JOANNA FREW	29/04/25



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Martha House Association

On accounts for the year
ended

31 July 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1196328

Set out on pages

1-2

(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 DD/MM/YYYY.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn 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:

 C J UTLEY.

Date:

16/04/2025

Name:

Catherine Utley

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

N/A

Address:

108 Priory Gardens

London

N6 5qT