

MANCHESTER REFUGEE SUPPORT NETWORK

CHARITY REGISTRATION NO:1196560

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST MARCH 2024**

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Manchester Refugee Support Network

Report of the trustees for the Year Ended 31st March 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Reference and administrative information

Charity Name: Manchester Refugee Support Network

Charity Number: 1196560

Trustees

Mike Mpofu

Ahmed Mohamed

Addisu Tewolde

Amina Said

Sadia Muminovic

Zahid Kahan

Selamawit Reda (appointed 15.12.23)

Key Personnel

A scheme of delegation is in place and the CEO, Belay Kahsay has responsibility for the day to day operational management of the organisation, individual supervision of the staff and also ensuring that the staff continue to develop their skills and working practices to ensure high quality service provision.

Principal Office

129 Princess Road

Moss Side

Manchester

M14 4RB

Independent Examiners

Community Accountancy Service Limited

The Grange, Pilgrim Drive

Beswick

Manchester

M11 3TQ

Manchester Refugee Support Network

Bankers

NatWest Bank
438 Barlow Moor Road
Chorlton-cum-Hardy
Manchester
M21 0BR

Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a charitable incorporated organisation and was registered as a charity on 12th November 2021, and is governed under its Constitution.

The Charity took over the assets and activities of Manchester Refugee Support Network, an unincorporated charity number 1109990 on 1st April 2022.

Appointment of trustees

The charity trustees will be elected by the membership with one half retiring from office at each AGM. Those trustees can make themselves available for re-appointment. The charity must have between 3 and 8 trustees.

Trustee induction and training

Following their election, new trustees are provided with Governance training covering:

- The obligations of trustee's members and signposting to relevant Charity Commission publications.
- Current agenda items for trustees' meetings.
- The main documents and policies which set out the operational framework for the charity, including the Constitution.
- The finance and funding of the organisation including the Finance Policy, Strategy and Plan as well as the latest independently audited accounts.
- Business Plan and future objectives.

Membership

Full Membership of MRSN is open to all properly constituted refugee community organisations in Greater Manchester who have charitable objectives, support the aims of MRSN, have had an AGM in the last 15 months and are refugee led. Associate Membership of MRSN is open to any adult who is interested in furthering the work of MRSN. Only full paid up members have the right to vote at Annual or Special General Meetings.

Each refugee community organisation constitutes a single member of MRSN and nominates a representative to vote on its behalf at any Annual General Meeting or any other Special General Meetings of the membership, including the election of the Management Committee.

Objectives and activities

- To advance education and relieve financial hardship amongst those seeking asylum and those granted refugee status particularly by the provision of legal and other advice.
- To support and promote the physical and mental health of asylum seekers, refugees and their dependants.
- To advance the education and training of those granted refugee status and their dependants in need thereof so as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within a new community.
- To advance the education of the public in general about the issues relating to refugees and those seeking asylum.
- The provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life of those persons in need of such facilities by reason of their age, race, gender, religion, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances.
- To relieve the effects of financial poverty on refugees and asylum seekers through the provision of temporary accommodation.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, in planning future activities, and setting the policies for the year.

The charity furthers its charitable purposes for the public benefit through

- Community development services to build capacity within refugee community organisations and to support the delivery of the key priorities enshrined in the Refugee Charter for Manchester
- Legal advice and support to help people affected by poverty, unemployment, homelessness and immigration status
- Volunteer programmes to provide meaningful work experiences and training to refugees and other members of the local community to enhance their employment prospects and to extend the reach of MRSN's advice and other activities
- Provision of temporary accommodation and hardship support

A review of our achievement and performance: how our activities delivered public benefit

Public Benefit the Charities Act 2011 requires charities to demonstrate that their work is of direct benefit to the public. When planning the MRSN's activities each year, the trustees of MRSN review our objective and activities to ensure they continue to reflect our charitable aims and objectives. In carrying out this review of our work trustees have taken due regard of the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

This impact report meets the guidance on public benefit by setting out our charitable objects and mission, providing a summary review of the activities we have carried out of for the public benefit, and then describing in more details the strategies adopted and activities undertaken during the reporting period. This impact report also describes the successes and outcomes of our key activities, and considers how future activities will continue to

Manchester Refugee Support Network

contribute towards our aims and objective

Volunteers

Volunteers support MRSN through reception work and interpreting for clients who don't speak English. They also provide basic information and make telephone calls on behalf of clients. The role can also include advocacy and support for clients including by accompanying them to appointments. Volunteers also give advice on different issues.

Financial review

Total income in the year was £705,190 (2023£484,138) and total expenses were £515,212 (2023 £432,997) leaving a surplus of £189,978.

Our income increased from previous year. The manager has been working hard and it can be seen by the significant increase in the number of funders and amount of funding. He has established a strong relationship with a number of funders who have offered us substantial support at a time when many charities have seen their income falls significantly. We continue to pursue many more possibilities.

The continued support from individuals and local organisations who provide our unrestricted funds is vital to MRSN's ongoing activities and we are very grateful that this continued.

We will keep raising the funds we need to keep Manchester Refugee Support Network open and maintain the vital services it provides to asylum seekers and refugees in Greater Manchester.

Investment powers and policy

The trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of operating the charity, have kept available funds in an interest-bearing account.

Reserves policy and going concern

The balance held in unrestricted reserves at 31st March 2024 was £277,407 of which £260,432 is free reserves (after allowing for funds tied up in tangible fixed assets). The balance held in restricted reserves at 31st March 2024 was £241,135.

The trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately six months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. The trustees consider that this level will provide sufficient funds to respond to applications for grants and ensure that support and governance costs are covered.

Risk management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The Trustees recognise the importance of identifying and putting in place effective arrangements for the management of risk. A risk register has been established and has been approved by the Board of Trustees. It is kept under continual review by the Board

Manchester Refugee Support Network

of Trustees and any changes to risk are reviewed at each Trustees meeting. Financial risks associated with reducing income streams from the government and trust funding has led to development of income generation strategy which allow for the diversification of funding and activities. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been in place to diminish the risk the charity faces. These procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure they continue to meet the needs of the charity.

Achievement and plans for future periods

Manchester has always been a place for people fleeing from persecution and extreme hardship in their homeland. Our clients often experience major challenges and trauma on their journey here. Once here they face an increasingly complex and inefficient legal system and often struggle to get even basic support and help. The past few years has seen the deliberate fostering of a hostile environment based on misinformation and prejudice. All indications are that migration will continue and the city will continue to need a dedicated agency supporting people seeking asylum and helping refugees settle and play a full part in their new community.

The trustees of MRSN will continue review our objective and activities to ensure they continue to reflect our charitable aims and fulfil our agreed ambition to help build a society in which refugees are welcome, respected and safe and be a place where they can achieve their full potential.

Our future strategy is based on five key goals:

1. Continuing to deliver quality services that meet people's needs and enable people to become independent members of the community.
2. Enabling people seeking asylum and refugees to make progress and move into employment, training or volunteering.
3. To encourage collaboration and partnerships that benefit our clients
4. To help build a strong community that is open, welcoming and encourages integration.
5. To build an organisation that is effective, involves people throughout, has a high profile and a sustainable business model

To do this we will have to listen to and involve our clients and use their experience to shape our services. We want to explore ways of working with other agencies to help people progress and play a full part in their new community. We also want to play a key part in educating people about migration, challenging prejudice and creating a diverse and thriving city.

Please refer to the appendix for further details of our achievements.

Trustees responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

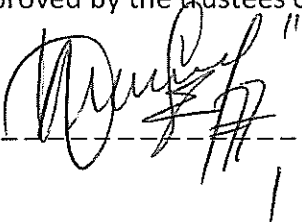
Manchester Refugee Support Network

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting principles and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provision of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees on 8TH October 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Chair of trustees

Ahmed Mohamed

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
MANCHESTER REFUGEE SUPPORT NETWORK
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1196560**

I report on the accounts of the charity, for the Period Ended 31ST March 2024 which are set out on pages 8 to 19.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity is preparing accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention :

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act,
- have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: E.L. Anderson

E.L. Anderson MA FCA CTA

Date: 8th October 2024

Community Accountancy Service Ltd
The Grange, Pilgrim Drive, Beswick,
Manchester, M11 3TQ

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024
(Including income & expenditure account)

				Year Ended 31.03.24	Period from 01.11.21 31.03.23
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total Funds £
INCOME FROM:					
Donations & Legacies	(2)	37,486	1,080	38,566	19,783
Charitable Income	(3)	108,153	558,430	666,583	462,949
Other Income		28	-	28	1,402
Investment Income		13	-	13	4
TOTAL		145,680	559,510	705,190	484,138
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Raising Funds	(4)	180	-	180	30
Charitable Activities	(4)	54,886	460,146	515,032	432,967
TOTAL		55,066	460,146	515,212	432,997
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR)					
Transfer between funds	(15)	90,614 (170)	99,364 170	189,978 -	51,141 -
Net income after transfers		90,444	99,534	189,978	51,141
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total Funds Transferred from 1109990		186,963	141,601	328,564	277,423
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	(15)	277,407	241,135	518,542	328,564

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year.

The notes on pages 11 to 19 form part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

CIO 1196560

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Fixed Assets	(10)	18,994	15,044
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	(12)	34,048	16,697
Cash at Bank and in Hand		<u>523,799</u>	<u>415,134</u>
		557,847	431,831
LIABILITIES:			
Amounts falling due within one year	(13)	<u>(58,299)</u>	<u>(118,311)</u>
		(58,299)	(118,311)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		499,548	313,520
NET ASSETS		<u>518,542</u>	<u>328,564</u>
ACCUMULATED FUNDS			
Unrestricted	(15)	277,407	186,963
Restricted	(15)	<u>241,135</u>	<u>141,601</u>
		<u>518,542</u>	<u>328,564</u>

Approved on behalf of the Board of Trustees



Trustee Addisu Tewolde

Date: 8th October 2024

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net movement in funds	189,978	51,141
Add back depreciation	10,072	8,008
Less Investment Income	(13)	(4)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(17,351)	(16,697)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(60,012)	118,311
Net Assets excluding cash transferred from old charity	-	(43,213)
Net cash used in operating activities	122,674	117,546
Cash flows from investment activities:		
Purchase of fixed assets	(14,022)	(6,625)
Investment Income	13	4
Net cash provided by investing activities	(14,009)	(6,621)
 Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents during the year	 108,665	 110,925
 Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	 415,134	 -
Transferred from old charity 1109990	-	304,209
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	523,799	415,134

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**(a) Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern**

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 1st January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

(b) Funds structure

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed. There were 33 restricted funds at the year end date.

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds may include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion have created a fund for a specific purpose.

Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 14.

(c) Income recognition

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank. Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

(d) Expenditure Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. For more information on this attribution refer to note (f) below.

(e) Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

(f) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to independent examination and legal fees together with an apportionment of overhead and support costs.

Governance costs and support costs relating to charitable activities have been apportioned based on staff time and facilities used in each activity.

The allocation of support and governance costs is analysed in note 6.

(g) Charitable Activities

Costs of charitable activities include governance costs and an apportionment of support costs as shown in Note 5.

(h) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are included in the accounts at net book value. Additions of a single item or a group of similar assets exceeding £500, are capitalised at cost (valuation for donated assets).

Depreciation is provided to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives as follows:-

Office Equipment & Furniture	25% on cost
Computers	33.3% on cost

(i) Taxation

The organisation is exempt from income tax by reason of its charitable status. Income tax suffered on investment income is reclaimed in full. The Charity is not currently registered for VAT.

(j) Pensions

The trustees implemented an auto enrolment pension scheme during 2016. The charity has no liability beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for the employee's contributions. Employer contributions are charged to expenditure as they fall due.

(k) Contingent liabilities

A contingent liability is identified and disclosed for those transactions resulting from a possible obligation which will only be confirmed by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the trustees' control.

(l) Operating Leases

Payments under operating leases are charged to the income and expenditure account in the period to which they relate.

(m) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

(n) Creditors and Provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of the funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

(o) Donated Goods, Facilities or Services

During the year goods to the approximate value of £850 were donated to the organisation in the form of food for the food bank. These donations are not reflected in the income and expenditure account.

(p) Costs of raising funds

The costs of raising funds consists of rental of a property which is sublet to homeless refugees.

2 DONATIONS & LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Donations	37,486	1,080	38,566	19,783	-	19,783
	37,486	1,080	38,566	19,783	-	19,783

3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
National Lottery Community Fund	-	89,148	89,148
Access to Justice	-	27,678	27,678
GMCA	-	24,500	24,500
GMIAU	-	14,259	14,259
Henry Smith Charity	-	70,000	70,000
Lloyds Foundation	25,000	-	25,000
Manchester City Council (RIS)	-	50,000	50,000
Manchester City Council (SASCA)	-	30,000	30,000
Manchester City Council (OMVCS & Other)	-	59,646	59,646
Refugee Action	-	123,305	123,305
Tudor Trust	-	31,004	31,004
Forever Manchester	-	5,000	5,000
MACC - Household Support Fund	-	28,650	28,650
MCC Destitution fund	-	240	240
Migrant Help	-	5,000	5,000
Income from Destitute Housing	23,064	-	23,064
The Fore Foundation	30,000	-	30,000
Other Grants	30,089	-	30,089
	108,153	558,430	666,583

Previous Year	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
National Lottery Community Fund	-	59,667	59,667
Access to Justice	-	46,210	46,210
Emerge	-	18,296	18,296
GMIAU	-	16,340	16,340
Greater Manchester Mayor	-	7,951	7,951
Lloyds Foundation	33,476	-	33,476
Manchester City Council (RIS)	-	37,500	37,500
Manchester City Council (SASCA)	-	39,400	39,400
Manchester City Council (VCS & Other)	-	43,540	43,540
Refugee Action	-	60,004	60,004
Tudor Trust	-	31,067	31,067
Wai Yin	-	5,000	5,000
Salford CVS	-	6,500	6,500
Forever Manchester	-	5,000	5,000
Sport England	-	4,950	4,950
MCC (HSF)	-	3,480	3,480
MCC Destitution fund (Somali)	-	4,780	4,780
Manchester BME Network	1,000	-	1,000
Income from Destitute Housing	17,788	-	17,788
Other Grants	21,000	-	21,000
	73,264	389,685	462,949

4 EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Local Giving membership	180	-	180	30	-	30
	180	-	180	30	-	30

5	EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Temporary Accommodation		Advice & Other Work	Total 2024
		£		£	£
	Employment Costs			270,138	270,138
	Freelance Workers			9,823	9,823
	Recruitment Costs			575	575
	DBS Costs			18	18
	Provision of temporary accommodation	12,839			12,839
	Service user refreshments			150	150
	Service user telephone			120	120
	Service user travel			250	250
	Food Supplies			2,147	2,147
	Project Partner			30,000	30,000
	Staff Travel			1,448	1,448
	Staff Training & Teambuilding			604	604
	Staff Refreshments			668	668
	Staff Appreciation			1,461	1,461
	Venue Hire, Events & Activities			4,905	4,905
	Subscriptions			1,846	1,846
	Household Support			28,220	28,220
	Volunteer Travel & Expenses			3,171	3,171
	Volunteer Rewards			2,975	2,975
	Support Costs			140,757	140,757
	Governance Costs			2,917	2,917
		12,839		502,193	515,032
					460,146
					54,886
					515,032

Previous Year	Temporary Accommodation		Advice & Other Work	2023
	£		£	£
Employment Costs			235,527	235,527
Freelance Workers			4,629	4,629
Provision of temporary accommodation	11,608			11,608
Interpreters			60	60
Service user refreshments			1,757	1,757
Service user telephone			762	762
Service user travel			621	621
Food Supplies			495	495
Childcare			60	60
Project Partner			36,960	36,960
Staff Travel			946	946
Staff Training & Teambuilding			3,569	3,569
Staff Refreshments			74	74
Venue Hire, Events & Activities			12,270	12,270
Grants made			1,250	1,250
Subscriptions			1,537	1,537
Destitution Payments			7,502	7,502
Volunteer Expenses			743	743
Volunteer Rewards			845	845
Support Costs	1,325		107,995	109,320
Governance Costs			2,432	2,432
	12,933		420,034	432,967
				429,825
				3,142
				432,967

6	ALLOCATION OF GOVERNANCE AND SUPPORT COSTS	Basis or Apportionment	General Support	Governance	2024 Total	2023 Total
			£	£	£	£
	Support Costs:					
	Employment Costs	Facilities Used	57,425	-	57,425	44,605
	Premises Costs	Facilities Used	22,629	-	22,629	25,100
	Repairs & Maintenance	Facilities Used	8,094	-	8,094	2,453
	Minor Equipment	Facilities Used	3,290	-	3,290	873
	Printing, Stationery & Postage	Facilities Used	3,633	-	3,633	1,800
	Cleaning & PPE	Facilities Used	3,063	-	3,063	3,059
	Telephone	Facilities Used	7,220	-	7,220	5,856
	Insurance	Facilities Used	775	-	775	743
	Equipment Rental	Facilities Used	1,680	-	1,680	1,677
	IT Support & Equipment	Facilities Used	7,436	-	7,436	4,631
	Depreciation	Facilities Used	10,072	-	10,072	8,008
	Book-keeping	Facilities Used	2,020	-	2,020	1,634
	Accountancy & Payroll	Governance	1,530	1,529	3,059	2,784
	Bank Charges	Facilities Used	486	-	486	515
	AGM & Management Committee	Governance	-	1,388	1,388	1,284
	Consultancy		4,176	-	4,176	4,521
	Legal Fees		5,829	-	5,829	1,325
	Sundry	Facilities Used	1,399	-	1,399	884
			<u>140,757</u>	<u>2,917</u>	<u>143,674</u>	<u>111,752</u>

7 STAFF COSTS

The charity considers its key management personnel comprises of the trustees and the manager. The total employment benefits, including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel were £57,425. No employee has benefits in excess of £60,000 .

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and Salaries	299,266	258,312
Redundancy	912	-
Social Security Costs	16,802	12,862
Pension Costs	10,583	8,958
	<u>327,563</u>	<u>280,132</u>

No employee earned £60,000 per annum or more.

The average number of employees during the year was 17 with a full time equivalent of 11:

	2024	2023
Services	10	10
Management	1	1
	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>

8 INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS FEES

	2024 £	2023 £
Independent examination fees	1,200	1,140
Other Services	3,879	3,792
	<u>5,079</u>	<u>4,932</u>

9 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

There are no related party transactions which require disclosure.

No remuneration was paid or payable to any of the trustees in respect of the period. Except as disclosed below no reimbursement of expenses has been made or is due to be made to any of the trustees in respect of the period.

		£
Travel Expenses	1 trustee	341
		<u>341</u>

10 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Building Improvements £	Computer Equipment £	Office Equip. & Furniture £	Total £
COST				
Brought forward at 1 April 2023	7,071	11,471	4,510	23,052
Additions	-	10,237	3,785	14,022
At 31 March 2024	7,071	21,708	8,295	37,074
DEPRECIATION				
Brought forward at 1 April 2023	643	5,778	1,587	8,008
Charge for the Period	643	6,896	2,533	10,072
At 31 March 2024	1,286	12,674	4,120	18,080
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 March 2024	5,785	9,034	4,175	18,994
At 31 March 2023	6,428	5,693	2,923	15,044

11 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Contracted but not provided for	nil	nil

12 DEBTORS

	2024 £	2023 £
Other Debtors	31,754	13,039
Prepayments	2,294	3,658
	34,048	16,697

In 2024 £33,413 (2023 £14,603) debtors and prepayments relates to restricted funds.

13 LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Other Creditors	1,029	7,901
Other Taxes & Social Security Costs	4,374	-
Accruals	4,759	4,564
Deferred Income	48,137	105,846
	58,299	118,311

In 2024 £52,896 (2023 £107,097) relates to restricted funds.

14 DEFERRED INCOME

	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income transferred from old charity	-	34,751
Balance brought forward	105,846	-
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(105,846)	(34,751)
Grant income deferred during the year	48,137	105,846
	48,137	105,846

15 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance at 1 April 2023	Incoming	Transfers	Outgoing	Balance 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds:					
National Lottery Community Fund	2,770	89,148		(86,623)	5,295
Emerge	10,234	-		-	10,234
Esme Fairbairn	5,000	-		-	5,000
Access To Justice	14,568	27,678		(22,187)	20,059
Forever Manchester -destitute project	1,914	-		-	1,914
Forever Manchester	3,724	5,000		(5,000)	3,724
Greater Manchester Mayors Fund	12,858	-		-	12,858
Joseph Levy Foundation	1,524	-	170	(1,694)	-
GMCA	-	24,500		(20,873)	3,627
Manchester City Council (Afghan Support)	3,130	-		-	3,130
Manchester City Council (DF Somali)	300	240		(320)	220
Manchester City Council (SASCA)	3,940	30,000		(30,000)	3,940
Manchester City Council (OMVCS)	11,325	59,646		(57,186)	13,785
Manchester City Council (RIS)	-	50,000		(50,000)	-
Manchester City Council (HSF)	140	-		-	140
Salford CVS	3,642	-		-	3,642
Refugee Action	(2,379)	123,305		(81,932)	38,994
Tudor Trust	12,229	31,004		(22,425)	20,808
Migrant Help	-	5,000		(710)	4,290
UK Community Foundation	9,670	-		-	9,670
Sport England	2,579	-		(1,337)	1,242
Lloyds Foundation	11,646	-		-	11,646
Wai Yin	11,734	-		-	11,734
Carnegie UK Trust	2,270	-		-	2,270
Donation - Eat Well Get Well	-	1,080		(700)	380
Henry Smith Charity	-	70,000		(37,926)	32,074
MACC	1,390	-		(200)	1,190
MACC - HSF	-	28,650		(28,650)	-
Minor Grants	1,290	-		-	1,290
GMIAU	-	14,259		(11,252)	3,007
British Red Cross	284	-		(284)	-
Destitution & Crisis Funds					-
Crisis Covid	4,900	-		-	4,900
Groundwork UK	500	-		-	500
RAFT	4,153	-		-	4,153
Restricted Donations	551	-		(276)	275
Capital					-
Clothworker	5,715	-		(571)	5,144
Total Restricted Funds:	141,601	559,510	170	(460,146)	241,135
Unrestricted Funds:					
Designated - Building Fund	25,000	25,000		-	50,000
General	161,963	120,680	(170)	(55,066)	227,407
Total Unrestricted Funds:	186,963	145,680	(170)	(55,066)	277,407
	328,564	705,190	-	(515,212)	518,542

Designated Fund - Building Fund

The trustees have decided to set aside surpluses from unrestricted funds towards the establishment of a an MRSN building.

14 Cont...	Transferred from MRSN old charity on 1st April 2022	Incoming	Outgoing	Balance 31 March 2023
Previous Year				
Restricted Funds:	£	£	£	£
National Lottery Community Fund	13,508	59,667	(70,405)	2,770
Emerge	2,614	18,296	(10,676)	10,234
Esme Fairbairn	5,000	-	-	5,000
Access To Justice	173	46,210	(31,815)	14,568
Forever Manchester -destitute project	3,923	-	(2,009)	1,914
Forever Manchester	-	5,000	(1,276)	3,724
Greater Manchester Mayors Fund	4,907	7,951	-	12,858
Joseph Levy Foundation	3,218	-	(1,694)	1,524
Manchester City Council (equality)	719	-	(719)	-
Manchester City Council (Afghan Support)	3,130	-	-	3,130
Manchester City Council (DF Somali)	-	4,780	(4,480)	300
Manchester City Council (SASCA)	-	39,400	(35,460)	3,940
Manchester City Council (OMVCS)	-	43,540	(32,215)	11,325
Manchester City Council (RIS)	-	37,500	(37,500)	-
Manchester City Council (HSF)	-	3,480	(3,340)	140
Salford CVS	-	6,500	(2,858)	3,642
Refugee Action	75,770	60,004	(138,153)	(2,379)
Tudor Trust	-	31,067	(18,838)	12,229
UK Community Foundation	10,440	-	(770)	9,670
Sport England	3,456	4,950	(5,827)	2,579
Lloyds Foundation	12,313	-	(667)	11,646
Wai Yin	6,734	5,000	-	11,734
Carnegie UK Trust	2,770	-	(500)	2,270
BBC Children in Need	26	-	(26)	-
BBC Children in Need: Covid	33	-	(33)	-
MACC	1,390	-	-	1,390
Minor Grants	2,540	-	(1,250)	1,290
GMIAU	534	16,340	(16,874)	-
MIND	330	-	(330)	-
WEA	11,042	-	(11,042)	-
British Red Cross	741	-	(457)	284
Destitution & Crisis Funds				
Crisis Covid	4,900	-	-	4,900
Groundwork UK	500	-	-	500
RAFT	4,153	-	-	4,153
Restricted Donations	591	-	(40)	551
Capital				
Clothworker	6,286	-	(571)	5,715
Total Restricted Funds:	181,741	389,685	(429,825)	141,601
Unrestricted Funds:				
Designated - Building Fund	-	25,000	-	25,000
General	95,682	69,453	(3,172)	161,963
Total Unrestricted Funds:	95,682	94,453	(3,172)	186,963
	277,423	484,138	(432,997)	328,564

Purpose of funds:-

Destitution Fund & Welfare Grants

National Lottery Community Fund

Emerge

Esme Fairbairn

Big Lottery

Access To Justice

Forever Manchester

Greater Manchester Mayor

Joseph Levy Foundation

GMCA

Migrant Help

to assist individuals experiencing hardship

towards Shared Route project

towards the Emerge 3Rs Rafiki Project

towards the Afghan Refugees settlement process

towards general advice project & community development

towards welfare & immigration advice workers

towards community development work

towards refugee integration service & salary costs

towards destitute project costs & IT upgrade

towards English language education, volunteering & community participation

towards IT and garden costs

The Henry Smith Charity	towards the employment costs of three advice workers
Manchester City Council OMVCS	General Advice & Community Development Project
Manchester City Council RIS	towards RIS workers
Salford CVS	towards cancer awareness work
Refugee Action	towards housing project, experts by experience & asylum guide
Tudor Trust	towards manager salary costs
UK Community Foundation	towards community development work & capacity building
Sport England	towards health & wellbeing project
Lloyds Foundation	towards project worker costs
Wai YIN	towards the Old people project (OPEN)
Carnegie UK Trust	towards training costs including travel
MACC	towards costs of migrant destitution fund & household support
GMIAU	Justice Together grant towards OISC level 2 worker
British Red Cross	towards activity costs
Restricted Donations	donations towards destitution project
Clothworker	towards centre refurbishment. Balance represents future depreciation

16 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £
Tangible fixed assets	16,975	2,019	18,994
Cash at bank and in hand	265,200	258,599	523,799
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(4,768)	(19,483)	(24,251)
Total	277,407	241,135	518,542

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total £
Previous Year			
Tangible fixed assets			
Cash at bank and in hand	391	14,653	15,044
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	195,692	219,442	415,134
Total	(9,120)	(92,494)	(101,614)
	186,963	141,601	328,564

17 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There were no contingent liabilities at 31st March 2024 (2023 £nil)..

18 OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The charity has the following annual commitment under operating leases.	Equipment 2024 £	Land and Buildings 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Operating leases which expire:				
within one year	-	6,100	6,100	7,220
between 2 and 5 years	-	18,300	18,300	18,300
after 5 years	-	27,450	27,450	33,550
	-	51,850	51,850	59,070

The 15 year lease in respect of the property at Princess Road, Manchester, ran to November 2033 and is in the process of being renewed.

19 POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

The Trustees do not consider that there have been any events since the balance sheet date that impact materially on the financial statements.

20 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The organisation only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised on a transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at an amortised cost using the effective interest method.

21 GOING CONCERN

The company's main source of income is grant funding. The trustees consider that it is appropriate to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis and, consequently, the accounts do not include any adjustments that would be necessary if the funding income should cease.



MANCHESTER REFUGEE SUPPORT NETWORK

ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 2023/2024



LETTER FROM OUR MANAGER

Welcome to our annual report 2023-24. It has been a busy time at MRSN as we all continually work to improve our services for refugees and people seeking asylum. I am writing this following the mass counter-demonstrations resulting from extremist riots that faced many areas of the country. It was heart-warming to receive good wishes and support from individuals and organisations who recognise the difficult work carried out by MRSN, and other fellow organisations. Over the past 3 months we have been working to review and set out our future direction. Supported by Lloyd's business consultant, MRSN staff, trustees and clients were reminded of the importance of revisiting our aims and objectives. MRSN is a local registered charity with a clear vision –We want to help build a society in which refugees are welcome, respected and safe and be a place where they can achieve their full potential. Established in 1995 by local people, we work to support individuals and build strong refugee community organisations that contribute to the life of our city.

Manchester has always been a place for people fleeing from persecution and extreme hardship in their homeland. Our clients often experience major challenges and trauma on their journey here. Once here they face an increasingly complex and inefficient legal system and often struggle to get even basic support and help. The past few years has seen the deliberate fostering of a hostile environment based on misinformation and prejudice. All indications are that migration will continue and the city will continue to need a dedicated agency supporting people seeking asylum and helping refugees settle and play a full part in their new community.

MRSN are proud to be a central organisation that contributes to that vital support. We offer our thanks to all those that choose to fund and support our charitable work. I hope you enjoy reading about our development and successes 2023-2024 and our plans for the future.

In Peace
Belay Kahsay
CEO of MRSN



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OUR AIMS



SUPPORT

To support refugees to access services and opportunities on an equal basis, in order to prevent all forms of poverty and allow individuals to fulfil their potential.



EDUCATE

To educate refugees and asylum seekers on their rights and responsibilities as active citizens, and contribute to positive media representation of refugees.



EMPOWER

To empower refugees to establish strong community organisations and provide platforms for them to represent the needs and aspirations of their communities.



OUR OBJECTIVES

1

To advance education and relieve financial hardship amongst those seeking asylum and those granted refugee status particularly by the provision of legal and other advice.

2

To support and promote the physical and mental health of asylum seekers, refugees and their dependents.

3

To advance the education and training of those granted refugee status and their dependents in need thereof so as to advance them in life and assist them to adapt within a new community.

4

To advance the education and knowledge of the public in general about the issues relating to refugees and those seeking asylum.

5

The provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life of those persons who have need of such facilities by reason of their age, race, gender, religion, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances.

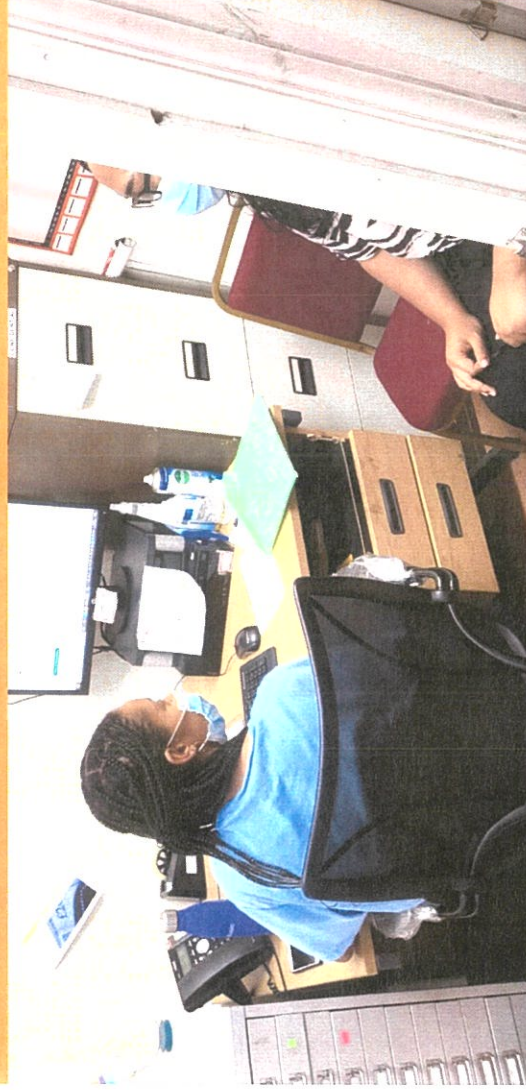
6

To relieve the effects of financial poverty on refugees and asylum seekers through the provision of temporary accommodation.

GENERAL REFUGEE ADVICE

Over the last year, Charlotte has taken over the coordination of General Refugee Advice, and Birhanemeskel was recruited as Refugee Advice Worker. They have continued to provide high quality support through their drop ins and appointments.

This project continues to be phenomenally supported by our fantastic volunteers and Charlotte has been expanding the training provided to volunteers.



I am very satisfied with what you have done for me!
Many people's lives have changed with your help.
Thank you very much for what you have done!

FEEDBACK FROM OUR CLIENTS THIS YEAR

751 INDIVIDUAL CLIENTS WERE SUPPORTED
1182 CASES WERE OPENED



34

CASES OPENED
RELATING TO ACCESS
TO EDUCATION

83

CASES OF SUPPORT
WITH UNIVERSAL
CREDIT

17

CASES TO SUPPORT
ACCESS TO
EMPLOYMENT AND
VOLUNTEERING

299 

CASES TO SUPPORT
WITH ACCESS TO
HOUSING (EXCLUDING
MANCHESTER MOVE)

148



CASES TO SUPPORT
WITH ACCESS TO
HEALTHCARE

147

CASES OF OPENING
MANCHESTER MOVE
APPLICATIONS

IMMIGRATION ADVICE

This year Alex, Bridget and Kira have been managing the project alongside a great team of volunteers. The team have been continuing to work hard to expand their own immigration expertise in order that we can provide more support to clients. We would also like to congratulate Kira, who not only moved into a role with MRSN in the last year, but passed the OISC Level 1 immigration/asylum.



The staff's patience and calmness in responding to the refugees was far beyond my imagination.

Very good service and wonderful and helpful people are working hard to help us to get our rights.

FEEDBACK FROM OUR CLIENTS THIS YEAR

797 INDIVIDUAL CLIENTS WERE SUPPORTED
1054 CASES WERE OPENED

13 INDEFINITE LEAVE TO
REMAIN
APPLICATIONS

220 CASES TO SUPPORT
WITH CITIZENSHIP
APPLICATIONS

389 CASES TO SUPPORT
WITH TRAVEL
DOCUMENTS

99 CASES TO PROVIDE
SUPPORT FOR ASYLUM
SEEKERS



13 VOLUNTEERS
SUPPORTED THE
PROJECT THIS
YEAR

SHARED ROUTES PROJECT

The Shared Routes Project has continued to build upon its reputation of high quality training and support. Over the last year, the team have provided 4 courses, and built even more pathways to accessing volunteer opportunities, including placing people within internal volunteer roles within other projects in MRSN.

77 PEER NAVIGATORS COMPLETED THE
TRAINING THIS YEAR

58 PEER NAVIGATORS PLACED IN
VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

80% PEER NAVIGATORS REPORTED
INCREASED CONFIDENCE FOLLOWING
TRAINING.

85% PEER NAVIGATORS REPORTED MAKING
FRIENDS ON THE COURSE.



100% PEER NAVIGATORS REPORTED
IMPROVED SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

100% PEER NAVIGATORS REPORTED
IMPROVED KNOWLEDGE AND
UNDERSTANDING OF UK AGENCIES

I enjoyed the training very much and I can now volunteer in the field that I love because when I started thinking about it I didn't know how to get into the sustainability field. I want to thank you and all the team for this amazing opportunity for me.

QUOTE FROM PEER NAVIGATOR

I've managed to register at local Bolton CVS who help me to find a volunteer job during the Shared Routes Project course. I felt very confident during the interview as I learnt job interview skills through the Shared Routes course. Also the course trainers are very kind and professional and I used them as a job reference. Thank you MRSN for all ongoing help and support.

QUOTE FROM PEER NAVIGATOR

EXPERT BY EXPERIENCE

In the year 2023-2024, the group has been busy engaging with many other external partners including The Woolf Institute in Cambridge in the launch of their report on Refugees Integration, we have worked with the RSMP (Regional Strategic Migration Partnership) in Manchester to provide Lived Experience input for building their website, we have also worked with the GMCA (Greater Manchester Combines Authority).



4

EbE group members took part in the Communities Not Camps event and workshop campaign hosted by Home in Manchester in collaboration with Refugee Action and Asylum Matters.

5

EbE members have also been involved in discussions with Manchester City Council in their process to become a council of Sanctuary; we are proud to be invited among other organisations that support refugees and people seeking in the region to take part in the Manchester City Council stakeholder event for further discussion around MCC to become a council of sanctuary.

3

EbE group members have worked in collaboration with the developer CAST and the funder DISRUPT to co-design the Greater Manchester referral platform -Kompasi- which was finally live in May this year 2024 and the EbE group is proud to have been involved in the design process from start to completion.

The EbE is going from strength to strength and we are very proud to say that we are Great!

ASYLUM SUPPORT PROJECT

After the closure of the Asylum Guide project, in partnership with Refugee Action, the now named Asylum Support Project reopened in September 2023 when our long time coordinator Bridget came back to work.

SINCE SEPTEMBER WE HAVE:

331 NEW CLIENTS WERE SUPPORTED WITH CASEWORK

12 UNDERAGE ASYLUM SEEKERS WERE HELPED AFTER BEING INCORRECTLY AGED BY THE HOME OFFICE

30 ASYLUM SEEKERS WERE SUPPORTED TO LODGE AN APPEAL

We have helped roughly 30 asylum seekers lodge an appeal, who have been unrepresented at the appeal stage, to have a second chance to argue their case. Unfortunately access to legal aid solicitors is very limited at the moment, but we have had some success in referring these clients on to IAS, UKIL and Bately Law solicitors so they don't go to the appeal hearing unrepresented.



CASE STUDY OF SUPPORTING A HOMELESS FAMILY

The following case is a great example of the integral role support organisations play. The asylum system is complicated and even amongst organisations like the council and the Home Office it isn't always clear where responsibility lies.

We had a family come into the drop-in who had been sporadically homeless over 2 years and wanted help requesting emergency accommodation. After speaking with Migrant Help, it was discovered that their asylum case had been withdrawn. This meant the Home Office had no duty to house them. As the family had 3 young children, all under 10, the council would have a duty to house the family under section 17 of the children's act. We helped them call the council who said they would call the family back soon about housing.

Later that week at the immigration drop-in, I discovered the council had instructed them to go to the police but they hadn't done so as they'd tried that previously and found it to be unhelpful. Therefore, together we called the council and they initially said their case had been closed as they hadn't followed previous instructions. After some back and forth, they agreed to reopen the case and refer them to children's services and the NRPF team.

The NRPF team contacted us and said it wasn't their area but they would try and help anyway. Children's services contacted us and said they could house them until Monday when their appeal could be accepted and the Home Office would then house them. After explaining the situation to the Home Office, I was told the staff member there would have to speak to their manager and get back to me.

I managed to arrange NRPF team to house the family in a hotel until Monday with the hopes we would've heard back from the Home Office by then. They told me to contact children's services and arrange a one-off £50 payment to assist them in the meantime.

By Monday I still hadn't received a response from the Home Office so I made an appointment for them at further submissions unit in Liverpool for the Friday of that week, as an alternative way to reopen their asylum claim. The NRPF team agreed to house them until the following Monday. I also arranged a food parcel for them to collect on during the week.

The following Friday the client attended his further submissions appointment and I was then able to take steps to get them housing. After discussions with ACM and the NRPF team about whether the case is relevant to schedule 10, section 17, section 98 or section 95, we decided to apply for emergency housing through the Home Office. We also had to chase up the council and police for letters stating the steps taken on the family's part and why the support could not be provided, as evidence that they were eligible for alternative support. By Tuesday the family are being housed by the Home Office.

Later that month, I was contacted by the client as his section 95 support application had been rejected without the right to appeal. I contacted ACM again to discuss and they said they would assist him in appealing on the grounds his asylum claim was withdrawn previously without following Home Office guidance. They were successful and the client and his family have continued to be supported by the Home Office and we hope they now will have a stable living situation.

HOTEL PROJECT

Jennifer started as an Asylum Hotel Coordinator in April 2023 providing ESOL and wellbeing support to the adults and playful activities for the young children within 1 hotel in Manchester. We then expanded to support two further hotels housing men.

18 VOLUNTEERS SUPPORT THE ESOL PROJECT EVERY WEEK

15 VOLUNTEERS PROVIDE ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

UPTO 25 ATTENDEES AT EACH ESOL CLASS

UPTO 80 CHILDREN ATTENDED PARTY EVENTS

ABOUT OUR ACTIVITIES

ESOL

For 2 hours every week we provide ESOL for adult females. We have two qualified teachers offering their support to the needs of the captive audience. The teaching materials used were very well sourced from established and trusted ESOL providers online for us to explore and obtain to suit the needs of the recipients. The ESOL classes at both the male only hotels were similar in execution but tweaked to meet varied levels of understanding.



EVENTS

We put on many events for the occupants of the hotels some of them included fun days with bouncy castles, magicians, circus acts and food and exciting cakes. We organised Christmas parties for the ESOL classes and gave gifts to everyone who attended. We took the ESOL groups for coffee and cakes. There were many occasions for joyful conversations to alleviate anxiety, isolation and depression.

CHILDREN

Every week we set up at the hotel for activities with the children and this included, board games for the teenagers, reading materials, jigsaw puzzles, crafts, games with small prizes and some fun games including football which we were supported by Street League who came each week and took those who wanted to take part outside to have a kick around.

ARTS AND CRAFTS

This was supported by 3 ladies from Refugee Aid who came fortnightly to encourage the women to join in learning to knit and crotchet and do embroidery too. Many of the women already had this as a previous skill so totally enjoyed regaining the opportunity to get back into it again and to also teach their skill to those who wanted to learn. We all worked collaboratively to make it a successful and welcoming space.

MANCHESTER URBAN DIGGERS

We are thankful as well to the collaboration with Manchester Urban Diggers. This charity is for those who enjoyed sharing a special peaceful space with the community whilst if possible planting a few fruit and veg, or assisting with harvesting. People can also partake in music, singing, cooking and or joining in conversational English or just eating healthy organic food together. This allotment space broke barriers in so many ways, alleviated some symptoms of anxiety and depression.

YOGA

Yoga became a welcomed space for one hour each fortnight whilst children were at school and the women could take some time for themselves. Rosalind our volunteer professional teacher ran the sessions and brought relief and relaxation to women who knew what it meant to their wellbeing.



REFUGEE INTEGRATION SERVICE

Over the last year the RIS project has seen some considerable changes. In May, due to a cut in funding the Housing Access Scheme (HAS), a sister project of RIS and managed by RIS staff, had to close.

As a result of this reduction in funding, we had to let go two of our part time staff members, Hassan and Tsegaye who were not only excellent in their roles but also provided multilingual support. This meant the project struggled to deliver at its usual capacity.

However, RIS have managed to secure some excellent volunteers from our Shared Routes Project, in Tamador and Portia who are an enormous help in triage, translation and some casework.

Beyond internal staffing, housing has become an increasingly complex area as the council are reducing the level of assistance to all groups and family reunion is no longer being funded. We have seen housing allowance increase which is positive as it encourages private landlords to get on board with housing our clients, which could open more options to clients.

DESPITE THESE CHANGES, THE PROJECT HAS INCREASED THEIR SUPPORT FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

171*

322

**CASES OPENED IN
2023/2024**

116*

245

**INDIVIDUAL CLIENTS
SUPPORTED IN 2023/24**



WHO RIS SUPPORT:

- people who have received refugee status in the last 9 months.
- people with learning difficulties
- people with mental or physical disabilities
- people who are pensionable age

203 CASES RELATED TO SUPPORT WITH HOUSING

36 CASES RELATED TO MANCHESTER MOVE

3 CASES RELATED TO ACCESS TO EDUCATION

**29 CASES SUPPORTING WITH BENEFITS,
GRANTS AND LOANS**

**13 CASES SUPPORTING WITH IMMIGRATION
ISSUES**

**4 CASES SUPPORTING WITH ACCESS TO
HEALTHCARE**

8 CASES SUPPORTING WITH TAXES AND BILLS

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Refugee Health and Wellbeing provide Health and wellbeing support to refugees and asylum seekers. MRSN offers a range of services and support to enable people to lead healthy and fulfilling lives. As well as physical exercise and football sessions, the project give one-to-one support and organizes healthy living workshops. Support is also provided around issues such as access to health and mental health care, volunteering, or joining support groups

The project is helping around 120 refugees and asylum seekers every week to lead healthy and fulfilling lives and improve their wellbeing and health.



REFUGEE WEEK 2023

Over the week of June 20th – June 26th, charities across the UK were taking time to celebrate Refugee Week, whilst focusing on the theme of Healing. To celebrate it ourselves, we ran our annual and favourite tradition of the Refugee World Cup. Teams came from across Greater Manchester to compete and it was a spectacular and thoroughly enjoyable event for all involved.

We plan to continue our tradition in 2024 with another Refugee World Cup. Please check our website and social media for updates on this.

120
REFUGEES
SUPPORTED EACH
WEEK



OUR FUNDERS

- AB Charitable Trust
- Access To Justice Foundation
- Forever Manchester
- GMCA
- Henry Smith
- Lloyds Bank Foundation
- MACC
- Manchester City Council
- National Lottery Community Fund
- Newby Trust
- Refugee Action
- Sported
- Sport England
- The Bulldog Trust
- The Tudor Trust



OUR PARTNERS

- ACM
- Asylum Aid
- Asylum Matters
- Bately Law Solicitors
- Boaz Trust
- British Red Cross
- Care4Calais
- Caritas
- CAST
- Chorlton Refugee Aid
- Citizen's Advice Bureau
- City of Sanctuary
- Cornerstones
- DISRUPT
- Emerge/touchwood
- ESOL Manchester
- Flow Max Group
- Freedom From Torture
- Greater Manchester
- Combines Authority
- Greater Manchester
- Immigration Aid Unit
- Growing together
- Levenshulme
- Home in Manchester
- IAS
- Manchester BME Network
- Manchester City Council
- Manchester Metropolitan University
- Manchester Urban Diggers
- Maz Linford
- Migrant Help
- Nathan Dale Gardners
- Nazarene Theological College
- NIA Centre
- NRPF
- One Manchester
- Precision Dentist Clinic
- PRIDES
- Princess Butcher
- Project 17
- Projekts
- Rainbow Haven
- Refugee Action
- Refugee Aid
- Refugees at Home
- Regional Strategic
- Migration Partnership
- Revive
- Salvation Army
- SASCA
- Save the Children
- Shelter
- St James Church
- Street League
- The Little Sri Lankan
- The Mustard Tree
- The Woolf Institute
- UKIL
- Women's Aid

FINANCIAL REVIEW

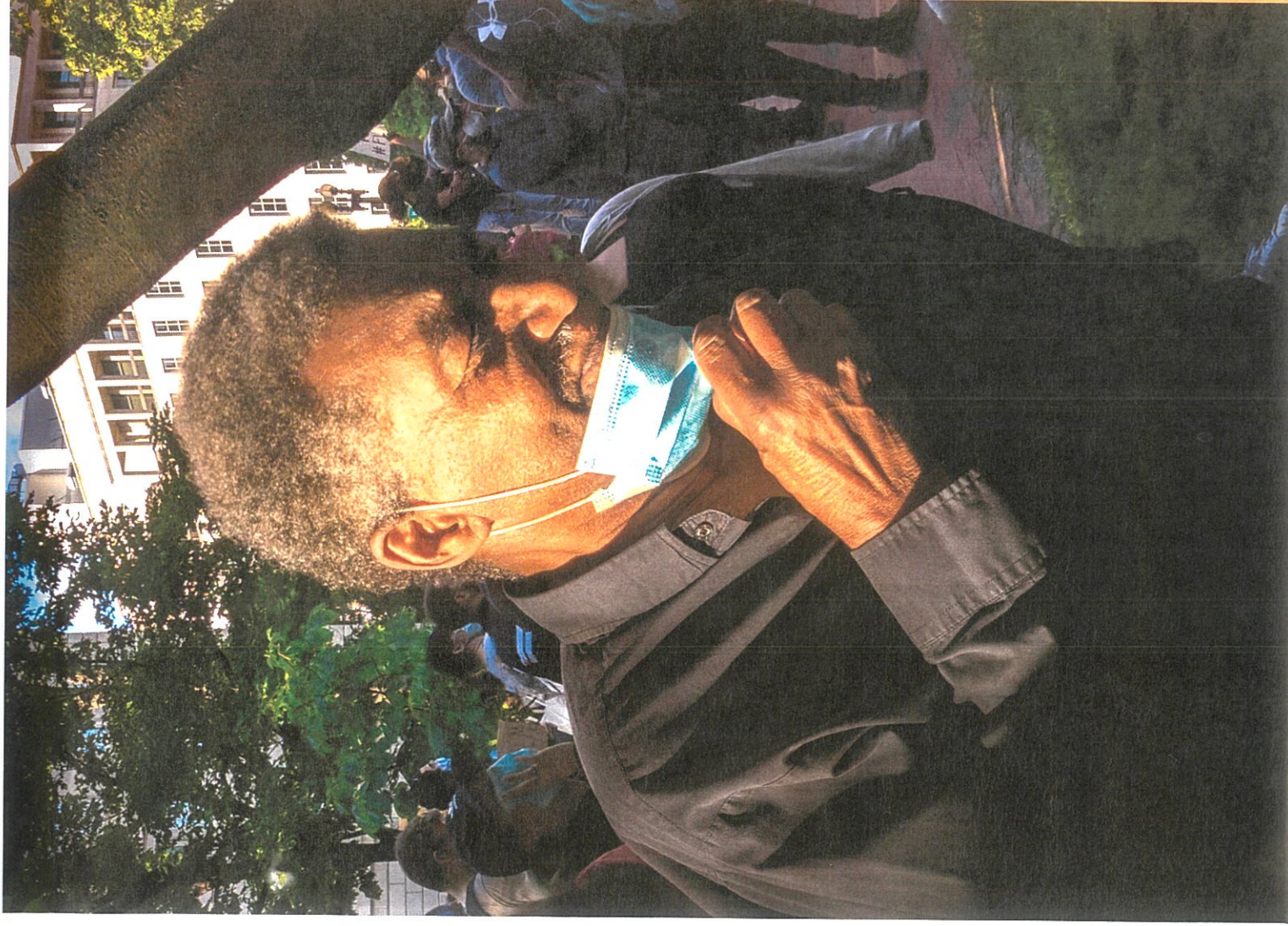
INCOME: £705,190.00

GIFTS AND DONATIONS: 5.5%
CHARITABLE INCOME: 94.5%
OTHER INCOME: 0.01%

EXPENDITURE: £515,212.00

RAISING FUNDS: 0.1%
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES: 99.9%

NET INCOME: £189,978.00
TOTAL FUNDS AT START OF YEAR: £328,564.00
TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR: £518,542.00





Registered charity number: 1196560

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Member of

advice UK

