

MASH COMMUNITY SUPPORT NETWORK

Annual return FOR the period

1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

1. **Trustees:** Jean Daniel Diboundje (Chairman), Divine Nguelo'o (Secretary), Julienne Nadege Avomo

President: Jean Daniel Diboundje

Resigned: Virgine Kouam, Phanie Fotso, Reine Kamdem

2. **Volunteers:** Virgine Kouam (Chief Executive Officer), Phanie Fotso (Treasurer), Reine Kamdem (Secretary). We also count two Social Worker as volunteers on board.

3. **Chairman's Report** – Jean Daniel Diboundje

- a. The Chairman started his report by thanking Trustee and volunteer for their hard work over the year.
- b. The Chairman thanked the Trustees, volunteers and carers who have been fantastic over the last year, without their help the charity could not operate.
- c. Virgine Kouam, Phanie Fotso, and Reine Kamdem resigned from their position as trustees. However, remains in the organisation as volunteers and they have been assigned valuable task for the daily activities.
- d. We have accounted more volunteers this year compare to previous years. Some of our volunteers are student from high school who are looking to complete 60 hours voluntary placement for their Duke of Edinburgh project.
- e. More experience volunteers, Social Workers with cultural sensitivity, as indicated at the last General Meeting, to help address families' emotional and psychological are still needed.
- f. We have 12 Children, 2 Activity Leaders and 6 wonderful volunteers who has been a great asset.
- g. Through the year, we run friendly session, 3 hours per week, for children and young adult, engaging them to play in order to build they skill and social interaction.
- h. We have secured a space in Blackly area where we are planning move to by the end of June; as soon as the renovation is completed and the environment is safe for all.
- i. Fund raising has gone well this year with funding and donation. Thanks to National Lottery and Costco for they support. A big thanks to the community for their donation; thank you to all of you who have helped us Support African and Caribbean, not limited to, families living with Special Needs Children.

Treasurer's Report – Phanie Fotso as acting Treasurer. The Accounts for the financial year ended 31st December 2025 were Approved.

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31st December 2025

	<u>2025</u>
<u>INCOME</u>	£
Restricted Fund	19,900.00
Donations/Legacies	5,761.00
Fundraising Activities	3,207.05
Volunteers Contribution	---
Other trading activities	2,881.95
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	<u>31,750.00</u>
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	£
Individual Support	2,000.00
Membership and Insurance	280.00
DBS	132.00
Media and Advertising	1500.00
Rent (Space)	6,240.00
Equipment	2,800.00
Fundraising	1,750.00
Volunteers	1,250.00
Building Renovation	4,307.00
Refreshment	2,700.00
Staff Paid	5,500.00
Clothing	255.00
Training	250.00
Miscellaneous	1,188.00
<u>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>30,152.00</u>
Annual Surplus/(Deficit)	1,525.01
Balance at 31 December 2024	55.00
<u>TOTAL SURPLUS</u>	<u>1,580.01</u>
BALANCES 31ST DECEMBER 2025	£
Cash in Hand	72.99
Current Account	1580.01
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>2,025.01</u>

NOTES

- ✓ We have been funded by the National Lottery, Costco Wholesale, and private donators, there are no government grant or legacies to report;
- ✓ Primary fundraising activities were handmade sale during event such as Christmas event and community festival;
- ✓ This is handmade is done by our volunteers and Service Users;
- ✓ Trustees Declare that Expert accountant will be reviewing current account by the end of June 2026.

4. **Safeguarding Report:** No issues to report this past 12 months. Volunteers are clear on actions to be taken and the Safeguarding Lead person, Virginie Kouam, is well known by all volunteers, children/young adult and their family for easy approach.
5. **Activity Leaders Report:** As part of our mission to support disabled children/young adult and their families in the African and Caribbean community, not limited to, Mash Community Support Network Set up and run 3 hours per week recreation activities for children and young people with needs. This experience went very well as we were able see engaging on what we offer. We believe that in long term, this recreation activities could be a rehabilitation group session where children and young people will be able to build social interaction skill, confidence, and independent.

We also carry on contacting more families and outreach efforts over the past year. This report documents our interactions, key findings, the needs expressed by families during this crucial first step, and the action plan for the following years. Also, how it was grateful to be supported by those who share our causes.

- ✓ ***We used multiple strategies to connect with families such as:***
 - Collaborated with local churches, School, African and Caribbean businesses Owner, attending community events and advocacy groups.
 - We also targeted neighbourhoods with known accessibility challenges.
 - We Hosted online meeting with families who are uncomfortable with in-person meetings.
 - Gather professional to help identifying families in need.
- ✓ ***As we progressing when interacting with families, below are Key Findings***
 - Many families are not aware of services available to support they family needs. And for families who are aware of those services, they struggled to access them
 - In most of the families, we have a single mum due to the numerous challenge that come with a special needs child
 - Mum reported feeling alone, with limited support networks. They avoided seeking help due to misconceptions about disabilities in the African and Caribbean community.
 - High costs of caregiving impacted parents is one of our findings. Mum are not able to work or, work full-time due to the time giving as carer.
- ✓ ***Action plan identified for the following years are as follow:***
 - Set up a respite care with recreational activities for children with needs to allow parents to take break from caring
 - Help navigating Education and Health Care Plan system
 - Support families with adaptive activities, toys and learning materials for their special needs child and sibling
 - Creating culturally competent support group to share experiences
 - Works in partnership with professional to ensure that healthcare, educational, and support services are culturally sensitive and tailored to the needs of those families

- Provides access to culturally competent mental health services to address families' emotional and psychological needs

Our contact with families revealed deep needs. This has laid a strong foundation of love, advocacy, and tangible support for children with disabilities and their families in the African and Caribbean communities, not limited to. With continued collaboration and a faith-driven commitment, we will continue to break barriers and nurture brighter futures. Seeds for lasting change have been planted.