



**CHARITABLE INCORPORATED
ORGANISATION**

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

**CHARITY COMMISSION NUMBER:
1201881**

CREATING HOPE CIO
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER 2024
CONTENTS

Page	
Reference and Administrative Details	1
Annual Report	2-7
Independent Examiners Report	8
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10
Notes to the Accounts	11-14

CREATING HOPE CIO

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Trustees	Timothy Croxson Katherine Parsons Anthony Thompson Shernaz Wadia
Key Management Personnel	Trustees (see above) Rona Forzani – Head of Service Andrew Blackburn - Treasurer
Principal address	1c Manor Place, Sutton, SM1 4BB
Bankers	HSBC UK 139A North End Croydon Surrey CR0 1TN
Independent Examiner	JCS Accountants Ltd 5 Robin Hood Lane Sutton Surrey SM1 2SW
Legal Status	Creating Hope is a registered charity (no. 1201881) governed by a Trust Deed and a CIO.

CREATING HOPE CIO

ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees of the Creating Hope CIO present their second Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024. The accounts are prepared in accordance with the Accounting Regulations set out under the Charities Act 2011, and with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing accounts in accordance with FRS102.

Structure, governance and management

The name of the CIO is Creating Hope CIO. It is registered with the Charity Commission (number 1201881).

Constitution

The property of Creating Hope is vested in a trust, governed by a declaration of Trust dated 15 December 2022.

The Trustees set the overarching strategic approach and policy framework within which Creating Hope operates and are responsible for managing the affairs of the CIO. The Trustees met 5 times in 2024. Working closely with the Trustees, the Head of Service Rona Forzani is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the charity.

Appointment and training of Trustees

There were no changes to the board of Trustees in 2024.

Creating Hope has a standard induction and training programme for all new Trustees. This includes meetings with members of the current and any outgoing members of the Board of Trustees. New Trustees will also be meeting key volunteers and taking part in visits to learn about the work of the Charity. Trustees are encouraged to take up the opportunity to attend relevant external training courses and conferences.

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the charity are the Trustees, the Treasurer, Andrew Blackburn, and the Head of Service, Rona Forzani. Since the formation of the charity in December 2022, the Trustees have worked closely with Rona to put in place an effective management structure that is fit for purpose for an organization of this scale. The Treasurer attends every Trustees Meeting and is a member of the Finance Sub committee.

The management of the charity comprises 3 main elements:

- (a) **Regular Trustees meetings** – we held 5 meetings in 2024. The Trustees meetings ensure the Trustees maintain strategic oversight of all aspects of the charity. All Trustees meetings are attended by all Trustees, the Head of Service and the Treasurer.
- (b) **Three sub committees** (that meet termly) with the following areas of responsibility:
 - (i) **Strategy:** the future programming of services, courses and events, plus fund raising, marketing and communication with our potential clients and supporters;
 - (ii) **Operations:** the recruitment, training & safeguarding of our staff and volunteers and development and review of our policies;
 - (iii) **Finance:** all financial operations of the charity and oversight of relevant policies and practices

All the sub committees are chaired by a Trustee and attended by the Head of Service. The Treasurer is a member of the Finance Sub Committee.

CREATING HOPE CIO

ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

- (c) **The Head of Service** is responsible for all aspects of the day-to-day running of the Charity and has regular meetings with each of the Trustees.

Three Trustees received no remuneration for their work as Trustees or volunteers for Creating Hope, apart from the reimbursement of expenses incurred in the normal course of the charity's operation. One Trustee is an employee of C3 UnitedLife and is seconded part time to Creating Hope. The Head of Service, who works part time, is also seconded from C3 UnitedLife. Creating Hope reimburses the cost of these two part time secondees to C3 United Life at a rate equivalent to the rate paid by C3 UnitedLife directly.

Risk management

The Trustees believe they are aware of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and that controls are in place to mitigate them. At every Trustee meeting we specifically consider whether any safeguarding concerns or risks have emerged to the Trust. Our management of risk is further strengthened by the operation of 3 sub-committees which are outlined above. These sub committees report back at every Trustee meeting.

The Trustees consider the principal risks and uncertainties facing the charity, and the plans and strategies for managing these risks, to be that over 74% of funding for Creating Hope comes from one source. Our aim, over the coming years, is to increase the diversity and extent of other sources of income.

Financial review

Financial health: The income for the charity for the period up to 31 December 2024 totalled £75,571 (2023 £67,275) of which £6,400 (2023: £8,500) received was given for specific areas in which the charity operates. Total expenditure in the period totalled £71,510 (2023: £54,978) leaving a balance carried forward to reserves of £16,358 (2023: £12,297) of which £3,747 (2023: £6,083) is classified as restricted funds. The Trustees continue to be encouraged by the support of a number of churches, charities and individuals in the local area to achieve this position.

Financial controls: We have a comprehensive set of financial controls including: (a) an Expenses Form with an approvals protocol linked to the level of expenditure (b) a single Petty Cash system with a detailed record of all expenditure (c) expenditure controls on all other expenditure with an associated approvals protocol.

Statutory and legal compliance:

Our focus in 2024 was to complete a full suite of policies and procedures which are appropriate for a small scale charity like Creating Hope in line with the advice set out by the Charity Commission. The most important development was the completion and introduction of a comprehensive recruitment protocol and set of forms for those wishing to work or volunteer for Creating Hope. This new recruitment system became fully operational in mid-2024.

CREATING HOPE CIO

ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Objects and activities

The object of the CIO is to provide support services to those facing debt and other life limiting situations. The principal services we offered in 2024 were:

- CAP Debt Help – free, 1:1 expert advice to support those in debt to become debt free;
- CAP Money Coaching – a free course (in person or online) to help people take control of their finances with advice on budgeting, saving and spending wisely;
- CAP Job Club – a short course which provides practical help and the tools needed to help find work;
- CAP Life Skills – a short course which provides practical tools to help people live well on a low budget;
- Drop In – a weekly meeting which offers those in need the opportunity to have a nutritious meal and some company;
- Kintsugi Hope – running a series of Kintsugi Hope courses which are designed to help participants accept themselves, understand their value and worth and grow towards a more resilient and hopeful future;
- Counselling: 1:1 sessions with a fully qualified counsellor to help clients with issues such as trauma, anxiety and loss;
- Emergency Assistance: using a variety of funding sources to provide for the urgent and/or unaffordable, but essential, needs of some of our clients.

All Creating Hope services and courses are open to anyone in need without restriction.

Public Benefit

Trustees have had regard to Charity Commission guidance on public benefit, set out in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006, and we consider that all our work complies in very tangible ways with the concept of public benefit. Trustees are convinced the work of its membership fulfils every criteria of public benefit and that significant impact is attained through our direct work and the work we support through others.

Achievements and performance

Key highlights of the year include:

- Helping 45 clients (and often their families) through the award-winning CAP Debt Help service of which 13 becoming debt free during the year. Most of our clients were also supported with gifts and personal needs, in addition to over 35 existing families known to us.
- Upskilling 52 clients to cook on a budget and live better on a tight budget through participation in our CAP Life Skills Courses (recently adapted to include money coaching) running from 2 venues.
- Through securing a strong referral stream with Job Centre Plus in Wallington and Mitcham, we have over doubled attendee capacity at our Job club, running 5 Job Clubs over 2 venues, leading to 40 members participation. All of these have made positive 'Steps towards Employment' particularly improving their confidence, motivation and employability. One attendee is now volunteering at Job club in Wallington, some have found full and P/T work and others are keenly job seeking.
- 7 volunteers are now fully trained to deliver CAP Money coaching which is now incorporated into our Life Skills courses and consistently promoted at Job club. We have successfully run 5 Money Coaching Courses either in groups or on an individual basis to help people to manage their day-to-day finances. The first money coaching course following job club was successfully trialled in the Autumn term

CREATING HOPE CIO

ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

- Providing over 700 hot meals through our Drop-In service, which experienced a 17% increase in the number of people attending the sessions over the course of the year.
- Of 64 initial enquiries, 37 people were invited to attend one of 3 Kintsugi courses to improve their mental and physical well-being; 29 people attended with 24 completing the course (11 sessions). One attendee trained to deliver the course and 27 people were added to the waiting list for 2025!
- Setting up 'Coffee and Conversations' as a follow-on from Kintsugi Hope in May 2024 has provided a welcome safe space to build relationships.
- Securing emergency funding to provide grocery shopping, fuel top-ups, appliances such as ovens/microwaves/washing machines/fridges/freezers and fund Debt Relief Orders, amongst other items, for a variety of people in desperate need of assistance.
- Providing Emergency Aid (for a wide range of purposes) to 15 beneficiaries from our dedicated Emergency Fund in 2024, totalling £1,601.
- Boosting the number of volunteers supporting the work of the charity to 36 drawn from 10 churches across the borough.
- Undertaking 8 targeted fundraising events at local churches which raised many thousands of pounds.
- Successfully applied for local bids/grants to further our impact in the community and fund a one-year Administrative post to help with the day-to-day running of Creating Hope .

We will set out a much more detailed analysis of our activities and achievements in our Annual Impact Report which will be published in time for the Annual General Meeting which is expected to be held in June 2025.

Reserves policy

The main source of income for the charity is C3 UnitedLife Church. This totaled some 74% of our total income during the year. The medium-term objective of the trustees is to maintain reserves equivalent to 25% of the charity's annual expenditure.

Fundraising

We have been very fortunate to have the substantial and continuous financial support of C3 United Life throughout 2024. This support has allowed us an opportunity to focus on building a strong framework of governance and systems that will provide the foundation for future growth of the Charity.

Alongside this support we have undertaken a series of fundraising events principally at local churches which have resulted in donations totaling £9,539 (2023: £8,096). Individual donations totaled £4,406 (2023: £4,124), including £200 (2023: £1,000) for Job Club and £700 (2023: £1,000) for Drop-In. We have also secured £5,500 in grants from local funding sources for specific use (2023: £nil).

In line with the reporting requirements included in the Charities Act 2016 the Trustees are pleased to confirm that all fundraising is done in compliance with Best Fundraising Practice.

Plans for the future

Our main priority for 2025 is to ensure that the full range of services we currently offer continues to be available to help deal with the ever-increasing number of individuals and families who are struggling with debt and poverty and who often face complex needs. This is a challenging target given that around 95% of our human resources are volunteers who often have a multiplicity of demands on their time.

CREATING HOPE CIO

ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Particular need is to recruit additional support for our Debt Help service; allowing us to book-in more clients annually. Additional to supporting clients on their journey out of debt, we aim to build access to tools to help them stay out of debt! We plan to deliver money coaching to all clients after their budget visit.

Having integrated money coaching into our Life Skills courses and, by offering it to attendees following job club sessions, we are increasing the number of opportunities to improve people's money management and budgeting skills. We plan to recruit more money coaches to deliver more courses throughout 2025.

We will continue to adapt and tweak our Job Club, Life Skills and Kintsugi Hope courses as well as our Drop-In warm, safe, community space to find the best ways to meet the needs of the people we serve.

Supporting professionals with good, strong mental health is key to successful delivery in their area of expertise. We plan to offer professional Kintsugi Hope courses in 2025 to support collaborative working.

We aim to increase our audience and reach by greater advertising of our services locally and becoming more integrated into local provision.

We will further increase the number of fundraising opportunities we pursue to sustain and increase our overall income and the diversity of income sources.

CREATING HOPE CIO

ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires that the trustees must not approve the financial statements for each financial year unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate 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 enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES


.....
Anthony Thompson OBE
Chair of Trustees

Date 30 April 2025

CREATING HOPE CIO

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Creating Hope For the year ended 31 December 2024

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Creating Hope (the "Charity") for the year ended 31 December 2024 set out on pages 9 to 14.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees 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 Charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Report) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of 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 the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Miriam Hickson CTA FCA
JCS Accountants Ltd

5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton, Surrey SM1 2SW

Date... 6 May 2025

CREATING HOPE CIO

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

		<u>2024</u>			<u>2023</u>		
	<u>Note</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Income from</u>		£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and grants	2	69,171	6,400	75,571	58,775	8,500	67,275
<u>Expenditure on</u>	2						
Salary Costs		40,727	-	40,727	30,918	-	30,918
CAP Central Costs		5,160	-	5,160	8,115	-	8,115
Room Hire		2,058	5,500	7,558	3,290	1,000	4,290
Operating Expenses		12,393	3,236	15,629	8,318	1,417	9,735
Governance Costs		2,436	-	2,436	1,920	-	1,920
		62,774	8,736	71,510	52,561	2,417	54,978
Net Income/(expenditure)		6,397	(2,336)	4,061	6,214	6,083	12,297
 <u>Net movement in Funds</u>		 6,397	 (2,336)	 4,061	 6,214	 6,083	 12,297
 <u>Balances brought forward</u>		 6,214	 6,083	 12,297	 -	 -	 -
<u>Balances carried forward</u>		12,611	3,747	16,358	6,214	6,083	12,297

CREATING HOPE CIO

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Current Assets					
Debtors		26		-	
Bank balance		18,784		14,403	
Cash balance		<u>93</u>		<u>82</u>	
			18,903		14,485
Creditors due within one year:					
Accruals			2,545		2,188
Net Current Assets	8		16,358		12,297
NET ASSETS			<u>16,358</u>		<u>12,297</u>
<u>Represented by</u>					
Unrestricted Funds	8		12,611		6,214
Restricted Funds	7		<u>3,747</u>		<u>6,083</u>
			<u>16,358</u>		<u>12,297</u>

Approved by the Trustees on date
and signed on their behalf by:

AW Thompson

Anthony Thompson
Chairman

CREATING HOPE CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1.Accounting policies

The charity is a CIO, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The registered office is 1c Manor Place, Sutton, Surrey SM1 4BB

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of preparation

The 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 financial statements. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102).

The Charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The accounts are prepared in pounds sterling rounded to the nearest pound.

b) Going Concern

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

c) Fund Accounting

The funds held by the charity are either:

- i. Restricted funds - defined as those used for specified purposes laid down by the donor, or where an appeal limits the use of the funds.
- ii. Unrestricted funds - representing donations and other incomes received for any of the purposes of the charity and are available for use.

d) Income

Donations and other income (including legacies) are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be reliably measured.

e) Expenditure

All expenditure is accrued as soon as a liability is considered probable, discounted to present value for longer term liabilities and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs are those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include accountants' fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity. These have been allocated directly to charitable expenditure.

CREATING HOPE CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 (continued)

f) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of the opening of the deposit.

g) Creditors and provisions

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

h) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

2. Charges Invoiced by C3 UnitedLife Church

Included within Donations and Expenditure are invoices from C3 UnitedLife Church as follows:

	2024	2023
a) Share of salary costs	£40,727	£30,918
b) Payments to CAP Central for services in the period	£ 5,160	£8,115
c) Room hire rental costs for the period	£ 5,570	£ 2,712
d) Other operating expenditure	<u>£ 4,355</u>	<u>£ 7,220</u>
Total invoiced by C3 UnitedLife	<u>£55,812</u>	<u>£48,965</u>

See related party transactions note 5 below.

3. Gift Aid

The Charity was advised on 15th December 2023 by HM Revenue & Customs that its application for recognition as a charity for tax purposes had been accepted, and was therefore able to submit claims for Gift Aid. Gift aid was claimed for the period up to 31 October 2024 totalling £314. No provision was made in these accounts at 31 December 2024 for gift aid recoverable on the basis of the sum being immaterial.

4. Remuneration and Expenses

None of the trustees or officers of the charity received any direct remuneration from the charity.

CREATING HOPE CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 (continued)

5. Related party transactions

Mr Timothy Croxson acts as a trustee and senior leader of C3 UnitedLife Church.

Mrs Katherine Parsons, one of the trustees, is also employed by C3 UnitedLife Church.

£1,859 expenses were reimbursed to three trustees (2023: £nil).

The charity received a donation of £6,500 in 2023 from the Milk and Honey Trust, where Mr. Timothy Croxson is a trustee.

Donations received from trustees in the year totalled £120 (2023: £50)

C3 UnitedLife Church have waived their right to payment of the invoiced charges in note 2. Consequently an equal and opposite sum is included within unrestricted income as donations.

6. Independent Examiners Fee

The fees charged by the Independent examiner accrued in these financial statements totalled £1,680 plus VAT.

7. Restricted Funds

2024	Drop In	Emergency Funding	Job Club	Life Skills	Grant Income	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income received	700	-	200	-	5,500	6,400
Expenditure in year	(700)	(1,602)	(434)	(500)	(5,500)	(8,736)
Balance carried forward at 31 December 2023	-	5,349	234	500	-	6,083
Balance carried forward at 31 December 2024	-	3,747	-	-	-	3,747

2023	Drop In	Emergency Funding	Job Club	Life Skills	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Income received	1,000	6,000	1,000	500	8,500
Expenditure in year	(1,000)	(651)	(766)	-	(2,417)
Balance carried forward at 31 December 2023	-	5,349	234	500	6,083

CREATING HOPE CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 (continued)

7. Restricted Funds (continued)

Donations for specified purposes include the following:

Drop In – This is a weekly meeting which offers those in need the opportunity to have a nutritious meal and some company.

Emergency Funding – These are funds provided to clients of the charity facing severe and urgent financial challenges.

Job Club – This is a short course which provides practical help and the tools needed to help find work.

Life Skills – This is a short course which provides practical tools to help people live well on a low budget.

Grant Income – £5,000 was received from Sutton Community Fund towards the operational costs of the charity. Additionally £500 was received from the same source in respect of an NHS Winter Engagement Fund. Both grants were accounted for in the year.

8. Analysis of net assets by fund

2024

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Current Assets	15,156	3,747	18,903
Current Liabilities	(2,545)	-	(2,545)
Net assets	12,611	3,747	16,358

2023

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Current Assets	8,402	6,083	14,485
Current Liabilities	(2,188)	-	(2,188)
Net assets	6,214	6,083	12,297