



CHILDREN'S DREAMS

CHARITY NO 101652

TRUSTEES' REPORT – YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

The Trustees present their report and the Income and Expenditure account for the Charity for the period from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Charity's registered number is NIC101652. Its principal address is 96 Carnreagh, Craigavon, County Armagh, BT64 3AN.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The mission of Children's Dreams is to build places of learning for children in West Africa. Access to education will open up opportunities and choices for Africans, which will permit them to make considered decisions and assessments in relation to the future of their children.

Helping to assist in their struggle and quest for knowledge is giving them the freedom to have a say in their destiny. Education is the key to help African children have enriched and productive lives. Having places of learning, having the opportunity to learn, is essential for these children to choose and claim their lives as their own.

Almost a quarter of Guinean children, about 23 percent, do not go to school, according to a report released by Plan International, a non-governmental organization operating in Guinea-Bissau. These details encouraged us two years ago to start our activities in this country.

TRUSTEES

The names of the Trustees who served during the year and at the date of this report are given below:

Paulo Carlos
Edineusa S. J. da Cruz Figueiredo
Carla Balde

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The Charity is governed by its Constitution.

Appointment of Trustees

The Committee has the power to appoint or remove Trustees of the Charity.

Organisation

The Trustees administer the Charity and oversee the day to day running of the shop.



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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

In Guinea Bissau

The Charity has aspirations to help build a primary school in the village of Brene.

In Northern Ireland

Sales and Fundraising Activities:

We keep going with a charity shop. As the shop is based in Portadown the competition is high because there are too many charity shops.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

In Guinea Bissau

While the process of building the primary school is going ahead, half the side of the building has been covered and two classes were run inside.

In February, this year, we legalized Children's Dreams in Guinea Bissau. Like any legal organization, Children's Dreams is able to fully carry out its activities in that West African country. This means that the Charity has a management team that will work with its activities in Guinea Bissau.

In Northern Ireland

Sales and Fundraising Activities:

The Trustees continue to look for fundraising opportunities. As well, Children's Dreams continues to increase volunteers and its relationship with the local Communities.

Community Activities:

The Charity continues to work with members of the wider community where they see the need, for example, in assisting families with form filling and translating, providing books and toys from donations received in the shop and with cultural and sporting activities.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Charity holds a cash fund at the year end of £395 (2016 - £310).

Mr Paulo Carlos, one of the Trustees, made a further loan to the Charity during the year of £1,006, bringing the total loan made to £4,360. Mr Carlos does not intend to ask for repayment of the loan during the year ending 31 March 2018 and continues to support the Charity while it tries to achieve self sufficiency.

The Trustees continue to try to develop the charity shop and other fund raising activities to gain self sufficiency so that the Charity may meet its charitable aims.



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PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

For next year the Charity will keep growing last year's plans:

1. To increase sales and fundraising activities
2. To increase volunteers
3. To provide more support to the Brene school
4. Local family support
5. To build more relationships with local Communities

(1) Increasing sales and fundraising activities

The Charity has aspirations to open more shops in big cities in Northern Ireland like Belfast and Lisburn and apply more sales strategies: promotions, sell purposes: ask, listing and act. We also intend to apply for more fundraising activities: bag packing, street collection, coffee morning...

(2) Increasing volunteers

Open more applications for volunteers, and organize the team of ambassadors better to make them ready to answer and act in the right way.

(3) Providing more support to the Brene School

With more money that the Charity plans to find in the future, the Trustees hope to increase the support to these children with school materials and finish building this school and open more class rooms.

(4) Local family support

The Charity will continue to support the many families who come to us to ask for help by filling applications, calling and translating. As these needs are increasing, we plan to spend more time in this kind of support.

Also we plan to increase integration activities like cultural events and sports to make them feel at home.

(5) Building relationship with local Communities

The Charity plans to build more and good relationships with local communities, by continuing our support with books and toys from donations that we receive in the shop.

Paulo Carlos
Trustee

Paulo Carlos

Edineusa S. J. da Cruz Figueiredo
Trustee

Edineusa S. J. da Cruz Figueiredo

Date:

14/02/2018
