

**Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**  
**Financial Statements**  
**31 March 2023**

# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Financial Statements**

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

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	<b>Page</b>
Trustees' annual report	<b>1</b>
Independent examiner's report to the trustees	<b>6</b>
Statement of financial activities	<b>7</b>
Statement of financial position	<b>8</b>
Notes to the financial statements	<b>9</b>
<b>The following pages do not form part of the financial statements</b>	
Detailed statement of financial activities	<b>14</b>
Notes to the detailed statement of financial activities	<b>15</b>

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# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

### **Year ended 31 March 2023**

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The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

#### **Reference and administrative details**

**Registered charity name** Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group

**Charity registration number** 103386

**Principal office**

#### **The trustees**

Timea Galambos	(Appointed 28 July 2022)
Gerty McGlinn	(Resigned 28 July 2022)
Jimmy Law	
Domnic Pinto	(Resigned 28 July 2022)
Marta Jozefowska	(Resigned 28 July 2022)
Rowena Barrun	
Andrea de los Santos	(Appointed 28 July 2022)
Lorena Cassidy	
Danuta Kelly	(Appointed 28 July 2022)
Christine Rodgers	
Allan Rainey	
Joni Beatty	

#### **Independent examiner**

Nial Colhoun  
Watson & Colhoun  
Unit B15, Omagh Enterprise Centre  
Great Northern Road  
Omagh  
County Tyrone  
BT78 5LU

# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Trustees' Annual Report** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

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### **Structure, governance and management**

i) Governing document

Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group (OECSG) was established in 1998

ii) Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees are appointed at each annual general meeting.

iii) Trustees induction and training

New members of OECSG Management Committee are provided with a copy of the Constitution and policy document outlining the relevant responsibilities of Committee members and Office Holders. The Manager of OECSG will ensure that new members are properly briefed and provided with the necessary induction and training to carry out their duties.

iv) Risk management

The major risk facing OECSG is the uncertainty over funding from government bodies which the charity is dependent on. New streams of funding are constantly researched and sourced to enable our work to continue.

v) Organisational structure

At present there are nine trustees who serve on the management committee who meet on a regular basis and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity as outlined in the Constitution.

vi) Related Parties

All Management Committee meetings include a "conflict of interest" obligation for members to declare should it be required.

### **Objectives and activities**

The charity's objective and principal activity is to offer support to ethnic minority groups and their supportive organisations primarily within the Omagh district area, but also including County Tyrone and the whole of Northern Ireland. They do this by:

a) Promoting good relations in Northern Ireland;

b) Endeavouring to eliminate isolation and discrimination on the grounds of race in the area of benefit; and

c) Encouraging equality of opportunity within the area of benefit between people of different racial groups.

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the aims and objectives of the charity and in planning for future activities.

# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

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### **Achievements and performance**

#### **Overview**

The period 2022-2023 has, unfortunately, been a time of continued political stalemate in Northern Ireland due to the continued absence of the Executive and the Stormont Assembly. The absence of political leadership and guidance presents a great many challenges throughout the community with the impact especially challenging for the voluntary/community sector which we are a part of. This political vacuum has had a particularly negative effect on the distribution of much needed funding to the many organizations dependent on the Executive Office for their continuing work. Thankfully, we have managed to weather the storm so far, but the uncertainty is still putting our group under a lot of pressure with the delayed transfer of approved funds.

On a more positive note, we are managing to meet all our planned target outputs and in a few areas, such as our training programme, we are well above our targets. What has become very clear post Brexit is that the Northern Ireland economy is performing better than other areas of the UK, largely due to the work of the large population of migrant workers who have chosen to remain here and happily call this place their home.

We are especially grateful to all the volunteers and people who continue to support our work and activities, starting with our dedicated Management Committee members who offer so much of their time and effort to keep our organization strong. A very special word of thanks to our Chairman Jimmy Law who works incessantly to guide us in the right direction.

#### **Advice & Advocacy**

Our drop-in service continues to be the focal point of our work which is available daily, providing our members with the support they need in just about every aspect of their immediate concerns, including employment, housing, health, education, access to public services and social welfare entitlements. We have also assisted hundreds of people with immigration advice and support in partnership with STEP Dungannon.

The total number of registered enquiries dealt with through our office for the 2022-23 year was 1814, which was slightly above our target figure. It should also be noted that the great majority of our clients do not have English as a first language and were provided with interpreter support to ensure the optimum outcome for their needs.

#### **Funding**

In March we completed the first year of our 3 year funding award from the Minority Ethnic Development Fund which runs until March 2025. We completed all the requisite progress reports and final claims to ensure we availed 100% of our award amount which covers staff 3 salaries and our utility and rent expenditure.

During the 2022-23 period we received project grant awards from different agencies for a total of £31,125 to carry out a wide range of training projects as well as social and cultural events. This included £9,520 from Big Lottery for training courses, £5,750 from Fermanagh & Omagh Council for support services and cultural activities and £4,880 from Apex & Radius Housing for social/cultural events. Under a service level agreement with STEP Dungannon we also received £10,975 to provide immigration advice and support, which we are continuing to do.

#### **Activities & Events**

Over the 2022-23 period, OECSG organized a wide range of social and cultural activities and events including: - Ethnic Halloween celebration in Community House with more than 100 attendees

# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Trustees' Annual Report** *(continued)*

### **Year ended 31 March 2023**

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- Christmas gathering in St. Joseph's Hall with 120 people
- Chinese New Year in Community House with 120 attendees
- Visit of Hungarian Ambassador to Omagh
- Family outing to Crumlin Road Gaol
- Platinum Jubilee celebration in Castle Irvine
- 8 diversity presentations

#### **Training / Capacitation**

Preparing our members with skills to access employment and training in practical activities continues to be an essential component of our programming as we help them to integrate more fully into the local community. With this objective in mind, OECSG organized an extensive range of training and capacitation courses during 2022-23.

- Total of 6 ESOL courses for Beginners and Improvers in Omagh and Enniskillen. These included 2 courses in Omagh in collaboration with Focus, 2 courses funded by Big Lottery in Omagh and 1 course in Enniskillen with the support of Fermanagh & Omagh Council - First Aid course in Community House
- 2 Pilates wellbeing courses
- 1 recreational Spanish course.

#### **Networking**

Working with other groups within the community/voluntary sector is at the heart of our networking strategy to make maximum use of the resources available from both statutory and community sector groups to ensure that the rights of ethnic minorities are respected and upheld. This collaborative work has enabled us to identify the wider needs of ethnic groups and offer practical responses and make important referrals to other bodies when required. The principal groups we have been networking with include:

- STEP in the provision of immigration advice and support
- Focus language support as part of the Community Voices Programme
- Good Relations Team at Fermanagh & Omagh Council improving access to public services-
- British Red Cross in providing direct material help for families experiencing hardship because of the cost of living crisis. The support of these and all our cohesion partners has helped us to ensure that the issues impacting ethnic families become priorities in the policies of both statutory and community groups.

# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Trustees' Annual Report** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

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### **Financial review**

#### **Principal Funding Sources**

The main funder of the charity is The Executive Office which effectively covers the salaries of OECSG. The charity has continually sought and secured funding from other sources to assist with ongoing expenditure. The principal sources for our project work continues to be Fermanagh & Omagh District Council, STEP Dungannon, the Northern Ireland Refugee Relocation Programme and Focus.

#### **Reserves Policy and Going Concern**

The trustees have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risk to the organisation namely the availability of funding from third parties and agreed that unrestricted funds not committed should be between 3 to 6 months of the charity's annual expenditure excluding salaries. The reserves are needed to bridge the gap between the receiving and spending of income and to cover any unplanned emergency spending.

The most challenging aspect is maintaining funding streams to carry out the work of the charity and OECSG has been fortunate once again to receive approval of core funding from The Executive Office for 2021-22 period as well as additional funding approved from other sources. Considering the above the trustees do not believe there are any uncertainties surrounding the going concern of the charity.

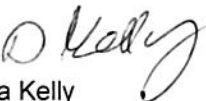
### **Plans for future periods**

Because of ongoing Covid restrictions, it is very difficult to see too far into the future with any degree of certainty. Like everyone else we are subject to government and official guidelines regarding the extent to which we can organise gatherings and events. Thankfully, we have secured funding to organise our annual Halloween and Christmas events from the Community Relations Council and also support from Focus to run a number of coffee morning presentations. The signs are looking positive for the moment and we are confident we will be able to complete nearly all of our planned activities.

Our face-to-face advice services are operating on an appointment only basis at present and the number of people we can assist is restricted due to social distancing rules. Only one member of staff can deal with the public at any one time, so we have arranged a rota system for staff to allow this service to function as well as possible in the circumstances. This arrangement is subject to government guidelines

We are also becoming accustomed to the use of virtual technology to attend meetings and this new reality may well become a regular feature of our future working methods. Nonetheless, we believe the more in person contact that is possible will allow our work to be that much more effective, especially considering that ethnic minority community members are more susceptible to social isolation.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 19 June 2023 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

  
Danuta Kelly  
Trustee

# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the '2008 Act'). You are satisfied that your charity is not required by charity law to be audited and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements as carried out under section 65 of the 2008 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with my examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept as required by with section 63 of the 2008 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of the 2008 Act; or
4. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) 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.

I confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Nial Colhoun  
Independent Examiner

Watson & Colhoun  
Unit B15, Omagh Enterprise Centre  
Great Northern Road  
Omagh  
County Tyrone  
BT78 5LU

19 June 2023



# Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group

## Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 March 2023

		Unrestricted funds	2023 Restricted funds	Total funds	2022 Total funds
	Note	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and endowments</b>					
Donations and legacies	4	481	–	481	544
Charitable activities	5	2,338	104,769	107,107	98,068
<b>Total income</b>		<u>2,819</u>	<u>104,769</u>	<u>107,588</u>	<u>98,612</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on charitable activities	6	4,860	99,928	104,788	104,484
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>4,860</u>	<u>99,928</u>	<u>104,788</u>	<u>104,484</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds</b>		<u>(2,041)</u>	<u>4,841</u>	<u>2,800</u>	<u>(5,872)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		2,182	–	2,182	8,054
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>141</u>	<u>4,841</u>	<u>4,982</u>	<u>2,183</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.  
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 9 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

# Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group

## Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	10	14,126	20,137
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>158</u>	<u>219</u>
		14,284	20,356
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	11	<u>9,302</u>	<u>18,174</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>4,982</u>	<u>2,182</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>4,982</u>	<u>2,182</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds		4,841	–
Unrestricted funds		<u>141</u>	<u>2,183</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>	12	<u>4,982</u>	<u>2,183</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 19 June 2026, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Jimmy Law  
Trustee

The notes on pages 9 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

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### **1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in Northern Ireland and is unincorporated. The address of the principal office is Omagh Community House, 2 Drumragh Avenue, Omagh, County Tyrone, BT78 1DP.

### **2. Statement of compliance**

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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 (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

### **3. Accounting policies**

#### **Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

#### **Going concern**

Funding from The Executive Office has been secured and is guaranteed until March 2025. Applications have been made to other bodies such as Fermanagh Omagh District Council and the charity are confident that this funding will be secured. The directors therefore conclude that based on the above secured funding combined with reserves already held, the accounts should be prepared on a going concern basis.

#### **Disclosure exemptions**

The entity satisfies the criteria of being a qualifying entity as defined in FRS 102. As such, advantage has been taken of the disclosure exemption available under paragraph 1.12 of FRS 102 which allows no cash flow statement to be presented for the charity.

#### **Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

#### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

# Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group

## Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2023

### 3. Accounting policies (continued)

#### Incoming resources

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.

- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

#### Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes VAT, and is classified under the heading 'Expenditure on charitable activities' in the Statement of Financial Activities. This includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

### 4. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>Donations</b>				
Members contributions and donations	481	481	544	544

### 5. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
The Executive Office	720	73,261	73,981
Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	900	4,850	5,750
British Red Cross	—	2,000	2,000
EUSS Programme	718	10,258	10,976
Department of Economy	—	—	—
Department of Justice	—	—	—
NI Community Relations Council	—	—	—
Lottery Funding	—	9,520	9,520
Radius & Apex Housing Association	—	4,880	4,880
	2,338	104,769	107,107

# Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group

## Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

### 5. Charitable activities *(continued)*

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
The Executive Office	–	59,991	59,991
Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	500	2,700	3,200
British Red Cross	–	3,500	3,500
EUSS Programme	1,149	14,173	15,322
Department of Economy	–	7,704	7,704
Department of Justice	–	6,300	6,300
NI Community Relations Council	–	2,051	2,051
Lottery Funding	–	–	–
Radius & Apex Housing Association	–	–	–
	<u>1,649</u>	<u>96,419</u>	<u>98,068</u>

### 6. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Charitable activities	4,860	97,955	102,815
Support costs	–	1,973	1,973
	<u>4,860</u>	<u>99,928</u>	<u>104,788</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Charitable activities	7,875	94,727	102,602
Support costs	80	1,801	1,882
	<u>7,955</u>	<u>96,528</u>	<u>104,484</u>

### 7. Independent examination fees

	2023 £	2022 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>1,230</u>	<u>1,160</u>

### 8. Staff costs

The average head count of employees during the year was 3 (2022: 3).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

### 9. Trustee remuneration and expenses

During the year one trustee was paid £1,152 for reimbursement of expenses of for charitable events and travel (2022: £346).

# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Notes to the Financial Statements** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

### **10. Debtors**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade debtors	<u>14,126</u>	<u>20,137</u>

### **11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Bank loans and overdrafts	2,544	4,772
Social security and other taxes	2,698	1,076
Other Creditors	<u>4,060</u>	<u>12,326</u>
	<u>9,302</u>	<u>18,174</u>

### **12. Analysis of charitable funds**

#### **Unrestricted funds**

	<b>At</b>			<b>At</b>
	<b>1 April 2022</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>31 March 2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
General funds	<u>2,182</u>	<u>2,819</u>	<u>(4,860)</u>	<u>141</u>

	<b>At</b>			<b>At</b>
	<b>1 April 2021</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>31 March 2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
General funds	<u>7,945</u>	<u>2,193</u>	<u>(7,955)</u>	<u>2,183</u>

#### **Restricted funds**

	<b>At</b>			<b>At</b>
	<b>1 April 2022</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>31 March 2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Restricted Fund 1 - desc in a/cs	<u>—</u>	<u>104,769</u>	<u>(99,928)</u>	<u>4,841</u>

	<b>At</b>			<b>At</b>
	<b>1 April 2021</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>31 March 2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Restricted Fund 1 - desc in a/cs	<u>109</u>	<u>96,419</u>	<u>(96,528)</u>	<u>—</u>

# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Management Information**

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

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**The following pages do not form part of the financial statements.**

# Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group

## Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 March 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Income and endowments</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Members contributions and donations	481	544
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
The Executive Office	73,981	59,991
Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	5,750	3,200
British Red Cross	2,000	3,500
EUSS Programme	10,976	15,322
Department of Economy	–	7,704
Department of Justice	–	6,300
NI Community Relations Council	–	2,051
Lottery Funding	9,520	–
Radius & Apex Housing Association	4,880	–
	107,107	98,068
<b>Total income</b>	107,588	98,612
<b>Expenditure</b>		
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>		
Wages and salaries	71,239	72,419
Rent	5,117	2,190
Room Hire	3,107	4,115
Repairs and maintenance	–	22
Insurance	584	580
Other establishment	2,209	982
Motor vehicle expenses	1,379	661
Legal and professional fees	1,973	1,882
Telephone	1,539	1,898
Interest on bank loans and overdrafts	316	253
Training and Tutors	7,742	12,738
Donations - Crisis Fund	2,000	3,500
Sundry Expenses	990	912
Events and Workshops	6,593	2,332
	104,788	104,484
<b>Total expenditure</b>	104,788	104,484
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	2,800	(5,872)



# Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group

## Notes to the Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 March 2023

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	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>		
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
<i>Grant funding activities</i>		
Wages	71,239	72,419
Rent	5,117	2,190
Room Hire	3,107	4,115
COVID-19 expenditure	—	22
Insurance	584	580
Printing, Stationery and Advertising	2,209	982
Travel Expenses	1,379	661
Telephone	1,539	1,898
Bank Charges	316	253
Training and Tutors	7,742	12,738
Donations - Crisis Fund	2,000	3,500
Sundry Expenses	990	912
Events and Workshops	6,593	2,332
	<u>102,815</u>	<u>102,602</u>
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Accountancy fee	1,230	1,160
Professional fees	743	722
	<u>1,973</u>	<u>1,882</u>
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>	<u>104,788</u>	<u>104,484</u>

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