

Rise Community Action Limited

**Annual Report
and
Annual Accounts**

1st December 2020 – 30th November 2021



LEGAL INFORMATION

Company No: 5617122

Charity Number: 1147332

Legal Status: Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity

Address: Halkevi Community Centre
31-33 Dalston Lane
London E8 3DF

Broad of Directors/ Trustees: Farida Yiga - Chair
David Kakande – Treasurer
Lukiya Kakembo – Secretary
Dr Edwin Mavunika Mapara
Amina Nalubega Ssendegeya

Principle Staff: Janet Murungi – Coordinator (volunteer)

Banker: Barclays Bank
Moorgate Branch
128 Moorgate,
London, EC2M 6SX

Trustees' Report

Rise Community Action (RCA) was developed to provide a voice for people living with HIV/AIDS and to create a bridge between service providers and service users who we found were not accessing available services. RCA's work is directed at improving the quality of life for individuals who are socially excluded for a myriad of reasons.

The Board of Trustees of Rise Community Action Limited (RISE) ("the Charity") present their annual report for the year ended 30th November 2021 under the Companies Act 1985 and the Charities Act 1993, together with the independently examined financial statements for that year.

Administrative Details

Rise Community Action is a registered company limited by guarantee (Company No: 5617122) and Charity No: 1147332, with its registered office is as shown on page 1.

Governance and Management

The Charity is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association which were adopted on 9th May 2005. The Board of Trustees is responsible for the overall governance of the Charity. Trustees are either elected or co-opted and the total number of Trustees may not be fewer than three and cannot exceed seven. A co-opted member may retain office only until the next Annual General Meeting (AGM) and shall then be eligible for re-election. Effective partnership between Trustees and staff continues to contribute significantly to our success.

Objects and Principal Activities

The Charity's object is for the advancement of education, the relief of poverty and sickness, and the preservation and protection of good health of women and their families, especially persons from BME, Refugee and Asylum seekers communities, and any other person who need assistance. (a) The provision or assistance in the provision of facilities in the interest of social welfare.

Our vision is a world where everyone is given the best possible opportunities in life and where a medical condition is not a barrier to an individual ability to grasp opportunities and achieve personal fulfilment.

Our strategic aim is to achieve this by providing high quality services that is intended to have a practical and positive effect on the lives of those affected with HIV and their families.

Our Aims

- To create awareness on issues surrounding HIV/AIDS and reduce HIV - related stigma in the community
- To reduce isolation suffered by HIV positive people and promote their social inclusion.
- To better inform service providers on the needs of people living with HIV thus improve the quality of care
- To empower our users to make informed choices on access to services and their lives in general.
- To improve the quality of lives of individuals affected by HIV, FGM or Domestic Violence.

Rise Community Action (RCA) was developed to provide a voice for people living with HIV/AIDS and to create a bridge between service providers and service users who we found were not accessing available services. Our first project provided care and support for individuals living with HIV. RCA services have been extended over the years to include providing, support service and activities for individuals affected by Domestic Violence and FGM advocacy and empowerment sessions and sexual health promotion activities.

What We Do

RCA activities focus on addressing the issues of Domestic Violence and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). We are currently supporting a growing number of individuals' victims of Domestic Violence and survivors of FGM. As well as addressing these two very serious issues we are tasked with raising awareness of the effects of domestic violence and FGM in the wider community.

Initially established to provide information, care and support for women living with HIV/AIDS in London, RCA has been unfaltering in raising awareness on issues surrounding HIV/AIDS by running workshops, delivering presentations and staging community events and educating the community about the spread of HIV. RCA has been responsive to the needs of the community and its activities since it first started project have been targeted at reducing the damage being done to its target community.

Financial Support

RCA is constantly developing new projects to address identified needs both new and establish needs. The management believe it is important that RCA continues to employ paid staff to better address the level of need present in our delivery area. If RCA fails to grow to a point where its infrastructure is not robust enough we are conscious that RCA will have to take radical action to ensure that it never have to turn beneficiaries away.

RCA has been reliant on volunteers, chief among the volunteer have been its volunteer coordinator who continues to perform beyond all expectations and continues to work to ensure we can extend our activities across London by establishing strategic partnership with organisations that seek to impact on similar areas of need.

RCA funders for the year were the Big Lottery from the previous year, City and Hackney NHS, African Health Policy Network and HCVS Hackney Giving , thanks for your support and belief in the documented evidence of need.

Funders

Life on the edge is very scary and the past two years has seen changes brought on by the pandemic that has engendered levels of insecurity that have had far reaching impact on individual's mental and physical wellbeing. Most action has driven changes out of the necessity for safety and the avoidance of catching the virus, Covid 19 has been a game changer for all.

Unfortunately, the acrimony that has emerged from the Brexit process has been far reaching and its effects remains unrelenting and totally devoid of compassion for the poor. As a direct effect small organisations are being increasingly

marginalised, impacting negatively on their operation leaving an alarming number of people without a support network and in a city as soulless as London the consequences are very visible.

RCA continues to work in partnership with a number of local agencies and charities to ensure that our client group is serviced, these relationships have been central to delivering a number of projects.

We have continued to perform an unusual role as the administrator of CAN's (Community African Network) Bowel cancer project. A project funded by City & Hackney CCG which meant that this year £27,650 was received on behalf of CAN. As the receiving organisation this was then paid to CAN in our accounts this figure is represent as part of the organisation's total unrestricted income and is represent in the spending under the section, activities in the furtherance of the Charity's objects.

Management and Administration

The resources expended on administration totalled £3,263 during the year. This represents 6.1% of the total resources received a level of expenditure that the Trustees consider to be appropriate for the charity. These figure means that we are keeping a firm grip on our administration and management costs and this continues to allow us to direct a much greater percentage of our resources to assisting our beneficiaries.

Material Intangible Incoming Resources

A number of professionals gave their time as volunteers. As there is no financial cost to any third party, this intangible income has not been included in the Statement of Financial Activities but we put a value on it in excess of £48,000 annually.

Activities

This report communicates the value of RCA, and it will we hope strike a chord and inspire you and other to join us in trying to make difference in the lives of those most in need.

RCA is driven by the ambition to bring some solace to those affected by Domestic Violence and FGM. We are happy that we have witnessed real changes in the lives of victims. RCA continue to work in partnership with other local charities as we try to maximise the reach of RCA in the face of ever decreasing resources a situation which was very evident as we existed in the middle of a pandemic which claim nearly one hundred thousand lives.

Projects

Quick-thinking and adaptability has made RCA a critical force throughout the pandemic. RCA ability to respond to extraordinary crises like Covid-19 should not go underestimated or ignored for it is clear that this charity is more responsive than we had imagined as we have never been tested in manner.

We continue to try and fostered a constructive relationship with statutory organisations. RCA continue to step to the plate when the local authority resources overstretched, and our collaboration is becoming one of the great positives in these times.

Post-Covid, RCA clearly requires a seat at the table, and committed support from the public sector will be more important than ever. We are conscious that RCA is in danger of being driven out of operation as by their larger charities attract all of the funding as micro charities of RCA nature are not seen at corporate level as being of any value yet it is clear the case that this view is contrary to that of the increasing number of clients we service.

Our Covid-19 response project the **FFENA Project** carried over into this year as the funds were not spent so we continued to deliver sessions aimed at reducing this social isolation and improving mental well-being of BME women affected by Domestic Abuse and Female genital mutilation or HIV by providing:

- Emotional support - online support in the form of remote/online services (e.g. zoom calls)
- Practical Support -Provide specific African food and essential hygiene items.
- We purchase and supply food and hygiene items to our users (especially those with no recourse to public funds).

The project was delivered by a paid sessional worker and trained volunteers to maintain contact with our clients who are suffering isolation and mental distress.

The project supported women affected by DV, FGM or HIV who were experiencing disproportionate challenges and difficulty as a result of COVID 19 due to their health issues and the nature of the circumstances. These women were already suffering mental health and physical difficulty but lockdown and COVID 19 made it more challenging. Domestic Abuse continues to increase and the lack of culturally appropriate support is worrying. African women already have to address multiple issues ranging from language barrier, unemployment, no recourse to public funds, leaving them dependent on their abusers. The current financial climate makes it difficult for our client group. Most of these women cannot afford basics and mostly depend on food banks.

FGM continues to be central to RCA activities and addressing its harmful effects, on individuals and communities the project facilitates dialogue through outreach activities delivered by anti-FGM champions. Much of the work is conducted in a covert manner as the victims we are still in need of support which cannot be delivered.

We are working to encourage the community to take a stronger stance against FGM and they are starting to voice their objection publicly about the ills of FGM.

This year we had new projects **Mbele Mbele** and **KAKOKO COVID** information project

The uptake of the Covid vaccine was very slow in the African community, we had to be proactive in our efforts to keep members of our community alive. We had to get past the existing scepticism in the community and get individuals to realise that the Vaccine was the best approach to avoid the ravages of Covid.

The solution was to educate the community and for us the project KAKOKO COVID was the best solution.

- Test and Trace written materials were translated to Swahili and adapted for East African community in Hackney.
- Translated adapted materials and circulated by volunteers through established outreach routes and partners

- Adapted content was developed and posted on RCA website and social media ie tweets.

Rise disseminated Government information on the Test and Trace programme through volunteers and telephone calls.

Government info was distributed through RCA social media and other channels.

The take up was excellent and we had large numbers getting the vaccine.

Mbele Mbele was developed to,

- Reduce social isolation and improve the mental wellbeing of refugee and migrant BAME women during the Covid-19 response and recovery period
- Reduce the digital divide and help vulnerable BAME to access essential services online
- Increase the capacity of our organisation to be able to support our service users remotely in the longer term

This project we funded by African Health Policy Network (AHPN) a new funder to charity

The activities were condition by our new working methodology, Emotional support - online one to one sessions in the form of remote/online services (e.g. Zoom and What's app calls).

Practical Support -Provided zoom lessons to both volunteers and users so that their capacity increase and meant they had the confidence to use the "new normal "technology way of accessing services. Women's confidence and skills increase and we were amaze at their ability use these digital tools. They were able utilise these tools to access support networks while safeguard their mental health and wellbeing.

Digital Connectivity helped to enhance and developed digital channels that permitted us to manage the new way of working and supporting our users remotely.

Condom Distribution Scheme

RCA condom distribution scheme continues and has become a fixture in the charities annual activities it provides free condoms and information on sexual

health and where to go for HIV testing/sexual health screening to the African Community and register them on the Free Condom Scheme by issuing them a card which allows them to collect more free condoms from pharmacies and other collection points when and where there is need for them.

The scheme has increased uptake of HIV testing and has been instrumental in encouraging condom usage among individuals from Hackney's African Communities. The scheme is funded by Hackney Council (Public Health) administered by Community African Network.

Signposting Project

One of the key roles of a community base charity is for those with the knowledge to share it with those that do not possess the knowledge and this how grass roots engagement grows.

In RCA this sharing of information is done through our a drop-in service once a week on a set day at a permanently accessible venue with a dedicated staff member and two volunteers to provide information and signposting to clients. This service is free, friendly, confidential, and independent. Delivered through, 1 to 1 meetings, telephone, or email contacts, we provide information to clients about where to get help in relation to health, social care or personal wellbeing. Issues identified beyond our scope are referred to appropriate advice agencies. We communicate with individual clients in languages that they are comfortable in communicating in.

We believe operating the signposting service this way makes it easily accessible and less intimidating or stigmatising to the hard-to-reach individuals of our community. They are able to communicate in a language that they understand thereby overcoming some of the barriers they face in accessing services. Our project is a gateway to service providers and a way to identify clients' needs and help them to access services or resources to meet their identified needs.

Thank you All

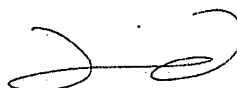
We began this year like we do with every year wondering if we will attract the funds to get to the end of the year. The good news is we made it to the end of the year. The Trustees would like to express their gratitude to the beneficiaries, volunteers

and casual users, to all those who continue to help RCA to deliver its' services, and especially to the inspirational work of our volunteer coordinator continues to define our activities and enhance our reputation by setting a level of community engagement and service not equalled in the borough. We are so please that all of our volunteers follow her lead. This allows us to continue extending the range of services provided to our growing number of users. RCA will continue to work tirelessly post the pandemic to ensure we can extend our activities and will be open to all in the city.

Thank you.

Chair: Farida Yiga

Signature.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

12 /07/2022

Directors' Responsibilities

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the charitable company and the surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing these statements, the Directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgments 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 company will continue in operation.

The Directors are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Independent Examiner Report

For the Year ended 30th November 2021

I report on the accounts of Rise Community Action Limited for the year ended 30th November 2021, which are set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43 (2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act); and
- to state whether matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's 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 the seeking of 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:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
 - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (revised 2005) have not been met; or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

J N Beugren Accountants
5 Stuart Place, St. Albans, AL1 1AU



26/06/2022

<u>Rise Community Action Limited</u>				
<u>Income & Expenditure Account</u>				
<u>Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 30th November 2021</u>				
2020 - Total	<u>Incoming Resources</u>	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021 - Total
£	<u>Note</u>			£
	2.			
45,210	Grants, Awards,	-	45,033	45,033
-	Donations	0		0
-	Generated Income	-	1,000	1,000
-	Other	540		540
54,920	Total Income	540	46,033	46,573
	3. <u>Resources Expended</u>			
-	Cost of generating funds	-	-	-
51,593	Activities in the furtherance of the Charity's objects	-	50,009	
2952	Management & Administration	-	3,263	
54,545	Total outgoing resources	0	53,272	53,272
375	Net surplus/deficit	540	(7,239)	(7,779)
9,552	Balance brought forward	190	9,362	9,516
9,927	Balance carried forward	730	2,123	2,853

Rise Community Action Limited
Balance Sheet as at 30th November 2021

<u>Fixed Assets</u>			
2020		<u>Note</u>	2021
0	Intangible Assets		0
1,954	Tangible Assets	4	3,954
1,954	Total Fixed Assets		3,954
<u>Current Assets</u>			
-	Debtors	-	-
9,927	Cash at bank	-	2,853
11,881	Total Current Assets		6,807
<u>Liabilities</u>			
-	Creditor	-	-
11,881	Assets less liability	-	0
11,881	<u>Total Net Assets</u>		6,807
Represented by :			
11,881	Un/restricted :		6,807
-	Free reserves:		-
954	Fixed Assets:		6,807
190	Total unrestricted funds		730
11,691	Restricted funds		6,077
11,881	<u>Total</u>		6,807

For the year ending 30th November 2021 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies 'regime'.

The board of Directors approved these accounts on 12 /07/2022, and signed on their behalf by:

Treasurer – David Kakande

Signature:



12 /07/2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention. They comply with the Charity Commission's Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities (SORP 2005) and all applicable Accounting and Financial REPORTING STANDARDS

(b) INCOMING RESOURCES

General donations, legacies and subscriptions are brought into account when received.

Donations and grants given for specific purposes are treated as income in the year of receipt. Unspent restricted income is included under restricted funds as it is fully committed.

(c) RESOURCES EXPENDED

The resources used are classified under the charity's functional categories of expenditure rather than the type of expense in order to provide more useful information.

Resources expended in each functional category comprise direct expenditure including direct staff costs attributable to the activity. Where costs cannot be directly attributed they have been allocated to activities based on time spent by staff on those activities.

(d) TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS AND DEPRECIATION

Tangible fixed assets are included at cost; Depreciation is calculated annually at 25%

(e) OPERATING LEASES

Operating lease rentals are charged to the income and expenditure account as they become due.

(f) FUND ACCOUNTING

General funds comprise the accumulated surplus or deficit on the income and expenditure account. They are available for use at the discretion of the Directors in furtherance of the general objectives of the company. Restricted funds are funds subject to specific restricted conditions imposed by donors.

(g) EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES

Expenditure is allocated to one of three functional categories that reflect the charitable activities of the company:

- Cost of generating funds

- Activities in the furtherance of the Charity's objects

Rise Community Action Limited

Grants, Donations & Expenditure Analysis

2. Grants, Donation and fees :

<u>2020</u>	<u>Sources</u>	Unrestricted	Restricted	<u>2021</u>
Total				Total
	City and Hackney NHS			
27,750*	CCG	-	27,650*	27,650*
	Community Funding	-	2,299	2,299
10,000	HCVS Hackney Giving	-	10,000	10,000
450	HCVS condom	-		584
398	AHPN	-	4,500	4,500
2,084	Generated income	-	1,000	1000
3,358	other	540	-	540
10,880				
54,920	<u>Total</u>	540	46,033	46,573

<u>2020</u>	<u>Resources expended:</u>	<u>2021</u>
	Fundraising and training	0
	Activities for Beneficiaries (including	
	Salaries, Rent, Volunteer cost)	50,009**
	Support and advice	
	Management and Administration	3,263
54,545	Total	53,272

****£27,650 of this income was received on behalf of CAN (Community African Network) for its Bowel cancer project***

***** £27,650 is for funds paid to CAN (Community African Network) which was received for its Bowel cancer project***