



Uzima in Our Hands

Registered Charity Number 1153181

Trustees' Annual Report For the period
1.1.2022 to 31.12.2022

Photo – Family supported by Uzima

Annual Report 1 Jan 2022 - 31 December 2022 Uzima In Our Hands STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT The Charity Uzima In Our Hands (“the Charity”) was constituted as a trust by a trust deed made on 1 st August 2013. The Charity’s primary aim is to provide funding for the Uzima Children Orphan Centre. However, Uzima In Our Hands is a wholly separate entity from Uzima Children Orphan Centre. New Trustees are appointed by the existing Trustees. All Trustees give of their time freely and no Trustee remuneration was paid during the year. During this financial year the Trustees were: - Joy Mowle (Chair) - Louise Collins (Treasurer) - Rachel Beasley (Secretary) temporary while Joy was in Kenya, January – March 2022 - Vivienne Collins (Secretary)

There were 13 trustees meetings in 2022

7 January 2022, 14 February 2022, 8 March 2022, 21 March 2022, 30 March 2022, 20 April 2022, 19 May 2022, 29 June 2022, 5 August 2022, 7 September 2022, 14 October 2022, 3 November 2022, 8 December 2022

Recruitment and Training:

Any Trustee can suggest a new Trustee to current Trustees. If agreement is reached, the potential Trustee is informally interviewed by one of the Trustees; if further consensus is reached, the person is then invited to a Trustees meeting where an informed discussion and exchange of views takes place between all parties. At a separate meeting (possibly on the same day if appropriate), a decision is reached whether to invite the person to join the Trust. By this stage it is normally apparent whether the person is / is not suitable and would accept the role of Trustee if offered. If the person has accepted the role, they are then formally invited to a Special Meeting of Trustees which would immediately precede the next Trustees meeting at which they would be formally welcomed to the Charity and the statutory record of Trustees would be amended accordingly. Prior to appointment, Trustees are sent full details of the Trust and Charity Commission guidance on Trustees’ roles and responsibilities.

Policies

The following policies are available to guide the Trustees and volunteers while working for the Charity. • Anti-bribery and corruption • Conflict of interest • Equality, Diversity and Inclusion policy • Financial Policy, including Reserve and Expense Policy • Privacy and Data protection • Roles and Responsibilities • Code of Conduct for Trustees • Safeguarding policy (including Social Media Policy)

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The purposes of the Charity as set out in its governing document: 1. The relief of sickness and preservation of health and well-being. 2. The advancement of education. 3. The relief of financial hardship in particular, but not exclusively, for Uzima Children Orphan Centre in the Samia district of Western Kenya

A summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit

The Charity achieves its purposes for the public benefit through regular quarterly grants to Uzima Children Orphan Centre. Uzima Children Orphan Centre focuses on the public benefit of families with the care of orphaned or disabled children and children in exceptional need. Help and support are offered irrespective of tribe or religious affiliation. All children at Uzima Children Orphan Centre attend pre-school or primary school classes. During the school day they receive 2 free meals. The children at Uzima Children Orphan Centre accessed basic health care without charge at the nearby Health Clinic. Sadly, Buburi Health Clinic shut early in 2022. Uzima Children Orphan Centre has a programme to offer extra support to children with special needs, and also those who are slower learners. A further 4 attend a local special school. A social worker employed by Uzima Children Orphan Centre offers further child and family support. Joy, the Chair of Trustees, or another Trustee, visits Uzima Children Orphan Centre every year if possible usually with a small group of supporters. In this way the communication and the understanding of the issues 'on the ground' are regularly improved and strengthened. Sadly in 2021 no visit was possible due to the pandemic and communication deteriorated somewhat. Therefore, a longer trip of 3 months was undertaken by Joy in January 2022 to ascertain what was truly happening on the ground.

Over the 3 month period of her visit, it came to light that there was corruption in the management of Uzima Orphan Centre and although many ideas and possible ways forward were floated, finally Joy left Kenya having decided that we could no longer trust that the grants we were sending were being used entirely for the Orphan Centre.

This led us to make the unanimous decision not to continue supporting the Orphan Centre but trying to find a way forward to still help the children who were as much in need as ever. Initially during 2022 we decided to close the charity in line with the end of our Five Talents project in November 2024. We hoped to hand over the support of these children to a different charity or NGO. We paid the staff at Uzima Orphan Centre for the rest of the year keeping the centre open and also paid for food direct to the supplier. Meanwhile we negotiated and started working with another Kenyan charity 'Rise to Shine Education Foundation,' the founder who Joy had met in January 2022 during her visit.

The staff were told about the upcoming change on Joy's second visit in October and were given a redundancy payment at Christmas 2022 when all financial ties were cut with Uzima Orphan Centre. We still had the children in mind however and had arranged for the most vulnerable children to be assessed by our new contact in RTSEF – Emily Bakhitah Okoth. She made arrangements for the most vulnerable from the centre (67 initially) to attend 4 different local Government Primary schools. The social worker from Uzima Orphan Centre was employed plus an administrator social worker to organise uniform, bags, shoes and school equipment for the children, all of which are needed to attend a Government school. Fees were also covered, and ongoing support should a child need it was given from the social workers office in Nanderema.

This was a difficult period of change especially as the Orphan Centre's management were angry at the funds not being sent anymore and the new charity staff were sometimes threatened. However

the new scheme was welcomed by the local chiefs and people who wanted the scholarships for the most vulnerable.

During all the massive changes of 2022, we kept our supporters informed of our decisions and what we were doing to continue to support the vulnerable children in the area around Uzima. Many people stopped their financial support as a result of this but equally, many kept supporting us, trusting that we would find a way forward. The year has been one of change but we ended it feeling that a way forward had opened up and the future was better for the children we seek to support than it had been when we supported a centre.

Five Talents

Our Uzima Savings Group project was set up in November 2021 with the assistance of Five Talents, a global charity that specialises in savings groups. This new initiative was embarked upon to help vulnerable local people learn to save together in community groups and then eventually learn the skills to run their own small businesses – to literally work their way out of poverty. By the beginning of January 22, we had trained two Savings Group leaders, and set up the first few groups, and we were still in regular contact with the main trainer from Five Talents, Emmy Ronoh. In February there were 6 saving groups with 31 members.

Emmy proved to be so trustworthy and valuable over the first few months of the project, that we employed her in a leadership role to oversee the project, as we realised we needed this assistance on the ground to give the project the best start. Emmy was from that point also responsible for dispersing salaries to the team.

Our two trainers were Frida and Reuben. We also hired an independent accountant for the project, Peres, crucially to keep accounts separate from Evans, the Director found to be corrupt from Uzima Orphan Centre. This was a good move, though a bit scary at first for the new team, who had to keep their heads down. Peres the accountant, was employed to keep accounts for the whole project, but also to help train group leaders in book keeping skills.

An office was procured in May/June, which was lockable and safe for the laptop and printer, and located away from the school.

Later in the year, evidence was gathered demonstrating that sadly Reuben wasn't being trustworthy, he had taken too many days sick, and extra unauthorised time for a family funeral, and he was not working when he said he was. Eventually, we terminated his position (which was self employed status) in November. Emmy advised that she felt confident that Frida could manage the 16 groups as we had then on her own, with Emmy and Peres' support.

Emmy met with the local chief, James, in Nanderema, to ensure that the project was under his watchful eye and therefore had a level of protection.

Bye the end of the year, we had almost 400 people in Savings groups, and they had grown from 6 to 20 groups. We are very pleased with this progress, and that we were able to keep this project separate from the Orphan Centre.

Pictured, one of the early members of a savings group, meeting Joy and selling her some tomatoes (Feb 2022).





CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Receipts and Payments Accounts

Charity Name

Charity number (if any)

For the period from

to

Section A Receipts and payments					
A1 Receipts	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds Per. (From - To)	Last Year
Donations	35,990	-		35,990	63,473
Fund Raising	938	-		938	15,978
GiftAid	9,384	-		9,384	13,498
Grants	-	-		-	1,000
Other Income	-	-		-	-
Interest	101	-		101	3
	-	-		-	-
Sub total	46,413	-	-	46,413	93,952
A2 Asset and investment sales, etc.				-	-
Total Receipts	46,413	-	-	46,413	93,952
A3 Payments					
Grants to Uzima Orphan and Day-Care Centre	- 32,202	-		- 11,224	- 97,385
Grants to Uzima Orphan and Day-Care Centre S/N					
Five Talents Programme	- 35,675				
Bank charges	- 360	-		- 360	- 331
FOB Transfer				-	-
Cost School Shirts	-	-		-	- 682
Fund Raising Cost	-	-		-	- 50
Admin Cost	- 255	-		- 255	-
	-	-		-	-
	-	-		-	-
Subtotal	- 68,492	-	-	- 11,838	- 101,568
A4 Asset and investment purchases, etc				-	-
Total Payments	- 68,492	-	-	- 11,838	- 101,568
Net of receipts / (Payments)	- 22,079	-	-	34,575	- 7,617
A5 Transfer of funds	0	-		0	0
A6 Cash funds last year end	82,205	- 0	-	82,205	9,294
Cash funds this year end	60,127	- 0	-	116,780	1,678
	- 0	0	0	0	

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	Details	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds
B1 Cash funds	Bank - Main	33,626	-	
	Special	2,036	-	
	Coop Current Account	1,383	- 0	
	Coop Savings Account	23,019	-	
	Vocational Room	- 0	- 0	
	Give As You Live	-	-	
	Paypal	31	-	
	Paypal Giving Fund	0	-	
	Stripe	32	-	
		Total cash funds	60,127	- 0

	Details	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds
B2 Other Monetary Assets				

	Details	Funds to which asset belongs	Cost (Optional)	Current Value (Optional)
B3 Investment assets				

	Details	Funds to which asset belongs	Cost (Optional)	Current Value (Optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use				

	Details	Funds to which liability relates	Cost (Optional)	Current Value (Optional)
B5 Liabilities				

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

signature

Print name

Date of approval



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name
UZINA IN OUR HANDS

On accounts for the year ended

31 December 2022 Charity no (if any) 1153181

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2022.

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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed: Jon Fyeh

Date: 21/09/2023

Name: Joshua Fabelman

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

A.C.C.A

(if any):

Address: E603 ROYAL CRESCENT APARTMENTS
SOUTHAMPTON
SO14 3AF

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.