

Refugees START

Charity number 1166273

Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2019



West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service

Refugees START

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2019

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Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service

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Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2019

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name

Leigh Bell
Melanie Steel
Wendy Myers

Charity number

The charity was registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales, number 1166273, on 30 March 2016.

Principal address

83 Ducie Street
Manchester
M1 2JQ

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
West Mailing
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Accountants

West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service
Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) formed on 30 March 2016.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

Being a Foundation CIO, the only voting members are its trustees. Trustees are appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

To relieve the need of asylum seekers and/or refugees by providing items and services to: individuals in need, charities, or other non government organisations with the same aims.

The charity's main activities

Refugees START was established to support refugees and asylum seekers (and projects and individuals working to support them) in the UK and Europe. Since we began operating in 2015, we have also taken on management of Yorkshire Aid – a pre existing group of local volunteers in Leeds- we added Yorkshire Aid as an operating name for the charity in this reporting period.

Our current activities focus on collecting & sorting, or buying, material donations such as clothing, tents, blankets, toiletries and food to send to warehouses in Calais for refugees living in Northern France, and to Greece to specific projects/ teams working with refugees there.

We also provide support to refugees and asylum seekers in the Yorkshire region by responding to requests for aid from organisations who work with them locally.

Refugees START

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2019

Objectives and activities (continued)

The charity's main activities (continued)

We distribute any surplus / unsuitable donations to local homeless organisations, foodbanks and other local charities to minimise waste and ensure as much of the donations we receive as possible are put to good use.

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the prevention or relief of poverty, overseas aid / famine relief and the advancement of health or saving of lives.

Achievements and performance

During this accounting period we were initially hosted by the Slung Low Theatre Company at Bath Road, Holbeck, Leeds LS11.

From there, we continued to work towards achieving the same outcomes, albeit on a smaller scale, due to reduced capacity at the new location.

We collected, sorted, and funded the transportation of multiple van loads of donations to Calais warehouses for distribution to refugees in Northern France (predominantly to Care4Calais) .

We continued to bring back to the UK on the return journeys, van loads of waste/unsuitable donations from Care4Calais, to help relieve their waste management problems. These items are then sorted and repurposed/recycled ,

We led an extremely successful salvaging mission with a large group of volunteers to collect useful items in the aftermath of the Leeds Festival, and were able to collect hundreds of tents, sleeping bags and roll mats, which were then taken to Calais in Q3 18/19 .

We collected, sorted and paid for transportation of a large palletised shipment of much needed women's sanitary items, and children and women's clothing to Greece .

We continued to receive and meet requests from local partner organisations for practical aid/supplies for refugees and asylum seeking families in the Yorkshire area- in particular establishing a close working relationship with Meeting Point in Armley.

We were invited by the theatre to move with them to their new location at the Holbeck Social Club, where we continue to be hosted at present .

We are continuing the search for additional space more suited to hosting volunteer sessions, to enable our former, very well attended sorting sessions to recommence in 2020.

Our thermal imaging equipment continued to be loaned out and put to productive use by Refugee Rescue, a volunteer group engaged in search and rescue of boats off Lesbos island, Greece. It was returned to us in early 2019 as no longer needed. (We are currently considering options for potential disposal/further loan).

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Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2019

Objectives and activities (continued)

Our year in pictures.....



Yorkshire Aid

Published by Leigh Bell [?] · April 26, 2018 ·

We need your help please

For two newly arrived Syrian families to Yorkshire who came without any personal possessions.

New or lightly worn and laundered clothing for:

New born babies either gender up to 18 months

Girl aged 5

Boy aged 7

Teen Boy (small or ex small man)

Girl aged 10 (10-14yrs clothing)

Adult small mans and womans coat suitable for English weather (and clothing Size 10-14 and small/ex small)

Also if possible some Un opened nappies, new pillows, new or lightly worn and laundered fitted sheets and heavy blankets. (no duvets or used pillows please we have limited space)

You can drop off at Slung Low theatre 67-71 Bath Road Holbeck or contact us for a time outside of office hours. We are a small volunteer team so we are unable to collect from you unless you have a large amount, if you could work as a group to jointly collect and message us we might be able to accomodate a collection. We also have a drop off in York (South) please message for a time and address.

...



Yorkshire Aid

Published by Wendy Myers [?] · June 8, 2018 ·

Thank you to the anonymous donor who left a whopping £155 in cash at slung low for us!!! We dont know who you are but we are very grateful and promise to put it to good use ❤️

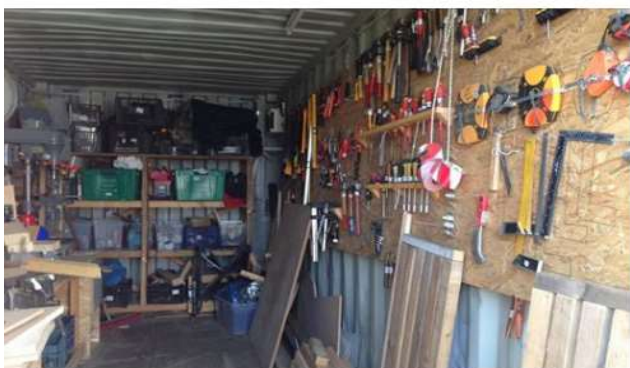
...



Yorkshire Aid — 😊 feeling happy.

Published by Cathie Rose Heart [?] · June 22, 2018 ·

Thank you to everyone who donated bikes and repair kits, tools and more. The refugees have loved and are loving the freedom and learning new skills to maintain their bikes.



Yorkshire Aid added an event.

July 30, 2018 ·



MON, AUG 27, 2018

Collecting sleeping bags and useful things

Leeds Festival Aftermath

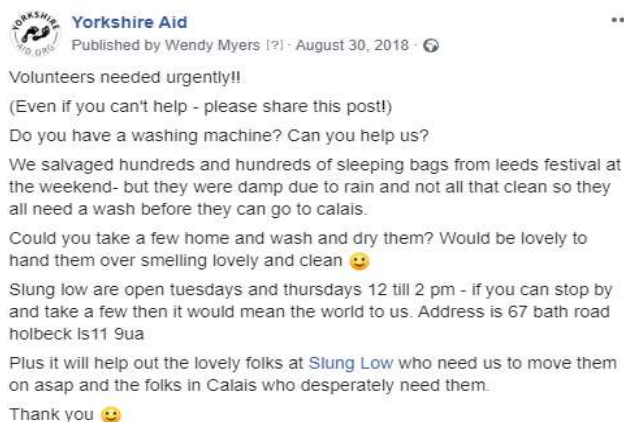
✓ Going ▼

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Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2019

Objectives and activities (continued)

Our year in pictures (continued).....



Refugees START

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2019

Objectives and activities (continued)

Our year in pictures (continued).....

Yorkshire Aid
Published by Wendy Myers [?] · December 14, 2018 ·

What an amazing donation from freedom4girls- thousands of sanitary products which will be off to Greece soon! Thank you! Xx



Yorkshire Aid
Published by Wendy Myers [?] · December 16, 2018 ·

The awesome Care4Calais team.
Great to see you all again this weekend.
Lots of love & thanks for your continued efforts, from Yorkshire Aid xx



Yorkshire Aid
Published by Wendy Myers [?] · January 15 ·

Yorkshire Aid are working with local charity Meeting Point Leeds to provide practical donations to refugees and asylum seekers locally.

They run a whole array of fantastic projects for local asylum seeking families and refugees in the area, including English lessons, crafts, a regular drop in for advice and support, and food parcels, as well as providing clothes and homewares.

As a result we are now able to accept the following items-

- Towels
- Bedding
- Duvets (single and double, not king- they won't fit in the washing machine!) & pillows
- Curtains
- Small electricals (eg small kitchen appliances, hairdriers) - only things that can be carried (not fridges etc)
- Small furniture items
- Crockery and cutlery, kitchenwares
- School books/ learning resources

Give us a shout if you think you have something which might be useful that isn't on the list 😊

Yorkshire Aid
Published by Wendy Myers [?] · January 19 ·

Moving day complete.

Very excited to be joining the fabulous Slung Low in their super new home at the Holbeck Club 😊



Yorkshire Aid
Published by Jin Jurnal [?] · February 9 ·

Happy to report that the goods you donated arrived a week ago with IHA - InterEuropean Human Aid Association team ready to be distributed by themselves and Lifting Hands International

These are fantastic teams that have been working day in day out to support different populations in the North of Greece for over three years. You can learn more about them, and the populations they work alongside, on their pages.

Thanks again to all who contributed. We sent new underwear, socks...
[See More](#)



Financial review

The net payments for the year were £1,482 on unrestricted funds.

Reserves policy

The charity's free cash reserves at the year end were £3,761.

The charity does not have a reserves policy.

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees:

Signed: W Myers.....

Date: ...15/1/20.....

Name ...W Myers..... (Trustee)

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Receipts and payments account for the year ended 31 March 2019

	Notes	2019	2018
		Total	Total
		funds	funds
		£	£
Receipts			
Donations		593	2,811
Proceeds of sales		651	2,076
Fundraising		884	1,262
Total receipts		<u>2,128</u>	<u>6,149</u>
Payments			
Vehicle and container hire		504	2,711
Materials and resources		998	1,355
Volunteer expenses		200	26
Fuel		394	266
Other travel costs		454	469
Phone and postage		182	379
Insurance		395	378
Advertising and publicity		252	100
Banking and paypal charges		69	78
Accountancy		162	450
Total payments		<u>3,610</u>	<u>6,212</u>
Net receipts / (payments)		<u>(1,482)</u>	<u>(63)</u>
Cash fund balances brought forward		<u>5,243</u>	<u>5,306</u>
Cash fund balances carried forward		<u>3,761</u>	<u>5,243</u>

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Statement of assets and liabilities as at 31 March 2019

	2019	2018
	Total	Total
	£	£
Cash funds		
Cash at bank	3,761	5,243
Total cash funds	3,761	5,243

Assets retained for the charity's own use

Thermal imager

Liabilities	£
Accounts preparation	216

Approval of the accounts

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on

Date: ...15/1/20.....

Signed: ...W Myers..... (Trustee)

Name ...W Myers.....

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Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2019

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The trustees have taken advantage of section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and have prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Taxation

As a registered charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

2 Trustee expenses

No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

3 Trustee remuneration and benefits

No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.