COMPANY REGISTERED NUMBER: 07445499

&

CHARITY REGISTERED NUMBER: 1142005

REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Summary and purpose of the charity as set out in the governing document

The charity's objects ("objects") are specifically restricted to the following:

In this Articles of Association reference to blind and partially sighted include persons with other physical and sensory disabilities including people from other ethnic minorities communities living in the United Kingdom

- 1. To relieve the needs of disabled people in particular the blind and partially sighted by provision of an Information and Advice Service
- 2. To promote and advance primarily the education of disabled people by provision of work related training.
- 3. To work with similar likeminded organisations and individuals outside the UK and in particular Africa and the Caribbean to promote charitable purpose for the benefits of marginalized and disadvantaged people and communities.

In furtherance of the aforementioned aims and objectives but not further or otherwise:

- 1. To collect, disseminate and publish primarily all relevant information on the education, training, rehabilitation and employment of blind/Partially sighted Africans and Caribbean people.
- 2. To commission, carry out and promote research and studies on blind/disabled related issues by way of conferences, seminars, workshops and lectures and to ensure the dissemination of the information to all interested parties in accessible formats.
- 3. To raise Funds and invite and receive Contributions, Donations, Equipment, and Subscriptions from any source so long as it meets with the organisational ethical policy.
- 4. The organisation shall promote and organized cooperation with all relevant bodies and organisation in order to achieve the promotion and furtherance of its aims and objectives.
- 5. To engage in all such other lawful activities as is necessary for the attainment of the aforementioned aims and objectives.

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. OBAC relies on grants and the income from fees and charges to cover its operating costs. Affordability and access to our services is important to us and is reflected in our pricing policy set out in detail later in this report. We endeavor to encourage all within our community to access our services, and thus by so doing, our charitable company is acting for the public benefit.

Volunteers:

OBAC is very involved in the community and relies on voluntary help. OBAC continues to be extremely grateful for the unstinting efforts of our volunteers; they have made valuable contribution to the service delivery. The volunteers provide support and assistance in our administration, supported services and training.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Our core area of work are:

- 1. Legal Advice and Casework (Immigration, Benefits, Entitlements etc)
- 2. Independent living (Supported Planning and Brokerage Service
- 3. Training and education

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

Overview of the Year

Outputs/Outcomes and social impact:

The past year has seen the projects being delivered as planned, with the beneficiaries being sent referrals, who have approached us with benefits, housing or personal care issues. As a consequence of this approach we have been able to elicit their participation in the project. The ongoing transition from Disability Living Allowance (DLA) to Personal Independence Payment (PIP) and the roll out of Universal Credit (UC).switching options for Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and the new assessment process, have all led to beneficiaries experiencing issues around finance. The assessment process in particular has come under fire as it determines the level of care and support that claimants are entitled to, including any additional support that they can access and are conducted by non-medically trained DWP staff. A significant number of users that we have seen have expressed the view that this is the reason why they feel that there are adverse decisions. The changes introduced have led to many users experiencing a reduction, suspension or loss of benefit, primarily caused by either failing the assessment process or completing their claim forms incorrectly. The loss of income has led to many of them being unable to maintain their daily living needs, as well as maintaining good health, wellbeing and mobility, as well as being able to live independently in their own home and in their own communities. Consequently, quite a significant number of service users have had or are still experiencing high levels of debt due to unpaid housing costs (rent/rates) or utility costs (gas/electricity, etc.).

We have supported service users in making transitional arrangements aimed at reducing the impact of a reduction/loss of income and have also supported them in seeking supersession (mandatory reconsideration) and in some cases launching appeals at the tribunal level. During the appeals process we support service users by assisting them in completing the relevant forms, as well as submitting any relevant documents. We liaise administratively (letters/telephone/e-mails/faxes), with the DWP throughout the process. Users attending tribunals are given self-advocacy coaching to ensure that they are confident and capable enough to represent themselves and articulate their case. Those attending tribunals have often informed us about their feelings of stress and anxiety and consequently we also give them a level of emotional support to assist them through the process.

Our work has continued in regards to assisting users in reducing energy costs by showing them the value of having smart meters installed and have shown them the benefit in terms of controlling and monitoring their own energy and being able to ascertain the cost of their energy use. We also introduced users to the U-switch site where they can do an online search to see which suppliers offer the most cost effective tariffs and if suitable switch suppliers. Feedback from users has on the whole been quite positive and those switching suppliers have reported only some minor glitches. For those living in certain types of accommodation where smart meters cannot be installed, they are still waiting for the structural changes to be made so that they can install a smart meter.

Accessing the short courses and workshops has enabled users to acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills necessary for them to manage their finances better, especially for those living with a disability or long term health condition. Being able to manage their finances adequately supports them in maintaining their independence, living independently in their own home and taking care of their own health and personal care needs and also mobilizing in their own local area.

In terms of debt management, we have supported users in negotiating with creditors to arrange payments methods, which do not adversely affect their own individual financial situation. Consequently we have supported users in establishing, standing orders, direct debits, and designated payment cards. Another critical factor in managing debt is to ensure that it does not increase beyond their capacity to pay and hence our focus the necessity to plan ahead to ensure that the majority daily living needs are met.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

Addressing poverty issues most users rely on welfare benefits to maintain their daily living needs (food/clothes/accommodation) and have a restricted budget to work with consequently it is essential that they are able to plan ahead and budget for essential items and recurring costs. We therefore work with users in acquiring the knowledge and skills and aptitude needed for them to manage their finances competently and budget for ongoing and future recurrent costs, thus reducing the experience of financial hardship, stress and/or anxiety and social isolation.

During the period under review we hosted several health and wellbeing workshops around several specific disabilities and health conditions. These were primarily targeted at those individuals with the relevant disability/health condition. The main objectives of the workshops were to inform/educate about the health effects, the treatment regime and maintaining good health. We also participated in several consultations around the provision of services for visually impaired people in the London area and also examining the possible relocation of eye health services in Moorfields Eye Hospital to Charing Cross and the implications of a relocation for current users of services at Moorfields.

The self-advocacy support training, very much focused on preparing users for developing the aptitude and skills necessary for them to be able to advocate on their own behalf. To enable this to happen, it was necessary for them to get a full understanding of their own situation, including the eligibility criteria and entitlements to which they were entitled. The elements of this aspect included, Self-Awareness, Self Confidence, Self-Empowerment, Self-Assertiveness, and speaking out, and many of our service users have used these elements to present their cases to the DWP and/or other service providers, often with a positive outcome.

Participants in the program have stated that the learning undertaken has given them a greater sense of awareness, not only about their own situation, but also the situation of others with similar or other disabling conditions and has also given them a sense of worth and purpose, in that they are more confident, in not only their ability to look after themselves, but to also become more socially active. Mobilizing in and around their local area to attend networking events and activities, participating in disability organisations and peer support groups, where they can speak out and share their experiences of living with a disability, with a view to contributing to the general trend in trying to improve the lives of people with disabilities.

Another key aspect of the work has been in terms of supporting users to maintain their independence, by ensuring that they can access concessionary travel options, such as freedom pass, taxi-card, dial a ride, disabled person rail-card and for those with access to vehicles the blue badge. All of these options enable people with disabilities to travel around freely and thus encourages wider social interaction and participation and consequently can be seen as a part of their own strategy to reduce their experiences

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

We continued to plan and organize workshops to ensure that service users increase their learning and share experience to improve their health and general well-being.

- Nutritional benefits of healthy eating in managing disabilities and maintaining good health.
- Using regular exercise to maintain fitness and enhance the quality of life.
- Coping skills
- Diabetes seminar
- Importance of prevention of eye conditions
- Living with and managing mental illness,
- Accessing personal care in the home
- Sight loss, and its impact on employment prospects.
- Maintaining good health and well-being through diet and exercise

To this end the advocacy support strand is of vital importance as it focuses on the individual's capacity to develop aspects of self-awareness, self-confidence, self-assertiveness which enable them to speak out on issues of concern, as well as representing themselves with the relevant authorities as and when necessary.

This also enables them to become engaged and get themselves involved in events and activities in their own local areas, leading to them experiencing more social interaction, having a richer social life and thus reducing the impact of social isolation and the stresses and anxieties that this may cause.

In terms of mobility and access our work has been in terms of enabling and supporting service users in accessing freedom passes, taxi-cards, dial-a-ride and blue badges. All of these elements are geared towards supporting people with disabilities in getting around in their local area and beyond and can very much be seen as one of the strategies designed to encourage social interaction and reduce incidences of potential social isolation.

Change Indicators

Another key aspect of the work has been in terms of supporting users to maintain their independence, by ensuring that they can access concessionary travel options, such as freedom pass, taxi-card, dial a ride, disabled person rail-card and for those with access to vehicles the blue badge. All of these options enable people with disabilities to travel around freely and thus encourages wider social interaction and participation and consequently can be seen as a part of their own strategy to reduce their experiences

Progress

- All beneficiaries accessing the project, given an initial needs assessment.
- Hosting Welfare rights, information and advice sessions featuring;
- The completion of benefit claim forms,
- Communicating with the DWP on claimants behalf via letters, telephone calls, e-mails, faxes,
- Requesting supersession
- Preparing casework documents, supporting and representing claimants in the appeals process and at tribunals.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

The beneficiaries were taken through the assessment process of their fuel bill payments.

- Hosting advice sessions highlighting the savings which can be made by using smart meters, with beneficiaries being encouraged to have them installed.
- Conducting energy saving sessions using the price comparison site U-SWITCH, with beneficiaries being urged to take advantage of lower prices and tariffs.

Debt Prevention – through financial planning and budgeting sessions/workshops, designed to highlight and develop an understanding of the importance of making timely payments and ensuring that there are enough funds in their accounts to honour any pre-arranged payments. Beneficiaries shared experience and gave tips on how other beneficiaries could take advantage of what they had learnt.

27 beneficiaries learning from shared experiences, greater understanding and development of social interactions and applying the knowledge and skills learnt in addressing peer issues.

108 Beneficiaries were supported in accessing the relevant welfare benefits, health and social care support enabling them to live independently in their own home/community. We hosted information and advice sessions around paying utility bills and setting up direct debits/standing orders.

Conducting energy saving sessions using the price comparison site U-SWITCH, with beneficiaries being urged to take advantage of lower prices and tariffs.

150 Money Management Training sessions using learn my way training courses.

1. Budgeting your money

This element was well received by users and this year's intake was mainly of individuals in the 35-65 age range adversely affected by reduced income. They also pointed out that they were now more likely to seek discounted goods and services as a means of staying in budget.

2. Online and mobile Banking

Again this element is becoming more accessible, especially amongst older service users, as we have managed to remove a lot of doubts and fears about its use and have demonstrated that it works effectively and securely in operating and managing bank accounts.

Staying in control of your money (again during the period this element was well received and as in the previous year we encountered learners (47%) for whom there were language barriers. They were given an English assessments and provided with additional support through the learning process. Most learners have expressed the view that these sessions have really assisted them in taking control of their finances

Debt Prevention – 128 beneficiaries benefitted from through financial planning and budgeting sessions/workshops, designed to highlight and develop an understanding of the importance of making timely payments and ensuring that there are enough funds in their accounts to honour any pre-arranged payments.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

Beneficiaries shared experience and gave tips on how other beneficiaries could take advantage of what they had learnt.

54 Learning beneficiaries benefitted from shared experiences, greater understanding and development of social interactions and applying the knowledge and skills learnt in addressing peer issues.

108 beneficiaries were supported in accessing the relevant welfare benefits, health and social care support enabling them to live independently in their own home/community. We hosted information and advice sessions around paying utility bills and setting up direct debits/standing orders.

54 beneficiaries benefited from these sessions by increasing their knowledge of how they can travel in and around their local area by accessing accessible transport - freedom pass, taxi-card, blue badge, dial-a-ride, disabled person rail-card. Facilitating access to events and activities in the local area and beyond by providing information in an appropriate format (Braille, audio, large print).

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

We continued to offer Money Management Training sessions using learn my way training courses.

- 3. Budgeting your money (this was big hit with the 30+ age group as they found this very enlightening, We have received a number of testimonies from learners who now look for avenues to save money, by cutting costs and shopping for what is actually needed and Looking for bogof deals.)
- 4. Online and mobile Banking a major success amongst the learner over age 50, as they didn't think it was reliable enough).

Staying in control of your money (this session was success however 60% of learners struggled with this due to language barriers we had to refer them to the training team to complete an English assessment. These learners needed extra sessions to complete the module, however, the all learners found this very interesting generally).

General wellbeing workshops - an average of 100 beneficiaries attended Topics covered were, living with a disabling condition, exercise, health and nutrition, independent daily living, getting engaged in events and activities in their own local area (Community Councils).

Participants demonstrating increased confidence and social inclusion

We worked with the beneficiaries and volunteers in increasing confidence and social worked with the Royal College of Arts, Co-hosting external events where the effects of living with a disability can be expressed to a wider audience with a view to changing perceptions and reducing the impact of stigmas and stereotypes. This included exploring ways of reducing the impact of disabilities on individuals and communities and using art and design to make the built environment more accessible to people with disabilities.

People using this service reporting that they have increased independence

55 beneficiaries were supported in accessing the relevant welfare benefits, health and social care support to enable them to live independently in their own home/community.

They were provided with information and advice through one to one and group sessions. Discussions were around paying utility bills and setting up direct debits/standing orders. Also ensuring that they have linked in to accessible transport via freedom passes, taxi cards, blue badge, dial-a-ride.

Facilitating access to events and activities in the local area and beyond by providing information in an appropriate format (Braille, audio, large print).

Immigration advice and case work

175 customers were provided advice and casework on their immigration matters covering European Applications, Family migration. We had 90% successful applications and 15 awaiting decisions.

In terms of our immigration advice and casework the government's changing policies and the implementation means that we have to keep abreast of these to be able offer our client's appropriate advice and casework.

Digital Skills training

We continued to work in partnership with Good Things Foundation to achieve this. Through the My Money Counts project we linked the beneficiaries to register and take the online basic skills courses and the online Learn My Way platform to learn English and Managing Money; these are broken down into modules. During the year under review 170 learners accessed our centre and successfully completed the modules.

Through our partnership with Good Things Foundation we also worked in partnership with Lloyds Bank; we were set a target of 150 learners and we achieved 170 learners for the project.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial Performance:

Our overall incoming resources are grant aided from local government and central government, a considerable amount of the funding was received from the Southwark Council (Community Support), Big Lottery Fund – Reaching Communities. These grants fall under the Care in the Community legislation. The funds have been applied in the furtherance of its objectives and the assets are held either for use by OBAC's clients or for the purpose of providing them information, training and advice. Certain assets are held for the production of talking books and newspapers. Although, we know that the next financial year we may feel the impact of government cuts on our service income and as such we need to become consistent and effective in our fundraising endeavors to meet the needs of our beneficiaries. We are also working hard at seeing OBAC becoming less dependent on government funding and as such we are investing in setting up our trading activities that would build our unrestricted funds.

With regards to the year-end results, the organisation's total income for the year ended 31st March 2019 was £193,863 (2018: £125,622) including grants, and total expenditure for the year was £205,594 (2018: £182,179), and net expenditure for the year was £11,731 (2018: net expenditure of £56,557), as shown on page 17. We can only state that we have been able to continue to survive based on strong financial management, commitment and loyalty of OBAC staff and reviewing our fundraising strategy with a view of diversifying our funding.

Financial Position:

The financial position as at 31 March 2019, which the directors/trustees also considered to be less than satisfactory are shown in the balance sheet on page 18. The directors/trustees confirm that the financial statements comply with the statutory requirements of the Companies Acts 2006 and Charities Acts 2011, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice (the Charities SORP 2015).

Reserves Policy:

The Charities Commission requires charities to determine and explain their policy for free reserves. The directors/trustees have established the level of reserves (that is those funds that are freely available) that the charity ought to have. Reserves are needed to bridge the funding gaps between spending on projects and receiving of resources through grants and other funding sources. The reserves are also used for the implementation of pilot projects. In addition, short-term reserves will also be needed to pay for winding down costs upon close of operations where all income generating activities permanently ceased.

The trustees have reviewed the current financial circumstances of OBAC and consider that adequate resources need to be raised to be able to continue and be available to fund the activities of the organization for the foreseeable future. The trustees are of the view that OBAC is a going concern. The trustees are aware that the lack of free reserves, together with the economic backdrop, will provide a challenging environment in the year to come. Our intention is to obtain a prudent amount of reserves each year and we had been successful in achieving this in the past, however, with the recession and the lack of funds available for voluntary and community organisations it has been difficult for the organisation to continue with its work and to maintain the previous level of performance. Although, the trustees have plans in hand to address this situation and restore the reserves to nil balance before accumulating reserves from 2018.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

Principal Funders:

During the year ended 31st March 2018, the organisation received funds and donations from:

- 1. DWP (Access to Work)
- 2. Big Lottery Fund Reaching Communities
- 3. London Borough of Southwark (Community Support)
- 4. Greater London Fund For The Blind
- 5. Good Things Foundation

The directors and trustees are grateful to the above listed statutory and charitable agencies for their financial support.

Plans for the future

OBAC continues to pursue its strategy and business plan to develop its trading activities. We are exploring trading in Personal Care, Domestic Cleaning, After School clubs and Home Meals delivery; a number of the trading activities will obviously be based on commissioning and contracts with the local authorities and subcontracting from other agencies. We project a gradual growth of £20,000 in year 1, £30,000 in year 2 and by the third year £40,000. We are gradually developing the Gift Aid; which is now easy for donors to access through our newly published website. These unrestricted funds will assist in delivering services in the absence of grant support. A major financial concern for the organization will be ongoing financial sustainability given the high competitive funding environment and the external financial situation that has an impact on trusts and foundations that support the sector.

We continue to strengthen our links with the community. The local community will also be key to the success of our plans for a public appeal during the next 3 years; we aim to become the Hub for black and ethnic minority disabled people and people with long term disabling conditions.

Related parties and co-operation with other organistaions

We continue to work in partnership with similar organisations to provide services to our beneficiaries

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Legal Status:

OBAC is a registered a charitable company which was established for exclusively charitable purposes and registered in England on 19th November 2010 under Companies Act 2006, limited by guarantee and not having a share capital, and is a registered incorporated charity under Charities Act 2011 and not liable to direct UK taxation on its charitable activities. The charitable company became operational on 1st April 2012.

Governing Document – Constitution:

OBAC is a charitable company constituted as a members' voluntary organisation, its governing instrument is its Constitution which restricts its objects to the furtherance of the welfare of disabled people from black and ethnic minority communities, primarily blind and partially sighted Africans and Caribbean people; by means of an information and advice centre and by access to employment, training and other relevant services. There are no restrictions as to powers of investment; however it may not pay any surpluses to its Members.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

Organisation structure and decision-making:

The Charitable Company is managed by its Executive Committee; such consists of the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and any other Honorary Officers. The Executive Committee is appointed by the members at the Annual General Meeting, together with other persons so elected. The Officers are selected at the first executive committee meeting following the AGM. The maximum number of executive committee is 8 persons of whom no less than two thirds should have a sensory or physical disability.

Method of appointment or election of Trustees

The strategic direction, policy and management of the charitable company are the responsibility of the Executive Committee who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the governing document. A director/trustee can be co-opted onto the executive committee at any time between AGM's. Directors/Trustees are elected by the members, and they may choose to retire or may seek re-election/re-appointment.

Policies adopted for the induction and training of the Executive Committee

The executive committee consists of the directors/trustees of the charitable company. An induction pack is provided to all new directors/trustees. The induction process includes meeting of other staff members and volunteers. The new directors/trustees are briefed on their legal obligations under the company law and charity law. They are issued with the following:

- 1. Copy of OBAC Constitution
- 2. OBAC most recent annual report and accounts;
- 3. Diagram showing structure of the organization/ summary of decision process
- 4. Organisation's business strategy development plan
- 5. Briefing document, which explains the roles and responsibilities of a charity
- 6. Trustee. Information in this document has been gathered from the Governance Hub and Charity Commission.
- 7. Trustee Appraisal process
- 8. Dates of forthcoming meetings
- 9. Contact information of other Executive Committee Members

The Directors/Trustees are actively encouraged to pursue training to support their role and regular information is circulated to trustees. Our commitment to training is further reinforced by having the Investor in People standard and discussing learning and development at Executive Committee meetings.

The directors/trustees take out an annual personal indemnity insurance cover. The directors/trustees have also considered activities that could lead to any detriment and harm to the organisation's beneficiaries or the wider public and they have found and concluded that the current activities have no measurable elements that could lead to detriment or harm to the general public.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

Policies

The organisation continues to review its existing policies and procedures to ensure that we are in line with new government legislation and also obligations under our existing contracts with funding partners. OBAC engages consultants to review and oversee the implementation of these processes.

- 1. Equal Opportunities Policy
- 2. Adult Safeguarding Policy
- 3. Confidentiality and Data Protection Policy
- 4. Volunteers' Policy
- 5. Health and Safety Policy
- 6. Sustainability Policy

OBAC continued to offer disabled people the opportunity to volunteer this is used as a pathway into employment and also overcome social isolation. Majority of our volunteers are sensory impaired and use the opportunity to share their life experience with other service users and members to help increase their interests in the organisation.

Quality Standards

We continued to work within the parameters of our quality standards. We have also been able to maintain the standards through the years, thus ensuring that we provide good quality advice to our service users:

- 1. Investors in People quality standard which we have achieved and maintained since 2001.
- 2. Advice Quality Standard (General Advice and Casework) since 2002
- 3. Level 2 Immigration Advice agency with the OISC (Office of Immigration Services Commissioners) since 2006.
- 4. City and Guilds
- 5. OCR Oxford Cambridge and RSA
- 6. Open College Network to offer Access Technology ICT training, a course that we designed

Pay policy for senior staff

The directors who are the OBAC's trustees, and the senior management team comprise the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day to day basis. All directors give of their time freely and no director received remuneration in the year. Details of directors' expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in related notes to the accounts. The pay of staff is reviewed annually and normally increases in accordance with average earnings. In view of the nature of the charity, the directors benchmark against pay levels in other similar organisations of a similar size run on a voluntary basis. The remuneration bench-mark is the mid-point of the range paid for similar roles adjusted for a weighting of up to 30% for any additional responsibilities. If recruitment has proven difficult in the recent past a market addition is also paid with the pay maximum no greater than the highest benchmarked salary for a comparable role.

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a trustee, or senior manager of the charity, with a company, contractor or exhibitor must be disclosed to the full board of trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. In the current year no such related party transactions were reported.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

Risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises of:

- 1. an annual review of the principal risks and uncertainties that the charity
- 2. The implementation of procedures designed to minimise or manage any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

This work has identified that financial sustainability is the major financial risk for both the charity. A key element in the management of financial risk is a regular review of available liquid funds to settle debts as they fall due, regular liaison with the bank, and active management of trade debtors and creditors balances to ensure sufficient working capital by the charity. Attention has also been focused on non-financial risks arising from fire, health and safety of artists and audience, management of performing rights and food hygiene. These risks are managed by ensuring accreditation is up to date, having robust policies and procedures in place and regular awareness training for staff working in these operational areas.

Directors' & Trustees' Responsibilities

- The Directors who are also the Trustees of the charitable company are responsible for preparing the report and accounts in accordance with applicable law and regulations and for being satisfied that the accounts give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors & trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
- In preparing the financial statements, the directors & trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors & trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.
- The directors & trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011
- Charity trustees must have regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when carrying out activities to which it's relevant.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charitable Company Name: OBAC – (Organisation of Blind Africans & Caribbeans)

Company Registered Number: 07445499

Charity Registered Number: 1142005

Registered Office & Principal Address: 1st Floor Gloucester House 8 Camberwell New Road London SE5 0TA

Area of Operation: Throughout England and Wales

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

Trustees & Directors Who Served During the Year:

- 1. Ms Francesca Osibo (Chairman)
- 2. Ms Ruth Bishop (Vice Chair)
- 3. Mr Abdul Rasheed Bello (Treasurer)
- 4. Ms Dibb Jama
- 5. Mr Michael Aikhomu
- 6. Mr Oliver Ounounou
- 7. Mr Dwight Watson

Company Secretary: Ms Ibukun Olashore

Independent Examiner: Mr Moses Oluniyi Peters, FCCA

Principal of Moses Peters and Company

Chartered Certified Accountants & Registered Auditors 136 Southwyck House, Moorland Road, London SW9 8UR

Bankers: Unity Trust Bank Plc

Nine Brindley Place, Birmingham B1 2HB

Funds Held as Custodian Trustees on behalf of others

The charitable company did not hold funds as custodians on behalf of others in the year ended 31st March 2018.

Declarations

The charitable company has taken advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the report above.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report (including directors' report) above.

Signature:	Signature:
Full Names: Ms Francesca Osibo	Full Names: Ms Ibukun Olashore
Position: Trustee, Director & Chairman	Position: Company Secretary
Date: 31st Day of December 2019	Date: 31st Day of December 2019

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES (WHO ARE ALSO THE DIRECTORS) OF

OBAC – (ORGANISATION OF BLIND AFRICANS & CARIBBEANS)
(A CHARITABLE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
(CHARITY NUMBER 1142005) (COMPANY NUMBER 07445499)
ON ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019
SET OUT ON PAGES SEVENTEEN TO TWENTY SEVEN

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st March 2019.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention, which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

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.

Signed:

Date: 31st Day of December 2019

Examiner's Name: Mr Moses Oluniyi Peters **Relevant Professional Qualification:** FCCA

Relevant Professional Body: Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

Address: Moses Peters & Company

Chartered Certified Accountants

136 Southwyck House

Moorland Road, London, England SW9 8UR

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

		nrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2019 Total £	2018 Total £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:	Notes: 2.3&2.4				
Donations and Legacies: Donations & Fundraising For Members Charitable Activities:	3	6,153	Nil	6,153	40
Grants Receivable Other Trading Activities:	4	Nil	177,872	177,872	119,127
Advisory & Brokerage Services Investments:		8,074	Nil	8,074	4,589
Bank Interest Receivable Other: Rental Income: Rent Receivable		Nil 1,764	Nil Nil	Nil 1,764	Nil 1,866
Total Income and Endowments		15,991	177,872	193,863	125,622
EXPENDITURE	2.5				
Expenditure on Raising Funds: Fundraising Trading Costs	5	6,862	Nil	6,862	3,935
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	6	19,340	177,872	197,212	176,634
Other Expenditure: Rental Costs		1,520	Nil	1,520	1,610
Total Expenditure		27,722	177,872	205,594	182,179
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENT GAINS / (LOSSES)	7	(11,731)	Nil	(11,731)	(56,557)
NET GAINS / (LOSSES) ON INVESTMENTS NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:		Nil (11,731) Nil	Nil Nil Nil	Nil (11,731) Nil	Nil (56,557) Nil
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		(139,821)	Nil	(139,821)	(139,821)
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		(<u>151,552)</u>	Nil	(<u>151,552)</u>	<u>(139,821</u>)

There were no recognised gains and losses besides those shown above for this and previous year.

All income and expenditure derived from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 20 to 27 form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2019

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2019 Total Funds £	2018 Total Funds £
FIXED ASSETS Tangible Assets	12	Nil	7,107	7,107	8,361
		Nil	7,107	7,107	8,361
CURRENT ASSETS Debtors & Prepayment Cash at bank and in hand	13 14	162 3,895 4,057	Nil Nil Nil	162 3,895 4,05 7	164 1,275 1,439
LESS: CREDITORS Amounts falling due within one year	15	(35,224)	(Nil)	(35,224)	(22,129)
NET CURRENT ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)		(31,167)	Nil	(31,167)	(20,690)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		(31,167)	7,107	(24,060)	(12,329)
CREDITORS Amounts falling due after more than one year	16	(120,385)	(7,107)	(127,492)	(127,492)
NET ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)		(<u>151,552)</u>	Nil	(151,552)	<u>(139,821)</u>
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted Funds Restricted Funds				(151,552) Nil	(139,821) Nil
TOTAL FUNDS HELD				(151,552)	(139,821)

In respect of the year ended 31st March 2019, the directors consider that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provisions of section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006 "the Act" relating to the small companies' regime. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records, which comply with section 386 of the Act, and preparing accounts, which give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at the end of the financial year, and of its income and expenditure for the year in accordance with the requirements of section 393 of the Act, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to accounts, so far as is applicable to this company. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2019

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and Trustees on 31 st day of December 2019, and signed on its behalf by:
Ms Francesca Osibo (Chairman, Director & Trustee):
And
Mr Abdul Rasheed Bello (Treasurer, Director & Trustee):
The notes on pages 20 to 27 form part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

1. STATUS OF THE CHARITABLE COMPANY

OBAC – (Organisation of Blind Africans & Caribbeans) is a charitable company which was established for exclusively charitable purposes and registered in England under Companies Act 2006, limited by guarantee and not having a share capital, and is a registered incorporated charity under Charities Act 2011 and not liable to direct UK taxation on its charitable activities. It qualifies as a small charitable company under the Companies Act 2006 subject to the small companies' regime, with an income of less than the turnover threshold applicable to small companies as identified in Section 382 of the Companies Act 2006.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The particular accounting policies adopted by the board of directors and trustees for the charitable company are described as follows:

- 2.1 Basis of Accounting: The financial statements of the charitable company have been prepared in accordance with the United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice [the United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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) (effective 1st January 2015)'], and in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011. The financial reporting frameworks that have been applied in preparation of the financial statements are applicable laws: Company law and Charity law, and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). After the directors and trustees have made appropriate enquiries and review that the charitable company has adequate resources and sufficient sources of funds available, the directors and trustees are confident that the charitable company will continue in operation for the foreseeable future. Hence, a going concern basis was adopted by the directors and trustees in preparing these Accounts.
- **2.2** Cash Flow Statement: The charitable company has taken advantage of the exemption from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement on the grounds that it qualifies as a small charitable company under the Companies Act 2006.
- **2.3 Funds Accounting:** Funds held by the charitable company are:

Unrestricted general fund- comprising funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the directors and trustees.

Restricted funds- which were raised for particular restricted purposes and which can only be used for those particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

2.4 Recognition of Income

Unrestricted funds and restricted funds are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charitable company becomes entitled to the resources; the directors / trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

2.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis.

Expenditure is recognised and included in the Statement of Financial Activities when there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charitable company to the expenditure, and it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be obtained in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the use of the funds. All costs relating to particular expenditure categories are allocated directly, and where costs can not be directly attributed to particular expenditure categories, they are apportioned on an appropriate basis e.g. floor area, staff time, transaction, or usage.

Expenditure on raising funds includes the costs associated with generating income, both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Expenditure on charitable activities comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries, and includes all those costs associated with meeting the statutory requirements of the charitable company and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

2.6 Tangible Fixed Assets & Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets held for the charitable company's own use, and that can be used for more than one year are capitalised and are stated at costs less depreciation. The costs of minor additions are not capitalised. Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the costs of tangible fixed assets: equipment, fixtures and fittings, less their estimated residual values, over their useful economic lives at the rate of 15%, using a reducing balance method.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

2.7 Liabilities Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charitable company to pay out resources.

2.8 Value Added Tax

Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the charitable company, and as such is included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

3. DONATIONS AND FUNDRAISING FOR MEMBERS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2019 £	Total Funds 2018 £
Donations	6,053	Nil	6,053	40
Fundraising For Members	100	Nil	100	Nil
Total Received	6,153	Nil	6,153	40

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

4. GRANTS RECEIVABLE

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2019 £	Total Funds 2018 £
London Borough Southwark -				
Community Support	0	16,337	16,337	16,337
DWP (Access to Work)	0	43,624	43,624	22,414
Camberwell Community Grant	0	0	0	2,489
Greater London Fund For The Blind	0	7,500	7,500	0
Big Lottery Fund Reaching Communities	0	109,411	109,411	70,212
Good Things Foundation	0	1,000	1,000	1,700
City of London	0	0	0	5,975
TOTAL RECEIVABLE	0	177,872	177,872	119,127

5. Fundraising Trading Costs

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2019	Total Funds 2018
	£	£	£	£
Staff Costs	4,920	0	4,920	2,830
Rent, Rates, Utilities,				
Insurance, Phone & PPS	1,942	0	1,942	1,105
TOTAL COSTS	6,862	0	6,862	3,935

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

6. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2019 £	Total Funds 2018 £
Provision of Charitable Services:	~	~	~	~
Staff Costs	19,340	103,937	123,277	95,753
Travel and Subsistence	0	0	0	0
Rent, Rates and Utilities	0	43,421	43,421	46,798
Insurance	0	1,169	1,169	1,188
Repairs and Maintenance	0	0	0	876
Telephone, Fax & Internet	0	6,683	6,683	3,857
Advertising	0	161	161	702
Consultancy Fees	0	0	0	0
Printing, Postage & Stationery	0	1,177	1,177	1,822
Computer Consumables	0	163	163	2,000
Staff Volunteer Training and				
Books	0	1,035	1,035	2,894
CRB/DBS Checks & Health				
and Safety	0	1,204	1,204	1,064
Volunteers	0	800	800	0
Equipment Rentals	0	6,114	6,114	4,132
Other Charitable Costs	0	415	415	2,813
Subtotal	19,340	166,279	185,619	163,899
Provision of Governance:				
Rent, Rates and Utilities Examination and Accountancy	0	8,210	8,210	8,709
Services	0	2,000	2,000	2,000
Trustees' meetings, AGM		,	,	,,,,,
& Annual Return Costs	0	0	0	63
Bank Charges	0	129	129	196
Repairs and Maintenance	0	0	0	292
Depreciation of Fixed Assets	0	1,254	1,254	1,475
Subtotal	0	11,593	11,593	12,735
Overall Expenditure On Charitable Activities	19,340	177,872	197,212	176,634

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

7. <u>NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR:</u>

	2019	2018
	£	£
The net movement in funds for the year is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,254	1,475
Examiner's fee for examination service	1,250	1,250

8. STAFF COSTS AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

Staff costs were as follows:	2019	2018
	£	£
Gross Salaries and Benefits	120,722	92,420
Workplace Pension Cost	1,824	384
Social Security Cost	8,651	8,779
<u>Less</u> : Employment Allowance	(3,000)	(3,000)
TOTAL	128,197	98,583
		=====

There were no employees whose remuneration exceeded £60,000 in either year to be disclosed.

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full time equivalent, is as follows:

	2019	2018
	No.	No.
Management, Administration & Operations	7	7
TOTAL	7	7
		====

9. DIRECTORS' & TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS AND EXPENSES

There were no Directors' & Trustees' remuneration or other benefits, during the year ended 31st March 2019, nor in the year ended 31st March 2018.

There were no Directors' & Trustees' expenses, which were paid during the year ended 31st March 2019, nor in the year ended 31st March 2018.

10. DIRECTORS' & TRUSTEES' TRANSACTIONS

The directors and trustees had no transactions with the charitable company during the year.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

11. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The charitable company had no transactions with any related party during the year.

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Equipment, Furniture & Fittings £
Cost at 1st April 2018	22,169
Additions during the year	Nil
At 31st March 2019	22,169
Depreciation at 1 st April 2018	13,808
Charge for the year	1,254
At 31st March 2019	15,062
Net Book Value at 31st March 2019	7,107
Net Book Value at 31st March 2018	8,361

13. DEBTORS & PREPAYMENT

	2019	2018
	£	£
Debtors: Amounts Receivable	Nil	0
Prepayment: Prepaid Insurance	162	164
TOTAL	162	164

14. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	2019 £	2018 £
Unity Bank Current Account Balance	3,835	935
Unity Bank Reserve Account Balance	60	70
Petty Cash Balance	0	270
TOTAL	3,895	1,275

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

PAYE Income Tax & NICs Payable Pension Contributions Payable Salaries In Arrears Accrued Expenses	2019 £ 18,124 263 14,624 2,213 35,224	2018 £ 3,778 116 15,994 2,241 22,129
16. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE MORE TH	AN ONE YEAR	
Royal National Institute for the Blind Loan Other Loan Payable	2019 £ 93,392 34,100	2018 £ 93,392 34,100
	127,492	127,492
17. ANALYSIS OF ASSETS / (LIABILITIES) / FUNDS	2019	2018
Fixed Assets Represented by Restricted Funds <u>Less</u> : Liabilities	£ 7,107 (7,107	
Net Assets Represented by Restricted Funds	Nil	Nil
Current Assets Represented by Unrestricted Funds <u>Less</u> : Liabilities	4,057 (155,609	(141,260)
Net Assets Represented by Unrestricted Funds	(151,552	(139,821)
Net Assets Represented by Total Funds	(151,552	(139,821)