

Hands Around the World Charitable Trust



Annual Report & Financial Statements 2023

(A company limited by guarantee and not having share capital)

Charity Registration No. 1097626

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message from the Chair of Trustees

It is, again, my privilege to introduce the achievements of Hands Around the World charity during the past year.

It has been exciting to have first hand reports, as we renew overseas visits that were impossible during the pandemic. There is nothing quite like seeing in person the achievements of our partner projects and spending time with the committed staff and volunteers 'on the ground'. Whilst it has been difficult for us to be so remote from the projects, we have benefitted hugely from working with new 'in-country' coordinators, who can offer local support and expertise. Virtual steering group meetings have also enabled a new route for partnership working, as well as the opportunity to further develop relationships.

Hands Around the World's strength has always been in the commitment of its volunteers. As we plan to celebrate our 30th anniversary in 2024, we can look back on all that has been achieved to support individuals and to offer them unimagined opportunities over those years.

I commend the stories and the achievements of young people, reflected through the individual case studies in this report – if you cannot read everything, do focus on these accounts from students who have benefitted from Hands Around the World support throughout their education!

We look forward to a new year, knowing that we will face different issues in a challenging financial and global environment. We are so grateful to our wonderful staff team, our trustees, to those who contribute their time and money regularly, as well as to generous donors who have supported the charity consistently over many years or who leave a legacy to continue this work.

It will be exciting to have the opportunity to invest our long-term commitment with new partner projects as we enter our 30th year. We extend the invitation to you - join us as we build new relationships and provide wider opportunities to a new generation through our partnerships!

Heidi Sydor



Chair of Trustees

Cover photo: Esther in Kenya on her graduation day

Executive Officer's Report

As Hands Around the World reaches another milestone – 30 years in 2024 – we enjoy having an excuse to delve into the archives and read stories about the people who have shaped the charity since 1994.

There are so many incredible stories of volunteers, project partners and participants who have been involved over the last 30 years and many of them, like our founding members David and Lynda Steiner, continue to play a pivotal role in our operations today, and in developing our vision for the future.

Some friends are no longer with us, but their legacies continue to impact our work. We are incredibly grateful for recent legacy gifts, which have enabled us to dream big about developing new partnerships and extending our reach.

Looking back also provides an opportunity to reflect on the challenges involved in global partnerships. We build on the experience and knowledge gathered over the past 30 years to inform our approach for the future; to develop and maintain strong partnerships and promote good governance, transparency, and accountability in all our programmes.

As we plan for the coming years, we are also confronted by our limitations in the face of global challenges like structural inequality and environmental change. The needs are great and often urgent, such as the need for food resulting from severe drought and devastating crop failures in Zambia and elsewhere in Africa. Together with our partners, we continue to help where we can, through targeted interventions such as food relief in areas affected.

But our long-term vision is to help children reach their full potential. We do this by trying to remove barriers, like hunger, and provide opportunities through education and training. We are so proud of the achievements of the children and young people highlighted in this report.

We would like to thank everyone involved in Hands Around the World's activities for their generosity and enthusiasm to make a difference. Thank you to our supporters, volunteers, staff, trustees, and project partners. It is a pleasure and a privilege working with you.

Bridget Higginson



Executive Officer

About Hands Around the World

Mission Statement

To help children and young people disadvantaged through poverty or disability, or otherwise vulnerable, in partnership with locally-managed centres in Benin, Kenya, Rwanda, Zambia and India. We also support well-prepared volunteers to offer practical help, skill sharing, and friendship.

Vision

We want to see happy, healthy children in our partner projects, enabled to reach their full potential, with opportunities to have productive and fulfilled lives.

How we work

We work in partnership with in-country managers to realise their vision of supporting vulnerable children and alleviating poverty within their communities. This means ownership remains within the local community and we are committed to supporting our partner projects to move towards sustainability.

Reports from our partners

In 2023, Hands Around the World explored and developed exciting new partnerships through which to serve disadvantaged children and young people from overseas communities facing the enormous challenges of poverty, inequality and climate change. Simultaneously, we worked to strengthen and develop established partners through training and capacity-building initiatives, helping improve their leadership and management processes and promote best practice in the delivery of their services. To further enhance our partnerships, in certain places we began working with in-country coordinators to support project monitoring and information flow, improving our understanding of how best to support our partners.

In this report, you'll find inspirational stories of individuals whose lives have been touched through the efforts of our partners and their vision for a better tomorrow in their communities.

Disability Community Centre (DCC), Maua, Kenya

In 2023, the DCC continued to provide its core services to the community. These included assessment and therapy, provision of assistive devices and home visits conducted by a physiotherapist and social worker as well as school referral and referral to other services for specialised treatment.

One child supported through the DCC's services in 2023 was Mildred (pictured right). Mildred is three years old; she has spastic cerebral palsy and, following assessment, started physiotherapy in January 2023. She could not control her neck or body or sit unaided. However, after several sessions of physiotherapy, Mildred showed reduced spasticity and improved control. She was also supported with an appropriate chair to assist her with sitting. Her mother was taught a home programme that included best positioning along with passive stretching and massage. This will allow her to support Mildred's care on a continuing basis.



A major highlight during the year, delivered in collaboration with the mobility charity Motivation Africa, was the procurement of 35 wheelchairs to the DCC for local distribution. Following an exciting and challenging fundraising event in the Peak District, the team at Baker Tilly made a corporate donation in 2022 of £3,144, which funded the wheelchairs. They were delivered to the DCC in July 2023. Following this, two staff from Motivation's technical team visited in August to deliver an intensive week-long training course for DCC staff on assembling and fitting the wheelchairs for recipients, in accordance with World Health Organization policy. The training was very thorough and was well received. DCC staff were also provided with safeguarding guidance, updating their knowledge to ensure the centre's procedures meet best practice.

Disability Community Centre (DCC), Maua, Kenya

Responsibility was then passed to the DCC staff, who identified recipients. These were mostly children and young people with severe mobility difficulties related to conditions such as cerebral palsy, spina bifida and paraplegia. Either their existing wheelchairs were no longer fit for purpose, or they had none and were entirely dependent on caregivers to carry them around.



Alex receives a new wheelchair at the DCC in 2023, through support from Baker Tilly.

Fitted between August and October 2023, the positive impact of these wheelchairs has already been significant, with improved mobility, autonomy and associated psychological benefits.

We share one story of an individual supported through the donation. Patrick, who is 40 years old, is a below-knee amputee with paraplegia paralysis. Before the project, he relied on his brothers to carry him to go anywhere and do anything. Patrick says that receiving a wheelchair has been transformative. He can now move about whenever suits him. He says he now feels that he will not bother people, as he can move around on his own. He also now feels his dreams are valid and he hopes to start a small business. We wish him every success. Patrick's story illustrates sentiments shared by many others – a sense of independence combined with renewed aspirations. A further five wheelchairs are due for delivery to the DCC in 2024: our thanks to Baker Tilly for their generosity.

Disability Community Centre (DCC), Maua, Kenya

The DCC helped hundreds of children with disabilities in 2023, improving their mobility and wellbeing – a hugely valuable contribution to the community, enabling increased engagement in daily life and more appropriate education for those supported.



In addition to continuing its core services, the DCC underwent some capacity building in 2023 as new members diversified and enhanced the management board. In early August, Hands Around the World supported Board of Management training, shown above. This familiarised participants with core aspects including the DCC's constitution, vision, mission, policy guidelines and strategic plan. It covered critical aspects of organisational administration and leadership, including board roles, good governance, leading change, and strategic planning. Key considerations at project planning level were also addressed. The training engaged the participants to identify financial priorities and introduced them to various technical planning tools. It was well received and will hopefully enhance the DCC's overall direction, management and resilience into 2024.

New Life Centre (NLC), Sarberia, India

In 2023, the New Life Centre in West Bengal provided education to over 250 children. This is good news for the centre - the pandemic had resulted in a substantial reduction in numbers, as many families had little option but to relocate to urban areas in search of employment. Whilst the school is still some way off its maximum capacity, the increased enrolment bodes well for full recovery in due course, to pre-pandemic levels. Pupils at the NLC continued to outperform other local schools during the year - a testament to the high quality of teaching, as well as the extraordinary passion, vision and commitment of the centre's director, Alindra Naskar.

2023 was a busy year. In addition to the children receiving an education, 28 girls and women received vocational training in tailoring. The total number trained at the centre since it opened is now well over 200 - a wonderful achievement. Girls trained at the NLC are able to use their new-found skills to set up clothing microenterprises; Alindra reports that there is a cooperative bank that gives small community businesses loans at very reasonable rates, helping with start-up costs, such as sewing machines and raw materials. Pictured right is Chumpa, who runs the training, with an example of one of the kits for making saris, which the trainees receive on finishing the course.



The early part of the year saw two health and safety initiatives delivered at the centre. In January, 215 children were vaccinated against measles and rubella, providing life-long protection. Whilst this might not have been the children's favourite activity, as you can see here, they nonetheless put on a brave face! In March, the NLC had fire extinguishers installed to improve safety at the centre and ensure it is up to date with regulations governing schools.



New Life Centre (NLC), Sarberia, India

Also in March, the NLC held a sports day for the children - a lively event with a variety of fun activities, including an energetic sack race that saw the children hop, skip, jump and tumble their way down the track, whilst other events challenged and promoted the children's balance and coordination.

In November, Hands Around the World trustee and NLC volunteer Project Coordinator Tess visited Sarberia, along with Lyn, a Hands Around the World volunteer who has visited the NLC many times and previously taught English at the school. The visit provided Tess and Lyn the opportunity to connect with Alindra and other staff, to learn about the successes and current challenges, whilst also offering the opportunity to connect with current and former pupils.

For their visit, Alindra had arranged for some former students to return to the NLC, which provided some insight into how the NLC enhances the lives of those who pass through its doors. One such former student was Afsana who, having finished at the NLC, went on to university, where she is now studying nursing with sponsorship from Hands Around the World. She has clearly developed into a confident young woman - when Tess asked if she would talk to the upper classes to motivate them for further education, she was only too happy to oblige.



Three young men who had previously attended the NLC – Shushankar and Basit (above left) and Baswajit (above right) – also shared their stories.

Following his education at the NLC, Baswajit (pictured above in his shop) went on to study computer science at university. With his entrepreneurial spirit, he has recently started an IT business, having extended his parents' grocery shop near the NLC to include IT facilities that local people can use. He also helps the NLC by managing certain IT activities for the school.

New Life Centre (NLC), Sarberia, India

Shushankar completed his university studies in English and intends to take up a role in 2024 in local government, whilst Basit graduated with a degree in physics and intends to go on to study for a PhD. The former students spoke warmly of their time at the NLC. The variety of careers they are now pursuing speaks to the NLC's commitment to, and success in, nurturing individual talents and goals. Indeed, all three young men shared how the education they had received at the NLC gave them the foundation and discipline they needed to get through Senior Secondary (equivalent of UK sixth form), which has classes of 100–150 students and can be a challenging learning environment.



Reflecting on her discussions with former students, Tess writes: "The alumni visits in November 2023 were highlights for me, as it is wonderful to see so many of these young people doing well. These young women and men are the first in their families to go to university, and to hear their experiences and ambitions was truly inspiring." Lyn says: "Alindra's aim has always been to encourage his pupils from this poor, rural area to 'come up in life' and maybe see a life beyond Sarberia. Giving a hand was our aim for this visit, as always - to support Alindra, listen to his plans for the NLC's development and share ideas. I leave the NLC feeling so pleased to be involved with it, to have learnt from it and to see how the lives and education of so many children have been enriched by their time at this caring, forward-looking school."



Alindra remains as inspirational as ever, at once managing the NLC's overall direction and development whilst always maintaining a level of personal care and attention for individual pupils. Captured here during the visit is Alindra, guiding a young pupil who was upset, as his parents had yet to collect him after school.

Lyn and Tess with pupils at the NLC in 2023 (Top)
Alindra and pupil from NLC (Left)

Pamodzi Ndi Ana (PNA), Zambia



New wheelchairs distributed by PNA to children with disabilities in November 2023

In 2023, Hands Around the World initiated a new partnership in Zambia with Pamodzi Ndi Ana (Together with Children), a project based in Chipata, Eastern Province. Operating since 2006, PNA is dedicated to improving the lives of children in their communities and has successfully delivered numerous projects spanning education, vocational training, healthcare, and WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene). The development of a partnership followed earlier collaboration with PNA staff in support of Hands Around the World's partner projects elsewhere in Zambia. To help build the relationship with our new partner, in February 2023 Hands Around the World staff Bridget (Executive Officer) and Jane (Operations Manager) visited PNA projects in person to better understand their focus and how best we might work together in the future. The visit was informative and encouraging and we subsequently formalised the partnership. The early-stage partnership began enthusiastically and went on to successfully deliver several collaborative projects during the year.

Due to long distances, rough terrain, poor availability of assistive devices, difficulty accessing appropriate healthcare and other barriers, children with disabilities in rural Zambia can struggle to attend school. PNA has experience with providing all the necessary support these children need to attend school, including transport to healthcare centres to check their fitness. Through the generosity of our individual supporters in 2023, 12 children with disabilities were sponsored into school.

Pamodzi Ndi Ana (PNA), Zambia

In August, Hands Around the World supported the delivery of a two-week speech therapy workshop for children with cerebral palsy or hydrocephalus; conditions that can make swallowing difficult and consequently often result in malnourishment. Speech therapy is known to be highly effective in addressing this difficulty. Held at PNA's centre in Chipata and led by Italian speech therapist Daniela Razzini, the workshop included assessment and consultation for 45 children, in conjunction with training and networking for mothers and other caregivers. The workshop also trained 11 physiotherapists and one nurse from Eastern Province, as there is no local availability of speech therapists. Over the course of the workshop, the physiotherapists and nurse engaged the mothers and children with practical application of theory, under the supervision of Daniela, pictured below providing therapy with a mother to one of the children. This approach helped build skills for the provision of accessible speech therapy to many other children locally who will benefit, whilst the networking will help ensure ongoing peer support for caregivers. Made possible through the support of Daniela and seven other volunteers, the workshop included transport, accommodation and food for all and was a tremendous success!





A unit for children with disabilities was constructed at Gondar school in Zambia's Eastern Province in 2023. The project was initiated by the community in recognition of the need for additional dedicated space at the school and Hands Around the World supported this, in partnership with PNA. Finished in October, the new unit, pictured above, currently supports 18 children with special needs. It connects via a ramp to the school's main building, which is an important addition, enabling all the children to interact. Hands Around the World also raised funds in 2023 to supply a range of stimulating toys for children at the unit, such as board games, jigsaw puzzles, alphabet blocks, dolls, Duplo building blocks and more.

Pamodzi Ndi Ana (PNA), Zambia

Also in November - with joint funding from Hands Around the World and BluSpring - PNA staff and volunteers drove to the two rural areas of Chama and Lundazi, 8-12 hours north from Chipata, on very bad roads.



The team spent a week conducting follow-up visits to children with wheelchairs, in order to adjust these to accommodate the children's growth. Pictured above (left) is the PNA team hard at work, modifying wheelchairs, and above (right) is one of the children who benefitted. PNA was able to complete 21 of these follow-up visits and, in addition, 30 new wheelchairs were distributed. It was a great team effort, as PNA staff, volunteers, parents and local physiotherapists were all involved.

The shape and extent of Hands Around the World's partnership with PNA continued to develop throughout 2023, with many exciting prospects for collaboration for 2024. We plan to continue sponsoring the children with disabilities but also support more children to go to school in Madzi a Tuwa Day Secondary School in Chipangli district; a remote area where there is poor school infrastructure and many barriers facing youngsters simply to attend school. In addition, in late 2023, the Hands Around the World board of trustees gave the go-ahead to provide support for a new construction project at the school, in partnership with PNA. This school has multiple needs, but work will begin with the most urgent - more classroom space. The project will construct a three-classroom block, complete with furniture. This will substantially reduce classroom overcrowding, which in turn will help improve academic attainment and student safety.

Monze projects, Zambia

In 2023, Hands Around the World supported 54 children in secondary school in Monze. These children are all leavers from our former project partner Pizz School, with whom we concluded our partnership at the end of 2022.



Our continued commitment to these former Pizz students avoids disruption to their education. The sponsorships were managed in 2023 via a new partner, Zambia Women and Girls Foundation (ZaWGF). (See more of ZaWGF in 'Strengthening our Environmental Commitments' section.) We were delighted to be able to continue providing support to these children at secondary level in Monze via this new partnership and will continue to support and monitor their progress until they finish secondary education.

Elsewhere in Monze in 2023, Hands Around the World provided financial support for the provision of food for 105 highly disadvantaged children.



monze projects, Zambia

This was delivered in collaboration with Maluba Kasensa Project, an inspiring, volunteer-led NGO which operates via a community centre in the town. Bridget and Jane visited Kasensa as part of their trip to Zambia in February. The community centre is situated near the homes of many of the children served. Voluntary caregivers oversee the children in their respective compounds. Kasensa supports the educational, nutritional and hygiene needs of some of Monze's most vulnerable children. With support from Hands Around the World, the 105 children registered with Kasensa in 2023 were brought together to share a meal each month and were also provided with mealie meal and beans to help get them through the month, helping alleviate hunger and malnutrition.

To help with Kasensa's provision of prepared meals, in 2023, Hands Around the World funded the construction of a new kitchen at the community centre - a much-needed upgrade. This will enable the volunteers to provide cooked food for deprived children; this exciting new work is expected to be completed early in 2024.

Kasensa is an inspiring example of what communities can achieve for themselves through the passion and generosity of spirit of local people committed to improving the lives of the most vulnerable. Indeed, the volunteers at Kasensa are from disadvantaged backgrounds themselves and one of the current volunteers, Charles, was himself previously supported by the project and is now giving back in the same way.



Nosiku, Naomi and Charles
(Caregivers at Maluba Kasensa)

We are delighted to be collaborating with this remarkable initiative as it strives to reach more children and families in need of a little care and support - children such as Gift and Christine.

monze projects, Zambia

Gift is 11 years old and in Grade 2 at school. Following the deaths of his parents, he now stays with his grandparents in Freedom A, one of the densely-populated shanty compounds. His grandfather is a wheelbarrow pusher in town and his grandmother does occasional menial jobs to support the family of seven.



Gift (pictured left) was registered with the Kasensa programme in 2022 and has since been supported with school requirements including uniform, shoes, stationery, and books. Additionally, he is given monthly mealie meal, which really helps the whole family and provides sustenance over roughly eight days. Whilst this does not cover the whole month, it has a great impact on his family, as it relieves them of pressure and gives time to seek other sources of food.



Christine (pictured left) is 16 years old and in Grade 7 at school. She lives with her father, following the death of her mother. The family comprises four members.

Kasensa has been supporting Christine for about five years now. The family receives extra food monthly, which has been a great help and relief to them. This is a special case in a precarious situation, as Christine's father is in poor health and cannot adequately provide for the family, who all face hunger and malnutrition.

Kaliyangile Vocational Training Centre (VTC), Chisamba, Zambia

2023 saw significant developments at Kaliyangile VTC. Delivered in partnership with the States of Guernsey Overseas Aid & Development Commission, we are delighted to report that construction was finished on a substantial new ablution block for the centre; a project of vital importance following earlier storm damage to the VTC's old sanitation block. With the old block rendered unusable, Kaliyangile was unable to meet regulatory requirements for official training centres, resulting in prolonged suspension of training at the centre, pending the establishment of new facilities.

The new ablution block was successfully completed on schedule and to a high standard and includes five toilets, seven showers and hand basins. It contributes to the hygiene and health of all students and staff at the centre. Following the construction work, officials from TEVETA (Technical Education, Vocational and Entrepreneurship Training Authority) inspected the centre and gave the requisite approvals, enabling officially-recognised training at Kaliyangile to recommence.

With this approval, the staff at Kaliyangile were thrilled to be able to open the doors to new students. During the year, 15 people were trained in beekeeping; an in-depth and hands-on training that covers all the key aspects of apiculture, including tools of the trade and their usage; apiary site selection, how to establish bee colonies and develop them over time; techniques for trapping bees, capturing swarms and baiting; and product management, such as honey harvesting, extraction and refinery. The goal is for the trainees to be able to generate an income for themselves through production and sale of honey and beeswax. To get them started towards this, the trainees were provided with space at Kaliyangile in the orchard to establish beehives, with five hives sited during the year.

Kaliyangile Vocational Training Centre (VTC), Chisamba, Zambia

Pictured below is Lusekelo, one of the participants in the beekeeping training in 2023, who from his childhood had developed the skill to harvest honey the traditional way. With the acquired knowledge from the beekeeping programme at Kaliyangile, he is now able to apply modern ways of keeping bees and harvesting honey without causing harm to the bees. He is happy to share his experience and best practice in beekeeping with others in the community. He has also offered to help during the harvesting period at the training centre!

For tailoring training to proceed, the centre needed to meet certain TEVETA relevant requirements and, with support from Hands Around the World, it now has a newly-furnished theory classroom and tailoring workshop. TEVETA consequently gave approvals in 2023 for up to 10 people to study tailoring at Kaliyangile at a time, with eight people training in tailoring during the year. (A further two students are due to join the tailoring course in 2024.) Pictured right are some of the students busy learning tailoring theory.

Persis, Centre Manager at Kaliyangile, writes: "For a period of over two years, we had seen no tailoring training, as TEVETA could not give the go-ahead, due to unusable damaged washrooms and a need for properly furnishing the new workshop. Support received from Hands Around the World has now provided a new ablution block and a workshop! Thus, we are glad to share the good news that after so much work to improve standards at Kaliyangile, TEVETA has approved tailoring training to commence".



Kaliyangile Vocational Training Centre (VTC), Chisamba, Zambia

Computer training also began again in 2023. The aim of this course is to give students a general understanding of computing and expose them to information and communication technology. Trainees are taught the basics of computers, learning how to use the hardware, including how to type, and are then introduced to key Microsoft programs. Eight students participated in IT training this year; the training will enhance their employment prospects.

The farm at Kaliyangile had successes during the year, though it also met with challenges. Persis shares: "We had a good harvest of maize in the 2022-2023 farming season, with 70 x 50kg bags of maize. The maize was stored to feed the pigs and cows in months when we experience high feed prices. We have planted one hectare of maize for the centre and are hopeful for a good rainy season, though the rain started very late with prolonged dry spells. On a sad note, thieves broke into the poultry house and stole 200 layers. This set the centre back. However, we managed to sell seven pigs. We hope for the best in 2024."

In addition to helping Kaliyangile secure TEVETA approvals, Hands Around the World also provided important capacity-building and governance support. This included accountancy training for Persis, in tandem with the establishment of cloud-based financial management software for the centre, improving financial record keeping. Persis says: "Hands Around the World facilitated training [for me] in accounting system management and set-up. The course was successful, and the centre successfully installed the new accounting system. This has made record keeping for all financial transactions easy and traceable. This will further help the centre manage its finances efficiently and transparently."

Hands Around the World also supported the VTC to comply with Zambian employment law and review its constitution. These developments at Kaliyangile were made possible thanks to Catriona, Hands Around the World's local representative in Zambia. Following this, the Kaliyangile board appointed four new members in 2023, substantially enhancing and diversifying the board's skills and experience. Together with the Hands Around the World-supported capacity building, this puts them on a firm footing for 2024 and beyond.

Kaliyangile Vocational Training Centre (VTC), Chisamba, Zambia



Kaliyangile board members Paul, Khoza and Albert (L-R) with Persis (centre left), Jane (centre right) and Catriona (right), during a Hands Around the World staff visit to Zambia in February 2023

With more robust governance and management capacity in place, at the end of 2023, Hands Around the World trustees decided that the time was right to conclude our regular support for the centre's ongoing running costs, as we seek to focus our resources on emerging initiatives elsewhere. We will keep in touch with Kaliyangile and may support specific initiatives at the centre in the future, as needs arise. This aligns with Hands Around the World's strategic approach of supporting our partners towards self-sufficiency. Our thanks go to all who have generously donated to this project over the years - much has been achieved for the community in Chisamba!

Chez Papa Geoff (CPG), Affame, Benin



Children at CPG in September 2023 receiving school materials for the new academic year

Throughout 2023, Hands Around the World's partner in Benin, Chez Papa Geoff, supported 23 orphaned and vulnerable children with necessities including shelter, food, access to education and healthcare. The children all come from disadvantaged backgrounds; through the services provided by CPG, these children have been supported to attend school, and helped to attain qualifications that will enable access to further education and employment opportunities. Hands Around the World has also supported other young people in the community into secondary and higher education and apprenticeships via our partnership.

A central focus for CPG in 2023 was the enhancement of the project's supporting farm. The farm aims to contribute to nutritious and diverse diets for the children resident at CPG, whilst also yielding produce for sale and generating funds to support the running costs of the orphanage. The sustainable palm oil plantation, for example, represents an important cash crop for the project. The completion of a well on the farm in 2022 improved irrigation and enhanced production, boosting income to support the children.

The farm holds promise for bringing CPG to financial sustainability and with this in mind, Christian Sankamaou, a local agricultural professional with a background in agronomy, was appointed as Hands Around the World's local Field Coordinator in Benin.

Chez Papa Geoff (CPG), Affame, Benin

Christian's prior experience with NGOs not only spans various farming projects but also includes work in support of orphans, so he is well equipped for the role.

In a different aspect of Hands Around the World's support via CPG in 2023, through the generosity of a HATW supporter, five people from Affame received cataract operations at a hospital in Parakou in May. These simple operations, unaffordable for many, have restored their sight. The operations were conducted successfully and will no doubt have a lasting positive impact on their daily quality of life.

CPG continued to navigate various challenges during the year, including new government legislation relating to orphanages, one aspect of which appears to prohibit children in orphanages from entering kitchen spaces. This came as a shock to the CPG community, since the orphanage promotes a family spirit and, as with many families, the kitchen acts as a focal point for social activity; a space for all to contribute to food preparation whilst discussing their daily lives. As with earlier changes to legislation concerning orphanages, CPG will aim to adapt as necessary whilst maintaining its commitment to fostering a strong sense of community among those at the orphanage.

At the end of 2023, noting progress made towards sustainability, Hands Around the World made the decision to take an initial step in reducing external funding for CPG. We will continue to work with Christian as we review the shape of our future engagement with the project.

Hands Around the World Jersey and Rwandan partnerships in Rusizi District



Phase 1 of replacing a block of very old classrooms at Bugarama Cité School

2023 saw a significant expansion of our partnership with schools in Rusizi District, notably through the establishment of the Ubumwe Project.

Back in 2010, we began our involvement in Rwanda with assistance to one school. Since then, with the generous encouragement and support of Jersey Overseas Aid, we have gradually widened the scope of our partnership; currently to nine schools. We are delighted that we have stayed focussed on the area of Bugarama, rather than spreading ourselves thinly, and we have seen tremendous progress in the achievements of the schools and their teachers, which we have been proud to support.

In May, we held a three-day workshop with leaders from each of the schools to identify and confirm priorities for the next three years. This was led by David Musendo and his team from Lifetime Consulting. David has got to know Bugarama well through his work last year on an Impact Assessment and ongoing visits to undertake a baseline study for our project and a Community Engagement Workshop with our schools.

The outcome was a carefully designed 'Theory of Change' covering all our various activities with the schools, which formed the basis of our funding application to Jersey Overseas Aid.

Hands Around the World Jersey and Rwandan partnerships in Rusizi District

Our three-year project was named 'Ubumwe' which means 'Unity' in the local language and signifies the joint agreement and buy-in from our partners.

The key features of Ubumwe are:

- The replacement of a block of very old classrooms at Bugarama Cité. This school was the original school in the town, going back more than 30 years. The oldest rooms were in very poor condition with leaking roofs, crumbling bricks leading to holes in the walls and rough floors, with children sitting on bricks instead of at desks. Over three years we are building 15 new classrooms and renovating another 30 throughout the school. Phase 1 in 2023 saw five new classrooms and 12 renovated rooms. Shown on previous page are the Phase 1 classrooms pictured during construction.
- An extension to the school kitchen at Ryankana Primary School in 2024.
- A security fence around Kibangira High School to protect the property in 2025.
- The construction of Girls' Hygiene Rooms in all partner schools. Many disadvantaged girls miss school through period poverty and lack of support. In 2023, we completed two new Girls' Rooms. Only six more to go! In addition, we are aiming to provide all girls at our partner schools with Dignity Bags containing sanitary products. Pictured below is one of the Girls' Hygiene Rooms constructed at Mihabura school.



Hands Around the World Jersey and Rwandan partnerships in Rusizi District

- Water tanks, including drinking water filters and latrines for two of the most disadvantaged schools.
- We are supporting the 'Street Children's Lives Matter' campaign, initiated by Father Emmanuel, headteacher at Muko School. Shocked by the number of young people dropping out of education through poverty and family conflicts, he has encouraged them to return to school by providing two meals a day, seven days a week, throughout the year. To date, 283 young people have returned to school. We have pledged our support and in 2023 were able to provide £11,400 for meals and musical instruments – the latter is part of the programme of activities to further integrate the young people. Hands Around the World's lunchbox programme has given terrific support.
- All the schools are developing agricultural initiatives to support their school lunch programme. We are supporting their efforts by providing sustainability grants and have an annual budget of £8,000 for this purpose. St Paul Muko has led the way by renting fields to grow cassava, beans and vegetables. We have provided them with a water pump for irrigation. Bugarama Cité has started a dairy cow project to produce milk, while other schools are starting pig-rearing projects.

Pictured right is Jean Damascene with some of the food packages purchased by Muko school in 2023 to provide two meals a day for street children in Bugarama.



Our estimate to cover all our costs for Ubumwe comes to £810,000 over three years. Jersey Overseas Aid has agreed grant funding of £530,000, approximately two-thirds of the total, leaving us to

find £280,000 over three years. In the first six months we have made a good start, collecting over £50,000 through our charity shop, annual sponsored walk, quiz night and individual donations.

For the bulk of our fundraising, we are embarking on an appeal to external donors, trusts and foundations, focussing on support for extending the Girls' Hygiene Rooms to all our schools.

Hands Around the World Jersey and Rwandan partnerships in Rusizi District

Another new venture in 2023 has been our partnership with the Jersey Education Department and their support for a network of Jersey and local Rwandan teachers. In August 2023, a team of 14 from Jersey visited Bugarama to work with local teachers on curriculum initiatives and to boost their confidence in English. An online training programme is now being developed to enhance this network and more teachers will visit in 2024.

At the end of 2023, we were pleased to hear that two of our partner schools had received special recognition. St Paul Muko was named as the top lower secondary school and Mihabura the top primary school in the Western Province, effectively in the top six schools in the country; they were called up to Kigali to receive their recognition from the president.

Over the past 14 years we have built up a network of friends and supporters through our annual visits to Bugarama. We shall be returning again in August 2024 and will be working alongside local volunteers, continuing to improve teaching and learning conditions at Bugarama Cité.

Finally, our Ubumwe Project would be impossible without two special friends in Bugarama: Djuma Nsengiyumva, our project manager, who deals with the building contractors and manages the construction finances, and Jean Damascene Habanabakize, our project coordinator, who chairs our local Advisory Committee, which handles our student support finances and sustainability grants. Jean makes everything happen on 'English, not African time'! We hope to welcome him to Jersey in 2024 when he joins the Marshal Papworth scholarship programme.

Chris Halsey Tribute Fund

The Chris Halsey Tribute Fund was set up in memory of Chris Halsey, Hands Around the World Jersey trustee. The fund supports children around the world who need medical help and enables life-changing medical interventions. We were very grateful that, in order to remember Chris on his 70th birthday, 30th October 2023, many of his family and friends chose to donate to support this fund.

In 2023, this fund helped four people in Rwanda. Christian, pictured here, has had a series of procedures to address issues arising from a cleft palate. Whilst the treatment to date has been successful, Christian faces additional challenges to his overall health and he was therefore unable to have the most recent operation as he was underweight and not strong enough to undergo the procedure. Thanks to his treatment though, he has gained weight, is now eating well and his speech has improved. He attends school and seems to be a lot happier. We hope that he will soon be fit enough to undergo the required operation.



Sponsorships

Hands Around the World has moved the focus from individual child sponsorship to supporting centres, so that all the children at these projects benefit. This is a positive change to ensure that as many children as possible benefit from support.

With sponsorship, we want to maintain the balance of being able to send the maximum funds possible, while ensuring that the scheme is administered efficiently and effectively. The support we provide makes a huge difference to children across the various partnerships where we are involved.



We'd like to share the story of Nathan (pictured above), a child supported in Zambia. He was born in October 2011 and lives with his mother and stepfather in a village called Kaole. It is in a very rural area of the Eastern Province, where the roads in the rainy season are a real challenge, so access and transport for support become real barriers for children like Nathan.

Nathan was born with hydrocephalus, a neurological disorder caused by an abnormal build-up of cerebrospinal fluid in the ventricles (cavities) deep within the brain. This excess fluid puts harmful pressure on the brain's tissues.

Nathan has been with the programme at PNA since 2018. PNA helped his family with the money for transport to enable Nathan to get to the University Teaching Hospital in Lusaka for medical check-ups. In 2011, doctors had placed a shunt in his brain to drain the excess liquid.

Nathan received a wheelchair in 2018 and was able to start school. It is vitally important that he continues his regular check-ups in Lusaka to ensure that the shunt continues to function well. He also needs follow-ups from the PNA team to adjust his wheelchair as he grows and make any repairs. The wheelchairs that are supplied can be modified, parts can be replaced, and they are robust and well-suited to the local terrain.

Thanks to Hands Around the World support, the team at PNA can guarantee Nathan access to a local school, help his family purchase all the necessary school supplies and ensure he has all the necessary medical follow-ups.

In 2023, trustees agreed to broaden the scope of the Niall Fund from a focus on secondary education, to include further education, training and apprenticeships. This means we can help more young people reach for their potential in different ways.

In partnership with Zambia Women and Girls Foundation (ZaWGF), Hands Around the World has been supporting 54 young people through secondary school in and around Monze. Spiwe from ZaWGF visits the pupils each term to see how they are progressing and whether they are experiencing any difficulties. In this way, having learned that these students faced some additional challenges, we were able to respond by providing more school materials like scientific calculators, additional food, solar lamps, menstrual hygiene products and soap.

Also in Zambia in 2023, Hands Around the World continued to support two students through further education – Janes, who is studying nursing in Lusaka, and Bebeto, a medical student at Mulungushi University in Livingstone.



Richard, Ally and Eli (secondary school students supported by HATW)

Janes writes: "I am a third year nursing student at Elohim Health College located in Lusaka. I am happy to let you know that studies are going well. Last semester I was awarded with a notebook and a pen for being the most improved student in academics. I am really thankful to all of you who are raising your blessed hands supporting me in every angle; you have raised me to be where I am. May the heavenly Father protect and guide you all your days, and may you have a long life. It is really a tough road but I am grateful as I will complete soon. Every day I say to myself 'strength and growth come only through continuous effort and struggle; if there's no struggle, there's no progress'. I just hope my hard working will pay out one day. Love Janes"

Jane Powell (Hands Around the World Operations Manager) writes:

"In February, Bridget and I were happily able to meet Janes in Lusaka and catch up with her over some lunch. She is greatly enjoying her course and has her final year next year. She finds the work hard but really enjoys challenging herself with it. We agreed to purchase a new laptop for her, as she had plenty of issues with the old one not working and not having the same software that was used at college. She reports the new computer is working well.

"I have met Janes over the four years I have been visiting Zambia and from our first meeting in 2019 to now, she looks the happiest and healthiest that I have seen her. She has a spark that has such a positive energy and she smiles all the time! I feel she is doing something she finds rewarding and interesting and is looking forward to having a skill that will help others. I think she will be a fantastic, empathetic and kind nurse."



Janes (left) and Bebeto (right)

Bebeto, shown here on the right, continued to progress well with his medical studies in 2023. In June 2023 he wrote: "Now I am in fourth year and my whole programme is six years. So, if I manage to pass all the courses in fourth year, it means I will remain with two years to finish. I am doing my rotations for a year, just changing department. I am doing Internal Medicine, Paediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, and Surgery. There's an exam at the end of each rotation, then after all the rotations, I'll write my final exams. I am doing my best not to let you down; even when things are hard, I try also to figure a way out."

Subsequently, Bebeto's hard work paid off, as he successfully completed his fourth-year exams and commenced his fifth (and penultimate) year of study in September 2023. We continue to follow his progress with enthusiasm; no doubt he has many achievements ahead of him as he embarks on a career helping others.

In Uganda, Hands Around the World supported two secondary school pupils in 2023 - Teddy and Daizy.

In a letter to sponsors in November 2023, Teddy writes: "Allow me (to) begin by appreciating you for all the support and effort you have put to support my education up to this level. I myself humbly appreciate all the effort and I have put in my strength never to let you all down as I await my results, of which I believe it's all good results. I would also like to join one of the best schools in my A-level because I want to still continue on with my education, believing it is the key to my success."



Daizy (pictured above) writes in 2023: "My sponsors, we are done with our final examinations and back home for holidays and promising that I will behave well and also take good care of myself. Concerning the examination that we have done, I strongly believe that I will make you stand head and shoulders above the sky and smile from ear to ear. My future plan and dream is to become a midwife and am praying that God should make me achieve my goals and my dream should come true. I hope and believe with a strong heart that all will be fulfilled. Just a word of appreciation. Let us live to impress."

Elsewhere in Uganda in 2023, we started sponsoring two young women through nursing training. Hope (below left) is studying nursing at Bugema University. She had completed her first semester but was in danger of dropping out, as her family were struggling to afford the fees. Hands Around the World will support her through the rest of the course. Grace (shown in the centre with friends, below right), started her course at Ngora School of Nursing and Midwifery in January 2023.



We were also thrilled to see Esther in Kenya graduate with a nursing degree from the University of Meru. Here is what she wrote to her sponsors:

"I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to you and the entire Hands Around the World fraternity. Thank you for your unwavering support that you have accorded me since we started this journey together in 2018 up to Oct 2023. It has been five years of great friendship and support. Am sincerely grateful to you all.

"Am pleased to let you know that I have now officially finished my undergraduate degree and graduated on 27th October 2023. At the nursing school I have been trained as a nurse, equipped with knowledge and skills on how to interact with patients, clients and all people requiring my nursing services and other medical needs, from the neonates all the way to the elderly, not forgetting the last offices and caring for the bereaved. I believe that I can now be able to competitively compete for job opportunities in Kenya and the whole globe at large.

"What is now required of me is to do a Nursing Council of Kenya exam next year in April or August, so that I can attain a practice licence.

I am also supposed to do a one-year internship which will start next year, depending on the Ministry of Health placement.

"Please receive my sincere gratitude. Am also looking forward to walking with you through work and in future studies. Thank you very much."



Strengthening our environmental commitments



Rainwater harvesting project, Tororo Girls' School (TGS), Uganda

The communities that Hands Around the World supports are located in regions highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, threatening food production and livelihoods. In recognition of the need to ensure our work is delivered with a commitment to promoting a sustainable future for the people we serve, Hands Around the World launched a new environment fund in 2023. Overseen by our 'Green Hands Group' of volunteers and staff, the purpose of the new fund is to support locally-developed projects which help mitigate the impact of climate change and those which help people adapt and build resilience to the inevitable consequences of environmental change. Support for projects through the fund is by submission of a project proposal and applications are open to Hands Around the World partners, as well as to new projects recommended by people connected to Hands Around the World.

The focus of the fund will change from year to year. The selected theme for the fund's inaugural year was 'School Gardens' with a focus on projects which support access to clean water and water conservation and/or sustainable food production, with priority given to projects which also engage children in learning. In May 2023, we launched our first call for proposals to the environment fund, and we received several inspiring submissions. Three of the proposals really stood out, though with the fund's limited resources, two projects were selected for support through the fund, as follows:

Strengthening our environmental commitments

Sustainable food-producing garden to teach climate change resilience and improve access to water, Hamangaba School, Zambia



Participants of the school garden project preparing the ground for a mandala bed.

This project was put forward by Zambia Women and Girls Foundation (ZaWGF), an NGO in Monze. The school serves 690 children and the project aims to develop sustainable food production and improve water management at the school. Simultaneously, the new garden will act as a hub through which the children will learn about climate change adaptation and permaculture. The impacts of climate change are felt acutely by the community in Hamangaba; in 2023, families suffered three weeks of flooding followed by drought, with maize crops and some livestock destroyed and families left homeless. The project commenced in late 2023 with a launch event that brought together Hamangaba school pupils, teachers, and members of the local Parent-Teacher Association, along with traditional leaders, community members and ZaWGF representatives. The event included official speeches along with planning and group work. An initial challenge identified was the need to keep wandering animals away from the new school garden. Accordingly, in December, the school erected a fence that will protect the new garden and allow it to flourish in 2024.

Strengthening our environmental commitments

Rainwater harvesting, fruit and vegetable production,
Tororo Girls' School (TGS), Uganda



This project was proposed by Annet, who undertook the Marshal Papworth-supported agricultural training (see pages 38 and 39). The school has 2,000 pupils and the project aims to improve the children's diets, teach them about climate-smart agriculture and mitigate climate change through soil carbon sequestration. The project is situated in the context of gender inequality: climate change disproportionately impacts women and girls. For climate-vulnerable countries in Africa with high levels of gender inequality, climate-related disruptions are likely to translate into the end of schooling for girls and their premature transition to adulthood. When drought or flooding affects the availability of water at school, menstruating learners (and teachers) are likely to miss school as a result. This means girls missing school days as well as dropping out of school entirely, with life-long implications for their wellbeing and prospects. This project is expected to begin in early 2024.

Strengthening our environmental commitments

New Life Centre's school garden and nature club initiative, India



The third proposal that caught the attention of the Green Hands Group was received from Alindra Naskar, Director of the New Life Centre - Hands Around the World's partner school and Vocational Training Centre in Sarberia, India. The project proposed establishing a school garden at the NLC as the focal point for teaching children at the school about caring for their environment as well as horticulture, with a school nature club established, comprising senior pupils who will manage the new garden. The nature club will also organise litter picking and teach younger pupils about looking after their school and environment. Whilst we were unable to support the initiative under the new environment fund, we have been able to support it through donations for the school. Planting of the garden got underway in late 2023 (pictured above).

We look forward to supporting progress on these new sustainability projects into 2024.

Strengthening our environmental commitments

In another exciting new environment and sustainability initiative, 2023 saw Hands Around the World support people from countries where we work, to undertake expert training in sustainable agriculture. Delivered in collaboration with Marshal Papworth (a fund managed by the charity East of England Agricultural Society), Hands Around the World supported three passionate and inspiring individuals through the scheme in 2023. They were Annet from Uganda, who led the Environment Fund proposal from Tororo Girls' School (page 36), along with Michel and Polyphile, teachers from Muko school in Rwanda, a school with which Hands Around the World Jersey has a long-standing relationship.

Their training began with an initial online agricultural course undertaken in their home countries, following which the participants were supported to visit the UK for intensive 10-week theoretical and practical training in sustainable farming at Harper Adams, one of the UK's top agricultural universities.

The participants completed their course in July, after which they returned home to put their newfound knowledge and skills into action. Recalling her experience of the programme, Annet writes:

"I want to express my deep gratitude to Hands Around the World for its tremendous contribution towards my career. Through Hands Around the World, I got a Marshal Papworth Scholarship for a short course in sustainable farming that I recently undertook at Harper Adams University. The short course provided a comprehensive curriculum that blended theoretical knowledge with hands-on experience. It enabled me to gain practical insights into real world challenges faced by the farming communities. With the knowledge and experience gained, I embarked on promoting organic practices and implementing strategies that increase crop yields and animal production to uplift livelihoods in the community. Being a teacher of agriculture, I am able to work with students at school to promote sustainable farming practices, such as using organic manure, planting vegetables, mulching, and maintaining trees. These have helped to improve yields as well as diet for the learners."



Polyphile, Annet and Michel at Harper Adams University in Shropshire

Strengthening our environmental commitments

Shown below is Annet at a Harper Adams agricultural facility.



Drawing on his experience of teaching at Muko school, Polyphile reflected at the end of his training, "I know how difficult it is to teach a hungry child, and I know how hard it is to teach as a hungry teacher."

Pictured below is Polyphile in Rwanda following his completion of the course, harnessing his new skills to support local school farming with improved irrigation and pest control.



Volunteering and fundraising successes

Volunteers are the heart of Hands Around the World and their enthusiasm and commitment in 2023 continued to deliver, fund and promote our work through the year. In 2023, six new volunteers were warmly welcomed, adding to our volunteer team who generously give their time, effort, ideas, skills, creativity and all-round good company in and around Monmouth, supporting diverse events and activities over the year.

Two of the new volunteers who joined HATW in 2023 had lived and worked in Zambia previously, were intrigued when they walked past our window, and have been supporting us since then! We welcomed another new volunteer in 2023 - a French speaker to help with projects in Benin - and she has made a fantastic contribution as an interpreter on our Benin steering group. Another French-speaking volunteer joined during the year and has been helping out with various activities in Monmouth. Our thanks and welcome to all the new volunteers.

In February, Hands Around the World's founder and trustee David Steiner gave a talk to members of the WI about our work. The talk spread awareness of, and generated interest in, our projects. One of our volunteers kindly hosted a craft stall at the event, selling merchandise which raised £125 towards our work. Our thanks also to those at the event who made donations to Hands Around the World.

In April, Joel, a teacher at Muko school in Rwanda, completed the virtual London Marathon. Joel was previously sponsored by Hands Around the World as a student to achieve a Bachelor's Degree in Education. This was the second marathon Joel has run for us, raising over £350 towards Hands Around the World Jersey's work in Rwanda.



Joel can be seen here (above) in the blue t-shirt, surrounded by others that he had inspired to run part of the way with him! A fantastic effort by Joel; our thanks go out to him.

Volunteering and fundraising successes

In July, a Bollywood dance workshop was held in Monmouth to raise funds for Hands Around the World. Led by a professional dancer who is a new volunteer to us, this lively and colourful event brought together Monmouth residents and Hands Around the World staff and volunteers for an energetic afternoon engaging participants in different Indian dance styles and techniques, with Bollywood accessories provided and a dance routine developed during the workshop. This fundraiser brought in £360 for Hands Around the World. Our wonderful volunteers baked a delicious array of cakes to have with coffee/tea after the dance workshop.



Volunteers encouraged the students sponsored by Hands Around the World on the Marshal Papworth programme by attending a presentation by them at Harper Adams University in July. (See 'Strengthening our environmental commitments' on page 38 for more about this.) The volunteers greatly enjoyed meeting the students and hearing their presentations. Following the event, they agreed: "A great day was had by all. The presentations were all excellent and we learned so much!"

Also in July, Hands Around the World volunteers delivered a 'new shoe' sale which, together with other new clothing donated by a fashion company, raised over £700 for our work. Our thanks to the volunteers involved in supporting the sale, and to all those who showed their support by making purchases. Our thanks again to volunteers who hosted a stall selling some of the new shoes at Garway School's end of term fair, raising £60.

volunteering and fundraising successes

Our congratulations and thanks to the walkers and members of Hands Around the World Jersey who completed the 2023 Great North Coast Charity Challenge in September. This substantial challenge involves a 19-mile walk along the north coast cliff path of Jersey from St Catherine's to Grosnez. About 160 people took part, rather fewer than usual due to another local event running concurrently, though the event still raised a fantastic £5,498 for Hands Around the World Jersey's work developing schools in Rusizi district, Rwanda.



Coffee mornings at the Priory in Monmouth continued throughout 2023, with three held during the year. These mornings brought together Hands Around the World volunteers with community members from in and around Monmouth to learn about our work, meet new people and purchase cakes and crafts kindly donated by our wonderful volunteers. Pictured left are volunteers Frances and Mary at the November coffee morning. Taken together, the coffee mornings raised £616.50. Our thanks to all who came and supported our work.

At the end of November 2023, Hands Around the World's office moved just a few doors down from our old premises. We are now at 5 Church Street, Monmouth, NP25 3BX. The move involved a huge effort from a number of our volunteers. It was a real team effort, and we'd like to say a big thank you to all involved. We would also like to thank our previous landlords R J and E M Liddell, who gave generously to the charity again in 2023 through rent rebates.

Volunteering and fundraising successes

In December, at Hands Around the World's Christmas dinner, a raffle was drawn for an impressive Christmas cake kindly donated by Anne Griffiths from Monmouth, as well as for a wonderful Christmas hamper generously donated by Hands Around the World volunteer Jenny Cranston. The cake raised £184 and the hamper raised £142 – our warm thanks to Jenny and Anne and all who bought raffle tickets.

Late 2023 also saw a winning offer made for a fabulous hand-made quilt that was donated to Hands Around the World in 2022 by Wye Knot, to help us raise funds. We held on to the quilt to secure the best possible price, finally letting it go for the fantastic offer of £400. Thank you to all who made bids.



Beyond the UK, volunteers also undertook overseas project visits in 2023. Hands Around the World Jersey trustees Mike and Dennis visited Rwanda in April, and again in July-August with Jersey trustees Myfanwy and David, to paint schools, scope new projects and get updates on developments there. Shown left is volunteer Alex getting stuck in with supporting the cassava harvest. Alex was part of the team of 14 teachers who visited Rwanda as part of the collaboration with Jersey Education Department.

Hands Around the World trustee Tess and volunteer Lyn made a visit in November to the New Life Centre in Sarberia, India, which marked the first visit by the charity in four years, due to Covid.

We also registered two new overseas volunteers in 2023, Cheryl and Rebecca, who plan to visit Pamodzi Ndi Ana in Zambia in August 2024.

Looking ahead to 2024

In 2024, Hands Around the World will continue to work towards the delivery of our 2022-27 Strategy, which is available during this strategic period on our website <https://hatw.org.uk/>. The four main areas of our strategy are:

- 1 Education:** We will promote access to quality educational opportunities for children and young people at our partner projects.
- 2 Health:** We will seek to improve access to health care as well as promotion of good health, hygiene and nutrition.
- 3 Volunteering and relationships:** We will continue to promote volunteering opportunities and long-term quality relationships with our partner projects.
- 4 Independence and sustainability:** We seek to encourage long-term sustainability at individual projects, including income-generation initiatives.

Areas of notable focus for the year ahead include:

- **Celebrating Hands Around the World's 30th Anniversary!** 2024 will mark 30 years since Hands Around the World was founded. In celebration of this tremendous milestone, an event is planned in Monmouth, bringing together past and present Hands Around the World volunteers, staff and supporters. An online reflections hub will be produced, recording and recognising the many achievements, stories and experiences of our project partners, participants and volunteers over the past three decades. Drawing on the reflections, a short film is to be made, showcasing a selection of stories. The 30th Anniversary will serve to celebrate our past achievements, promote our current work, and hopefully inspire volunteers and supporters now and for the future.
- **Enhancing our partnership with Pamodzi Ndi Ana (PNA).** Our new partnership with PNA in Zambia began in 2023 and much has already been achieved. In 2024, we will seek to develop and promote this collaboration further, with a focus on promoting equitable access to quality education and healthcare support for disadvantaged children and children with disabilities in Zambia's Eastern Province.

Looking ahead to 2024

- **Developing our work in Kenya.** Hands Around the World will assess current and prospective partners to identify opportunities for collaboration and support in Kenya where our experience and expertise can help bring positive change for disadvantaged children and young people. We will also be developing an in-country coordinator role to support the local management of our work in Kenya, including monitoring and communications.
- **Deliver on our Rwanda Ubumwe 'Unity' strategy.** Key goals for 2024 include the construction / renovation of classrooms at GS Bugarama Cité and EP Ryankana, the maintenance and enhancement of the 'Street Children Matter' initiative at GS St Paul Muko, and the construction of Girls' Hygiene Rooms at various schools in Rusizi district.
- **Caring for the environment.** Following the successful launch of our new Environment Fund in 2023, we will track and report on the progress of the initiatives selected for support in 2023, whilst developing a new theme for 2024 and assessing and selecting new proposals within that theme for support in 2024-25. We also intend to select new participants for training in sustainable agriculture through our collaboration with Marshal Papworth.
- **Volunteering.** Our work is made possible by our team of wonderful volunteers. In 2024, we hope to welcome more volunteers to support our mission, both in the UK via our office in Monmouth and at our projects overseas.

Thank you to all our supporters and volunteers, whose generosity and commitment to Hands Around the World enabled the charity's many achievements in 2023 and the positive impact this brought to the lives of disadvantaged children and young people in the communities we serve.

Financial review

A summary of our financial performance for 2023 is set out in the Statement of Financial Activities and in the Balance Sheet on pages 53 and 54.

The **Statement of Financial Activities** sets out our Income and Expenditure for the year.

Our net income for the year was £82,453. This was made up of an increase in unrestricted funds of £118,156 and a decrease in restricted funds of £35,703.

The **Balance Sheet** shows the funds of the charity on 31st December 2023. The total fund of £362,404 is held as £97,565 of restricted funds and £264,839 of unrestricted funds, of which £49,778 is held in the designated funds detailed in note 16 on pages 65 and 66.

We are very grateful for the generosity of organisations and individuals, through donations, legacies, grants and sponsorships, that has allowed us to support our partners in countries in Africa and in India.

Our reserves at the year-end allow us to continue this work, focussing in the year ahead on the areas identified on pages 44 and 45 and on the delivery of our 2022-2027 strategy.

Legal status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £10.

Directors and trustees

The directors of the charitable company are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees. As set out in the Articles of Association at the Annual General Meeting, one third of the trustees are deemed to have been reappointed.

The trustees serving during the year and since the year-end were as follows:

Dorothy Ballantine - Treasurer

Michael Haden - Chairman, Hands Around the World Jersey

Margaret Hickland

Tess Molloy

Philippa Moore - Company Secretary

David Steiner

Wendy Sutton-Pryce

Heidi Sydor - Chair

Governing document

Hands Around the World (the “charity”) is a company limited by guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is also registered as a charity with the Charity Commission of England and Wales.

Organisation

The charity aims to have a board of eight trustees who oversee the charity. The trustee meetings take place on a quarterly basis with interim meetings being held as required. Bridget Higginson, Executive Officer of Hands Around the World, manages the charity with the support of an Operations Manager, a Finance Assistant, and a Grants Manager, all of whom work part time. The charity also has a valued team of committed volunteers.

Appointment and induction of trustees

At Hands Around the World (HATW) we have an agreed role description for trustees, which sets out duties and responsibilities fitting our needs and strategy and in line with the guidelines of the Charity Commission. There are also specific role descriptions for Chair of Trustees and Trustee-Treasurer.

Trustees agree that a suggested person be approached. The person being approached is provided with the role description, the HATW Strategy Document and relevant information about the work of HATW. The person has a meeting with the Executive Officer and/or the Chair of Trustees to go through these documents to make sure that they understand the role and are willing to offer their service. In the light of this, the Chair of Trustees makes a proposal to the trustees.

Once appointed, the new trustee meets with the HATW staff, including relevant volunteers, to ensure that they are familiar with the work of the charity and to identify what their own specific role might be. This includes an induction to the project work of HATW.

Six months after their appointment, the Chair of Trustees and/or the Executive Officer has a discussion with the new trustee to review progress. Where appropriate, the new trustee is offered the opportunity of accompanying one of the Project Coordinators on a visit to one of our overseas projects.

The induction process is completed by the end of their first year when they are invited by trustees to set out their observations, experiences and reflections at a trustees’ meeting.

Volunteers

The charity has a core of UK volunteers, who undertake regular and on going roles within the charity. We very much welcome this collaboration and are very fortunate to have this help and support to assist in achieving our aims and objectives.

Remuneration policy

Remuneration is based on National Joint Council salary scales.

Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year. None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity.

Reserves policy

The reserves policy was reviewed in December 2020 as part of a regular review of financial controls and is to be maintained at a level that would allow the charity to meet its financial obligations for three months. Based on planned expenditure for 2024, this is equivalent to an unrestricted reserve of £23,035.

This reserve is identified as a 'Base Level Reserve', to be used only with the direct authority of the trustees in a formal emergency meeting convened either physically or virtually to discuss this specific action.

Plans for future periods

Our plans for 2024 are set out on pages 44 and 45 and are guided by our 2022-2027 strategy.

These plans are reflected in annual projections of income and expenditure and, as with previous projections, are compared to our actual income and expenditure on a monthly basis and inform decisions at our regular trustee meetings.

Risk management

Risks are currently assessed on a project-by-project basis. A Project Contingency Fund is in place to assist in managing overseas project risk. Systems and procedures to manage all types of risks are reviewed regularly.

Public Benefit Statement

The trustees ensure that the activities of the charity are consistent with its charitable objects and aims. The trustees take into account public benefit as set out in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The trustees believe there is clear public benefit derived from the objectives and activities of the charity as set out above.

Reference and administrative details

Registered office: 5 Church Street, Monmouth, Monmouthshire, NP25 3BX

Administrative office: 5 Church Street, Monmouth, Monmouthshire, NP25 3BX

Tel: +44(0)7536 172817 Email: info@hatw.org.uk Website: www.hatw.org.uk

Bankers

Co-operative Bank, Kings Valley, Yew Street, Stockport, Cheshire, SK4 2JU

Triodos Bank, NV Brunel House, 11 The Promenade, Bristol, BS8 3NN

Stanbic Bank Zambia Limited, Plot 2375, Addis Ababa Drive, PO Box 31955, Lusaka, Zambia

Independent examiner

Chewe Munkonge FCCA, MBA

7 Grovelands Road, Headington, Oxford OX3 8HZ

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The trustees (who are also directors of Hands Around the World for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the report of the trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and the Charity SORP (FRS 102).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period, including income and expenditure. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

Financial review

- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare financial statements on a 'going concern' basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping 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 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement as to disclosure to our independent examiner

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant independent examination information of which the charitable company's independent examiner is unaware.
- we have taken all steps that we ought to have taken to make ourselves aware of any relevant independent examination information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of that information.

Finally, the trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 December 2023 was eight (2022: eight).

The report of the trustees has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies' exemption.

Approved by the trustees on 27th April 2024 and signed on behalf of the board by:



Heidi Sydor (trustee and chair)

THE HANDS AROUND THE WORLD CHARITABLE TRUST

Independent Examiner's report to the trustees

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on pages 53 to 66.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011, as amended by the Charities Act 2011 (Accounts and Audit) Order 2015) and that an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a fellow member of Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (FCCA).

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 145 of the Charities Act 2011;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular 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 seeking 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:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102)

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signature:



Date: 19th May 2024

Chewe Munkonge FCCA, MBA,

7 Grovelands Road, Headington, Oxford OX3 8HZ

Hands Around the World Charitable Trust

Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account) for the year ending 31st December 2023

		Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income	Notes				
Donations and legacies	2	217,165	27,283	244,448	229,755
Income from charitable activities	3	13,000	46,152	59,152	63,787
Income from other trading activities	4	425	752	1,177	781
Investment income	5	4,280	0	4,280	987
Total income		234,870	74,187	309,057	295,310
Expenditure					
Costs of raising funds	6	(39,516)	0	(39,516)	(30,670)
Expenditure on charitable activities	7	(77,198)	(109,890)	(187,088)	(194,558)
Total expenditure		(116,714)	(109,890)	(226,604)	(225,228)
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds for the year		118,156	(35,703)	82,453	70,082
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		161,674	118,277	279,951	209,869
Transfer from designated funds	8	(14,991)	14,991	0	0
Total funds carried forward		264,839	97,565	362,404	279,951

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 55 to 66 form part of these accounts.

Financial Review

Hands Around the World Charitable Trust

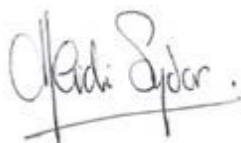
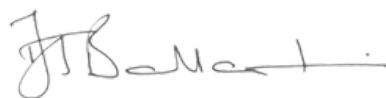
Balance sheet as at 31st December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Current assets					
Debtors		6,645	0	6,645	4,251
Cash at bank and in hand		260,356	112,565	372,921	280,242
Total current assets		267,001	112,565	379,566	284,493
Liabilities					
Creditors: falling due within one year		2,162	15,000	17,162	4,542
Net assets		264,839	97,565	362,404	279,951
The funds of the charity					
Unrestricted income funds				264,839	161,674
Restricted income funds	9			97,565	118,277
Total charity funds				362,404	279,951

For the year ending 31st December 2023, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

- 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.

Approved by the trustees on 27th April 2024 and signed on their behalf:

Heidi Sydor (trustee and chair) Dorothy Ballantine (trustee and treasurer)

The notes on pages 55 to 66 form part of these accounts.

Hands Around the World Charitable Trust

Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31st December 2023

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Hands Around the World Charitable Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The accounts have been prepared on the assumption that the charity is able to continue as a going concern, which the trustees consider appropriate having regard to the future confirmed unrestricted funding, budgets for 2024 and cash balances at the date of signing. At 31 December 2023, the unrestricted reserves were in a net assets position of £264,839 with an unrestricted cash balance of £260,356. The trustees have reviewed the levels of unrestricted reserves as part of their annual report.

c) Income and endowments

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably, and it is probable that the income will be received.

d) Gift aid

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the statement of financial activities on a receipts basis.

e) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity that the trustees have decided, at their discretion, to set aside to use for a specific purpose (see note 8). Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work.

f) Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

g) Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, including grant applications.

h) Support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back-office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs (see note 11) which support the charity's activities.

i) Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities.

j) Corporation taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and on gains under sections 466-493 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 (CTA 2010) and sections 521-536 of the Income Tax Act 2007 (ITA 2007) to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

Financial Review

k) Fixed assets

The charity has no fixed assets. The criteria used in defining a fixed asset is equipment or furniture costing in excess of £1,500 and with a life expectancy in excess of three years.

l) Debtors

Debtors are amounts due to the charity in the ordinary course of business.

m) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand comprise bank deposits that are instantly accessible or accessible within three months or less.

n) Creditors

Creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Donations	27,605	25,866	53,471	110,842
Legacies	177,754	250	178,004	100,575
Gift aid	9,950	0	9,950	14,306
Fundraising	1,856	1,167	3,023	4,032
	217,165	27,283	244,448	229,755

The charity benefits greatly from the involvement and enthusiastic support of its many volunteers, details of which are given in our annual report. In accordance with FRS 102 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

The charity has received generous gifts from R J and E M Liddell in the form of annual rent rebates of £3,094 (2022 £3,375). These amounts have been included as 'gifts in kind' in Unrestricted Donations.

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Overseas projects and volunteering	13,000	22,267	35,267	40,012
Overseas child sponsorship scheme	0	23,885	23,885	23,775
	13,000	46,152	59,152	63,787

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Merchandise sales	425	752	1,177	781
	425	752	1,177	781

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Interest bearing deposit accounts	4,280	0	4,280	987
	4,280	0	4,280	987

6 Costs of raising funds

	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Direct costs	864	0	864	1,529
Allocated support costs	38,652	0	38,652	29,141
	39,516	0	39,516	30,670

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<i>Overseas projects and volunteering:</i>				
Direct costs	5,416	82,085	87,501	115,116
Allocated support costs	66,260	0	66,260	49,955
	71,676	82,085	153,761	165,071
<i>Overseas child sponsorship scheme:</i>				
Direct costs	0	27,805	27,805	25,324
Allocated support costs	5,522	0	5,522	4,163
	5,522	27,805	33,327	29,487
	77,198	109,890	187,088	194,558

8 Designated Project Contingency Fund

During the year, £14,991 was transferred from the Project Contingency Fund to Restricted Funds to cover unforeseen project costs in Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Zambia and India.

In order to show how much direct spend was made on projects overall, the transfer from the Project Contingency Fund has been added to restricted funds for completeness. Details are included in note 9, Analysis of movements in restricted funds.

9 Donations and analysis of movements in restricted funds

Restricted donations

	Restricted donations 2023 £	Restricted donations 2022 £
Major individual donors	18,881	31,115
Chrysalis Trust	5,000	0
Martin Laing Foundation	5,000	0
Hugh Symonds Charitable Trust	2,500	2,500
Cumber Family Charitable Trust	1,500	0
Overseas Aid & Development Commission, States of Guernsey	1,396	12,562
Gilchrist Educational Trust	1,171	0
De La Rue Charitable Trust	1,000	0
Dorfred Charitable Trust	1,000	1,000
Eleanor Rathbone Charitable Trust	1,000	0
Anonymous Charitable Trust	0	6,000
Baker Tilly	0	2,538
Jake Memorial Trust	0	1,000
Trelux Charitable Trust	0	1,000
Child sponsorship scheme	23,885	23,775
Other donations	11,854	12,425
Total	74,187	109,915

Financial Review

Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance 1.1.23 £	Donations received 2023 £	Donations spent 2023 £	Internal transfers 2023 £	Transfer from/-to Project Contingency Fund 2023 £	Balance 31.12.23 £
1 Kenya - DCC	695	1,721	1,426	0	1,052	2,042
2 Zambia - Monze	16,400	66	5,405	-970	0	10,091
3 Zambia - Kaliyangile	2,553	1,572	6,696	1,000	3,629	2,058
4 Zambia - PNA	0	9,777	1,033	4,310	0	13,054
5 Zambia - General	13,500	170	1,700	-30	0	11,940
6 Benin	29,699	5,685	21,128	0	0	14,256
7 Rwanda – Rusizi	0	1,130	1,190	0	810	750
8 Uganda - Zumbo	0	1,161	1,172	0	11	0
9 India - Sarberia	620	937	5,046	0	9,489	6,000
10 Child sponsorship scheme	18,845	23,885	27,805	980	0	15,905
11 Lunch Box Fund	5,563	10,947	11,996	0	0	4,514
12 Chris Halsey Tribute Fund	1,573	784	1,522	0	0	835
13 Niall Fund for Student Support	15,857	5,300	8,453	-5,290	0	7,414
14 Tertiary education	12,972	3,892	12,190	0	0	4,674
15 Environment Fund	0	7,160	3,128	0	0	4,032
Total	118,277	74,187	109,890	0	14,991	97,565

10 Restricted funds

Name of restricted fund	Description, nature and purpose of fund
1 Kenya - DCC	Disability Community Centre and Athi and Irindiro special schools helping children with disabilities access education, health and welfare.
2 Zambia - Monze	This fund previously supported children through Pizz school in Monze and we are now working with Zambia Women and Girls Foundation in Monze to sponsor former Pizz pupils to complete their secondary education.

Financial Review

3	Zambia - Kaliyangile	Training centre for young people – supporting the centre in helping young people develop vocational skills.
4	Zambia - PNA	Pamodzi Nidi Ana (Together with Children) supporting children's health, wellbeing and education with a special focus on children with disabilities and children living in rural and remote areas.
5	Zambia - General	Fund to support initiatives in Zambia, which are not restricted to a specific project.
6	Benin	A small orphanage with agricultural project attached, for income generation, and an education support programme to sponsor children through secondary and further education or apprenticeships.
7	Rwanda - Rusizi	Supporting construction projects, renovation, and other developments at schools in Rusizi.
8	Uganda - Zumbo	Secondary school fees support.
9	India - Sarberia	New Life Centre school – school and support centre for disadvantaged children.
10	Child sponsorship scheme	Sponsorship scheme in Zambia, Kenya, India, Benin and Uganda supporting access to education and training.
11	Lunch Box Fund	Fund supports school lunches and/or food parcels for children and families in Zambia, Kenya and Rwanda.
12	Chris Halsey Tribute Fund	Fund to help children and young people, met in the course of our work, who need surgery or medication otherwise unavailable, or other items such as a wheelchair or appliance.
13	Niall Fund for Student Support	Fund to support children and young people to access education and training.
14	Tertiary education	Fund to support students through tertiary education.
15.	Environmental Fund	Fund to support initiatives which help mitigate the impact of climate change and help people to adapt and build resilience to the inevitable consequences of environmental change.

11 Analysis of governance and support costs

Support costs, including governance costs, have been allocated as shown below:

	2023 %	2022 %
Overseas projects and volunteering	60	60
Overseas child sponsorship scheme	5	5
Fundraising (including newsletters)	35	35

Support costs have been allocated to the activities of the charity.

Apportionment of governance and support costs

	Basis of apportion- ment	Overseas projects and volunteer- ing 2023 £	Overseas child sponsor- ship scheme 2023 £	Fund- raising 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Employment costs	Time spent	53,676	4,473	31,311	89,460	68,830
Office costs	Time spent	11,171	931	6,516	18,618	12,457
Accountancy services	Time spent	217	18	127	362	339
Governance	Time spent	1,196	100	698	1,994	1,633
		66,260	5,522	38,652	110,434	83,259

Governance costs

Governance costs include indirect costs for trustees' meetings. There were no charges for independent examination.

	Overseas projects and volunteering 2023 £	Overseas child sponsor- ship scheme 2023 £	Fundraising 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Trustees' meetings - travel and subsistence	0	0	0	0	0
Printing trustees' annual report	1,196	100	698	1,994	1,633
	1,196	100	698	1,994	1,633

12 Trustees' donations, remuneration and expenses

Trustees donated £4,360 during the year, £1,321 of which was to cover the full cost of their travel to overseas projects.

No trustees have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

13 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs during the period were:		
Wages and salaries	88,157	67,890
Pension costs	1,303	940
	89,460	68,830

No employees had employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

The increased costs in 2023 reflect an increase in contracted hours and a National Joint Council pay award in April 2023

14 Staff numbers

During 2023 there were four part time staff (2022: four part time staff).

15 Taxation

No tax was charged in the year (2022: £nil). As disclosed in the accounting policies, the company is a registered charity and is, therefore, exempt from taxation.

16 Unrestricted funds

We are very grateful to the organisations and individuals who have donated so generously to our General Fund during the year.

	Unrestricted donations 2023 £	Unrestricted donations 2022 £
Major individual donors	2,700	14,700
Jersey partners	5,000	20,100
MJB Charitable Trust	5,000	5,000
Carmela and Ronnie Pignatelli Foundation	2,500	0
D G Albright Charitable Trust	2,000	0
Tula Trust	2,000	0
Fulmer Charitable Trust	1,200	1,200
Martin Laing Foundation	0	5,000
W F Southall Trust	0	3,000
C B & H H Taylor 1984 Trust	0	1,500
Other donations	32,436	33,333
Legacies	177,754	100,575
Total	230,590	184,408

We are very grateful for two generous legacy gifts we received in 2023.

Mrs Meisel chose Hands Around the World as her late husband had been a volunteer; Mr Meisel went with David Steiner on his very first trip to Africa. They went to Dagoretti Children's Home near Nairobi in 1975, where they helped build a toilet block for children with disabilities.

The second legacy was from Joan Dixon. David Steiner remembers Joan as "...a HATW superstar, having volunteered about 13 times at Pandipieri Centre in Kisumu, Kenya over as many years. Originally a nurse, then nursing tutor and later trained by Cruse and Winston's Wish as a bereavement counsellor for children, she helped many affected by the HIV pandemic."

We are very grateful for these legacy gifts, which enable us to expand our work and help more children.

Financial Review

Name of unrestricted fund	Description, nature and purposes of fund
General fund:	the 'free reserves' after allowing for all designated funds.
Designated fund:	Project Contingency Fund - to cover unforeseen project costs.
Designated fund:	Environment Fund - to support initiatives which help mitigate the impact of climate change and those which help people adapt and build resilience to the inevitable consequences of environmental change.
Designated fund:	Project Development Fund - to support the development of new partnerships and projects within the current countries of operation.

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Balance 1.1.23 £	Income 2023 £	Expenditure 2023 £	Transfers 2023 £	Funds 31.12.23 £
General Fund	126,858	234,847	(115,958)	(30,686)	215,061
Designated funds					
Project Contingency Fund	9,524	0	(14,991)	25,000	19,533
Environment Fund	5,292	23	(756)	5,686	10,245
Project Development Fund	20,000	0	0	0	20,000
Total	161,674	234,870	(131,705)	0	264,839

	1.1.22 £	2022 £	2022 £	2022 £	31.12.22 £
General Fund	55,355	185,395	(88,600)	(25,292)	126,858
Designated funds					
Project Contingency Fund	12,035	48	(7,559)	5,000	9,524
Environment Fund	5,000	0	0	292	5,292
Project Development Fund	0	0	0	20,000	20,000
Total	72,390	185,443	(96,159)	0	161,674



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HANDS AROUND
THE WORLD

Registered charity in
England and Wales:
Charity Number:
1097626

