

Gumboots

Foundation UK

Registered charity no: 1123418



Trustees' Annual Report 2020

(1st March 2019 to 29th February 2020)



Helping to educate and empower some of South Africa's most disadvantaged children and young people

Objectives of the charity

The Gumboots Foundation's mission is to address poverty and AIDS related issues in South Africa by improving education, nutrition, employment and wellbeing.

Our objectives are:

1. To empower children through education, both formal and informal, whilst also ensuring that their basic needs are met by providing food, shelter, healthcare and recreation.
2. To strengthen and support local home grown projects with local leadership and to secure a sustainable long term solution.
3. To help strengthen local communities both through financial assistance and by fostering a mutual understanding.
4. To provide individuals with an opportunity to be directly involved financially and personally in community development projects.
5. To provide honest and informative feedback on the progress of the projects and transparency on the use of donor money.
6. To seek partnership rather than dependency, with the focus being to uplift all involved through building relationships between donors, Gumboots and beneficiaries.

Statutory Declaration

In arriving at these objectives the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.



Structure, governance and management

Registered address:

1 Station Avenue, Edgbaston, Birmingham B16 9SZ

Managing trustees at 29th February 2020 were:

Angela Dyer (Secretary)

Graham Allibone (Treasurer)

Mark Escolme

Karen Beard

Margz Green

David Lightfoot

There were no changes to the Board of Trustees during the reporting year

Methods for the recruitment and appointment of new trustees are as outlined in the Essential Trustee document CC3 regulations from the UK Charity Commission.

Governing document:

The Gumboots Foundation UK is constituted as a charitable trust by way of a Trust Deed/Charity Commission Application, dated the 1st March 2008.

Decision making is via Trustee Board Meetings which are held quarterly and at least one of which is held face to face annually. Other meetings may consist of some or all members attending via videoconferencing.

Areas of operation and main activities

Gumboots UK is a charity founded for the purpose of raising money in the UK for the benefit of projects operating in South Africa.



Structure, governance and management (continued)

Projects operating in South Africa apply to Gumboots Foundation UK for grants. Each application is approved or rejected by the board of UK Trustees. The Board will only approve grants which fulfil the criteria and further the aims of the charity as set out in our aforementioned mission statement.

We have a partner organisation in South Africa, Gumboots SA, which works together with the projects below which operate either within Alexandra Township or benefit township residents who are attending educational institutions elsewhere in South Africa. These projects apply for grants from Gumboots UK via Gumboots SA:

- Leratong Pre-school
- Sigiya Sonke Youth Group
- Phetoho Education Project (including learners supported by The Caitlin Fund)
- Alexandra Youth Project (AYP)

The Ratang Bana family support project, which in previous years has received funding from Gumboots UK, has now been able to source all of its funding from within South Africa and from Kidlinks USA this year.

Our wider network

Kidlinks World is our sister organisation in the USA which also supports some of the Alexandra Township projects, (in addition to other initiatives in rural parts of South Africa), whilst the Kadey Family Charitable Corporation in Canada supports the Kadey House Orphanage which is based at the same site as Leratong Preschool.

Role of volunteers

The trustees of Gumboots Foundation UK, and the directors of Gumboots South Africa and Kidlinks USA, offer their services on an entirely unpaid basis. All three organisations are assisted by a small but dedicated group of local volunteers without whose assistance operation of the projects and fundraising would not be possible.

Distribution of Grants

This year we distributed the sum of £68,161 to fund the following activities:

Leratong Pre-School Project –

providing a stimulating and safe space in the heart of Alexandra Township in which children can play and learn

This year we gave grants of £29,302 to be spent on staff remuneration; teachers' medical care and retirement fund; food, provisions and maintenance; school outings and internet costs

The school employs the head/project leader, 5 teachers and 1 cook. 77 children were registered this year, this number being less than in previous years. The head teacher is looking into the possible reasons for this reduction.

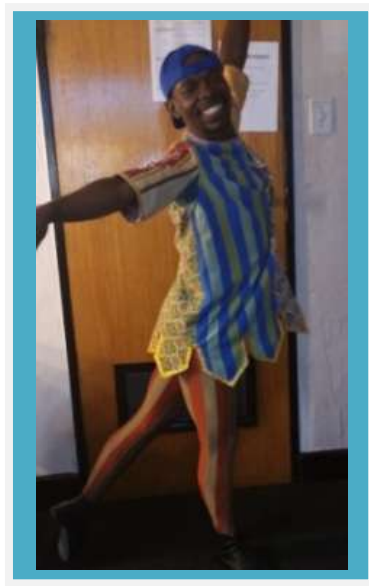


We thank **Brita Filters UK** for their continued support for this project

Sigiya Sonke (meaning “Youth Stand Together”)
Youth Dance Project — giving children and young people a purpose through dance, music and performance and offering pastoral care and guidance

This year 50 children and young people participated in the many and various activities organised by Sigiya Sonke

We made grants totalling £8,743 which were used to pay the stipends of the project leader, 2 teachers and 1 administrator/counsellor; the costs of temporary premises; outings & events; costumes and sound system and refreshments. (During this period, the leader and mainstay of the project became seriously ill and we launched a fund raising appeal in order to make a small grant of £747 to help with his recuperation, which sum is included in the above figure)



Phetoho (meaning “change”) Education Project

- helping children and young people maximise their opportunity to access and benefit from education

This year we made grants totalling £6,523

We helped 3 children to benefit from good quality private education provided by the United Church School in Johannesburg. We helped to meet the costs of uniforms, books, stationery, transport and packed lunches for a number of children attending state schools in Alexandra Township. We supported one child, who has lost both his parents and who was living in the safe house at Ratang Bana Project, with his school attendance.



The Caitlin Fund –

Established in 2010 by Margz Green, a Gumboots trustee, in memory of the life and achievements of her daughter Caitlin, the fund aims to improve the lives of disadvantaged young South African women through education

This year the fund made grants of £2,566, helping 3 young women to transition from education into the world of work. One young woman has secured a teaching post in Taiwan, another has become a Teaching Assistant at the United Church School, and is also studying for her degree, and the third has obtained an internship whilst she is seeking permanent work in the agricultural sector. The fund also made a grant to a younger girl (an orphaned refugee from Zimbabwe) to enable her to enjoy a residential educational trip



The fund has recently committed to support two young orphaned Zimbabwean girls (former refugees). They still have many years of primary and secondary education ahead of them and the Caitlin Fund will hopefully be able to continue supporting them into higher education. They've made remarkable progress so far - here's one of them kitted out in her new uniform and ready for the school day!

The Activities and Recreation Club

(involving children and young people drawn from the Sigiya Sonke Youth Group & Leratong Pre-School)

Supporting this area of activity for the first time, we made a grant of £7,527 to fund a series of experiences for groups of children and young people such as arts and crafts activities, visits to places of interest and outdoor adventure experiences which have proved hugely popular and beneficial



Alexandra Youth Project

This year Gumboots South Africa launched this exciting new initiative by raising enough money to purchase a piece of land in Alexandra Township upon which to build, over two phases, a performing arts and educational complex. Gumboots UK donated £10,000 towards the purchase of the land. We also donated £3,500 in order to securely fence the perimeter of the site. As well as providing well-overdue purpose built premises for the Sigiya Sonke Youth Project and Dance Group, this new centre will become a resource for the entire community, focused on supporting children and young people to achieve their educational aspirations and providing a safe space for them in which to grow and flourish.



Annual Accounts

The Gumboots Foundation UK

Receipts and Payments Account

Period from 1st March 2019 to 29th February 2020

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
INCOME			
Personal and Corporate Income			
Unrestricted Corporate funds	1500	0	1500
Unrestricted Personal inc Gift Aid	7248	0	7248
Restricted Caitlin inc Gift Aid	0	439	439
Restricted Corporate Leratong	0	24000	24000
Restricted Alexandra Youth Project	0	28630	28630
Total Personal and Corporate	8,748	53,069	61817
Events Income			
Unrestricted Fundraising events	1250	0	1250
Total Events Income	1250	0	1250
Total Income	9998	53069	63067
EXPENDITURE			
Administration costs	-441	0	-441
Event Expenses	0	0	0
Alexander Youth Project			
Restricted event	0	-718	-718
Total Expenditure	-441	-718	-1159
Net amount available for Distribution	9557	52351	61908
Grants distributed	-28095	-40066	-68161
Transfers unrestricted to restricted	0	0	
Transfers from restricted to unrestricted	0	0	0
Net Cash Movement	-18538	12285	-6253
Cash funds at 1st March 2019	29766	7112	36878
Cash funds at 20/02/2020	11228	19397	30625
Statement of assets and liabilities as at 20/02/2020			
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
General Fund	11228		
Caitlin Fund		4985	
Restricted Leratong		0	
Restricted Alexander Youth Project		14412	
Total Cash Funds @ 29/02/2020	11228	19397	30625

Statement arising from Coronavirus/Covid 19 pandemic

Since producing this report, the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic in South Africa have become more prevalent so, in line with the recommendation of the UK Charity Commission SORP statement on the pandemic, the Trustees have considered what they see as the current implications of the effect of the pandemic on both the UK and South African branches of the Gumboots Foundation.


The UK monthly donations are currently holding up well but we may find that during our larger fundraising events like the Christmas Craft Market and the Big Give Christmas Challenge, later in the year, people may be less inclined to donate due to the economic situation in the UK. We should have sufficient funds available to cover our planned transfer to South Africa in the financial year 20/21 providing a major regular donor continues to donate for our Leratong project, and we have no reason to think otherwise. Other funding received this financial year will be accumulated and used for the financial year 21/22. All the funds requested by Gumboots South Africa for the other projects this financial year have already been approved and supplied to them from the UK.

In South Africa, the pandemic is still building up and restricting what can be achieved within the projects. The activities of three of the projects we have agreed to fund, (Leratong Pre-school, Sigiya Sonke Dance Group and The Activity and Recreation Club), have had to be curtailed as they are not practicable with the social distancing restrictions. The building work at the Alexandra Youth Project has been delayed as the builders were unable to work, but work has recommenced albeit at a slower pace. Because of the severe effects expected within the Alexandra Township once the pandemic becomes more prevalent, which are expected to be exacerbated by existing food and employment shortages, some of the resources of Gumboots South Africa have been switched over to a Covid-19 project, supplying PPE and food parcels to those in most need, and this is expected to continue for the rest of 2020.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.....

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Graham Clifford Allibone

Position held

Treasurer and Trustee

Date

9th June 2020

The Trustees offer their sincere thanks to all our donors, both known to us and anonymous, without whose generous and continued support our work would not be possible. We hope that this report has given you an insight into the valuable contribution you have made.

For further information regarding the work of our charity see our website at www.gumboots.org.uk where you can also access the 2019 editions of the twice yearly round up of news and progress produced by Gumboots SA, called "The Beat".