

The Annual Report of The
Trustees of Gumboots
Foundation UK for the
period
1st March 2022 – 28th
February 2023

Registered charity no: 1123418



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 & management

Registered address:

1 Station Avenue, Edgbaston, Birmingham B16 9SZ

Managing trustees at 28th February 2023 were:

Angela Dyer (Secretary)

Mark Escolme

Margz Green

Graham Allibone (Treasurer)

David Lightfoot

Robert Marcuson (appointed 24th November 2022)

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.

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 & 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
- Sakhimfundo Arts and Education Centre
- Phetoho Education Fund
- Ratang Bana Family Support Centre
- Caitlin Fund
- Kidlinks USA

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 £45,264 to fund the following projects:

Leratong Pre-School

£25,800 granted

This year our grant has funded the salaries of teachers and support staff, and has helped to provide food for children's breakfasts and lunches, plus general provisions and maintenance.

Leratong has provided 50 children with high quality pre-school education and care, helping to fill the gap in state provision.

We are particularly indebted to the Brita Foundation for their continuing support in funding the entirety of the the salaries.



Ratang Bana

£8,000 granted

Ratang Bana is a project which has gone from strength to strength every year of its existence but this year has surpassed all expectations by reaching 10,000 beneficiaries!

Ratang Bana supports children and their families with education, health and welfare support, in particular by providing hot and nutritious food, helping facilitate access to education by providing school uniforms and transport to school; offering health education and support particularly in the field of AIDS/HIV and support following social services intervention in families in crisis. The physical environment of Ratang Bana is a safe and stimulating space with a play area and prolific vegetable gardens which provide nutritious fresh food to the community.

This project attracts funds from a variety of sources. This year our grant funded the stipends of two gardeners, a caretaker and various general helpers. We also helped to provide food, clothing and general provisions.



Sigiya Sonke

£4,850 granted

Sigiya Sonke is a youth project, mainly focussed around dance and performance but also providing pastoral support and help with education. Approximately 50 children and young people were involved this year. Our grant funded the stipends of the two project leaders, and paid for outings, events and competition entries; costumes, musical instruments and the sound system; refreshments for the participants and rental of temporary premises for 6 months, pending the group's move to its permanent home at Sakhimfundo Arts Centre.

The South African youth dance championships were held in Johannesburg this year with two of the Sigiya Sonke dance groups selected to go through to the finals when the Pantsula dancers received first prize and the Traditional dancers were runners-up!



Phetoho, (meaning "change"), is a project designed to assist children and young people to access education and make the best of their opportunities in order to bring about change for the better in their futures.

- This year we paid the school fees of 3 children who were selected on the basis of their ability to benefit from a private education
- We also provided funds to support a number of children attending state schools including paying for their uniforms, (an essential requirement for all children attending state school in South Africa), learning resources, transport to and from school, and lunches
- We also helped to fund the living expenses of three learners at university or undergoing internships.



Alongside our mission to assist children and young people to access and benefit from formal education, we recognise that by broadening their horizons beyond the confines of life within an inner city Township, we can introduce them to experiences that will not only enrich their lives now, but better place them to support themselves and their families in the future.

One such initiative, (see page 10), was grant funded this year with plenty in the pot to fund further trips next year!



The Caitlin Project is a sister project to Phetoho - set up to honour the memory of the daughter of one of our Trustees - in order to help girls and young women to realise their educational and career aspirations.

This year our grant has funded the school fees of two young girls who are orphans living in the Ratang Bana safe house.



Kidlinks Small Farm Incubator (KSFI)

£1,800 granted

KSFI is an ambitious project initiated by our sister organisation Kidlinks. Its demonstration farm will share efficient systems of small-scale farming; shared resources such as tools, equipment, harvesting and packing infrastructure; coaching in sales, marketing, and financial management with access to shared office support. With the focus on agricultural education and training KSFI will be uniquely positioned to serve this need because they are targeting (a) the production of high value crops grown utilising regenerative organic methods, (b) currently underserved young farmers with small-scale farmland and (c) the sales of good quality hand tools and non-GMO organic seed.

Although KSFI is serving a rural agricultural community, the skills being taught are transferable to an urban community such as Alexandra Township where affordable nutritional food is scarce. This year our grant funded a group of 7 young people from Alex to go to KSFI to learn the skills needed to cultivate sustainable "allotment" style gardens within their own community which will help feed themselves and their families going forward.



Accounts

The Gumboots Foundation UK			
Receipts and Payments Account - 1st March 2022 to 28th February 2023			
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
INCOME			
Personal and Corporate Income			
Unrestricted Corporate funds	975	0	975
Unrestricted Personal inc Gift Aid	12378	0	12378
Restricted Caitlin inc Gift Aid	0	299	299
Restricted Corporate Leratong	0	22000	22000
Restricted Alexandra Youth Project	0	0	0
Total Personal and Corporate	13,353	22,299	35,652
Events Income			
Unrestricted Fundraising events	13018	0	13018
Total Events Income	13018	0	13018
TOTAL INCOME	26371	22299	48670
EXPENDITURE			
Administration costs	-413	0	-413
Event Expenses	-415	0	-415
Paid UK invoice for restricted events	0	0	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	-828	0	-828
Net amount available for Distribution	25543	22299	47842
Grants distributed	-20186	-25078	-45264
Transfers unrestricted to restricted	-2000	2000	0
Transfers from restricted to unrestricted	0	0	0
Net Cash Movement	3357	-779	2578
Cash funds at 1st March 2022	21518	3261	24779
Cash funds at 28th February 2023	24875	2482	27357
Statement of assets and liabilities at 28th February 2023			
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
General Fund	24875		
Caitlin Fund		2482	
Restricted Leratong		0	
Total Cash Funds	24875	2482	27357

Financial report

Our income, at £48,670 was lower than the previous years (£53,871), due mainly to 2 large unexpected corporate donations last year. We also only received £22,000 of our regular £24,000 corporate donation for the Leratong project due to a glitch in the donors payment system. This will be made up during year 23/24.

The unrestricted corporate donations this year totalled £975.

Our fundraising events including the Christmas Craft Market and donations to The Big Give brought in £13,018. Personal unrestricted donations totalled £12,378 including gift aid. Donations including gift aid to the Caitlin Fund produced £299.

Our event expenses and administration costs totalled £828.

The grants to projects in South Africa totalled £45,264 compared to £65,330 for the previous year, which was exceptionally high due to the need to complete the Sakhimfundo project before the year end.

Cash at year end was £27,357 compared to £24,779 for the previous year.



Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved this report.

Signed by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Allibone', written over a faint horizontal line.

Graham Allibone (Treasurer)

Dated: 7th September 2023