

Love Into Action (LIA)

Making a difference for individuals with profound cognitive disabilities, and their families, in Bethlehem and beyond

Annual Trustees Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2019

Registered charity in England and Wales number
1148630

Head office address
Penquit House Farm, Ivybridge, Devon, PL21 0LU, ENGLAND.

Trustees
Sharon + Laurence Garnett; Dan + Janet Villars; Phil Lawson.



Introduction

Once again we write our report at the end of a challenging year which has seen the charity continue to support families facing insurmountable odds linked to the intellectual disability of a family member. At the same time our international team members and leadership team have been unable to visit or return to the work since the loss of visas in mid 2018. At the close of 2019 this barrier was proving insurmountable and following the end of the financial year we as Trustees, with the support of our Palestinian team members, have begun to look at how we restructure the work recognising that we cannot sustain the infrastructure that we have in place. This does not reduce the significance of the work undertaken by our Palestinian team members who have worked faithfully and diligently throughout the year and beyond. We have seen our disabled friends live longer, and with better quality lives, with families having greater respect and appreciation of their disabled family members. This is no small achievement.

The challenges on the ground in Bethlehem saw a continued reduction in financial support for the charity which has precluded the possibility of expanding our local staff. We have also been unable to find a local Director to lead the work hands on – in no small part down to the stigma associated with intellectual disabilities, and the nature of our work requiring a leader who will be hands on in the community, amongst the families we support, and with our disabled friends. In the midst of these challenges, we have continued to make a significant impact, and we continue to meet our costs and future liabilities.

As a consequence of our achievements and the lives impacted who would otherwise receive no help, despite the challenges which could be overwhelming, we are as determined as ever to continue and to keep on making a lasting difference in the communities where our projects are based.

Projects of Love Into Action

Beit Yusef - Bethlehem

Respite Care Centre and Family Support

When life is hard, it is good to have somewhere to turn for help and support. For families with the most disabled children in the Palestinian Territories there are few places to go, including within your own family. This is the reason that Love Into Action exists, to provide support to families who cannot get by on their own because of the immense challenge of caring for someone with profound cognitive disabilities.

Amongst the wide variety of help and support offered to the families we work with, the greatest impact is through genuine friendships with the families we come alongside of, and lives lived together with our team and those who would ordinarily be considered “clients”, “participants” or some other title. This is important. In situations where there are no good answers, and little hope, we laugh and cry together and lives are changed.

The Olive Wood Project

Training and Support for lads with special needs, and we make olive wood ornaments

Selling Olive Wood is not what we are about. Making Olive Wood ornaments is a tool of supporting lads from our local neighbourhood, who have special needs, to have something meaningful to do while learning independent living and life skills. And in the process we do make some beautiful hand crafted ornaments from Holy Land Olive Wood.

Trustees Report for the year ended 31 December 2019

Aims and objectives

Love Into Action is a UK charity working in the Palestinian Territories to help and support vulnerable individuals and families in need.

LIA prioritises working with individuals and families affected by cognitive disabilities to improve their quality of life and life opportunities.

Love Into Action does this through:

- *Visiting families affected by disability to befriend, encourage, support and train through modelling alternative care techniques;*
- *Providing regular short breaks for individuals with profound cognitive disabilities;*
- *Providing day care services of training and support for adults in the local neighbourhood with moderate cognitive disabilities;*
- *Providing disability related advice and technical assistance to other NGO's including training of staff.*

Risk management

The Trustees consider risks to the charity as part of their regular reviews of the work and have acted to mitigate these risks which include:

- Financial – the trustees are committed to promoting the essential work of the charity to cover the increasing costs associated with the expansion of the work;
- Leadership – the trustees have a long term plan in development to train and equip national staff to manage the projects of LIA and to be able to take over the management from UK staff;
- War / civil disturbance – the projects of LIA are based in a troubled region of the world and trustees are working to provide necessary resources to limit risks to staff and those receiving residential care, in the event of major incidents.

Safeguarding of vulnerable people

The charity has continued to develop its safeguarding policy during the previous year in line with international standards for NGO's.

- No safeguarding concerns have been raised during the year relating to the work or staff of LIA.

Serious Incidents

The trustees regard an incident as serious if it is within the control of the charity, or its workers, and has resulted or could result in a significant loss of funds or a significant risk to a charity's property, work, beneficiaries or reputation.

- No serious incidents have been brought to the attention of the trustees during the year.

Employee Information

- 4 staff were employed through the reporting period;
- No employees of LIA received a salary greater than £12,000;
- No trustee received pay for their involvement with Love Into Action.

www.loveintoaction.org

The charity's policy on reserves

It is LIA policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds, which equates to at least three month's unrestricted payments, to cover emergency situations which arise from time to time.

- Available funds, not set aside for other purposes, were minimal and did not meet our reserves' policy. LIA will continue to be working during the coming year to promote its life enhancing work with vulnerable people and seeking sustainable funding to meet these increasing costs.

Summary of the main achievements during 2019

During the previous twelve months, LIA has:

- sustained its work with families from the most vulnerable sections of Palestinian society including female headed households, families in extreme poverty, families with multiple disabled members, families with severely and multiple disabled members;
- begun the transformation of the Olivewood Project from a supported employment workshop for adults with mild special needs, to a training and support centre for adults with moderate intellectual and physical disabilities. Although olivewood ornaments continue to be manufactured, the entire structure and ethos of the project has been redesigned along with a dramatic change in the makeup of the participants to reflect the goal of supporting those who are unable to participate in any mainstream workplace;
- Obtained a bank account in Palestine after 7 years of trying, alongside the appointment of a (volunteer) Palestinian Country Director (Legal Representative).

Work to be undertaken during 2020

The trustees' plan for the following twelve months is to redesign the work based on the ongoing barrier to international workers being based in Bethlehem, and the financial restrictions that have come from multiple sources and are likely to remain throughout 2020. Specific goals include:

- Develop a longer term strategy for the work including the possibility of not having a physical centre in Bethlehem;
- Investigate transferring the hub of the work from Palestine to Jordan;
- Increase the visibility of the work, and to find a practical method for sharing the sensitive stories of the work undertaken and successes of the ministry;
- Increase the strength and participation of the Board of Trustees.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed 
Laurence Garnett, Chair of Trustees

Date 21 October 2020

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Love Into Action

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2019, which are set out on pages 7 & 8 of the annual report.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner:

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to 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 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011

Act 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.

Name: Cathrine Pittas

Address: 58 Endeavour Court, Plymouth . UK

Date: 24.10.20

C Pittas

Receipt & Payments Account for the year ended 31 December 2019

	2019	2019	2019	2018	2018	2018
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Grants + Donations	68,535	0	68,535	114,167	0	114,167
Sales	6,412	0	6,412	15,244	0	15,244
Interest, Tax Recovered & Misc. Income	1,454	0	1,454	1,627	0	1,627
Total Receipts	<u>76,401</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>76,401</u>	<u>131,039</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>131,039</u>
	2019	2019	2019	2018	2018	2018
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Payments						
Employees	51,692	0	51,692	53,482	0	53,482
Premises	18,976	0	18,976	21,526	0	21,526
Project Operating Costs	6,982	0	6,982	19,839	0	19,839
Transport	5,916	0	5,916	11,757	0	11,757
Manufacturing Costs	4,078	0	4,078	5,786	0	5,786
Charity Governance	1,410.16	0	1,410.16	994	0	994
Raising Awareness	1,161	0	1,161	2,461	0	2,461
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>90,214</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>90,214</u>	<u>113,387</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>113,387</u>
Exchange (Gain) / Loss	648	0	648	607	0	607
Capital Purchases	0	0	0	6,750	3,922	10,672
Total Payments	<u>90,682</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>90,682</u>	<u>123,207</u>	<u>3,922</u>	<u>127,129</u>
	2019	2019	2019	2018	2018	2018
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Net Receipts / Payments	<u>-14,461</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>-14,461</u>	<u>7,832</u>	<u>-3,922</u>	<u>3,910</u>
Bank and cash at the start of the period	<u>45,165</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>45,165</u>	<u>37,321</u>	<u>3,922</u>	<u>41,243</u>
Bank and cash at the end of the period	<u>30,704</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>30,704</u>	<u>45,165</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>45,165</u>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2019

Assets	2019	2018
	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>30,704</u>	<u>45,165</u>
Funds	2019	2018
	£	£
Unrestricted	30,704	45,165
Restricted - Vehicle	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Funds Total	<u>30,704</u>	<u>45,165</u>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed 
Dan Villars, Treasurer

Date 31/10/2020

Notes to the accounts

Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context “cash” includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

Audit requirements

In addition to the Independent Examination of the accounts included in this annual report, the accounts of Love Into Action are subject to a separate and full audit in the Palestinian Territories. No fee was paid for the Independent Examination.

Contact Information

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