

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 2016

Registered charity in England and Wales number
1148630

Head office address
Earlscombe Farm, Ivybridge, Devon, PL21 0LD, ENGLAND

Trustees during 2016
Sharon + Laurence Garnett, Daniel + Janet Villars; Stewart + Claire Lowry



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Introduction

Welcome to our 2016 Annual Report. As we write this report we are well into 2017, but don't want to forget all of the hard work and incredible achievements of 2016. Thanks to our great staff team in Bethlehem and our wonderful supporters from all around the world, we have been able to make a significant difference to a small but important group of families who face impossible challenges due to the profound disabilities and complex behaviours of their children and relatives.

We are grateful for everyone who has played a part in this story and in the following pages you will read of what the work has entailed during 2016, and how it has prepared for the work that is now taking place during 2017.

As always, the financial support we receive is an important part of the work, but only one of several pieces that have enabled the work to go forward. At the end of this report you will find a review of our accounts and legal statements, but we hope you will take the time to see the fuller picture of what has been possible during the year.



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Projects of Love Into Action

Beit Yusef - Bethlehem

Respite Care Centre and Family Support



At the very centre of the work of our charity is our Beit Yusef (Joseph’s House) centre which is the central hub for all of our projects, but it is also where we host our respite care for some of the most damaged and disabled children and adults from across the West Bank. As these individuals visit our centre we are able to open their world to so many new experiences, and use it as a gateway to serving their families in practical ways that enables the compassion of our team to be contagious in the community where they live.



In the West Bank, this is the only project able to offer 1-2-1 care for people with profound cognitive disabilities and challenging behaviours, but its unique blend of short residential breaks and coming alongside of families in their own homes allows for change, albeit slow, to be of lasting benefit for the entire family.

During 2016 we experienced numerous changes in our staff team, but ended the year with a larger team than we started with, and are well placed for expanding this work during 2017.

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The Olive Wood Project

Supported employment for lads with special needs



The Olive Wood Project is now a solid part of the work of Love Into Action as it provides sustainable employment to a small group of lads with special needs alongside the support, training and understanding that they need.

In the middle of the year we said goodbye to two young men who had been at the workshop for several years who were offered jobs with an organisation we have worked closely with over the past years.

These young men were the most able of our lads with special needs, and we took this opportunity to employ lads who had greater disabilities and required more support in the workshop. The first of our new lads are settling in well but we wait to see whether we are able to make this work with the reduced productivity and increase in support needed.



Mission to Bethlehem

A ministry of encouragement

For more than twenty years, families have been visited by Mission to Bethlehem team members, aiming to encourage these families as they care for their disabled children. The ministry of Love Into Action is based in no small part on the example of MTB demonstrating the opportunities available to come alongside of families and live life together with them. It is a privilege to continue to work ever closer with Mission to Bethlehem merging our home visits and befriending projects to numerous individuals and families with a diverse range of disabilities. As 2016 closed, we began planning for offering occasional short holidays for several of these individuals to begin during 2017. The individuals visited do not have the profound disabilities of those receiving regular respite care at our centre, but nonetheless we see the benefit to offering them lots of fun and laughter along with a change of scenery and being able to offer their families a short break from their caring responsibilities.



Project Vehicles

Essential and expensive tools

As we continue to travel further afield, and as we work with more families, so our practical need for transport increases. No bus driver (or passengers) will accept a profoundly disabled child to get on their bus, nor will a taxi driver allow them in his car. Even families don't know how to manage their children in a vehicle, even if they wanted to try. For this reason we always collect our disabled friends for their visits and stays with us, as well as returning. Alongside this we visit each family often in the times between stays at our Beit Yusef Care Centre. During 2016 we were finally able to purchase our first van for the work and immediately began work on how to get our second. These are essential tools, without which we cannot hope to provide help to the increasing number of families we plan to serve.



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Financial Narrative

During 2016, like most international charities supported from the UK, the aftermath of the “Brexit” vote hit us hard meaning that UK donations lost 1/3 of their buying power, including all of our reserves held in the UK. Despite this, during 2016 we raised £162,000 for the work of the charity, spent £120,000 and were left with £78,000 which includes money left over from the previous year.

The money raised enabled us to help families in absolute and enduring crises who have had access to no other help because of the stigma that disability brings to the whole family. Our team have been able to come alongside of families who have been struggling to survive for years without any support or encouragement, and our team remains the only help for families whose children need 1-2-1 care because of the level of disability and challenging behaviours. It is remarkable that our small charity remains the only provider of help to this most challenging and in need group.

At the beginning of 2016 we held £36,000 in reserves but only £1,000 of this was not designated in regards to its use. Because of the generosity of supporters our reserves increased. We have been able to enter 2017 with significant contributions towards the second van that we urgently need, as well as the payment for rent in place for the building for the entire year. Additional reserves are in place to meet our future legal obligations that have accrued such as the payment due to employees when they leave employment (an equivalent to pensions). With new vans currently costing \$100,000 for a basic 9 seat model, we feel it is important that we set aside reserves for their replacement at the end of their useful life rather than be left with a replacement cost we cannot meet. We continue to rely on donations to increase our fleet as the work grows, as expansion costs cannot be afforded from our day to day income.

During the year we had to meet a shortfall in each of these categories of reserves due to the devaluation of the pound which wiped out our unrestricted reserves entirely. With these various designated and restricted reserves amounting to £77,000 at the end of 2016, we once again finished the year with only £1,000 in unrestricted funds available for day to day use. This is far short of our aim to hold enough unrestricted reserves to see us through 3 months which means that we are not well placed to weather future financial emergencies until we are able to set aside further reserves, but we are able to meet all of our current liabilities. During the year ahead we expect the devaluation of the pound to continue to have a significant impact on our work as well as for all of our UK workers who all raise their own support, but we are confident that we will be able to continue and strengthen the work despite the financial challenges.

Trustees Report for the year ended 31 December 2016

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 them;*
- *Providing regular short breaks for individuals with disabilities in our respite care centre;*
- *Employing disabled adults in our sheltered olive wood workshop;*
- *Providing 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

- 10 staff were employed through the reporting period;
- No employees of LIA receive a salary greater than £10,000;
- No trustee received remuneration for their involvement with Love Into Action.

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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 the period

During the previous twelve months, LIA has:

- Continued 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;
- Continued providing advice, training, support and technical assistance to a variety of organisations to sustain and develop their work with vulnerable people;
- Employed 6 new staff members to create new opportunities of supporting vulnerable families and individuals with profound disabilities.

Work to be undertaken during 2017

The trustees' plan for the following twelve months is to build upon the achievements of the last year and continue the expansion of the work. Specific goals include:

- To strengthen the consistency of services through the induction, training and development of our new staff;
- To double the number of families served through our core respite care and family support provision;
- To improve the administration of the charity and its projects through providing administrative support to the Chief Executive;
- To improve access to appropriate medical care for the disabled individuals we support.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed 
Laurence Garnett, Chair

Date 20 October 2017

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 2016, which are set out on pages 12 to 13 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.

Signature:



Name: Mr P J Barton FCCA

Date: 23 October 2017

Address: 34 Bloomfield Drive, Bath, BA2 2BG, ENGLAND

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Receipts & payments account for the year ended 31 December 2016

	Total 2015	Unrestricted 2016	Restricted 2016	Total 2016
Receipts	£	£	£	£
<i>Grants + Donations</i>	77,200	105,469	25,031	130,500
<i>Interest + Tax Recovered</i>	2,200	1,786	---	1,786
<i>Sales</i>	27,500	29,949	---	29,949
<i>Other receipts</i>	400	---	---	---
Total receipts	<u>107,300</u>	<u>137,204</u>	<u>25,031</u>	<u>162,235</u>
	2015	2016	2016	2016
Payments	£	£	£	£
<i>Employees</i>	33,000	52,926	---	52,926
<i>Premises</i>	14,500	12,544	---	12,544
<i>Project Operating Costs</i>	15,300	24,145	374	24,519
<i>Transport</i>	5,400	7,491	---	7,491
<i>Manufacture Costs</i>	4,300	2,749	---	2,749
<i>Charity Governance</i>	2,100	1,395	---	1,395
<i>Capital Purchases</i>	9,400	18,633	---	18,633
Total Payments	<u>78,200</u>	<u>119,878</u>	<u>374</u>	<u>120,237</u>
	2015	2016	2016	2016
	£	£	£	£
Net receipts/(payments)	<u>20,100</u>	<u>17,311</u>	<u>24,657</u>	<u>41,968</u>
Bank and cash at the start of the period	<u>15,800</u>	<u>35,900</u>	---	<u>35,900</u>
Bank and cash at the end of the period	<u>35,900</u>	<u>53,211</u>	<u>24,657</u>	<u>77,868</u>

Statement of assets and liabilities at 31 December 2016

Assets	2015	2016
	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	35,900	77,868
	<u>35,900</u>	<u>77,868</u>
Funds	2015	2016
	£	£
Unrestricted	35,900	53,211
Restricted - Vehicles	---	24,657
	<u>35,900</u>	<u>77,868</u>

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

Signed

Dan Villars, Treasurer

Date 22 October 2017

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. A fee of \$300 was paid for the audit of the accounts in the Palestinian Territories and no fee was paid for the Independent Examination.





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