

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 2017

Registered charity in England and Wales number
1148630

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

Trustees during 2016
Sharon + Laurence Garnett; Dan + Janet Villars; Phil Lawson (Joined 01-01-2017).



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Making a difference, one family at a time

Love Into Action

Introduction

Welcome to the 2017 Love Into Action annual report where you will get a little flavour of the work that has been taking place to support individuals with disabilities, and their families, in Bethlehem and beyond.

2017 began with a great deal of promise for the charity with a larger staff team, and a closer link between different elements of the charity. Through the year financial challenges increased at a time where opportunities to help were growing, and we ended the year in a difficult position. Reorganising the work can be a difficult and painful process, but through which we have been able to sustain the work with the families we have been supporting, and no disabled child or adult has been removed from the work, which is a testimony to the commitment of the staff team who are dedicated to making a difference to each and every family that we serve.

This report can only begin to give an indication of the work that is continuing at the Beit Yusef centre in Bethlehem, and the many families whose lives are improved through support they find in the Love Into Action team. We invite you to get in touch and find out more about the work taking place and how to be involved.

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.

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 disabilities.

Love Into Action, through its Beit Yusef centre, remains the only respite care facility of any kind across the Palestinian Territories, the only charity helping individuals whose disability requires 1-2-1 (or greater) levels of support, and for whom challenging behaviour is normal, at least to start with, for those we serve. It is amongst families who have lost hope, and where life is the most difficult, that you will find the Beit Yusef / Love Into Action team at work.

Because of the challenging nature of each family circumstance, the work requires a great deal from the care team who are responsible for supporting our disabled friends and their families. These are no ordinary individuals and a great deal of thanks must be expressed for their hard work and dedication to the task of making life a little bit better, a little bit more joyful, and a little bit more hopeful for all concerned.

The Olive Wood Project

Supported employment for lads with special needs

Selling Olive Wood is not what we are about. Making Olive Wood ornaments is a tool of supporting some 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.

During the year we increased the focus on lads with moderate learning disabilities who would not find employment locally, which is a change from our previous priority of higher ability lads. This enables the workshop to better match the rest of Love Into Action where we support those who are more excluded from society and help them, within their family setting, to make the most of the life they have.

During 2018 we will be working to develop the program of support that we offer to the lads in the workshop alongside the employment skills. We will be changing the catalogue of products that are made to better suit the abilities and potential of the lads now working in the project, and find other ways to increase the connection between the workshop and the respite care centre.

During 2017 the workshop ran into significant financial distress after costs increased, sales did not match expectations, and not all of the promised support was received. As a consequence the workshop moved from its rented premises to the Beit Yusef centre, and we accepted the resignation of our specialist carpenter as well as other cost saving measures. 2018 will be a year to restructure the workshop for the benefit of the lads that we employ there.

Financial Narrative

During 2017 we raised £164,000 for the work of the charity, spent £200,000 and were left with £41,000, all of which is set aside for designated purposes.

The cost of working in the Palestinian Territories continued to be more expensive than previous years and our income did not increase as we had hoped. The expansion of our core care team proved to be more expensive than we could afford and so with great sadness we reduced the size of the team we had only just begun to grow. The Olive Wood Project also expanded with promises of support that ultimately failed to match the increased costs and therefore incurred debts that could not be met from the sales and support it received. This was also the first year that we were required to pay rent on our centre, having previously renovated the building in lieu of rent.

Recognising the position the charity was in, the necessary changes were made so that we can again cover our day to day costs through the donations we are receiving, and the shortfall in funds to cover future liabilities we have already incurred should be reduced.

As a charity we have accepted that we take more risks than others might feel comfortable with, but we manage them well, and keep a close watch so that we can respond effectively when things don't go to plan. Our work is in a challenging environment where there will always be greater need than we can meet, but this should not mean that we do not aspire to making an even bigger impact in the lives of deeply damaged families. At the close of 2017 we see that the generous support we receive is allowing us to continue all of the work that we have begun, but we will need new and sustained support to be able to get on a secure financial footing to enable us to again expand the work to the next step.

At the end of 2017 we have in place one care team of 4 employed staff supporting 35 children and adults with profound disabilities and supported in this by our international admin team who each raise their own support. Our workshop is supervised by an employed team leader supported by the founder of the workshop who also raises his own support. This blend of team members enables far more to be achieved with a smaller budget but this can hide the true cost of the work we undertake.

Although 2017 ended in a difficult position, the changes made have begun to address these issues and the charity continues to be viable.

Trustees Report for the year ended 31 December 2017

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 received a salary greater than £12,000;
- 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.

Work to be undertaken during 2018

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 all staff;
- To strengthen the financial position of Love Into Action including covering future liabilities that have been incurred;
- To sustain the work with families despite the financial challenges that are being faced and to at least the same standard;
- To improve the administration of the charity and its projects through providing administrative support to the Chief Executive.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed 
Laurence Garnett, Chair

Date 24 October 2018

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 2017, which are set out on pages 10 to 11 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:

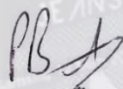
(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- 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: 25 October 2018

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

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Receipt & Payments Account for the year ended 31 December 2017

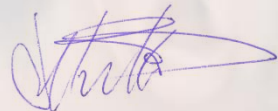
	2016	2016	2016	2017	2017	2017
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Grants + Donations	105,469	25,031	130,500	114,106	25,000	139,106
Sales	29,949	0	29,949	24,759	0	24,759
Interest + Tax Recovered	1,786	0	1,786	12	0	12
Total Receipts	<u>135,418</u>	<u>25,031</u>	<u>160,449</u>	<u>138,865</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>163,865</u>
	2016	2016	2016	2017	2017	2017
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Payments						
Employees	52,926	0	52,926	74,805	2,099	76,904
Premises	12,544	0	12,544	27,838	0	27,838
Project Operating Costs	24,282	374	24,656	30,812	722	31,534
Transport	7,491	0	7,491	13,737	2,105	15,842
Manufacturing Costs	2,749	0	2,749	6,279	0	6,279
Charity Governance	311	0	311	825	0	825
<i>Sub Total</i>	<u>100,303</u>	<u>374</u>	<u>100,677</u>	<u>154,296</u>	<u>4,926</u>	<u>159,222</u>
Exchange Gain / Loss	942	0	942	459	0	459
Capital Purchases	18,633	0	18,633	0	40,809	40,809
Total Payments	<u>119,878</u>	<u>374</u>	<u>120,252</u>	<u>154,755</u>	<u>45,735</u>	<u>200,490</u>
	2016	2016	2016	2017	2017	2017
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Net Receipts / Payments	<u>15,540</u>	<u>24,657</u>	<u>40,197</u>	<u>-15,890</u>	<u>-20,735</u>	<u>-36,625</u>
Bank and cash at the start of the period	<u>35,885</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>35,885</u>	<u>53,211</u>	<u>24,657</u>	<u>77,868</u>
Bank and cash at the end of the period	<u>53,211</u>	<u>24,657</u>	<u>77,868</u>	<u>37,321</u>	<u>3,922</u>	<u>41,243</u>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2017

Assets	2016	2017
	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>77,868</u>	<u>41,243</u>
Funds	2016	2017
	£	£
Unrestricted	53,211	37,321
Restricted - Vehicle	21,657	3,922
Restricted - Psychologist	3000	0
Total Payments	<u>77,868</u>	<u>41,243</u>

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

Signed



Dan Villars, Treasurer

Date 24 October 2018

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 NIS 1,180 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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Contact Information

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