

Childrens Hope Foundation Statutory Information

REGISTERED OFFICE

Childrens Hope Foundation
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REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER

1060409

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER

3295669

TRUSTEES

Mrs Seema Kumar - Chairman
Mrs Zarina Kheraj MBE
Mr Michael Colin Browne
Mr Paul Jorgensen
Mr Asvin Patel

COMPANY SECRETARY

Michael Colin Browne

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Institute of Financial Accountants
A.Kassam FMAAT FFA
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BANKERS

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF CHILDRENS HOPE FOUNDATION

Trustees of Childrens Hope Foundation have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2010.

Objects of the Charity

Childrens Hope Foundation is a national charity which was established in December 1996 to provide equipment, facilities and grants for children who were disadvantaged by disability, illness or extreme circumstances and for the relief of poverty and advancement of education.

CHF's mission is to improve the quality of life of children and young people affected by their illness, disability or poverty, in a responsive and age appropriate manner by responding in a practical way to the needs of the children hardest hit by their situation.

Structure Governance and Management

Childrens Hope Foundation is a registered charity (Reg. No.1060409) and a company limited by guarantee, governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The trust deed provides for a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 12 trustees and the board currently consists of 5 trustees who manage the business of Childrens Hope Foundation. The trustees receive no remuneration for their services to Childrens Hope Foundation.

To further develop and strengthen the mix of skills on the board, it is hoped that we can recruit and appoint new trustees, with appropriate experience, including legal, personnel, advertising and media/PR. The chairman of trustees along with the Chief Executive will be responsible for the induction, of any new trustee, which would include awareness of a trustee's responsibilities, the governing document, administrative procedures and history and mission of the charity. New trustees would also receive copies of the previous year's annual report and accounts and a copy of the Charity Commission leaflet 'The Essential Trustee; What You Need to Know'. New trustees will also complete a skills assessment and will be expected to undertake free training on-line to help them be effective in their role.

Risk Management

In the opinion of the trustees and with the benefit of experience, there are adequate internal controls in place to cover any significant risks to the Charity. They will, however, continue to monitor and review the risk assessment process on an ongoing basis.

Activities and Achievements

During the year Childrens Hope Foundation has continued to support individuals and institutions in 3 main areas, equipment, education and welfare. As planned, the trustees have continued to develop relationships with equipment suppliers which now enables applicants to select the equipment best suited to the child, either on-line or through a local store, with delivery made direct to the beneficiary and invoices sent to and settled directly by the charity. It had been hoped to recruit and appoint a member of staff to deliver and install the equipment asked for and in doing so, better publicise the work we do and further raise public awareness of the charity. Whilst this appointment has not been made, it is hoped that a suitable candidate can be found for this important role during the coming year.

In the area of equipment the charity has continued to support children with disability with the provision of equipment to help or improve their mobility. The requests have been varied and as in previous years has included specially adapted

car seats, disabled trikes and mobility and therapeutic equipment, benefitting more than 30 children this year.

The charity has also been able to provide equipment to several medical institutions, mostly in the third world, to help detect and treat illnesses and abnormalities in children and young people. In addition, funds were provided to begin construction for a new mother and baby hospital in Nakoil, a rural village 100 miles from Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh.

In the area of education the charity has focused on the provision of computer equipment for children missing their education through illness or disability and this year we have been able to help many children with computers and/or other computer equipment. In addition, 20 laptop computers have been made available for loan to children and young people missing school through illness or exclusion. Again, through the provision of books and equipment for schools where sufficient resources do not exist, mostly in the third world, as well as individual sponsorship, we have been able to assist in several areas, enabling many hundreds of children to benefit immediately and which in some cases will continue to assist many more children well into the future. Educational visits have again helped more than 150 children enjoy extra-curricular activities.

In the area of welfare, assistance has been mainly for household items or for holidays/days out and in the past year the charity has been able to help in more than 30 individual cases as well as enabling schools, with tremendous support from the business community, to attend extra-curricular activities including museum trips and pantomime visits.

Financial Review, Policy and Reserves

The attached financial statements have been prepared to comply with the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice (the SORP) issued in March 2005.

Total incoming resources of £261,838 shows a slight fall in income of 9.62%. Whilst the charity has increased or maintained its' income through collections and commercial participators, there were reductions in the areas of Trust donations and events. However, given current economic conditions this had been anticipated and development of diverse funding streams should more than compensate for reduced income in these areas, in the future. The charity will continue to develop a strong fundraising strategy and trustees, together with key staff and volunteers will undertake appropriate training courses in the coming two years to progress this, further ensuring the charity's future development.

Fund-raising costs of £34,250 achieved a fund-raising ratio of 13 pence spent, per pound raised, which shows a very slight increase in fundraising costs. Much of this is attributable to the purchase of new fundraising materials and should not be repeated in the coming 12 months. Whilst disappointed that fundraising costs had shown a slight increase, the trustees understand the reasons for this and are confident that efforts will continue in the coming year to again reduce these costs. As a result of the tremendous efforts of everyone in the charity, the trustees are extremely pleased to report a further significant increase of 17.88% in charitable expenditure, including costs supporting charitable activities, to £199,159 representing over 76% of the charity's total income. The trustees are again confident that efforts will continue to maintain and if possible improve this further.

Childrens Hope Foundation is still fully committed to the following;

- Raising adequate unrestricted funds, which will enable it to fulfil the need of a disadvantaged child within 3 months of a request being received.
- Continuing to broaden the funding mix which, will increase its voluntary income and enable it to reduce the waiting time to within 1 month of a request being made.

The trustees' aim has been to build a reserve equivalent to a minimum of six months expenditure, thus always being able to fulfil any request promised, irrespective of income at any particular moment in time. The trustees are pleased to report that sufficient reserves are now in place to ensure this aim.

Notwithstanding the above policy, the trustees will always, as a matter of priority, apply reserves for the benefit of children and young persons disadvantaged by illness, disability or poverty whilst maintaining an appropriate level of reserves at any given point in time.

Principal Funding sources

In the past year the charity's main funding has been from street collections as well as voluntary donations made direct to the charity. The charity also further developed its' partnership with commercial participators and this is resulting in an increasing level of income, which it is hoped will continue to build in the coming year.

Trust fundraising although having developed well has shown a marked decrease during this year as result of general economic conditions. Although it is hoped that this situation will improve in the coming year, it is likely that growth in this area may not come about until the following financial year. It is intended that, when complete, the charity's new website, will acknowledge the generous support of all trusts and our thanks shown.

Whilst it is the trustees' aim to develop legacy fundraising to strengthen our funding mix, it has not been possible to implement any more than initial plans to bring this to fruition although effort will continue to add this to our long term funding strategy. Training in this area will be included in the training plans being put in place over the coming two years. In the meantime, huge efforts will continue to be made in many other areas to develop new and creative funding streams to secure a strong and sustainable future for the charity.

Employees and Volunteers

The charity employs 3 full time staff. Each member of staff undertakes more than one area of activity and costs apportioned on the basis of an estimate of the proportion of time spent by staff on those activities. The allocation has been based on the Trustees' judgement as to the nature of the expenditure and the level of activity carried out in each area. In addition the charity is supported by 10 volunteers, in the areas of fund-raising and administration, who receive no remuneration. The value of this support has not been included in these financial statements.

Future Plans

The Trustees intend to continue to provide support in a similar way to the recent past continuing the emphasis on three areas of giving but retaining flexibility as to the timing and scale of support. The trustees also intend to continue to raise funds, in support of its objectives, in the same manner in the future. However, the development of trust fund-raising and commercial partnerships will continue during 2010/11 and it is hoped, with the appropriate training, to begin to develop legacy fundraising during that time whilst also seeking other funding opportunities. It is also hoped that the efforts of the board in the recruitment of trustees with skills relevant to the operation and development of the charity will begin to show results and to this end several individuals have been identified as potential trustees and initial approaches made.

The grants advisory committee, whose task it is to advise the board on the effective and timely disbursement of funds to beneficiaries, has been established. This committee is formed of experienced individuals with backgrounds in education, medicine, welfare and children's services. It is hoped that they will be strengthened with the addition of individuals with legal and accounting backgrounds. The trustees are confident that these skills and the advice received from such a committee will ensure that the appropriate assistance is given to beneficiaries and that applications are correctly prioritised. The trustees also feel that the committee is highlighting at least one individual who may join the board in the future.

Efforts continue to recruit further committees, reporting to the board on many other aspects of its activities including, fundraising, marketing, corporate partnerships and events.

Although the charity enjoys national status, it has always been the aim of the trustees to spend the funds in the area in which they have been raised. Whilst this is entirely dependent on the areas from which beneficiaries come, the trustees are still determined to achieve this aim. To this end, in the coming year, they wish to look at how this can be achieved, perhaps by working with local retailers or organisations who, generously give time and space for the collection of donations to take place.

Statement of Trustee's Responsibilities

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and its financial activities for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to;

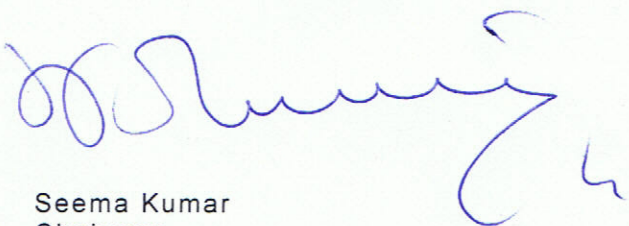
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operational existence.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Independent Examiner

The Trustees intend to ask the existing auditors to undertake the independent examination of the charity in the following year.

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf.



Seema Kumar
Chairman
12 January 2011