

Childrens Hope Foundation Statutory Information

REGISTERED OFFICE

Childrens Hope Foundation
No 15, 1st Floor
Princeton Mews
167-169 London Road
Kingston upon Thames
Surrey, KT2 6PT

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER

1060409

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER

3295669

TRUSTEES

Mr Brian Dodds JP	Resigned 18 th January 2008
Mrs Zarina Kheraj MBE	
Mrs Sylvia Dodds	Resigned 18 th January 2008
Cllr. Mrs Seema Kumar	
Mr Michael Colin Browne	Appointed 18 th January 2008
Mr Paul Jorgensen	Appointed 18 th January 2008
Mr Asvin Patel	Appointed 18 th January 2008

COMPANY SECRETARY

Michael Colin Browne

REGISTERED AUDITORS

McAk & Co
No15, 1st Floor
Princeton Mews
167-169 London Road
Kingston upon Thames
Surrey, KT2 6PT

Bankers

Barclays Bank Plc
1 North End
Croydon
Surrey
CR9 1RN

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 2008.

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 (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, We are continuing to seek to recruit and appoint new trustees, with appropriate experience, including legal, personnel, advertising and media/PR. The chair 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' and the NCVO publication "The Good Trustee Guide".

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 established relationships with several 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.

In the area of equipment the charity have continued to support children with disability with the provision of equipment to help or improve their mobility. The requests have been varied and have ranged from specially adapted car seats to disabled trikes and small wheelchairs.

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 15 children with computers or other computer equipment. Through the provision of books and equipment for schools where sufficient resources do not exist, many in the third world, we have been able to assist in many case enabling more than 500 children to benefit immediately although those benefits will continue for many years

ahead. Educational visits have again helped more than 200 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 25 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 £247,388 is a good improvement on last year and the board is confident that that improvement will continue in the coming year. Growth of the charity's fundraising strategy continues strongly and a number of new areas opened, will help the charity build its incoming resources and maintain its future development.

Fund-raising costs of £68,288 achieved a fund-raising ratio of 27.5 pence spent on fund-raising per pound raised with which, although the trustees are not happy, does show a significant reduction of 12.5 pence compared to the last financial year. Further effort is still required from all in order to reduce this again in the coming year. Expenditure on charitable activities was significantly increased at £115,761. The Trustees are confident that the fund-raising ratio will continue to reduce significantly in the coming year while direct expenditure on charitable activities will increase further, as new income streams develop.

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?

Childrens Hope Foundation aims 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 aware that the level of reserves at 31 March 2008 is slightly below that target and will aim to build reserves in the coming year until sufficient level is reached. 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. Several functions and events have been held throughout the year. 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 also, has developed well and is expected to continue to develop in the coming year. Since these areas are growing well, we feel it is appropriate to further expand the funding mix and over the next two years intend to develop legacy fundraising as part of our long term funding strategy.

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 11 volunteers in the area of fund-raising who receive no remuneration and one volunteer in the office for one day per week. 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 2008/9 and the planning and introduction of Legacy Fundraising and Payroll Giving will be developed during the coming two years. It is also hoped that the board will have more success in the recruitment of Trustees with skills relevant to the operation and development of the charity.

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.



Mrs S Kumar
Chairperson