

**DISABILITY AFRICA**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD  
1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2017 TO 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2018**





**DISABILITY AFRICA**  
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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD  
JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup> 2017 TO 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2018**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the period from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS 102) with Update Bulletin 1.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS:**

**Registered Charity number**  
1143704

**Principal address**  
Albany House  
6-8 Woodbridge Meadows  
Guildford  
Surrey  
GU1 1BA

**Trustees**

Mr. Ken Tyrrell (Chair)  
Mr. Adrian Abbott (Hon Treasurer)  
Mr. Adam Edwards  
Dr. Penny Gibson  
Mrs. Sue Haworth-Edwards  
Dr. David Monk

**Patrons**

Mr. Christopher Brewer DL  
Mr. Damon Hill OBE

**Hon Director**

Mr. Ric Law

**Hon Independent Accounts Examiner**

[Mr. Richard Williams](#)



"I support Disability Africa because they focus on real partnership with local people and they recognise that changing hearts and minds is a crucial in the fight against prejudice as providing practical help to children that need it."

Damon Hill OBE

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

**Risk management**

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD  
JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup> 2017 TO 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2018

## OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

### Objectives and aims

The charitable objects as set out in the Trust Deed are:

1. To advance education and promote and protect health among people living in Africa, in particular children and young people with disabilities, through the provision of grants, items and services and by such other means as the trustees may determine.
2. To provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.

## STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law.) The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

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 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust Deed. 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of the financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The trustees are content that the activities of the charity during the reporting period comply with the requirement for those activities to be of public benefit.

Trustees are recruited in accordance with Charity Commission guidelines laid out in document CC30. As vacancies arise, new trustees are sought and recruited with regard to skills and experience and the appropriate vetting and interview procedures are applied. All new trustees will be given a full induction prior to assuming their duties.

## ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

K Tyrrell - Chairman of Trustees

Date 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018



### Our Mission:

To work with communities to explore causes which exclude disabled young people. To challenge conventional attitudes and practice to inform, inspire and deliver change because we believe that an approach that includes disabled children will be better for all children.

### Our Vision:

Disability Africa is working towards an inclusive global society in which the attitudes of the non-disabled are no longer barriers to the life-chances of those with impairments; where equity of opportunity exists for disabled people and societies recognise the benefits to all of inclusive thinking and action.

## A Message from Our Chairman

Along with many other charitable trusts, we have taken advantage of new legislation to change the structure of Disability Africa to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO - see below). In order to make these changes and transfer all the assets and activities of the old trust to the new CIO, we have extended the reporting period to fifteen months from January 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018.

During this time, Disability Africa has continued to expand its activities. We have now added a project in Kenya and started preparations for a new project in Sierra Leone where we worked with the British Council and our partners Stepping Forward to deliver a conference on “The African Experience of Autism” in Freetown in December 2017.

After a very encouraging year in 2016, we were disappointed to be forced to close the Gunjur Inclusion Centre when it developed some worrying leaks. At the time of writing, we are still working hard to resolve those issues. Our Gambian partners have taken some steps to provide an alternative range of programmes, perhaps the most successful of which has been the Medical Support Programme which you can read about below.

After six years of activity promoting inclusion and developing inclusive projects in some of the most disadvantaged communities in the world, Disability Africa is beginning to become more established. Our social media presence on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram is making a significant impact and we have been approached for support from many African countries including the Ministry of Education in Somalia.

We have produced our “Case For Inclusion” and our “Play For Inclusion Guide”. The first is a comprehensive explanation of the rationale for what we do, supported by the best available research, and the second is an accessible guide designed for use in community settings to support the development of ‘Inclusion Programmes’ in low-income countries. These two publications are the ‘foundations’ of our work and have been produced to help others replicate the work we doing. Both documents are available on request.

We are, as always, extremely grateful to those individuals and trusts who support our work. We extend particular thanks to the **CP Trust** who have supported DA from its inception and have continued their support through 2017/18. Their contributions and support has been a ‘mainstay’ for Disability Africa. We are enormously grateful also to those trusts who have given grants or pledged grants over more than one year. These donations allow us to develop

projects with confidence and make a significant difference to our ability to plan ahead. **The Fore** and the **Big Lottery Fund**, **The Sydney E Franklin CT**, the wonderful **Chalk Cliff Trust** who have been regular supporters since 2015, **The Souter Charitable Trust** who first supported us in 2014 and made another generous donation in 2018, **The Brian Murtagh Charitable Trust** who have given invaluable support to our Medical Support Programme, **The Green Room Charitable Trust**, **Earthfare** for their continued support of our project in Kenya, **The Alchemy Foundation**, **The Education & General CT** who have supported our projects every year since 2015, **The John and Susan Bowers Fund** for three years of pledge funds, **Pat Newman Memorial Trust** and the **Tula Trust**. Other kind donors include **The Ashla Charitable Trust** and the **James Tudor Foundation**, **The Bartlett Foundation**, **The Ward Family Charitable Trust**, **The Open House Trust**, **W F Southall Trust** and **The Rasche Family Charitable Trust** along with many other kind donors, individuals and organisations, some of whom have asked to be anonymous. On behalf of the young people in Africa whom we serve, we are grateful to you all.

Of course, we are always seeking further support. Almost everywhere on the African continent the rights of disabled young people go unrecognised and their basic needs are neglected. With the continued support of all our donors, we will continue to improve outcomes for this most underprivileged section of our global society.

It is appropriate to record that our two young Project Development Officers, Tom Barton and Mike Carr, having been with us over two years, have become an integral and essential part of the organisation. Their contributions are central to the successful delivery of Disability Africa's mission.

*Ken Tyrrell, Chairman*

## **A Short History of Disability Africa**

Disability Africa (DA) was founded in April 2011 and registered with the Charity Commission in September the same year. It was started by a group of individuals who had worked together for many years on various projects which sought to improve outcomes for disabled young people in the south of England. They included a retired airline pilot who was a long-term supporter of projects for disabled children; a Director of Fundraising; a Project Manager for the MoD-turned charity fundraiser; a Community Paediatrician; a Head Teacher of a large Special School; an Accountant with over thirty years' experience in the voluntary sector, and the CEO of a UK charity who went on to work on international development projects in Uganda, Mozambique and Zambia. It was during this time in Africa, that the need for an organisation to raise awareness and deliver services to meet the rights and needs of disabled children became apparent, and the idea of Disability Africa was born.

It took three years working on African projects before the decision was made, but after that, it was a matter of a few weeks to bring the 'old team' back together to form Disability Africa. The Trustees, Patrons and volunteers make a powerful team who have committed to focus their extensive experience on the issues which profoundly limit the life-chances of disabled children in African countries.

We work with local people to develop community engagement and services to improve outcomes for disabled children; simultaneously we explore and dismantle barriers that prevent their full inclusion at home, in schools and within their communities. We believe that to change social perceptions and practices will ultimately result in acceptance and equity for disabled young people in the future.

As a framework for our activities we have adopted recommendations of the World Health Organisation's World Report on Disability (2011); the Sustainable Development Goals (2015) and we seek to honour the ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), signed by the United Kingdom in 2006. A fundamental aspect of our work is to develop model practices and programmes which can be replicated in many communities and countries throughout the African continent. We call this our 'Template for Action'. This report summarises our current position and progress to date.

## **Change of Legal Structure**

In 2015 the trustees of Disability Africa made the decision to change the legal structure of DA from that of a charitable trust to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation CIO. The purpose of this change was to convert the charitable trust into a legal entity with corporate status i.e. the organisation itself can enter into contracts and hold property. It also has the benefit of limiting the personal liability of trustees.

There was some delay on the part of Charity Commission to make this new legal structure available to existing charitable trusts but on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017 a new CIO, also called Disability Africa, registration number 1172163 was registered with the Charity Commission with the intention that, once permission had been obtained from the Commission, all activities and assets of the 'old charitable trust' would be transferred to the new CIO.

***It should be pointed out that this is a technical change in legal status only. The charitable status of DA, its trustees, staff and activities all remain the same and continue uninterrupted.***

The accounting period for the old charity has been extended from December 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 in order for this legal change to take effect. To this end, this report covers the 15 months from January 2017 to the end of March 2018 and will be the final report of the old charitable trust. ***We would like to emphasise that the work of Disability Africa continues with this seamless changeover to the new CIO structure.***

## **Achievements This Year**

It has been over six years since Disability Africa was first founded with the aim of developing a 'template of interventions' which could effectively and sustainably impact the lives of disabled young people even in the most challenging circumstances that Africa can present.

Having established our initial project in The Gambia, the Trustees agreed a 3 year-plan which would run from 2016 to the end of 2018. Broadly, the objective was/is to establish active versions of our template in five African countries. The purpose of this plan is to test the template across a variety of social-economic, cultural and geographical settings in order to demonstrate that it is genuinely applicable and effective for disabled young people anywhere.

During 2017, we started a new project in Kenya (country number 3). The plan was also to have done the initial groundwork for a project in Sierra Leone (country 4). This was achieved, but progress towards establishing an active project has been slowed by Presidential elections in that country which effectively halted any progress for four months either side of the April election.

At the time of writing, we have made our first visit to Malawi which is to be our fifth country and we are confident that the '5-country plan' is broadly on track to be achieved by the end of 2018.

## **Activities**

Disabled children and young people in Africa are some of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable people on our planet. This is primarily due to the strength of the stigma that surrounds disability. Negative traditional beliefs mean that disabled children are frequently seen as cursed or less than human. The result is that disabled children experience varying degrees of isolation. They may not be known to the world outside of their homes, they are often confined to single rooms, left behind. They suffer comprehensive deprivation of social interaction, exclusion from education, lack access to basic medical care and are even deprived of food. In countries in which DA works, where the majority of people live in poverty, families can consider a disabled child a long-term liability that they feel they do not have the resources to support. The conditions faced by disabled children are unimaginably hard and the levels of poverty they are subjected to are extreme. They are deprived of the very basics of a normal childhood and their life chances are profoundly limited.

**Disability Africa exists to respond to this desperate situation.** We work to dismantle the traditional barriers and prejudices that prevent the inclusion of disabled children at home, in education and in the community. Simultaneously, our projects provide services to meet the urgent needs of disabled young people and their families by offering free medical and social care and access to education.

We work with local people and organisations so that we can mobilise sustainable local support for our projects. By working at a grassroots level, combining locally-led advocacy with community-based service delivery, we have shown that we can make profound improvements to disadvantaged young lives. In the process, we are building stronger, *more inclusive* communities from which everyone can benefit.

### **We have a simple, two-step approach:**

- 1. Raise awareness of the rights and needs of disabled children**
- 2. Develop community-based services to meet identified need**

## **Play Programmes**

Our initial intervention for the establishment of our projects is a **Playscheme**. These can be run easily by local people, with little expertise, at a minimal cost. But they can make rapid progress in both of the above objectives. In a context where dedicated services for disabled children are often non-existent and disabled children are isolated in their own homes, a Playscheme is a powerful initial intervention through which to pursue change.

A Playscheme can:

- 🌟 Instantaneously end a child's isolation
- 🌟 Be an appropriately stimulating educational environment for a child with an impairment
- 🌟 Help children with impairments develop vital coordination and communication skills
- 🌟 Change the negative attitudes and low expectations of family members and the wider community (which are the root cause of the exclusion of disabled children)
- 🌟 Provide a context for assessment of educational and medical needs and a springboard for development and delivery of vital community-based services

Playschemes are at the heart of all Disability Africa projects and although the specific format changes from country to country, the principles remain the same. We are currently running Play and associated projects in The Gambia, Zambia and Kenya.

### **The Gambia.**

Our largest and first project, the Gunjur Inclusion Project started as a small playscheme run from a local pre-school with some ancillary associated projects (a parents' support programme, a medical support programme and a school inclusion project). Last year we were very pleased to announce that the playscheme in The Gambia had moved into its purpose-built centre. However, since its opening in 2016, there have been significant difficulties with the Gunjur Inclusion Centre. 12 months after opening, the roof developed some substantial problems. Cracking was observed both inside and outside, and when the rains arrived in June 2017, it was devastatingly apparent that there were major leaks and potential stability issues. The UK team became aware of these issues during a field trip in August '17, when the step was taken to advise our Gambian Partners to close the centre with immediate effect pending investigations and reports from qualified structural engineers.



At the time of writing a number of agencies both in the UK and The Gambia have been engaged to help solve the problems. UK staff have made several attempts to find a building professional in The Gambia who is capable of reporting on the condition of the roof and providing an appropriate 'rescue plan'. Unfortunately, this has proved impossible. Confidence in local construction skills is now compromised and UK trustees feel obliged to recommend that the Inclusion Centre be kept closed until suitable advice and technical support can be recruited from a reputable and qualified source outside The Gambia.

With the closure of the centre, Gambian staff have naturally struggled to maintain the same level of service to the disabled children registered on the programme, but staff have been re-oriented to deliver an 'outreach play programme' where disabled children are regularly visited by the play project in their own homes and a two-day play programme runs out of a local school at weekends. In this way, a reasonable level of provision has been maintained. The medical support work and other programmes noted below have remained unaffected by the building closure.

## Zambia



KIP volunteers, parents and Project Coordinator Joyce Mutembu - WWN.

We have added a second project to our activities in Zambia this year. The first was established in Kawama, which is a 'peri-urban' environment in the Copperbelt. This was started back in 2015 with our partners Wukwashi Wa Nzambi (WWN) and delivered by a team of local volunteers. The new project is in a very rural village called Ngwerere which is outside the capital, Lusaka. The two playschemes currently serve approximately 60 disabled young people.

By experiencing play and interacting with other children, their lives are being significantly improved and their development prioritised and supported. In addition to the opportunities which the playscheme

offers, the children received medical support (see below) including the provision of mobility equipment such as wheelchairs and walking frames. Some children were also supported to attend school. This year we have funded construction of additional play space in Kawama which allows us to include more children and improves the status and visibility of the project within the community.

## Kenya

Malanga is an isolated, poor, rural area in Kilifi County, Kenya, East Africa and is the location of our third project in Africa which was started this year. Using World Health Organisation estimates, there are more than 600 children and young people with impairments and more than 200 with severe impairments living in this area. As with other African communities, most are hidden in their homes and their participation in their communities and in education is extremely limited. They typically receive no education, healthcare or social interaction. The Malanga Inclusion Project is a replication of our successful strategies in The Gambia and Zambia but with a twist.

In Malanga, there is very little developed infrastructure, but the government *has* built a number of primary schools and so, in negotiation with Headteachers and local government officials, we have established playschemes for disabled children at three primary schools. We are working with a local Self-Help Group of disabled people and parents of disabled children which has recruited local staff to coordinate each playscheme. In addition, they have mobilised teams of younger volunteer Playworkers from the communities around each of the schools. Play equipment and training and refurbishment of one of the classrooms have been provided by DA.

The Playschemes are now running for two days a week (Saturdays and Tuesdays). By having the disabled children attend during school hours we are aiming to achieve a number of important outcomes. These include, changing the negative attitudes to disabled young people by encouraging non-disabled students to take part in the playscheme, and preparing disabled children to be included in mainstream classes through this easy introduction to the school environment.

During this year we conducted a workshop with the Headteachers and deputies of the schools hosting Playschemes. The object was to emphasise the power of play as an appropriate educational experience for children with impairments, especially for those who, in some cases, may have been confined and deprived of normal social interaction. It was encouraging to hear Headteachers reflecting how a playscheme in their school was helping them to meet their responsibilities to include disabled children in their schools. (See Schools Inclusion Programme below).



## Medical Support Programme

In each county that we work in, our Medical Support Programmes (MSP) aim to provide a range of services for disabled children and their families. Despite problems with the building, the Medical Support Programme in The Gambia has gone from strength to strength. We have built a robust infrastructure within Gunjur to meet the medical needs of over 70 disabled young people. Poverty, associated with stigma means that disabled children are often discriminated against and their medical needs neglected. Many of the children registered with our Inclusion Projects, have urgent healthcare needs. We currently offer the following medical support in The Gambia, Zambia and Kenya:



 **Medical Assessment** - both in the community and at appropriate healthcare facilities

 **Life-changing Surgery** (and all necessary after-care) - to prevent or alleviate impairments and allow children to lead pain free lives in which their development is supported

 **Regular Physiotherapy** - Working with local physiotherapists we provide a base for community-based physiotherapy to take place

 **Medical Information for Parents** - many parents have a limited understanding of their children's impairments; our local staff will discourage the use of traditional healers and help parents care for their children more effectively at home. Harmful healing practices become less common, and superstition and stigma are reduced

 **Provision of Mobility Equipment** - when available and appropriate, we work with local government, physiotherapists and other healthcare providers to adapt, service and provide mobility equipment. With their mobility enhanced many children will be able to attend school and participate as valued members of their communities

 **Regular Health Visits and Check-Ups**- medical/social care and delivery of medication (many healthcare facilities are beyond the reach of poor families)

Depending on the maturity and the size of the project this work is either delivered by a paid Project Coordinator or community volunteers. These people visit families, perform first aid and wound dressings, arrange appointments, assessments and treatments while providing ongoing aftercare and family support.

Over the last 15 months, Disability Africa has established a strong relationship with a Gambian orthopaedic surgeon who has trained and worked in the UK. We are very grateful to Mr. Kebba Marenah, a Senior Clinical Fellow within Trauma & Orthopaedics at the Royal Sussex County Hospital who has been able to conduct successful surgery on a number of children registered with our Gambian project in close co-operation with the local MSP Coordinator.

We are delighted that Mr Marenah has agreed to become a 'remote consultant' to Disability Africa's other Medical Support Programmes in Zambia and Kenya. In low and middle-income countries it is common for local medical expertise to be quite limited and so it is tremendously helpful to have support from an experienced African medical professional, like Mr Marenah who can verify the diagnosis of a child's impairment, illness or injury and advise on the subsequent treatment proposed. With the use of digital communications such as WhatsApp, it is possible for this to be done 'in real time' and for a doctor in Kenya to communicate directly with Mr Marenah. This will substantially increase the likelihood of effective and successful treatment being given to registered children across our programmes.

At present, we support over 70 children on the MSP in The Gambia, 30 children in Zambia and 20 children in Kenya. We hope to add projects in Sierra Leone and Malawi soon. Demand for our services is increasing all the time; typically at least 20% of the disabled children we see require medical care.

### Some of the young people our Medical Support Programmes have helped...

**Christoph** has Cerebral Palsy and learning difficulties. He was one of the first children to join the project in Gunjur, The Gambia. Due to his impairment, he found it very difficult to walk. In fact, before he joined the project, he couldn't walk at all. With intensive support from our staff, Christoph began to stand and then walk slowly but unsteadily. Unfortunately, due to his difficulties walking and a lack of supervision, Christoph fell into a fire at home. He had severe burns and needed emergency surgery. Thanks to Disability Africa, Christoph was able to access the treatment he needed immediately and, after a few weeks in hospital, he made a full recovery. Christoph's mobility has improved hugely - **now he's running around!** We are supporting Christoph's family by giving them information to improve the care he receives at home. We know how tough being a parent can be!



**Hilda** was born healthy and had no apparent impairments. But when she was very young she became extremely sick with severe malaria. She survived, but she developed both physical and intellectual impairments. She did not learn to walk, to talk or to feed herself and her family did not know what to do. They became aware of the KIP (Zambia) and brought Hilda to the playscheme and support group. Hilda has received regular physiotherapy, some basic speech therapy, use of a walking frame and vital support, all provided by community volunteers. Thanks to this treatment and encouragement in a fun, educational environment, Hilda has made amazing progress. She is now able to walk on her own, she can feed herself, and she is learning to communicate with others. Hilda's story really shows the great value of simple community-based services, which require no experts and cost little money. What Hilda needed was inclusion.

## Schools Inclusion Programme

Many studies across the world have found that disabled children are far less likely to be enrolled in education than their non-disabled counterparts, and those that do go to school are more likely to drop out. Schools report that they are routinely under-staffed and under-resourced to successfully include disabled young people and offer them a meaningful educational experience. 60 or 70 students in one class is not unusual - we have been to schools where this number rises to 90! The classroom will only have one teacher and teaching resources are often limited to a blackboard and chalk. Scarce data about disabled children and education means the 'scale of the challenge is likely underestimated', but most studies of enrolment rates suggest that fewer than 10% of disabled children in LMICs are in education. Within this, children with physical impairments are generally more likely to be enrolled than those with intellectual or sensory impairments and disabled girls are less likely to receive an education than disabled boys.

Without school, many parents say that they have no choice but to lock up or tie up their disabled children while they go to work or attend to daily chores. Exclusion of disabled children from mainstream education can also play a role in propagating discriminatory attitudes at societal level, which perpetuates exclusion and creates further barriers to participation in other areas.

Disability Africa aims to improve the almost non-existent participation of disabled children in education with its programmes. Our experience of so-called 'special schools' and 'units' in Africa is that they are desperately under-resourced in skilled staff, suitable materials and equipment. Training and experience of teachers is often inadequate and staff struggle to offer an appropriate curriculum. Where disabled children *are* included in mainstream education, our observations are that this is largely 'tokenistic' and seldom represents a quality educational experience for the disabled student. Once again, this can be attributed to lack of appropriate resources but it is also the persistence of negative social attitudes leading to discrimination and exclusion'.

Recognising this, Disability Africa is committed to developing programmes which are child-centred and which aim to offer every individual disabled child the most appropriate available educational experience. We understand that the reasons for disabled children not accessing a quality education are wide-ranging and complex, they include:

- Discriminatory attitudes of non-disabled students and staff
- Negative attitudes and expectations of parents and family members
- Absence of key resources in mainstream schools
- Large class sizes and didactic teaching methods
- Insufficiently knowledgeable and trained staff
- Inaccessible systems for assessment
- Inappropriate school curricula
- Costs of enrolment - fees, books, uniforms - unaffordable or not prioritised
- Transport challenges and inaccessible buildings
- Narrow definition and understanding of what constitutes 'education'

As such, Disability Africa takes a holistic approach to delivering inclusive education which simultaneously addresses all of these challenges. Our programmes aim to work with schools and with the communities that surround them. We aim to deliver:

- Community-based education - **Playschemes** deliver a wide range of educational benefits. They can serve as a bridge between isolation at home and formal education, or for some children they can represent the most appropriate available educational experience
- Playschemes can facilitate and support the implementation of other educational initiatives in collaboration with schools:
  - Workshops for teachers, where they can learn about disability and inclusion and learn how to include disabled children in mainstream classrooms
  - Classroom support delivered by project volunteers or employees. Playschemes provide an excellent context in which to engage volunteers and ‘train’ them as classroom assistants for disabled children
  - Child-to-Child initiatives - educating and organising non-disabled students to support the inclusion of their non-disabled peers. Similarly, playschemes can engage non-disabled children and assist the development of effective child-to-child support in the classroom.
  - Community awareness-raising activities

Our newest project in Kenya where playschemes have been established in three Primary schools offers an exciting opportunity to test our template of Inclusive development. We hope that the success of a ‘play-based curriculum’ for some disabled children will become a proven method for promoting inclusive attitudes in schools, supporting schools to include disabled children by providing them with both a meaningful educational experience and opportunities to transition to mainstream classes.

## Financial Review

As has been mentioned elsewhere, these accounts are for the fifteen months from 1st January 2017 to 31st March 2018.

This was to enable us to effect the transfer of all operations of the charity to the new Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) which had been formed for this purpose. The agreed date for this transfer was 1st April 2018, so these are the final accounts for the original unincorporated charity, Disability Africa. The new CIO, Disability Africa (No. 1172163 has begun trading with effect from 1st April 2018.

The fifteen month period has seen some significant changes as we moved towards our target of having set up projects in five African countries by the end of 2018.

Income in the period was over £50,000 more than for the previous 12 months. Grants, at just under £98,000, were £8,000 more. As the number of projects has expanded, there have been more opportunities to promote to potential funders and this began to bear fruit towards the end of the period.

Ric Law, our Director, volunteers his services, only receiving reimbursement of actual expenses incurred. We rate his services as being worth £40,000 for the period, and now include this as a Gift in Kind for the first time. Having done this, the corresponding cost has had to be added to the various expenditure categories in proportion to the time that Mr Law dedicates to each. This has meant that these have increased disproportionately when compared to the figures for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016.

Raising Funds' expenditure, at £16,300, increased by just over £5,000, Charitable Activities, at £143,500 rose by £72,000 and Support costs increased from £15,500 to £17,400.

Nearly £89,000 was spent supporting The Gambian projects, nearly £28,000 on developing and maintaining the projects in Zambia, and £18,000 was spent in development costs and grants in Kenya. The balance was spent on initiating future projects in Sierra Leone and Malawi.

One of the most significant decisions taken in the year was to transfer the Gunjur Inclusion Centre (GIC) to the ownership of Disability Africa (The Gambia), the Gambian registered charity which was set up to run the projects in that country. This was effected as at 31st March 2018 with the transfer of the Fixed Asset costs of the Centre of nearly £134,000.

As a result of the increased expenditure (increases) on projects and the transfer of assets, reserves of the charity have been significantly reduced during this accounting period and are now largely represented by cash at bank.

### **Reserves Policy**

The trustees aim to maintain cash reserves at a minimum of three months of normal project expenditure in the bank.

### **Public Benefit Statement**

Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance of public benefit published.

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF DISABILITY AFRICA

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018, which are set out on pages 17 - 22 below.

### 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 of the 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 material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



Date 17 October 2018

Richard Williams  
Holly Bush Lane  
Frensham GU10 3BN

**DISABILITY AFRICA**  
**REGISTRATION NUMBER - 1143704**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE PERIOD 1st JANUARY 2017 TO 31st MARCH 2018**

	Notes	2018			Year ended 31st Dec 2016		
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
		Funds	Funds		Funds	Funds	
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>							
Grants	3	54,456	43,506	97,962	41,500	49,008	90,508
Donations and Gift in Kind	4	48,306	1,000	49,306	5,854	-	5,854
<b>Total</b>		<b>£102,762</b>	<b>£44,506</b>	<b>£147,268</b>	<b>£47,354</b>	<b>£49,008</b>	<b>£96,362</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Raising funds	5	16,138	189	16,327	11,078	-	11,078
Charitable activities	6	13,425	130,075	143,500	12,477	59,041	71,518
<b>Total</b>		<b>£29,563</b>	<b>£130,264</b>	<b>£159,827</b>	<b>£23,555</b>	<b>£59,041</b>	<b>£82,596</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>73,199</b>	<b>(85,758)</b>	<b>(12,559)</b>	<b>23,799</b>	<b>(10,033)</b>	<b>13,766</b>
Transfer of Assets to DA (The Gambia)	2	-	(133,717)	(133,717)	-	-	-
<b>Net Income (expenditure) before Transfers</b>		<b>73,199</b>	<b>(219,475)</b>	<b>(146,276)</b>	<b>23,799</b>	<b>(10,033)</b>	<b>13,766</b>
Transfers between funds	8	(85,365)	85,365	-	(24,574)	24,574	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(£12,166)</b>	<b>(£134,109)</b>	<b>(£146,276)</b>	<b>(£775)</b>	<b>£14,541</b>	<b>£13,766</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>							
Fund balances brought forward		59,473	144,659	204,132	60,248	130,118	190,366
<b>Fund balances carried forward</b>		<b>£47,307</b>	<b>£10,549</b>	<b>£57,856</b>	<b>£59,473</b>	<b>£144,659</b>	<b>204,132</b>

**DISABILITY AFRICA**  
**REGISTRATION NUMBER - 1143704**  
**BALANCE SHEET AT 31st MARCH 2018**

		2018		2016	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible Assets	2		1,075		125,167
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	9	5,513		7,029	
Cash at Bank and in Hand		51,268		72,108	
		-----		-----	
		56,781		79,137	
<b>CREDITORS (Amounts Falling Due Within One Year)</b>					
	10	-		172	
		-----		-----	
<b>NET CURRENT (LIABILITIES)/ASSETS</b>			56,781		78,965
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u>£57,856</u>		<u>£204,132</u>
<b>Represented by:</b>					
Unrestricted Funds	8		47,307		59,473
Restricted Funds	8		10,549		144,659
			<u>£57,856</u>		<u>£204,132</u>

Signed Ken Tyrrell - Chairman



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DISABILITY AFRICA  
REGISTRATION NUMBER - 1143704  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE PERIOD 1st JANUARY 2017 to 31st MARCH 2018

## 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### Accounting convention

#### (a) Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

No material prior year error have been identified in the reporting period (3.47 FRS 102 SORP).

#### (b) Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 a restatement of comparative items was needed. No restatements were required.

### Income and Endowments

Voluntary income, including donations, gifts and legacies are recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Where the charity receives assistance in the form of donated services, such incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable and measurable. Where donated services are recognised an equivalent amount is included as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Income derived from events is recognised as earned (that is, when the event takes place). Amounts received in respect of events which have not taken place are deferred to future periods.

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses.

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

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## Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Costs of generating funds are those incurred in attracting voluntary income and incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities costs are those incurred in providing the services to disabled children in Africa.

## Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

## Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

	2018				Year ended 31st Dec 2016			
	Land & Buildings The Gambia	Furniture & Equipment The Gambia	Furniture & Equipment UK	Total	Land & Buildings The Gambia	Furniture & Equipment The Gambia	Furniture & Equipment UK	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>2</b>	<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>							
Gross Book Value Balances at 1st January 2017	118,843	4,627	2,545	126,015	97,646			97,646
Additions in period	500	9,747	752	10,999	21,197	4,627	2,545	28,369
Transferred to Disability Africa (The Gambia)	(119,343)	(14,374)		(133,717)				-
Gross Book Value Balances at 31st March 2018	0	0	3,297	3,297	118,843	4,627	2,545	126,015
Depreciation Balances at 1st January 2017	-		848	848		-		-
Depreciation charge for period	-		1,374	1,374		-	848	848
Depreciation Balances at 31st March 2018	£0	£0	£2,222	£2,222	£0	£0	£848	£848
Net Book Values at 31st March 2018	£0	£0	£1,075	£1,075				
Net Book Values at 31st December 2016					118,843	4,627	1,697	125,167
As previously noted, ownership of the purpose-built Inclusion Centre in The Gambia was transferred to Disability Africa (The Gambia) on 31st March 2018.								
	2018			Total	Year ended 31st Dec 2016			
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	
<b>3</b>	<b>INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</b>							
Grants received from Charitable Trusts and Foundations	54,456	43,506	97,962		41,500	49,008	90,508	
	£54,456	£43,506	£97,962		£41,500	£49,008	£90,508	
<b>4</b>	<b>VOLUNTARY INCOME</b>							
Donations from Individuals and other supporters including Gift	8,306	1,000	9,306		5,854	-	5,854	
Donated services - Note 12	40,000	-	40,000		-	-	-	
Totals	£48,306	£1,000	£49,306		£5,854	£0	£5,854	

**DISABILITY AFRICA**  
**REGISTRATION NUMBER - 1143704**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE PERIOD 1st JANUARY 2017 TO 31st MARCH 2018**

		2018			Year ended 31st Dec 2016		
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
5	<b>COSTS OF GENERATING FUNDS</b>						
	Fundraising fees	690	-	690	4,644	-	4,644
	Staff costs	8,135	-	8,135	3,400	-	3,400
	Director's Fees (Notional)	Note 12	4,000	-	4,000	-	-
	Fundraising costs	285	-	285	-	-	-
	Support costs - Note 7	3,028	189	3,217	3,034	-	3,034
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>£16,138</b>	<b>£189</b>	<b>£16,327</b>	<b>£11,078</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£11,078</b>
6	<b>CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</b>						
	Grants to Disability Africa (The Gambia)	-	31,118	31,118	-	29,560	29,560
	Grants to Other service providers	-	13,993	13,993	-	1,816	1,816
	Staff costs	-	30,505	30,505	-	12,106	12,106
	Field trips to African projects	-	19,706	19,706	-	11,854	11,854
	Director's Fees (Notional)	Note 12	-	34,000	-	3,705	3,705
	Support costs - Note 7	13,425	753	14,178	12,477	-	12,477
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>£13,425</b>	<b>£130,075</b>	<b>£143,500</b>	<b>£12,477</b>	<b>£59,041</b>	<b>£71,518</b>

All the grants to support the work in The Gambia are paid to Disability Africa (The Gambia). This is a Gambian registered charity, set up to run the entire project. Currently, that charity's trustees consist of all Disability Africa's trustees in the UK and five of Gambian nationality. Our Director and staff agree budgets in advance and closely monitor how the money is spent but all expenditure is under the control of the Gambian trustees.

Staff costs are for the two Project Development officers who develop, support, monitor and evaluate each of the projects.

Field trips included 4 monitoring trips to The Gambia (2016 - 3 trips), 4 trips to Kenya and 2 trips to Sierra Leone (2016 1 trip to Zambia and Kenya). aspect of the way we work and they enable us to carefully monitor existing projects and to evaluate and develop potential new ones.

Initially, some of the costs for these are incurred by the Director and reimbursed on presentation of supporting documentation thus taking advantage of best prices.

All support costs have been allocated against Unrestricted income as Restricted income was specifically for the direct costs of African projects.

		2018			Year ended 31st Dec 2016			
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	
7	<b>SUPPORT COSTS</b>	<u>Alloc'n</u>						
	Property costs	Staff time	6,900	-	6,900	8,400	-	8,400
	IT costs	Staff time	886	-	886	3,119	-	3,119
	General office costs	Staff time	1,947	-	1,947	1,326	-	1,326
	Staff costs and fees	Staff time	2,034	-	2,034	807	-	807
	Director's Fees (Notional)	Time	2,000	-	2,000	195	-	195
	Insurances	Type	1,312	942	2,254	816	-	816
	Depreciation	Staff time	1,374	-	1,374	848	-	848
	<b>Totals</b>		<b>£16,453</b>	<b>£942</b>	<b>£17,395</b>	<b>£15,511</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£15,511</b>
	Allocated to:							
	Charitable Activities		13,425	753	14,178	12,477	-	12,477
	Generating Funds		3,028	189	3,217	3,034	-	3,034
	<b>Totals</b>		<b>£16,453</b>	<b>£942</b>	<b>£17,395</b>	<b>£15,511</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£15,511</b>

Travel insurance is all allocated to Charitable activities. Other costs on a Staff time basis as the same staff perform all functions.

**DISABILITY AFRICA**  
**REGISTRATION NUMBER - 1143704**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE PERIOD 1st JANUARY 2017 TO 31st MARCH 2018**

8 FUNDS	2018			Year ended 31st Dec 2016		
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
Balances at 1st January 2017	59,473	144,659	204,132	60,248	130,118	190,366
Movements in	102,763	44,505	147,268	47,354	49,008	96,362
Movements out	(29,564)	(263,980)	(293,544)	(23,555)	(59,041)	(82,596)
Transfers	(85,365)	85,365	-	(24,574)	24,574	-
<b>Balances at 31st March 2018</b>	<b>£47,307</b>	<b>£10,549</b>	<b>57,856</b>	<b>£59,473</b>	<b>£144,659</b>	<b>£204,132</b>
Consisting of:						
Fixed Assets	1,075	0	1,075	1,697	123,470	125,167
Debtors	1,312	4,201	5,513	1,852	5,177	7,029
Cash at Bank	44,920	6,348	51,268	56,096	16,012	72,108
Creditors	0	0	0	(172)	-	(172)
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£47,307</b>	<b>£10,549</b>	<b>£57,856</b>	<b>£59,473</b>	<b>£144,659</b>	<b>£204,132</b>
9 DEBTORS				<b>Year 2016</b>		
Deposit on Play Equipment for Gunjur Inclusion Centre	-			3,710		
Advance payments for flights to Africa	4,201			1,468		
Insurance prepayments	531			964		
Gift Aid debtor	781			887		
	<b>£5,513</b>			<b>£7,029</b>		
10 CREDITORS						
Grants paid in advance	-			172		
	<b>£0</b>			<b>£172</b>		
11 COMMITMENTS						
As we are fully funding the project in The Gambia at present and there is no local fundraising infrastructure, we are determined to continue this support until other funding is available but there is no legal commitment in place.						
We are continuing to search for an appropriate resolution to the roof problem for the Centre in The Gambia and have provisionally allocated £35,000 in the budget to cover the costs of the necessary work. We will review the situation once we are clearer on what those costs will be.						
12 DONATIONS IN KIND						
It is a requirement of the charity accounting regulations that significant services rendered to the charity without any charge should be shown as Donations in Kind. As the Director has worked full-time without any remuneration during the period, it was agreed that a value of £40,000 should be ascribed to this work and recorded in the accounts as a Donation in Kind from the Director to the charity. See note 4 Donated Services.						
13 TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS						
None						
14 TRUSTEE EXPENSES						
None						
15 TRUSTEES DONATIONS						
A total of £759 was donated by Trustees without conditions (2016 - £2,402)						
16 INDEPENDENT EXAMINER FEES						
None						
17 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS						
None requiring disclosure						
18 STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS						
	<b>2018</b>			<b>Year 2016</b>		
Salaries - Two staff	40,562			16,313		
Social security costs	112			-		
Other employee benefits	-			-		
<b>Total</b>	<b>£40,674</b>			<b>£ 16,313</b>		
See Notes 5,6 & 7						
Employment allowance has been applied against National Insurance contributions						
19 REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL						
Total fees payable to the Director during the period were £NIL (2016 - £3,900)						
See Notes 6 & 7						