



Report and Financial Statements

Year ended: 5th April 2025

Registered Charity No: 1206831 (England and Wales)

Reference and administrative information

Trustees

Peter Lisle (Chair of Trustees and Treasurer)

Ruth Lisle

Margaret Sherratt

Stephen Smart

Registered address: 3, Chapman Lane Flackwell Heath Bucks HP10 9AZ

Bank: Lloyds Bank plc

Report of the trustees for the year ended 5th April 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 5th April 2025. The financial statements have been prepared as Receipts and Payments accounts and comply with the charity's constitution and the guidance provided by the Charity commission at <https://www.gov.uk/prepare-charitys-annual-accounts/y/no/up-to-25-000>

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a CIO, registered charity number 1206831, and was entered onto the Register of Charities on 1st February 2024. The primary purpose of the charity, namely to support health and education work at Sibanor Health Centre, has been supported from the UK for several years via a sub-fund of a church that two of the supporters are members of. The rationale for launching the charity was to offload the responsibility for handling finances from the church treasurer, and to widen the prospective support base for the work.

The founding trustees of the Charity comprise 3 volunteers who visit Sibanor regularly (Peter, Ruth and Margaret) plus a fourth trustee (Stephen) who was known to Peter and Ruth and who senses a godly calling to support the work there. No trustees retired or came up for re-appointment during the first year of operation of the charity. The constitution specifies a minimum of three trustees with no maximum number, with new trustees or re-appointed retiring trustees appointed by the remaining trustees.

Day-to-day operation of the Charity is administered by the Chair/ treasurer, and consists primarily of allocating incoming donations into suitable categories for subsequent transfer to The Gambia:

The primary category is operational support, whereby donations are put towards the running costs of the health centre, covering such things as staff salaries, maintenance, and local purchases of medicines and other supplies. Two significant ways in which donations are employed to support operational costs are a poor patient fund and an outreach fund: the poor patient fund enables the health centre to provide medical services to patients that, due to poverty, are unable to pay even the modest fees that are charged for treatment, and the outreach fund provides subsidies for some treatments/ consultations to reduce the financial barriers that would otherwise mean patients would stay away or fail to comply with treatment plans and thus worsen their health outcomes.

A common second category is capital projects such as provision of equipment (ambulances, medical equipment, etc) or for building work where a donor supports the provision of new buildings or significant refurbishment/ repairs of existing buildings.

The Chair/treasurer manages the outflow of finance from the Charity to the Health Centre and is delegated to undertake that as long as transfers are in line with the wishes of donors. Any exception to that or where there is a lack of clarity of the best way to align a donor's wishes with the options for using the donation is brought to a meeting of the Trustees as a whole for a decision. There were no issues during the year ending 5th April 2025 that required such a meeting.

All Trustees give of their time freely and no trustee remuneration was paid in the year.

Objectives and activities for the public benefit

The primary objective of the charity is to raise funds to support the operation of Sibanor Health Centre and its associated nurse training school. This objective was achieved, with over £19,000 raised during the financial year 2024/25. Because of the high costs of transferring donations from the UK to The Gambia, the practice during the prior period when the church was collecting and transferring donations was to let donations build up and transfer money on an approximately annual basis. The church made one of these large transfers in April 2024 and therefore there was no urgency for SHED the Light to transfer donated money across to The Gambia during its first phase of operation. There was no large transfer made during the financial year, but plans were made (and have now been executed) to transfer £20,000 to the Gambia early in the 2025/26 financial year.

A secondary objective of the charity is to identify and provide non-financial support to volunteers, in particular those with medical skills, to enable them to travel to Sibanor and support the work there. One new volunteer (a nurse tutor) was supported during 2024/25 together with one returning volunteer (a doctor).

A third objective of the charity is to source items for use in the Health Centre/ training school that either cannot be readily obtained in The Gambia or would be very expensive to purchase there. Suitable items are then taken over by a visiting volunteer. Six small consignments of items were purchased by the charity for these purposes in 2024/25.

Public benefit

The donations (initially routed via the church and now routed via SHED the Light) contribute approximately 20% of the total operating costs of the Health Centre. Without these donations the Health Centre would have to significantly curtail its activities. The Health Centre treated over 20,000 outpatients in the year and over 1000 inpatients. In addition, 12 students commenced training at the newly opened Community Health Nurse training school.

Monitoring achievement

One of the Trustees (Margaret) creates the annual operational report for the Health Centre, detailing amongst other things the quantity of different types of patient consultations/ treatment and the outcomes. The ensures that the public benefit objectives of the charity are being successfully realised by the recipient Health centre management.

The Chair/ Treasurer creates the annual financial report for the Health Centre and (separately) for the Nursing School and has access to the bank statements for each entity. In this way a clear audit trail is provided to ensure that money donated by the charity is being transferred correctly and used for the purposes specified by donors and in line with the Objects of the Charity as recorded in the constitution.

Income and expenditure

Donations totalling £19,327 were received during the year. £538.67 was spent on the six consignments of items taken over from the UK to Sibanor to support the Health Centre operation. £300 was spent to book an exhibition area at a Christian medical conference with the objective of identifying further volunteers. The remaining balance of funds (£18,488) was held over to be forwarded to the Gambia in the 2025/26 financial year.

Of the donations, £10,000 was restricted funding for completion of building work associated with the newly opened nursing school at Sibanor. The remainder of the donations were unrestricted, for use to support operational expenditure at the Health Centre.

The charity had no debts and at the end of the financial year had outstanding gift aid reclaim assets of £4622.

Outlook

Donations from individual supporters are expected to continue at a similar level throughout 2025/6 compared to 2024/5. Some upturn may arise due to the planned launch of a website during the year.

In addition, with the charity established and with the first annual report and accounts published, the Trustees plan to approach Trusts and other charitable bodies for support for some significant capital items required at the Health Centre, in particular a new 4-wheel drive ambulance.

Trustee declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the report above

Peter Lisle

Chair of Trustees

12 June 2025