



# Annual Report

2023



## Financial Report Summary

H4EO NL ended 2023 with an improved asset base, a resilient and diversified donor base and increasing donations, which helped significantly offset the increase in the underlying costs of our programmes due to worldwide and local inflationary pressures.

### Revenue

Despite the worldwide squeeze on incomes, revenue from in-country and international donors increased in 2023.

Amazing in-kind donations included an offgrid solar system, kindly donated by RocSolar; the bathrooms and floors of our new home tiled thanks to Aspida Global and the Sunday Foundation, completing the build ahead of the rephased schedule, while uncle Godfrey made new bunk beds and bought new mattresses, as well as providing breakfast for all the kids every day of the year!

### Assets

<i>Assets</i>	
Short-term Assets	46,557
Long-term assets	432,854
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>393,021</b>

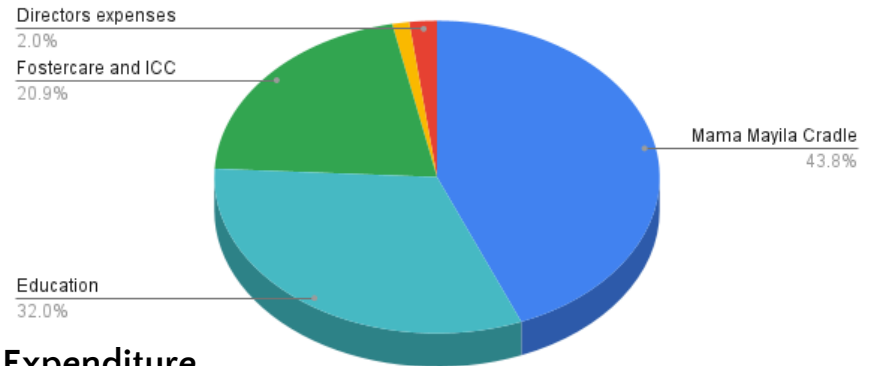
#### *Revenue*

Donations - International	666,967
Donations - In-Country	10,904
Other income	22,000
<b>Total income</b>	<b>699,871</b>

#### *Liabilities*

Short-term Liabilities	420
Long-term Liabilities	0
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>392,601</b>

### % Programme Spend excluding capital investment



### Expenditure

The underlying cost of our programmes, excluding capital investment in the construction of our new home, rose by approximately 30% – significantly below the national inflation rate of 47% – as we continue to bear down on indirect costs.

The increase in costs was met from underspend in some areas of the general fund as lease and electricity savings came on stream, as well as additional donations received through the year for two new initiatives (1) to stabilize the finances of the Mabron school..

#### *Expenditure*

ICC new build orphanage project	257,039
Mama Mayila Cradle ICC	179,132
Education	130,953
Fostercare and ICC support	85,511
Community Hub Projects	5,030
Directors expenses	8,190
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>665,855</b>

However, the education budget rose by more than 70% due to the unanticipated end of free education impacting H4EO SL's ability to deliver the number of scholarships planned; while transport to the childrens' new school is now a significant cost accounting for 7% of our total programme spend.

The negative impact of the near 50% inflation rate in Sierra Leone was offset to a great degree by the new Leone's depreciation over the year; by food grown in the centres kitchen garden and a significant increase of in-country donations of rice, foodstuffs and personal care items together helping meet nearly 30% of the centres needs

These factors contribute to a significant reduction in per child costs which are currently €40 per child pcm, excluding education costs and 1540 NLe pcm including education costs.

Additional resources were donated through the year to fund the pilot of a new initiative to improve outcomes for vulnerable mothers and babies in partnership with York Health Maternity Clinic and Heart for Africa Foundation.



## Our Mission

Our mission is to help vulnerable children and families in marginalized communities in Sierra Leone, one of the most disadvantaged countries in the world.



## Message from M'Mayila: Our Impact is Your Impact

I'm proud that the decorating and furnishing of our new interim care centre is now complete and we've already welcomed five new children!

And as we enter our ninth year, I and all my team want to thank you, our donors and supporters for your continuing support helping us deliver real hope and a brighter future for more than 500 vulnerable children - whether by donating clothing, sports kit, food, cash money or by sharing our social media posts to raise awareness for vulnerable children - we couldn't do what we do without you!

I hope you will enjoy our annual report - a year in numbers - celebrating our impact bringing hope of a brighter future to vulnerable children in Sierra Leone.

*Mayila*



## Education is the Key

Education is a vital part of our mission and the key to lifting vulnerable children out of poverty and in 2023 with the support of Aspida Global, we delivered educational support for:



**44** vulnerable local children benefited from a month-long free summer school at our new centre, with free breakfast and free equipment.



The summer school provided breakfast and taught kids struggling with their alphabet, numbers, shapes and colours and past national primary school exam papers for students moving up to class 6 who face this crucial challenge next year.

**28** graduates received diplomas and school bags packed full of essential kit for the new academic year.



**21** vulnerable children who received scholarships providing school fees, uniforms and school bags.



**30** Moa Wharf children who received education support including school bags and kit.



### No. 1 Son

But our proudest moment was the achievement of one of the children in interim care coming first in his BECE – not only in his school but in the whole of the western rural district!





## Spring Water Community Academy

But our biggest impact was helping to save a school - the heart of Mabron community who we got to know during our Ebola outreach back in 2016 reuniting orphaned children with biological family - with more than **300** pupils and where teachers went unpaid for 8 months and which was facing closure is now saved; teachers are paid on time and registered with social security, a new caretaker appointed and a new well is planned.



And the school have exciting plans for an extra teacher to improve teaching ratios and more classrooms to extend the school day if we can raise the money to help.





## Healthy Outcomes for Vulnerable Mums

Last year we delivered a successful pilot initiative for vulnerable mothers in partnership with Dutch foundation, Heart for Humanity and local partners, Blessed Mokaba maternity hospital and the York health maternity clinic.

**68** mums-to-be benefitted with three distributions of free ‘baby boxes’ sent from the Netherlands by Heart for Humanity, packed with essential kit to assist a safe birth, as well as blankets and clothing for new-borns.

The new project now aims to incentivize and improve attendance and vital first year vaccination rates at York health maternity clinic enabling us

to build relationships with clinicians and vulnerable mothers and develop interventions with partners, such as providing respite care to help keep families together.



## Campaigning for Child Rights and Climate Justice

Our campaigns for child rights to education and climate justice, as well as against child marriage and FGM continue on social media reaching more than 17,000 people a month with a 33% engagement rate and more than 33 hours of video watched.





## Caring for Vulnerable Children

Our core mission is to provide quality care for vulnerable children and we continue to do this in three ways - through direct provision of an interim care service for Ministry of Gender and Children's Affairs referrals focused on resettlement; by supporting children in kinship fostering arrangements and by supporting colleagues and children in the interim care sector.

### Mama Mayila's Cradle @ Hope Interim Care Centre

But our biggest impact was completing the build of a brand new home for vulnerable children referred by our partners, the Ministry of Gender and Children's Affairs.



Each children's bedroom has its own bathroom. And with the remaining floors and bathrooms tiled thanks to Aspida Global and the Sunday Foundation, Mama Mayila's Cradle is ready to welcome new guests.

And with an off-grid solar power system, kindly donated and installed by RocSolar, the children's new home enjoys clean, green free power.

As well as providing 24 permanent bedspaces for interim care, 16 additional short-term emergency bedspaces are also available to the Ministry in case of natural disaster.



The children's kitchen garden, is already providing nutritious organically-grown cassava, krain-krain, potato leaf and vegetables,

Planted with more than 100 fruit trees, the kids enjoy paw-paw, plums and bananas, giving them the vitamins they need all year round, while helping improve our food security and reduce costs,

And with an acre of land for play areas, a football and sports pitch with new goals the children enjoy plenty of activities!





## Kinship Fostering

Our kinship fostering programme in Moa Wharf community now supports 36 vulnerable children orphaned by Ebola or living with a disability with a resident coordinator to step in to tackle any issues to support the children and in 2023 we delivered:



**1.8 tons** of rice, palm oil, fish and direct cash payments for children living in kinship fostering arrangements in one of the most disadvantaged communities in Sierra Leone.

Running since the height of the Ebola pandemic back in 2015 the programme began with 95 children, the majority resettled with family in the country. We now care for 36 to adulthood.



## Support for Interim Care

Our support for colleagues in the interim care sector provides vital food and cash support for three orphanages: Network for Children in Need (above);



Initiatives for Women and Girls Empowerment (left), who also received a one-off 5,400 NLe rent contribution and Mahanaim House (below) – the only dedicated facility in the Western Area for children living with a disability.

**134** children living in three interim care centres in the Western urban and rural districts benefited from 600 kilos of rice, 240 litres of palm oil, food and personal care items, as well as 9,000 NLe direct cash payments.







## Hope Sauma Farm

The farm continued to focus on developing rice paddies and the cassava value chain.

### *Rice Value Chain*

The farms' rice paddies produced two tons of rice from twelve paddies planted July to October with a mix of three and four month nerica L-19 rice, especially bred in Sierra Leone for inland valley swamps and fertilized naturally with Azolla, ducks and tilapia.





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## *Cassava Value Chain*

The Hope Sakuma team take their portable cassava grater and steel gari pan to neighbouring cassava farms - taking manioc tubers and peeling, washing, grating, fermenting and pressing, parching to the right consistency and then sieving for quality producing a total of 1.2 tons of gari.

