



Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

April 23 - March 24



CIO Number: CE006901
Charity Registered Number: 1166017



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Charity, its Trustees and Advisers**



The Trustees Report



Chair's Statement

I am pleased to present our annual report for The Mainstay Foundation. Looking at the year passed there are many reasons to be proud of our achievements. We have partnered with even more organisations in the UK and internationally and expanded our reach to more beneficiaries to move forward towards our mission of educating, developing communities and strengthening faith. Despite the challenging economic situations, our public fundraising reached a new target and I am confident that our team will work creatively to achieve higher targets in the future.

As always delivering efficiency is at the core of our approach, we recognise the important responsibilities we have towards our beneficiaries as well as our philanthropists and donors and strive to maintain our accountability and quality of service. We believe progression is a journey rather than a destination, hence we endeavour to enhance our work every day of the year. Serving is an opportunity for all of us, a blessing and an important responsibility, that is why our team is eager to deliver and to touch more lives for their betterment. "Advancement of Shia Muslim communities", is not just our slogan it is our reason. A reason that drives our team and makes them overcome the challenges and difficulties associated with our work.

While we have always prided ourselves on being responsive and wide-ranging in our work, we recognise the need to focus our efforts to maximise impact with our resources. This means making our work more targeted and proactive where necessary. I am excited about our future efforts to convene, explore, and collaborate with our partnering organisations and individuals dedicated to addressing the community's most urgent needs.

A heartfelt thank you to our amazing team for their dedication, our volunteers for their valuable help, and our philanthropists and donors for their generous support in helping us pave the way for our breakthroughs.

Finally, and most importantly thanks and gratitude to God almighty for granting us this opportunity to serve and we ask him to empower us to carry on with this important mission.

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Sayyid Mohammad Marashi
Chair

Who We Are

The Mainstay Foundation was established in 2016 to alleviate the struggles of Shia Muslim communities and build on the many successes of our community while facilitating global collaboration and development. Our journey began with three clear objectives: strengthening faith, fostering education, and developing communities. Over the years, we have targeted the ongoing challenges faced within the communities across East Africa, India, the Middle East, Europe, and North America.

With the help of a dedicated team, we continue to deliver impactful and pioneering projects, such as providing grants to centres and mosques, hosting annual events like The Muslim Convention, and publishing thought-provoking books. We also undertake projects in a partner-led manner to ensure efficient delivery and successful planning. Our projects range from providing developmental aid, such as water, food, medical, and orphan assistance, to sponsoring a child's education, and offering vocational training to the impoverished in East Africa, India and Iraq.

Before starting any project, we assess the demand by conducting surveys and needs assessments to ensure that the project provides optimal benefits, is self-sufficient, and guarantees community growth. We then work tirelessly to execute and deliver the project, tracking the progress to ensure everything runs smoothly. At The Mainstay Foundation, we look forward to a bright future for our Shia Muslim community, and all of humanity, with continued efforts towards the betterment of our society and the human condition.

OUR VISION

To be the flagship Shia Muslim organisation in community development.

OUR MISSION

To assist in the advancement of Shia Muslim communities globally in the areas of Faith, Education and Development.

The Mainstay Foundation's objectives are as follows:

1 To advance the religion of Islam in accordance with the principles and tenets of the Shia Ithna Ashari (Twelver Shia) Muslim faith.

2 To advance education, primarily amongst adherents of the Shia Ithna Ashari Muslim faith, by providing support to institutions and scholarships to individuals.

3 To promote community development, primarily for but not limited to adherents of the Shia Ithna Ashari Muslim faith, through various, means including:

- Relieving poverty and improving living conditions within socially and economically disadvantaged communities and vulnerable groups.
- Alleviating financial needs and suffering amongst victims of natural and other disasters, including promoting sustainable means of achieving economic growth and regeneration.
- Promoting national and international conflict resolution and reconciliation.

Goals and Objectives

The primary mission of The Mainstay Foundation is to assist in the advancement of Shia Muslim communities globally in the areas of religion, education and development.

The Mainstay Foundation carried out the following activities in pursuance of its charitable objectives:

Strengthening Faith

The Mainstay Foundation conducted the following activities to promote the Shia Ithna Ashari (Twelver Shia) Islamic faith in alignment with its principles and beliefs.

GRANT MAKING

During the financial year ending in March 2024, The Mainstay Foundation predominantly allocated funds to support initiatives in the United Kingdom, the USA, Europe, Africa, Thailand and India as part of its sustained commitment to promoting religion. These grants were evaluated on a case-by-case basis and extended to charities and organisations for multiple projects, designed to facilitate the execution of religious initiatives and promote Islamic knowledge.

DIRECT ACTIVITIES

The Mainstay Foundation actively carries out projects in the United Kingdom with the primary goal of promoting faith. These projects focus on addressing needs that are not met by other organisations, while also sustaining and enhancing ongoing initiatives.

Fostering Education

To advance education, specifically within the Shia Ithna Ashari Muslim community, The Mainstay Foundation undertook the following initiatives:

GRANT MAKING

The Mainstay Foundation broadened its grant distribution efforts, extending support to both new and established partners in Africa, India, UK, and Iraq. These grants were instrumental in bolstering a range of projects geared aimed at improving educational access for children in underserved and impoverished areas. Initiatives included covering various expenses for students in India and Iraq, such as tuition fees, uniforms, books, transportation, meals, and stationery supplies. Additionally, The Mainstay Foundation provided smart boards in some regions and equipped science laboratories to enhance the learning experience for children. Moreover, students received ongoing assistance, guidance and encouragement to pursue further educational opportunities.

During the reporting period, The Mainstay Foundation continued its support of water aid initiatives. It provided grants to local partners for the installation of clean drinking water sources and sanitation facilities in East Africa and India.

Developing Communities

Community development lies at the core of The Mainstay Foundation's mission, encompassing sustainable development with a specific emphasis on poverty alleviation, financial empowerment, and fostering unity and collaboration. While The Mainstay Foundation's initiatives may extend beyond the Shia Ithna Ashari Muslim community, the primary focus remains on supporting this demographic.

One significant initiative within this framework encompassed the following:

GRANT MAKING

The Mainstay Foundation disbursed grants to local partners operating in Tanzania, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Uganda and India. These grants were designated to support projects aimed at fostering community development in these areas. Grants were allocated to local partners with the primary goal of supporting poverty relief initiatives. These activities were overseen and managed by our partners. They included:

- Providing financial assistance to orphans and their caregivers
- Offering medical treatments and consultations
- Distributing clothing and food aid in the form of food baskets, containing essential ingredients to sustain families, alongside courses aimed at imparting basic trade skills



A woman wearing a black hijab is seated at a desk, looking directly at the camera. She is holding a light blue pen over an open book. The background consists of white, textured wall panels.

Achievements & Performances

Changing the World One Family at a Time...

In April 2023, a 27-year-old woman entered the distribution centre in India to collect her food basket in time for the holy Month of Ramadhan. It was then discovered that she was in her advanced stage of pregnancy with very little nutritional support. She lived in a small home with four other family members.

Her husband's nephews, 15 and 17, had recently lost their parents and were now living with the woman, her husband and their 5-year-old daughter.

The woman's husband, 33, works as a hand embroiderer and performs the ceremonial act of washing the deceased to earn a living. Despite his efforts, his annual income of approximately £500 was insufficient to sustain the family.

The mother was given a food basket and enrolled into the mother and child programme. This program provided her with regular medical checkups and a supply of medication as prescribed by a senior doctor at a government hospital. The family also received a water purifier, the daughter enrolled in a school through the education aid program, and the two nephews were enrolled in the vocational training program to receive academic training.

This support gave the younger members of their family a second chance at pursuing their dreams.



Strengthening Faith

Centres Grant

Many Shia Muslim communities either lack dedicated community centres or have existing facilities that are outdated and in need of renovation. Addressing these issues is crucial as community centres and mosques serve as vital hubs for spiritual growth, educational programmes, and social connections. Without proper facilities, communities can struggle to come together for worship, learning, and support.

The Mainstay Foundation offered grants to mosques, community centres, and other organisations seeking to acquire a new place of worship or renovate an existing one, aiming to support and uplift Shia Muslim communities. Improved centres attracted new members and encouraged broader participation, enriching the community's cultural and religious life. Ultimately, investing in these spaces contributed to a more vibrant, cohesive, and thriving Shia Muslim community. These updated facilities also offered modern amenities that support diverse activities.

LOCATION



United Kingdom	
London	
Watford	
Norwich	
Leicester	
Birmingham	
	Overseas
	Thailand
	Tanzania

Centre Renovation Khoja Shia Ithna-Asheri Muslim Communities Birmingham...

The Mainstay Foundation funded the redevelopment project at KSIMC Birmingham, enabling the construction of the Hussainiyah to provide additional space for attendees and worshippers. This grant has allowed for increased seating capacity and upgraded facilities, enhancing the overall standard to ensure a comfortable and welcoming environment. With these improvements, the Hussainiyah can now accommodate approximately 2,200 people, effectively meeting the needs of the significantly growing community.





Testimonials from Attendees

"Opportunity to meet other Shia Muslims. Excellent organisation and planning. Really enjoyed the theatre production - beautiful and emotive. Recitation at the end was also nice."

Abbas Hussain

"I travelled all the way from Switzerland, and it was worth the trip. Enjoyed having the opportunity to meet and network with the event guests and members of the community. Thank you!"

Sara Yaseen

"All in all, a great experience for a first timer. Grateful for the coach arrangements. Many networking opportunities amongst attendees and great to see so many of the community attend from all over."

Abdulla Musa

The Muslim Convention

The Mainstay Foundation's flagship event, The Muslim Convention was held in the city of Coventry, inviting Muslim communities from across the UK and Europe to honour the legacy of Lady Zainab (as): The Epitome of Strength. This national Muslim event hosted 1,200 people, bringing the community together to connect and uplift their spiritual and educational well-being.

The convention aimed to create a programme which benefited people of all ages and professions. It featured educational talks by leading speakers inspired by the holy lady, interactive workshops promoting self-development and family unity, and a stimulating and fun KidZone expressing the importance of Islamic knowledge and physical health.

The event also held a bustling marketplace featuring 38 Muslim businesses and organisations, allowing individuals the opportunity for networking. The convention concluded with a celebration to mark the birth of Lady Zainab (as), inviting five world-renowned reciters in Arabic, English and Urdu.



The Community Network

Shia Muslim communities living in the west often struggle to connect with the core values of Islam. Community leaders work tirelessly to unite communities, light a spark and build the path for the generations to come. However, due to a lack of resources, they face challenges in achieving many of their goals and ambitions.

The Mainstay Foundation sought to address this issue through the Community Network, a new project designed to strengthen Shia Muslim communities across the UK through networking, dialogue and access to resources. Through this project, it provided centres and organisations a platform to share common challenges and exchange ideas to enhance the spiritual and educational well-being of their communities.

The first annual event was held in Birmingham, a central location for all UK organisations, and invited 42 representatives to engage in fruitful discussions. Topics included the challenges of Shia identity, youth engagement and strengthening the family unit.



Testimonials from Attendees

"An excellent round table event with a variety of organisations with a variety of backgrounds. I appreciated the neutrality of it all."

Ahmed Ali

"The best thing was the exchange of experience between the various organisations. Useful information and constructive feedback."

Zahra Muhsin



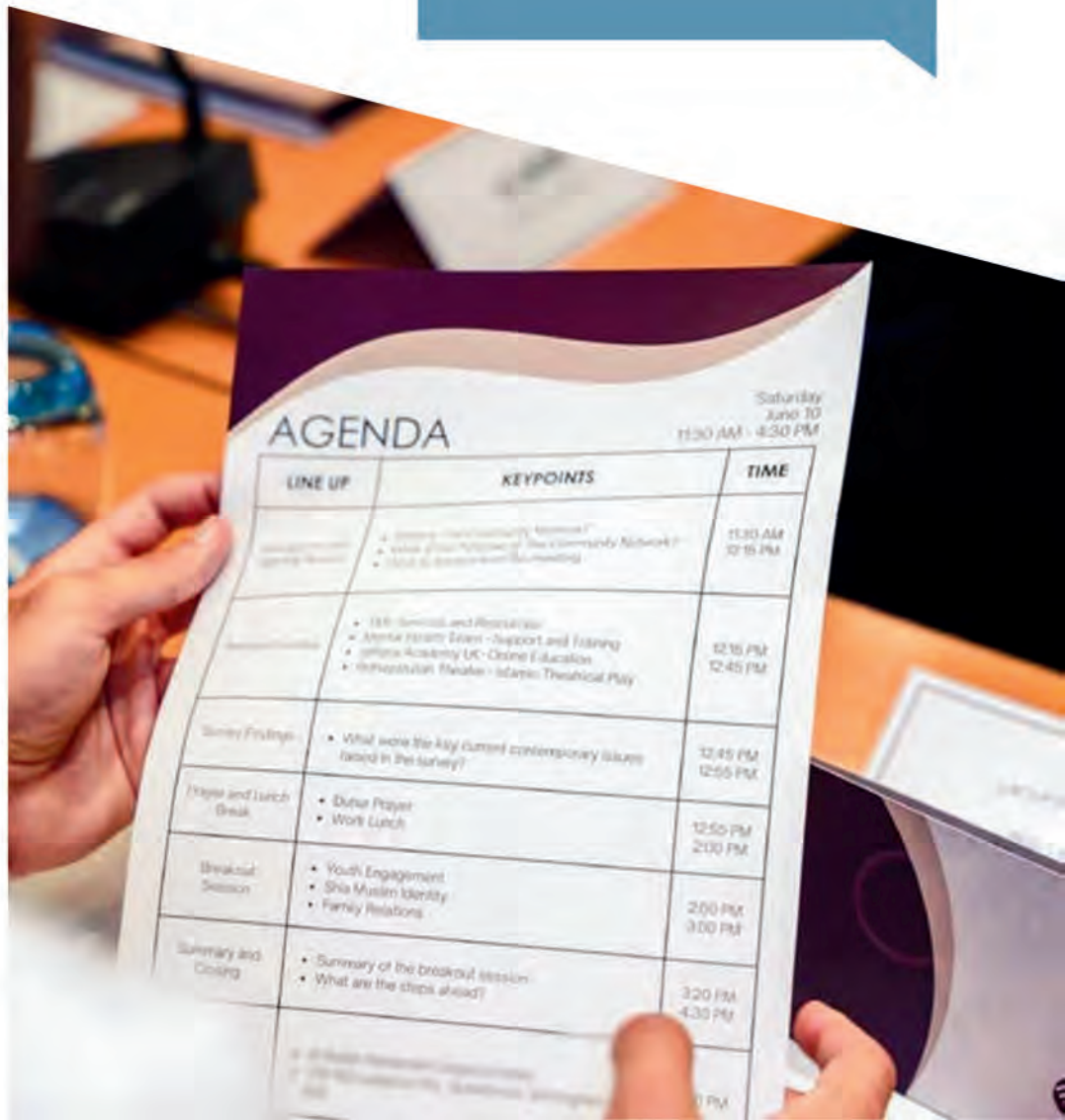
42 Representatives of Centres & Organisations



3 Workshops



3 Featured Service Providers



Summer Camps

The Mainstay Foundation supports Summer Camps annually in the UK, US and Europe through providing local and international speakers to deliver religious and educational talks and workshops.

The summer camps focus on three core components:

- Engaging physical activities
- Spiritual instruction
- Personal development workshops

Last year one of the camps in the UK hosted over 160 families from across the UK and parts of Europe. Through its main objectives, the camp delivered a meaningful experience balancing spiritual growth while providing entertaining activities keeping families of all ages engaged and spiritually recharged.

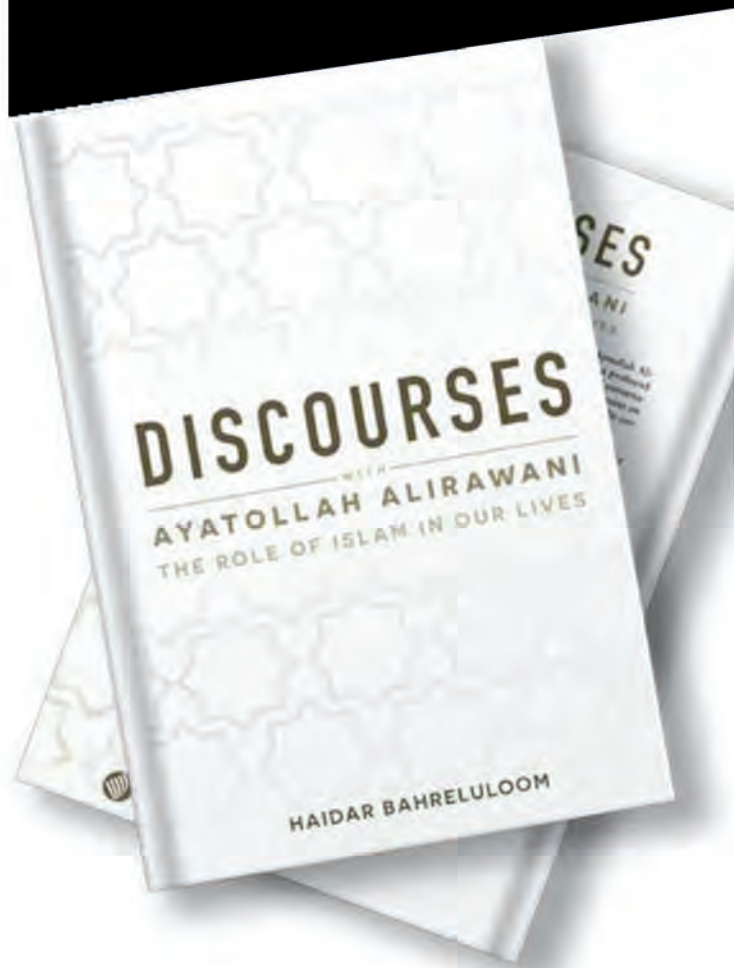
Authorising Books

Young people today are grappling with questions that span across various professional domains. Clarifying the religious stances can help individuals apply their religious principles to their daily lives. Over the past year, we have diligently worked on authoring two books addressing this need. The first, 'Discourses with Ayatollah Alirawani: The Role of Islam in Our Lives', serves as a valuable resource for guidance. The forthcoming book 'Sermons with Ayatollah Shaykh Hadi Al-Radi' offers invaluable guidance on navigating the intricate pathways of life with steadfastness and integrity.

By engaging esteemed scholars to address these issues, the project seeks to offer comprehensive perspectives, fostering a more informed and nuanced discourse. Ultimately, the project enhances young people's understanding and involvement with their religious values, benefiting both themselves and their wider communities.



- **Discourses With Ayatollah Alirawani: The Role of Islam in Our Lives**
- **Sermons with Ayatollah Shaykh Hadi Al-Radi**





Religious Events Grant

Centres and organisations require sufficient funding to hold religious events throughout the year to bring communities together and increase their religious knowledge and understanding. Through the religious events grant funding, The Mainstay Foundation aimed to advance religion and strengthen faith among communities in the UK as well as India, Africa, Europe, and the USA.

The project focused on providing grants to sponsor speakers who deliver sermons on Islamic teachings, dispel misconceptions, promote religious education, and protect communities from radicalisation and extremism. Funding was also allocated towards the costs of hiring venues for these events.

By supporting community gatherings, The Mainstay Foundation fostered unity and strengthened faith among Shia Muslims, promoting peace and harmony across regions. Additionally, it addressed the vulnerability of economically disadvantaged individuals, safeguarding them from divisive ideologies and providing them with accurate religious knowledge.

Number of Beneficiaries from the Religious Events Grant



Month of Muharram Programme
51,540

Birth of the Prophet Programme
5,300

Imam Hussain Convention
2,000

Eid Al Ghadeer Programme
4,700

Arbaeen Aid Project
15,650



Month of Muharram Programme
100,000

Fatimeyah Programme
40,000



Month of Muharram Programme
20,500

Month of Ramadhan Programme
21,200



Month of Muharram Programme
77,000

Month of Ramadhan Programme
59,500

National Scholar Visits

The lack of access to learned scholars from Najaf within the UK presents a significant challenge in understanding the Shia Muslim identity and religious knowledge. The Mainstay Foundation facilitated the visit of two high-ranking scholars, Sayyid Jaffar al Hakeem and Dr. Sayyid Mohammad Ali Bahr al-Ulum, from the city of Najaf to various centres during the months of Ramadhan and Muharram.

They travelled across the UK, visiting communities in Bradford, Peterborough, Edinburgh, and London, among others. They engaged with diverse communities, initiating discussions on pertinent topics such as the tenets of our faith, noble values, and the logical rationale that serves as key components in safeguarding against misinformation. They also encouraged dialogue with attendees to foster open communication with the visiting scholars.

Month of Muharram



Month of Ramadhan



Hawza Project

In Tanzania, students looking to pursue a path in religious education face limited options for studying Islam. Through the Hawza project, an educational program at Islamic seminaries provided a comprehensive curriculum in faith-related disciplines that teach theology, law, ethics, and history, aimed at fostering a deep understanding of Islamic principles.

This project paved the path for students to study their faith and subsequently return to their communities as teachers and guides. This role helped guide communities towards peaceful coexistence and social harmony. Additionally, the project supported students by providing necessities such as food, clothing and accommodation.

It also enhanced the well-being and effectiveness of staff by funding salaries and improving infrastructure, thereby enhancing the quality of education and morale among both educators and administrative personnel.

Total No. of Beneficiaries:

328

Location of Hawza

Number of Students

Kigoma

100

Temeke

101

Tanga

127

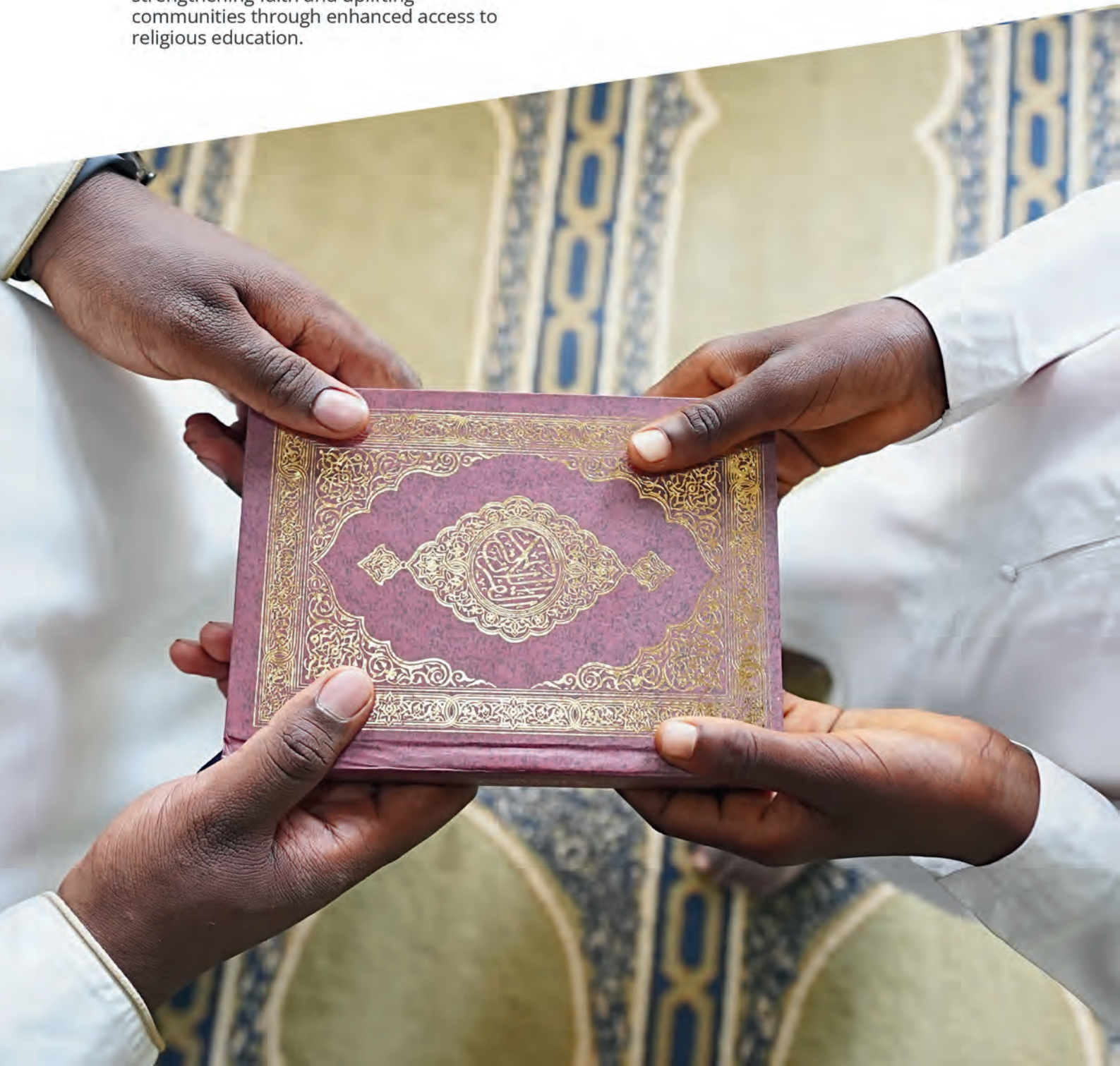
Quran Distribution

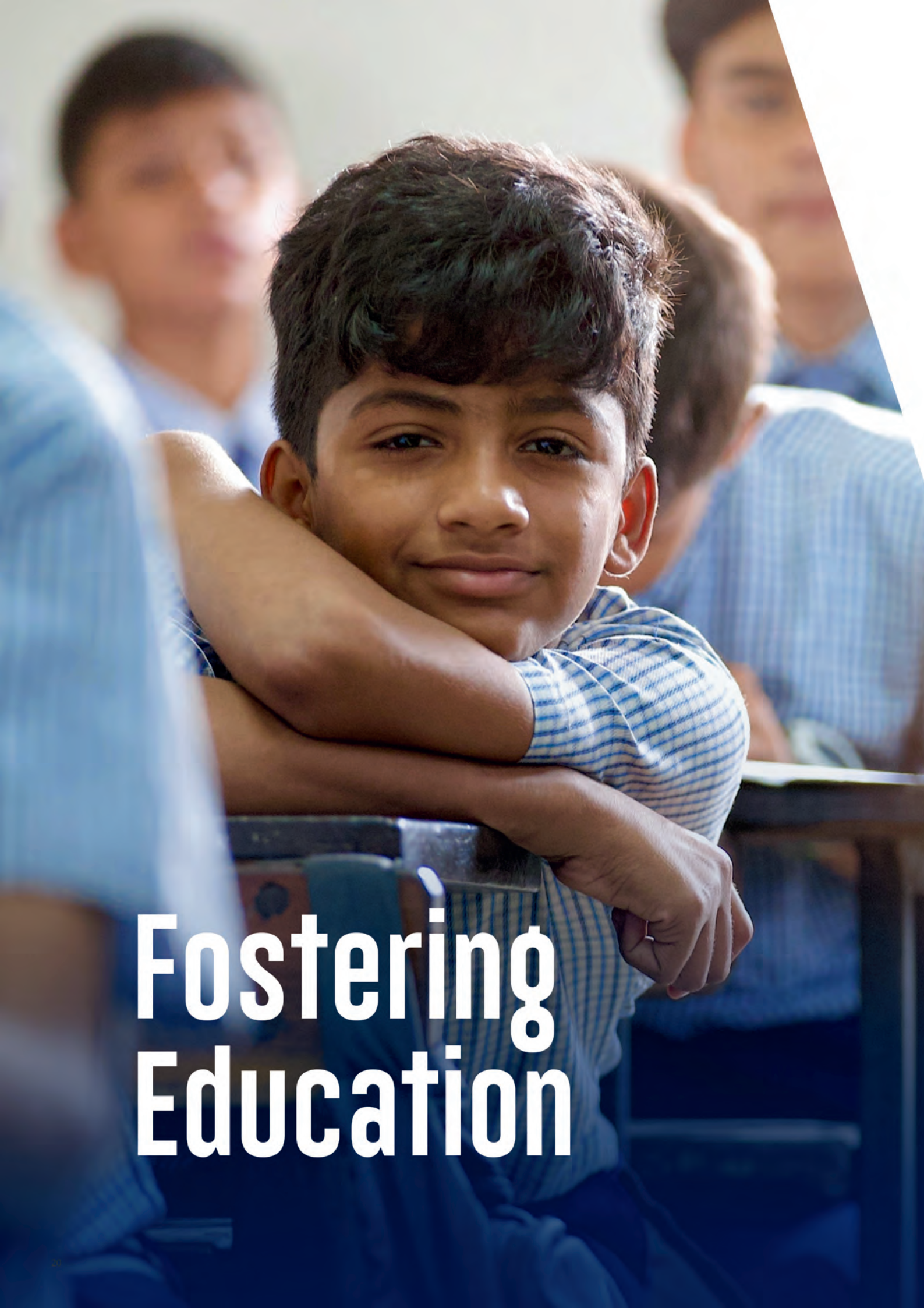
The project recognised a critical need for Quranic resources in various regions of East Africa, where economic hardships often hinder religious education. By providing copies of the Holy Quran to Madrasas in villages, the project aimed at easing the financial burden on families and encourage adult participation in religious studies, particularly Quranic recitation.

This initiative has profoundly influenced the religious education landscape, aligning with The Mainstay Foundation's mission of strengthening faith and uplifting communities through enhanced access to religious education.

Number of Copies Distributed

	No. of copies
Quranic Chapters	10,000
Qurans	5,120
Overall Copies	15,120





Fostering Education

Meet Seher Fatima Syed & Shifa Fatima Syed...

Seher Fatima Syed and Shifa Fatima Syed are sisters living in the slums of Mumbra, Mumbai. At a young age their father abandoned them, leaving a mother with 5 children to fend for herself and fall into poverty. Living on a low-income salary, their mother sought help to give her children the education they deserved to thrive and become successful in their lives. As a family, they collectively believe that maintaining good education will secure their future, make them respectful individuals and grant them financial stability. "We should give equal importance to both things - family as well as seeking knowledge." (Shifa Fatima Syed)

By enrolling into the Mainstay Foundation's education sponsorship programme, both of their prospects and opportunities have increased. This will not only aid their individual growth but will allow them to support their mother in elevating the burden of poverty from her shoulders. "If we experienced any financial problems, with the power of education, we could raise our families. This would make our mother very proud" (Shifa Fatima Syed).



Education Sponsorship

Due to severe poverty, families cannot afford their children's school fees, forcing them to take their children out of education and into employment. At The Mainstay Foundation we understand the powerful impact of education and have therefore supported 4,012 students across India, East Africa, UK and Iraq. We covered education fees from nursery to university levels, including school supplies, uniforms, transportation and more. Additionally, students have also been supported through vocational training initiatives, entry exam tuition and upgrading classrooms with smart board facilities, fostering the holistic development of communities.

School Scholarship



Provided full sponsorship from nursery level until the completion of students' education in India, East Africa, and Iraq. Depending on the region, students received full school uniforms, textbooks and other stationery items. Covering these essential costs alleviates a great financial burden on low-income families, allowing children to focus on their education.

University Scholarship Programme



The Mainstay Foundation offered financial assistance to 136 students in East Africa and India who wished to pursue undergraduate degrees locally or internationally (in North America and Europe). Deserving students were granted full scholarships covering three to four years of university education, excelling in fields such as Science, Medicine, Finance, Accountancy, and Law.

Entry Exam Tuition



In collaboration with our partners in Hyderabad, India, The Mainstay Foundation provided private tuition to deserving students preparing for competitive university entry exams such as the NEET (medical) & JEE (engineering) exams. This additional academic assistance significantly increased their chances of passing.

SMART Room Facilities



By upgrading computer laboratories and transforming classrooms in India and Iraq into SMART spaces with interactive whiteboards, we enabled modern teaching practices and facilitated online classes conducted by subject experts. Establishing 38 SMART facilities allowed for the adoption of best practices, the creation of a safe learning environment, enhanced learning experiences, and the equipping of students with valuable skills needed for future employment opportunities.

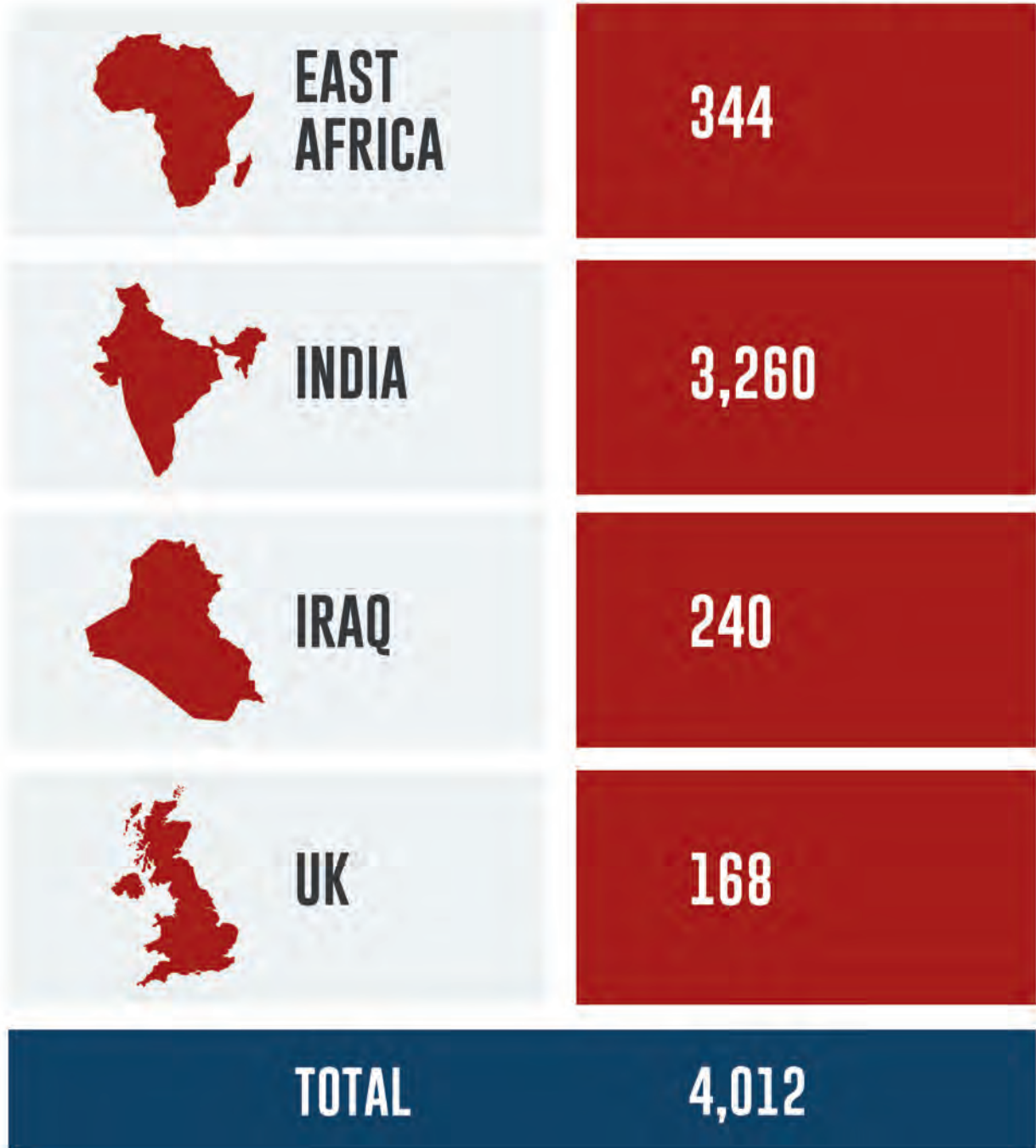
Vocational Training Programme



The Foundation supported 147 students in East Africa by enhancing their skills through specialised training in their chosen fields. In some cases, accommodation and food was also provided. This program prepares students for entrepreneurship or industry roles, equipping them with the necessary work skills for their desired employment sectors, including Nursing, Accountancy, Clinical Medicine, and Electrical Engineering.

Collaborating with partners, the charity worked with academic institutions to monitor students' progress and evaluate teaching methodologies to ensure that the education provided is of the highest standard and avoiding possible maltreatment of students. This holistic approach also enables students to lead healthy lives thereby enhancing their academic performance and providing them with opportunities to give back to their communities.

No. of Students Supported



Pass Rates



97%

PRIMARY
EDUCATION

93%

SECONDARY
EDUCATION

87%

INTERMEDIATE
EDUCATION

82%

VOCATIONAL
TRAINING

Education Support Provided	Students Sponsored
Primary to Secondary Education	3,720
Higher Education	136
Vocational Training	147
Entry Exam Tuition Programme	9
Smart Board Facilities	38

Vocational Training Statistics



Number of Students Supported in Tanzania:

131



Number of Students Supported in Kenya:

16

Types of courses students enrolled in:

- Nursing
- Accountancy
- Pharmaceutical Officer
- Clinical Medicine
- Law
- Information and Computer Technology
- Welding
- Plumbing
- Engineering
- Electrician
- Marketing and Public Relations

Higher Education Statistics

23 students in Tanzania

supported in the fields of:

- Health in Monitoring and Evaluation
- Bachelor in Pharmacy
- Bachelor in Doctor of Medicine
- Bachelor in Surgery
- Education and Arts
- Law
- Accountancy
- Shipping and Logistics
- Marketing and Public Relations
- Economic and Finance
- Agronomy
- Education and Arts
- Human Resource Management

104 students in India

supported in the fields of:

- BSc (Medical Laboratory Technology) - I Yr
- B.Sc. Life Science - I Yr
- BBA- (Bachelor of Laws- LLB) - I Yr
- B.Sc. Optometry - II Yr.
- General Nursing Midwifery (GNM) - I Yr
- Bachelor of Physiotherapy (BPT) - I Yr
- MBA - (Master of Business Administration) - I Yr
- M.Sc -Nutrition - I Yr
- CA - Chartered Accountant- Inter Coaching Fees

6 international students supported in the fields of:

sponsorship for universities in North America and Europe



MSc. Social Data Science at the University of Oxford (Oxford, England)

BA. Nursing at the Western Sydney University (Sydney, Australia)

BSc. Radiotherapy & Oncology at the University of Hertfordshire (Hatfield, England)

LLB (Hons) at the Nottingham Trent University (Nottingham, England)

MSc. Communications Engineering at Politecnico di Torino (Turin, Italy)

MPhil/Ph.D. Theology and Religious Studies Research at Kings College University (London, England)

Scholarship Programme

Royal Holloway, University of London is a renowned UK-based higher education institution dedicated to advancing education and scholarship through its degree programs, postgraduate studies, and research initiatives. The Mainstay Foundation aimed to collaborate with Royal Holloway to foster dialogue among Eastern and Western scholars, promote knowledge exchange, reduce misunderstandings, and enhance the understanding of Islamic and Middle Eastern societies.

As part of this collaboration, The Mainstay Foundation has funded 3 full PhD scholarships at the Centre for Islamic and West Asian Studies (CIWAS) beginning in October 2024 and plans to fund an additional 3 scholarships to support this mission.

Number of students funded in 2024: **3**



Meet Syed Mohammed Ali...

Faiyaz Mohamad Ali, a 12th-grade student, aspires to pursue a Bachelor of Commerce in Science. His goal is to establish a business in import-export services, focusing on bringing a variety of goods from China. This ambition is driven by his desire to support his hardworking father, who struggles to provide for the family on a low-income salary. To make ends meet, Faiyaz's father often works both day and night shifts.

Despite his father's relentless efforts, affording his children's education would have been impossible without student sponsorship. Determined not to let his father's sacrifices go in vain, Faiyaz dedicated himself to his studies, often utilising the school library to avoid distractions and achieve high grades. Thanks to The Mainstay Foundation's funding, Faiyaz successfully enrolled in the university of his choice, bringing him closer to realising his dreams and supporting his family.



“

We should try to make all the children of our communities excel Insha'Allah.

”

After becoming a successful businessman, the first thing I will do is buy a good house for my parents.



Developing Communities

The Ifurukutya Village...

Ifurukutya village, situated in the Katome ward of Bukombe district in the Geita region, is home to 622 families, comprising of approximately 1,807 residents. In the past, villagers shared a water source with the entire Bukombe district, severely limiting their access to clean water. Both communities heavily rely on agriculture for their livelihoods.

Prior to the construction of a water borehole through the Lady Fatima Water initiative project, women and children often walked up to 10 kilometres in search of water for domestic use, sanitation, and crop irrigation. This arduous task not only consumed significant time but also exposed women to the risk of physical abuse from their husbands due to prolonged absences.

The introduction of the water borehole has significantly improved the villagers' quality of life. It has reduced the risk of financial difficulties, domestic abuse, and waterborne illnesses. The borehole also provided immense benefits to local schools, medical facilities, and Islamic centres.

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I was walking 10 kilometres and above in search of water. The situation worsens during the rainy season. Sometimes, we are beaten by our husbands when coming back home late while searching for water.

- Zulfa

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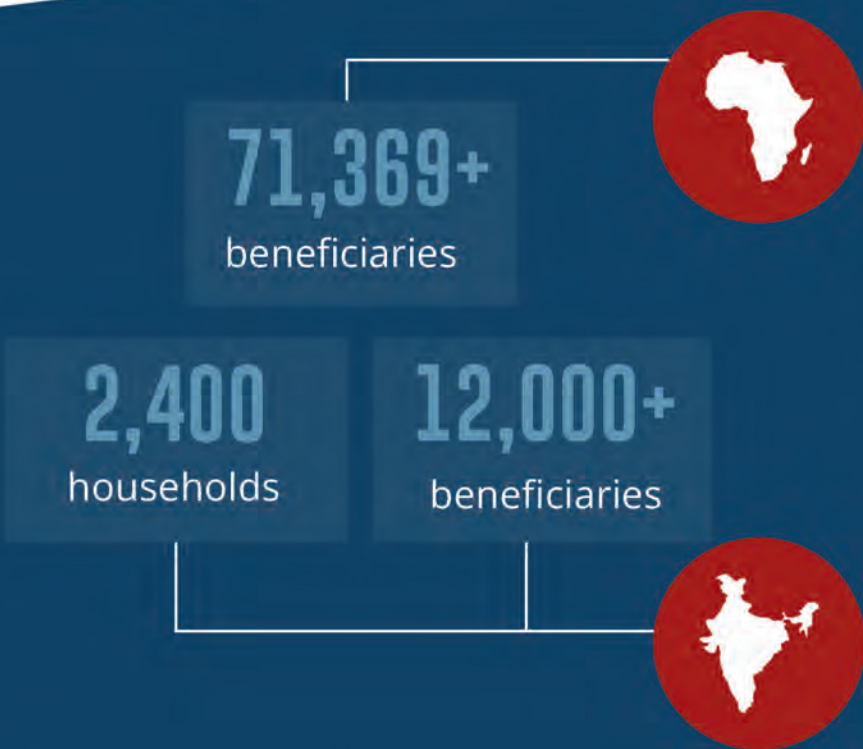
The people of Ifurukutya are grateful for this project, and they promised to take care of the project. They also pray that God, rewards amply the donors of these projects.

- Bahati



Lady Fatima ^(as) Water Initiative

Due to severe water crises in Kenya and Tanzania and infrastructure challenges in India, millions of people lack access to clean drinking water. This scarcity severely impacts the community's health, livelihood, and living conditions. The Mainstay Foundation collaborated with local partners to identify critical needs and install suitable water sources, such as hand pumps, boreholes, and piped water connections.



AFRICA

To combat the prolonged droughts and resultant water scarcity in Kenya and Tanzania, we undertook the drilling of boreholes and installation of hand pumps. Early-stage hydrological surveys were meticulously conducted to determine the optimal locations for these water sources. As a result, these boreholes have provided clean drinking water to over 180,000 impoverished individuals, significantly improving their quality of life.

Mboga, Msata, Sambawanga, Ushirombo, Ifurukutya, Omkigando, and Karutanga

INDIA

In India, the primary sources of income for residents in rural and semi-urban areas are agriculture and manual labour. The lack of water led to crop failures, severely affecting their financial stability. To address this issue, we established hand pumps in remote villages lacking electricity and submersible hand pumps in areas with electricity. This allowed small-scale farmers to collect water, irrigate their farms, and grow vegetables for personal consumption, promoting health, hygiene, and socio-economic development. In some regions, local governments provided a main water source to villages, but water was only available for one hour a day. We assisted 500 families by connecting this main source to their homes, installing tanks and pumps to ensure access to clean drinking water throughout the day.

Lucknow, Mumbai, Varanasi, Jaunpur (UP), and other parts of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar

The Lady Fatima Water Aid project has provided substantial support to families in these regions. Women now use the water source to engage in basic farming programs, generating financial support for their families and enabling them to send their children to school. The project continues to improve the quality of life, enhance livelihoods, and reduce mortality rates caused by the consumption of contaminated water.

By addressing these critical water issues, The Mainstay Foundation is fostering healthier, more sustainable communities in Kenya, Tanzania, and India.



Water Sources	No. of Beneficiaries
Boreholes	9
Shallow wells	20
Handpumps	27
Pipelines	396
Submersible	27
water Pumps Sanitation	5

Sanitation Facilities

Over 3,660 men woman, children and disabled individuals, rely on centres for religious and educational services on a regular basis. With over 40 Shia centres in Kenya requiring repairs and renovations due to increased attendance and health concerns, this project focused on improving bathroom facilities and providing washing facility for the deceased.



Bathroom Facilities

Before construction of the bathrooms, the centres in Samburu, Miamba, Dokata, and Mtambile, were only able to provide a few pit latrines since water supply was often non-existent or unreliable. Community members would often bring their own water for ablution or other uses. Equipped with flushes, sinks, taps, and supported by an adequate water supply, these facilities represented a substantial upgrade from the pit latrines previously available. Hygiene has been improved, promoting a safer and more dignified environment.

Facilities



Bathrooms
4



Deceased washing facilities
1



Washing Facilities

Previously, community members were forced to wash the deceased in their own homes or in open fields due to inadequate ablution facilities. In many villages across Kenya this posed significant health risks. The construction of dedicated facilities designed for washing the deceased has allowed for proper washing and shrouding, reducing the risk of disease and ensuring that the body is washed in a dignified and respectful manner.

Total No. of Beneficiaries:
6,100+



Food Aid

Impoverished families in India and East Africa are facing challenges with famine and malnutrition. During the holy month of Ramadhan, due to low-income salaries, the breadwinners of the family struggle to provide nutritious meals to break their fast. In response to this issue, The Mainstay Foundation distributed 29,505 food baskets during the Month of Ramadan. These food parcels contained essential nutritious food items such as wheat, barely, rice, cooking oil, salt, dates and more. Each basket was designed to feed a family of four for nearly a whole month with nutritious meals.

In addition, meat parcels were distributed through the Sadaqa Qurbani project during Eid al-Adha and other special occasions. Many of these families had gone without meat for an entire year due to financial constraints. This initiative not only provided access to nutritious meat for impoverished households and orphanages but also empowered families, reduced stress, and fostered mental well-being.

Month of Ramadhan Food Baskets Distribution

	No. of Food Basket	No. of Beneficiaries
India	12,390	49,560
Africa	17,115	68,460

Sadaqa Qurbani Meat parcel distribution

	Number of Goats
Sadaqa Qurbani Eid ul-	303
Adha Qurbani	150

Total No. of Baskets:
29,505



Their Voice...

“ I am ever so thankful for showing us so much consideration. Every year, you think of us, from the small children to the elders like myself. There are also some Elderly people who are homebound and receive this food aid. I don't know how I can thank you and I pray for you to receive a great reward from God, for only he can reward you for your endeavours.

Masudi Nyae Munazi

Lunch Programme

The Mainstay Foundation collaborated with local centres providing supplementary Islamic education to young children by offering them basic meals. Many children struggled to concentrate in class due to severe hunger, while others missed out on education altogether because of the distance and the energy required to make the journey. The foundation provided two nutritious meals per day to students in 15 Bilal centres, benefiting a total of 3,426 students.

This initiative encouraged attendance and improved nutrition, fostering a greater appreciation for learning and enhancing children's literacy. Consistent access to healthy food at school promoted equality among students and alleviated hunger as a barrier to learning. As a result, concentration and energy levels were boosted, academic performance improved, and absenteeism was reduced.

Total No. of Beneficiaries:



Lunch Programme

3,426



Here in Miamba, we are such a tiny village. Yet alhamdulillah, you come here and look into our welfare. Children are taken care of and women are also uplifted. This Ramadhan you have once again brought us food and only Allah (swt) can grant you the reward for that.

Zaame Kabware Koti

Their Voice...



Types of Diseases:

- Hepatomegaly
- Brain Haemorrhage
- Cataract
- Paralysis
- Cancer
- Heart Disease
- Diabetes
- Kidney Failure



Types of Treatments:

- Coronary Angiography
- Histoathology
- Chemotherapy
- Kidney Transplant
- Prescription Medication
- Surgery Operation
- Radiation Therapy
- Dialysis



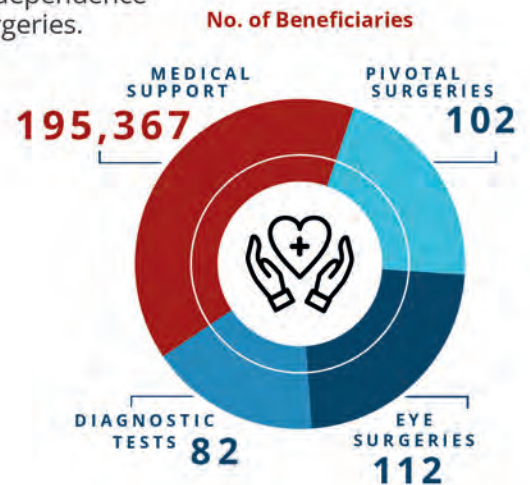
Medical Aid

In India, unhealthy living conditions and limited access to affordable medical care place a significant financial strain on families, exacerbating their health issues. The Medical Aid Project aimed to address these challenges by targeting individuals below the poverty line and alleviating healthcare burdens. The project proposed subsidised clinics for general ailments and financial aid for critical medical cases, ensuring affordable and accessible treatment to 195,663 beneficiaries.

By providing medications, financial assistance for treatments, and support for life-threatening conditions, the project promoted the overall well-being and productivity of individuals. Beneficiaries, verified by the team, were primarily from low-income households urgently needing medical attention for conditions such as life-changing surgeries, cancer treatment, and dialysis.

In the past year, The Mainstay Foundation also supported over 112 patients struggling with vision impairments, giving them the opportunity to regain independence through cataract eye surgeries.

Our efforts strive to prevent families from falling into poverty due to healthcare expenses, ensuring a healthier and more stable future for those in need.



Mother and Child Project

Nearly two-thirds of all maternal deaths in India are linked to severe bleeding, high blood pressure, post-childbirth infections and birth complications. States like Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, and Gujarat experience high infant mortality rates due to preventable causes such as malnutrition and poor sanitation.

The Mainstay Foundation's 'Mother and Child Programme' supported expectant mothers throughout their pregnancy until the child reaches the age of two. The programme offered a range of support services covering prenatal and postnatal care for both the mother and infant.

232
MOTHERS
SUPPORTED

Services provided to mothers and infant:



Prenatal and postnatal care under supervision of specialists

- Periodic medical checkups
- Pathological tests
- Vaccination



Nutritional food baskets on bi-monthly basis



Water Purifier



Counselling Sessions

- Importance of breastfeeding
- Health and hygiene
- Childcare
- Psychological/ spiritual health





This is Hamzeh Ali...

Hamzeh Ali, a 7-year-old, has been battling advanced stage kidney disease since birth. His condition, characterised by damaged kidneys, has led to severe complications including fluid buildup, chest pain, muscle weakness, anaemia, cognitive issues, and urinary incontinence. Despite undergoing all available treatments, doctors recently informed his parents that Hamzeh's survival rates are quite low, and he urgently requires a kidney transplant to survive.

With the support provided through The Mainstay Foundation's Medical Aid Programme, Hamzeh's father was found to be a suitable donor. He is scheduled for a kidney transplant in June 2024, which promises to give Hamzeh a second chance at life.

This funding has not only covered the medical expenses for the transplant but also provided hope and relief to Hamzeh's family during this challenging time. The Mainstay Foundation remains committed to supporting families like Hamzeh's, ensuring they have access to life-saving treatments and the opportunity to live healthier, more fulfilling lives.

This is Azmat Hussain...

Azmat Hussain, a 20-year-old suffering from aplastic anaemia, faced a life-threatening blood disorder that prevented his body from producing blood cells and platelets due to damaged stem cells in his bone marrow. This condition led to a weakened immune system, a lack of red blood cells, and various complications. Azmat was diagnosed when he exhibited symptoms of weakness, fever, and skin haemorrhages.

He was immediately admitted to the hospital, where a detailed examination confirmed his condition. Upon diagnosis, Azmat was prescribed a year-long medication regimen to treat his illness. This news left his family devastated and overwhelmed with worry due to their financial constraints. Azmat's father, a hand embroiderer, earned a modest salary that was barely sufficient to provide two square meals a day for his family.

Thanks to the funding provided through the medical aid programme, Azmat was able to receive the necessary treatment. This support alleviated the financial burden on his family and enabled Azmat to live a more fulfilling life. The assistance not only addressed his medical needs but also brought hope and stability to a family in distress.





Orphan Aid

Orphanages in Tanzania face significant challenges in supporting orphaned children due to limited resources. Recognising this need, The Mainstay Foundation embarked on a sponsorship programme to support 60 orphaned children ensuring their education, healthcare, and overall well-being are taken care of. This initiative addressed the critical need for comprehensive support in a low-middle-income country where poverty restricts access to essential services. By funding this project, children are provided with a nurturing environment to grow and evolve. It also alleviates financial strain on the orphanage, ensuring its continued operation and support for more vulnerable children.

In addition to the sponsorship program, The Mainstay Foundation also launched an Eid gift initiative, providing new clothes or essential items to restore joy and alleviate hardships for the orphans in East Africa and India. Each orphan was allocated a budget of £8 ensuring they could enjoy the festive occasion and experience the joy of receiving gifts whilst upholding the Islamic principle of supporting those in need.

Eid Gift Initiative

East Africa	2,266
India	8,082

Total No. of Eid Gifts 

10,348





60
Orphans Sponsored



Our People



Our Staff

The Charity benefits from staff members who bring a diverse range of qualities, skills, and experiences that contribute to the overall success of the Charity. Additionally, the diversity in backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives fosters a rich environment for collaboration leading to the ability to establish and sustain effective partnerships with other charities and organisations. Furthermore, the Charity promotes a culture of teamwork which is crucial for a positive and supportive work culture where individuals feel valued and motivated to contribute their best efforts. The Trustees and Executive Officer operate an open door to all staff so that an inclusive environment is created for all with all staff members encouraged to learn and succeed.

Our Volunteers

The Mainstay Foundation is humbled to benefit from the valuable and dedicated contributions of volunteers, who are essential in ensuring the effective implementation of a wide range of activities. While volunteers primarily assist the Charity in efforts related to the advancement of religion, their involvement extends to other areas as well.

Volunteers do not receive salaries pursuant to the terms of the Charity's Managing Volunteers Policy and its Staff and Remuneration Policy. However, volunteers are reimbursed for their travel and food expenses.



Fundraising

The Charity's funding is predominantly received from generous private donors who support the Charity's projects. A small portion of the revenue is also derived from Gift Aid, which enables the recovery of tax on donations which qualify for such.

As it has done within the previous year, the Charity continued its presence on social media platforms in order to undertake public fundraising campaigns for various initiatives including water aid, food and education.

All fundraising is internally managed by the Charity's own teams, with no external or commercial entities, including professional fundraisers or commercial participators being retained. The Charity is registered with The Fundraising Regulator, an independent regulator overseeing charitable fundraising in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

The Charity has established policies and systems to ensure that there is no undue intrusion on an individual's privacy or unreasonable persistence in soliciting donations or other property on behalf of the Charity. Additionally, the Charity prohibits placing individuals under undue pressure to donate money or other assets. The Charity is pleased to report that no complaints were received regarding its fundraising activities or any other matter.

Achievements and Performance

Thanks to the generosity of our donors and diligence of our team members, the Charity has experienced remarkable growth, leading to significant progress in achieving its goals of promoting faith, education, and community development worldwide. Throughout the reporting period, the Board of Trustees is delighted to note the Charity's steadfast commitment to expanding operations, forging and fortifying partnerships, and broadening grant-making activities to benefit a diverse array of recipients across various regions.





Our Plans

Strategic Aims and Objectives

In the year 2024/2025 The Mainstay Foundation will continue to work with its local partners to ensure it is serving communities in the fields of Faith, Education and Community Development.



Expanding our work by partnering with new entities in the regions we work in.



Work with our partners to understand how projects can be more impactful and longer lasting. Focusing on data as well as the overall impact of the beneficiaries to help us plan for a better future.



Work alongside our partners to improve their capacity to deliver more impactful projects.



To continue to leverage our vast network to connect communities to learn and grow together.



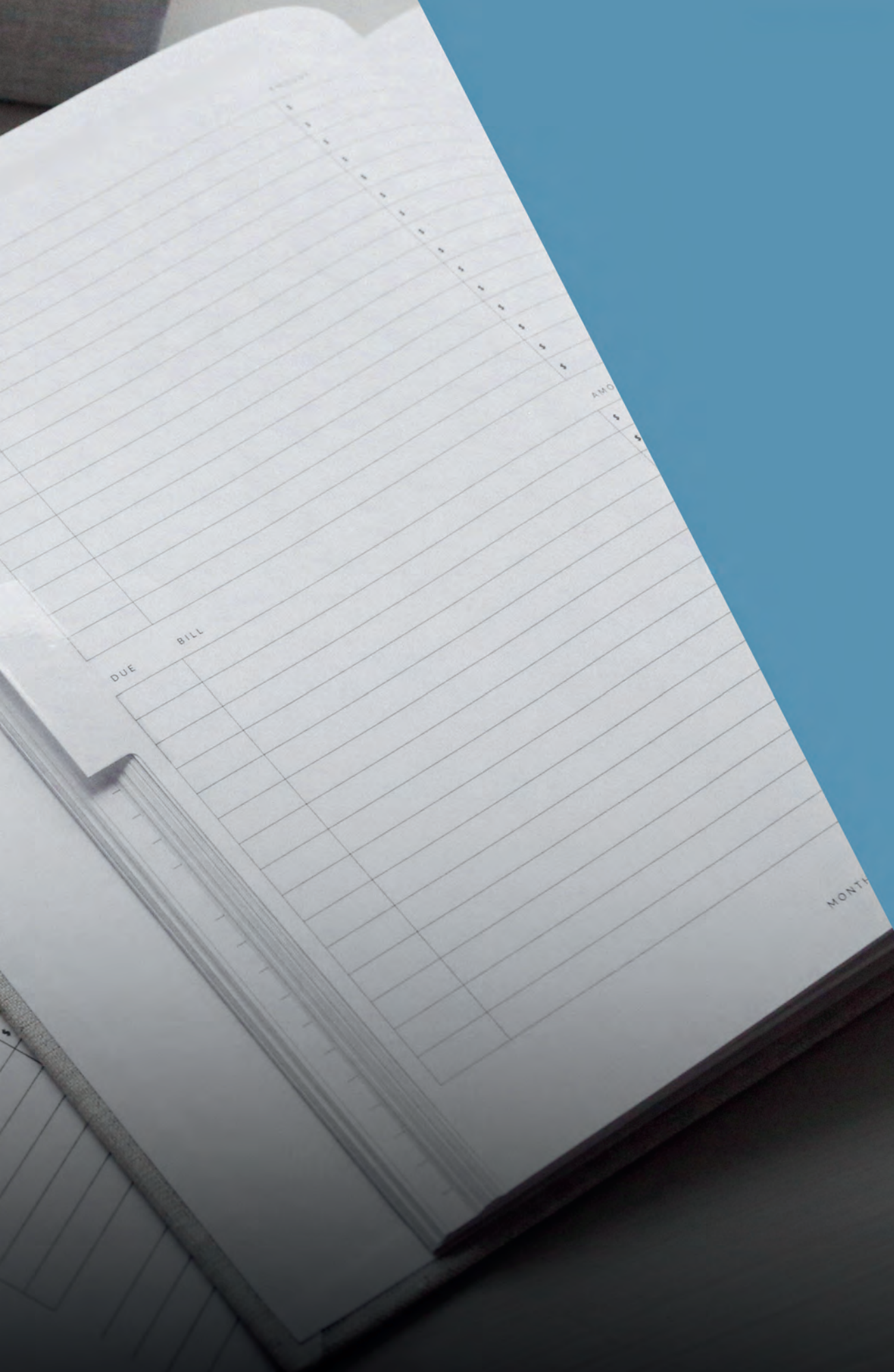
To enhance our work within the UK as well as Europe and North America by continuing to collaborate with national and local grassroots organisations to inspire change.



Continue to grow the brand of the charity to raise greater awareness about the work we are undertaking.

Financial Overview





Financial Overview

All Income

2023/24

£5,385,873

2022/23

£4,242,536

Expenditure

2023/2024

£5,573,674

2022/2023

£3,426,041

2023/2024
(£378,045)

2022/2023
(£283,010)

Support Cost

Key

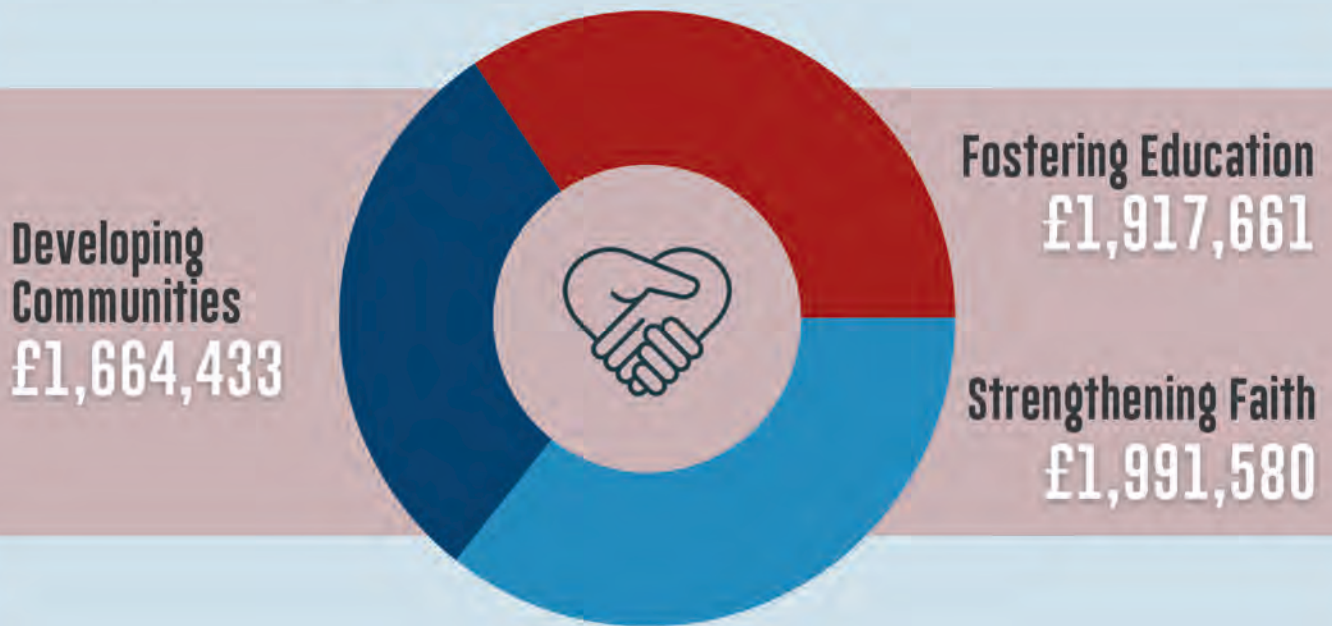


For the Year
2023/2024

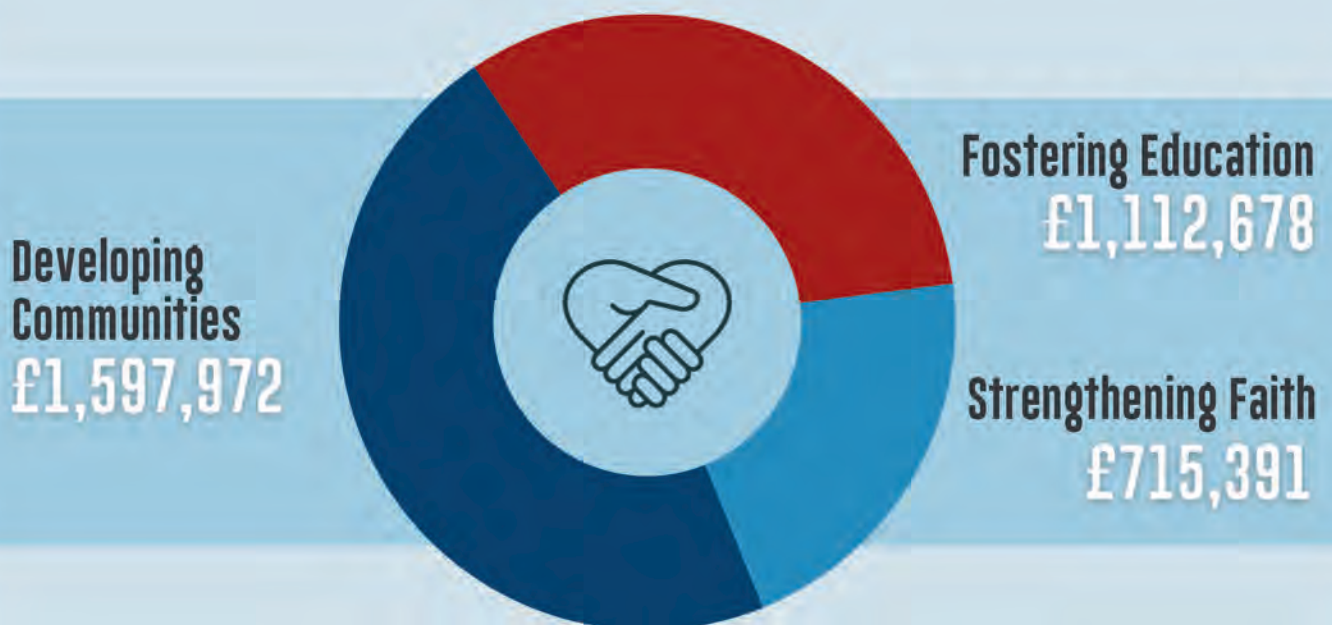


For the Year
2022/2023

Expenditure for the Year 2023/2024



Expenditure for the Year 2022/2023



Key
For the Year 2023/2024 ■ For the Year 2022/2023 ■

Reference and Administrative Details of the Charity, its Trustees and Advisers

Trustees

Chair
Mr Mohammad Marashi



Executive Trustee
Mr Hassan Al-Hakeem



Mr Haidar Bahar Al-Aloom



Dr Riyaz Kaba



Key Management

Executive Officer
Mr Amir Taki





Charity Details

CIO Number	CE006901
Charity Registered Number	1166017
Principal Office	Office 11, Abji Bapashree House 211 Kingsbury Road London NW9 8AQ

Independent Auditors

MHA	Statutory Auditor
Principal Office	6th Floor, 2 London Wall Place London Road United Kingdom EC2Y 5AU

Bankers

Barclays Bank	
Principal Office	PLC 75 King Street Hammersmith London W6 9HY
CAF Bank	
Registered Office	CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

Solicitors

BDB Pitmans	
Principal Office	1 Bartholomew Close London United Kingdom EC1A 7BL



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