



AbleChildAfrica

Working with disabled children and young people in Africa



2013 Annual Review

For the period 1st April 2012 to 31st March 2013



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Years of experience and expertise in working with disabled children in Africa

WELCOME from the Chair



The financial year 2012-13 has seen AbleChildAfrica continue to establish itself as the leading UK NGO working with and for disabled children and their families in Africa. The Trustees are extremely grateful for the hard work and dedication of our staff team, led by Dr. Jane Anthony, who continue to take forward an ambitious programme of work on a tight budget.

That work is now informed by our **new Strategic Plan** for 2013-16, agreed this year in close consultation with our partners in Africa. Our emphasis remains on partnership working with organisations based as close as possible to **disabled children and their families in Africa** and we held a highly successful meeting in Kenya with all our partners in October 2012. The Trustees also recognise the importance of our **wider influencing work** and are committing resources to expanding our training and advocacy activities in the coming period. The 2012 Paralympics provided a fantastic platform to promote positive messages about the potential of disabled young people and

we were delighted to be part of the torchbearing ceremony with our Kenyan partners. Our new **Theory of Change**, developed alongside the Strategic Plan, represents cutting edge thinking about how we help achieve the change that disabled children in Africa need. In the coming year we will be conducting a full review of our partnership work and continuing to focus on **high quality monitoring and evaluation** of the impact of our work.

The challenge, as always, is to turn theory into practice. The financial climate for all small charities continues to be difficult, but we are pleased to report that our financial position is increasingly secure. We continue to receive grants from a wide range of statutory, trust, corporate and individual donors, to all of whom we are extremely grateful. Our efforts to diversify this funding base continue and we are particularly looking for new **Friends of AbleChildAfrica**, whether individual or corporate, to help us with the unrestricted income that is so essential to smaller organisations.

This review could not end without mention of the most striking achievement of 2012-13, being the official opening in February of the new Little Rock Inclusive Early Childhood Development Centre in Kibera, Kenya. This new centre allows Little Rock to provide **inclusive education** to over 500 of the poorest children, approximately one-third of whom are disabled. The new centre provides safe, appropriate and accessible purpose-built facilities, replacing the inaccessible buildings which Little Rock previously had to use. Little Rock's new centre and the work that goes on in it will transform the life chances of the children who go there. We are extremely grateful to Euromoney Institutional Investor Plc. and all of the institutions who have supported the construction of the centre and are now helping Little Rock to operate in its new home. We will continue to help all our partners realise their ambitions to provide support to disabled children and their families, as we pursue our vision of world in which all disabled children are **fully included as equal members of society and are able to achieve their full potential**.

This is the last review I will write as the Chair of Trustees as I am stepping down for family reasons. I am delighted to welcome Nyari Muguti as the **new Chair of the Board**. Nyari has been a passionate and committed trustee and I know that I am leaving the Board in very capable hands. I am grateful for the support I have had from all colleagues in my time as Chair but particularly to Zia Choudhury, who remains as Vice Chair. I will remain a Friend of AbleChildAfrica once I leave the Board and I hope as many people who read this as possible will also support our essential work as Friends.

-Stephen Broach

Vision:

A world in which all disabled children are fully included as equal members of society and are able to achieve their full potential.

Mission:

To promote the realisation of equal rights for disabled children and their families in Africa and to facilitate their meaningful inclusion in all aspects of life.



75% of out of school children are living in Sub-Saharan Africa



98% of disabled children in developing countries are out of school



80% of disabled people live below the poverty line



99% of international aid fails to directly target disabled people

AbleChildAfrica is unique in that we focus solely on improving the lives of disabled children in Africa.

We envision a world in which all disabled children are fully included as equal members of society and we are working in a number of ways to make this happen:

Working alongside African-led partner organisations to help disabled children and their families realise their full potential.

Influencing policy, legislation and international law that impacts upon disabled children in Africa.

Sharing our expertise and experience through training and consultancy services.

Our partners

Our partner organisations in Africa make a difference directly to the lives of disabled children and young people. They are dynamic, innovative and, above all, impactful. What has made them this way is often the drive, determination and spirit of their founders and leaders. **Action Network for Disabled Youth (ANDY)** is no different and for Fredrick Ouko, the Director of ANDY, this year has been a busy year of celebration and achievement.

Through AbleChildAfrica's nomination Fredrick represented Kenya and young disabled people in Africa at the 22nd session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva in a panel discussion about the successes and barriers of **accessing employment** for disabled people. It was an incredibly proud moment to see Fredrick up there on such a stage – but also a reflection of the fantastic achievements of the joint work of AbleChildAfrica and ANDY.

Fredrick was also part of the team that represented AbleChildAfrica in the Paralympic Torch relay that preceded the London 2012 **Paralympic Games**. He was joined in the relay by Alfred Simuyu, the Head Basketball Coach at ANDY. AbleChildAfrica and ANDY were selected as torchbearers as a result of our joint Sports for Health Project, funded by Comic Relief.

The Sports for Health project is now into its third and final year. It's an innovative project that uses **weekly sports activities** (wheelchair basketball, table tennis, swimming, deaf and sitting volleyball, and (soon) goalball) to empower young disabled people by building their confidence, self-esteem, self-efficacy, fitness and team working skills. While building their confidence and esteem through sport they are simultaneously provided with **job skills training** and later supported through internship opportunities or a business loan to help set up or expand a livelihood opportunity.

Looking to the future, it's an exciting time for the partnership between ANDY and AbleChildAfrica as discussions take place about how to adapt and shape the Sports for Health project to work with younger disabled people, but also looking at other projects for collaboration – including the development of child rights clubs and the formation of a board of disabled young people in Kenya, to represent and advocate for disabled young people on behalf of ANDY and AbleChildAfrica.



Being born with Spina Bifida I am physically disabled but this has never weighed me down in seeking opportunities. When I started looking for jobs I was not so lucky, it was at this point that a friend informed me about ANDY. I joined wheelchair basketball in 2011 and while in the project I was extended opportunities such as trainings, mock interviews and motivational talks. They also went a step further and secured for me an internship. This was a breath of fresh air for me as now I got some hope and stint in the job market. My fitness levels increased hence I was more active and could walk for longer distances. It was also easier for me to socialize and interact with different types of people at the work place; I had learnt to interact with all types of people during trainings. I was more disciplined in keeping time and prioritizing what is important, both as a team leader and as an individual, these are traits I learnt during the sporting sessions and apply them at my place of work every day. I am truly grateful to ANDY for providing me a foundation through which I have grown to the level I am at the moment.

Cosmas

100 Disabled youth participating in sport annually

35 Internships in 2013

55 Business loans in 2013

Our partners

Of all of our partners 2013 has seen the biggest growth for **Little Rock**, an inclusive early childhood centre in the slum area of Kibera, Nairobi, Kenya. AbleChildAfrica is extremely proud to announce that with our support, just 12 months after the ground breaking ceremony, Little Rock opened the doors on its **new purpose built school** facilities in January 2013. The rooms are big and bright with murals to catch the eye on every corner, there are accessible ramps, toilets and landmarks, the school playground sits at the back of a wide open lawn, the school houses a physiotherapy room, music room, computer lab and school library and most importantly, every time we visit all of the students all are beaming from ear to ear!

We are very grateful to our corporate partner Euromoney Institutional Investor PLC., who in 2011 pulled together some of the biggest names in the banking industry to raise the funds needed to construct a new building for Little Rock and continue to support the running of Little Rock today.

The grand opening was a momentous and inspiring day; one of the best moments was the look on the children's faces when, after sitting so patiently through the ceremony, they were finally released into their new playground for the first time. Since that great day neither Little Rock nor AbleChildAfrica have not rested; we have been hard at work to keep up momentum and rise to the challenge of **running the school**, strengthening back end operations on a larger scale and ensuring continued sustainability and steady funding for Little Rock. We are grateful for a grant from Jersey Overseas Aid Committee, which allowed us to fully equip and furnish the school in time for its grand opening, allowing Little Rock to focus on running the school.

Plans for 2014 include the procurement of a wheelchair accessible school bus as well as investment in and scale up of Little Rock's clothing workshop as an **income generation** activity. Finally, the students and teachers of Little Rock alike are looking forward to a visit from AbleChildAfrica's patron Dame Evelyn Glennie and to making music together.



320 Early childhood students

16 New classrooms

Our partners

Our longest standing African partner of nearly 30 years, the **Uganda Society for Disabled Children (USDC)** works to ensure disabled children and their families access essential services across Uganda. Together USDC and AbleChildAfrica are working in partnership to address the health and education needs of disabled children in the North, where the need is highest in the country. According to recent surveys, 72% of disabled people in the Northern region of Uganda are living in a state of chronic poverty.

2013 marked the second year of our project '**Bringing Health Services Closer to Disabled Children**'. Given both its relative isolation from Kampala and proximity to war-torn neighbouring countries, impairment is both more prevalent in the north, and disabled children living here are some of the most disadvantaged in the country, with little hope of receiving support from existing services. The regional health centres' capacities are stretched and often lack the skills and equipment required to respond to the needs of disabled children in their communities. Funded by Medicor Foundation and Jersey Overseas Aid Committee, this project provides outreach clinics, surgical camps, community health worker training and parent sensitisation to children and families in remote villages across 5 districts.

During 2013, AbleChildAfrica has also continued to support the **organisational development** of USDC. AbleChildAfrica supported the year-long placement of a volunteer accountant and advanced finance training for Senior Staff. AbleChildAfrica also continues to work closely with their Board of Trustees and helps establish local fundraising connections.

Looking ahead to 2014, AbleChildAfrica is excited to announce a new 3-year DFID GPAF Innovation Grant to support our **inclusive education** work in Uganda. The project aims support disabled children into primary school in Uganda using an innovative Child to Child approach. USDC will support the identification, inclusion and retention of out of school disabled children in 9 pilot schools in Northern Uganda. A series of concurrent project activities with parents, community members, Government officials and pre-service teacher training institutions aims to support the long term buy in and scale up of this approach and to hold the government to account to their stated commitments to inclusive education. We are excited to begin implementing this project, stay tuned for updates and results!



925 Children screened

261 Surgeries conducted

69 Health professionals trained

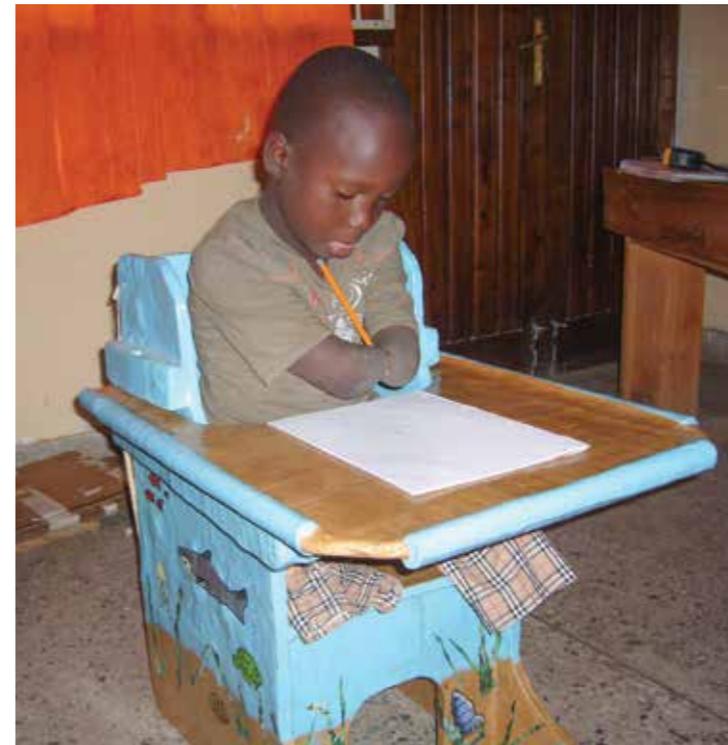
253 Parents supported

Our partners

Down in Mbeya, South West Tanzania, our partner **Child Support Tanzania (CST)** enjoyed another fantastic year of growth. They are on a journey, not only to become a robust and self-sustaining organisation, but to become the model of best practice **inclusive early childhood education** in the region. CST is an inclusive early childhood development centre that caters for children from disadvantaged backgrounds and those with disability or chronic health needs- they are the only organisation that does this for a 1000km radius.

They a vibrant organisation, but one that is still young and in the delicate early stages of growth. With support of the Sylvia Adams and the Allan & Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trusts, AbleChildAfrica were able to invest in the **organisational development** of CST this year. Through a tailored package of support, CST have been able to train teachers on special education teaching methodologies, have refreshed their governance board, strengthened the back end operations of the organisation and created a platform for financial self-sustainability through development of two income generating activities. This year AbleChildAfrica has also supported CST through the development of a new 5 year Strategic Plan; its title, '**Children First**' reflects CSTs intention to put the pupils at the centre of everything they are doing.

A barrier to regular attendance at school for many children, especially those with mobility challenges, is having accessible reliable transport. To the delight of many children and families in Mbeya, AbleChildAfrica helped CST procure its first school bus this year. As if the year was not busy enough they have also been hard at work using a unique method of **paper-based technology** to make adaptive seating and standing equipment for children with physical and motor impairments out of nothing more than recycled card and a flour paste. Seeking to become financially self-sufficient, CST have taken the paper-based technology skills they have learnt to the next level by starting to produce toys, learning materials and custom made sofas and chairs to sell to the general public. With plans to take this forward as an income generation activity, build an inclusive playground and reach even more students, 2014 is set to be another busy year for CST and AbleChildAfrica!



Our partners

It has been a busy year for our partner **Information Centre for Disability (ICD)** in Dar Es Salaam Tanzania. We are proud that their inclusive education work and support to families is now sufficiently independently funded through their own grant applications and we therefore collaborative decided not to deliver joint projects together in 2013. Instead we have been collaborating with ICD on disseminating accurate information about childhood disability in Africa and **advocating for the rights and needs of disabled children** in the UN agenda. Another objective of AbleChildAfrica's strategy is to provide opportunities for our partners to share knowledge amongst themselves.

October 2012, AbleChildAfrica hosted our biennial **Partner's meeting**, generously funded by Commonwealth Foundation. This was a great opportunity for us all to get together, share our successes and challenges and collaborate on ways that we can work to **support one another to succeed**. In addition to ICD, all five partners were in attendance, bringing together 18 representatives including the Executive Directors, members of the Senior Management Team and members of the Trustees of each of our partners in order to learn from one another.

The week started with each partner sharing their work from the past year to **showcase their successes** and present a current challenge so as to brainstorm creative solutions together. This led to some lively and healthy debate and greatly opened AbleChildAfrica's eyes to new practises and approaches to **common challenges**. The meeting was extremely collaborative, with individuals from all partners facilitating sessions in line with their areas of expertise. Topics were chosen ahead of time based on the priorities of our partners and included finance management systems, fundraising for success, diversifying funding sources, designing an 'elevator pitch' and good governance. The final part of the week focused on strategic planning, which was timely as nearly all of our partners were entering a new strategic period. During **participatory sessions** partners mapped out their desired direction and the goals they were trying to achieve, developed action plans and agree strategic support forward from AbleChildAfrica. AbleChildAfrica also presented our draft strategic plan for final discussion, feedback and comment.



Diana was two years old when the Director of Child Support Tanzania (CST), Noelah Msuya, made a visit to her family home in 2009. Diana has Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida. Her father, determined to get her the help and support she needed to develop, travelled for days by bus to Nairobi and Dar es Salaam so that she could have essential operations and procedures in specialist hospitals. He even sold his car to pay for the treatment.

However, he was unsure if Diana would ever be able to go to school and was aware that there were no early childhood schools in the area that would take her because of her impairment.

Diana was one of the first children to join CST and now aged 4 she is one of the top learners in her class. Noelah says 'she has made excellent progress with her numbers and letters and is always helping other classmates with their work!'

Diana's father is so proud and happy to see his daughter playing and learning alongside other children from the area. Noelah tells us she receives phone calls from him weekly, he delightfully exclaims 'Diana has just sung her ABC's to me, I am so proud of her!'

80% of disabled children under 5 live in developing countries

128 Countries have ratified the UNCRPD

AbleChildAfrica in the UK

UK Summer of Sport

Whether you were in London or not last summer it was impossible not to get swept up in an incredible summer of sport. It was a beautiful time of immense sporting achievement, of nations coming together, seeing the spirit of volunteering in action and celebrating the incredible diversity and strength of the Paralympics. Here at AbleChildAfrica we also celebrated in style and have been left with some memories that will stay with us all for a lifetime.

AbleChildAfrica were selected, because of the work we do in Kenya on our Sports for Health Project with our partner ANDY, to be proud bearers of the Paralympic Torch in the relay that preceded the start of the London 2012 Paralympic games. The honoured torch bearers were our patron and Team GB wheelchair sprint star Anne Wafula Strike, AbleChildAfrica Director Jane Anthony, AbleChildAfrica Trustee Shikuku Obosi, Fredrick Ouko, Director of ANDY and Alfred Simuyu, ANDY's Head Wheelchair Basketball Coach. It was a fantastically proud moment for AbleChildAfrica, which generated a real buzz and was celebrated at an exclusive event for our Friends of AbleChildAfrica at Cisco House, overlooking the Olympic Park. Thank you to Cisco for generously hosting this celebration.

The Paralympic games brought with them a positive and refreshing spotlight on disability. AbleChildAfrica was particularly proud of ANDY's Head Table Tennis Coach, Kenyan Paralympian Mary Nakhumicha, who competed in the T57 Javelin in front of 80,000 people in the Olympic Stadium. Mary is not only an inspiration to so many disabled people in Kenya and across East Africa, she is also a mentor to the young aspiring athletes involved in AbleChildAfrica's Comic Relief funded Sport for Health programme.

The incredible summer of sport for AbleChildAfrica was topped off by Mary receiving the Wang Youn Dai Achievement Award at the Paralympic closing ceremony in front of a TV audience of almost 8 million people. Mary was honoured for changing the face of Paralympic sport on the African Continent.

Onwards and Upwards for AbleChildAfrica

AbleChildAfrica proudly launched our new 2013 – 2016 Strategic Plan this year. The strategy, developed over nearly a year of internal self-reflection and consultation with our partners in Africa, sets out AbleChildAfrica's vision for the future, our values and ways of working, evaluates our past performance, outlines how we intend to continually improve and grow and most



AbleChildAfrica's Paralympic Torch Bearers

importantly, what difference we will plan to make to the lives of disabled children and their families in Africa. The strategy will focus AbleChildAfrica on continuing to support grass-roots organisations in Africa to achieve their goals of empowering and enabling disabled children in Africa to access their rights and have the best possible chance of reaching their full potential. As the leading organisation focusing solely on disabled children in Africa for nearly 30 years we also feel the time is right to increase our influencing work in the UK and on the international stage. We will join with like-minded organisations and consortia to ensure the rights and needs of disabled children are heard in international discussions surrounding

development priorities as well as support larger organisations to mainstream disability into their existing work streams.

Before setting out our strategy, AbleChildAfrica needed to better understand and articulate our own 'Theory of Change'. After many iterations, we are proud to present a visual representation of this theory in a 'Wheel of Change' diagram, which represents not only what we do but importantly shows the myriad of factors and complex interactions that impact upon our work, as well as on disabled children themselves. Our Theory of Change clearly sets out the change we want to see in the world, how we go about effecting this change and the assumptions or evidence behind our chosen strategies.

We are grateful to Comic Relief for providing organisational development funding, allowing us the time and resources to invest in inward reflection over the last year. Both our Strategy and Theory of Change are available on our website or upon request in hard copy. 2014-2016 will see us continuing to embed a culture of learning and growth, with a focus on reviewing our Partnership Model and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning procedures.

Friends of AbleChildAfrica

Friends of AbleChildAfrica are individuals who contribute to the success of our work and to the work of our overseas partners, through regular financial contributions and engagement with our work. Each friend is vital to ensuring the **sustainability and growth** of our organisation and in allowing us to support our partners in flexible and tailored ways.

All donations we receive **make a huge difference** to the lives of disabled children and young people that we work with in Africa. But a regular gift can give us the security that we need to provide consistency to these children and enable us to plan for the future.

Friends of AbleChildAfrica is a tiered programme that allows individuals to choose how much they want to donate over the year, which can be given as a **one-off donation** or through **regular standing orders**. At each level, Friends receive a unique package of appreciation and increasing benefits in return for their generous support.

Your gift will help us to provide **life changing resources and services to disabled children**, such as education, healthcare and sports. You will be helping us achieve our mission to ensure that disabled children in Africa are able to achieve their full potential.



SUPPORTER
£120-£999



CHAMPION
£1,000-£4,999



AMBASSADOR
£5,000 +

GET INVOLVED

I would like to know more about AbleChildAfrica, please contact me.

I am interested in hearing more about getting involved with fundraising or volunteering

BECOME A FRIEND OF ABLECHILDAFRICA

I enclose a one off donation for the amount of I enclose a regular donation for the amount of and have completed the standing order declaration below

Title Forename(s) Surname

Address

Email Tel

I would like you to publish my name on the AbleChildAfrica website or in publicity material Please treat my donation as anonymous

Please treat all donations I make to AbleChildAfrica today and in the future as Gift Aid donations

Gift Aid your donations and we will receive an extra 25% from the Inland Revenue for every pound you donate. Note: to qualify for Gift Aid, what you pay in income or capital gains tax must equal the amount we will reclaim on your gifts for that tax year. I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year.

Signature Date

STANDING ORDER DECLARATION. Please complete using block capitals

To the Manager of

Bank Name Bank Branch Post code

Bank Address

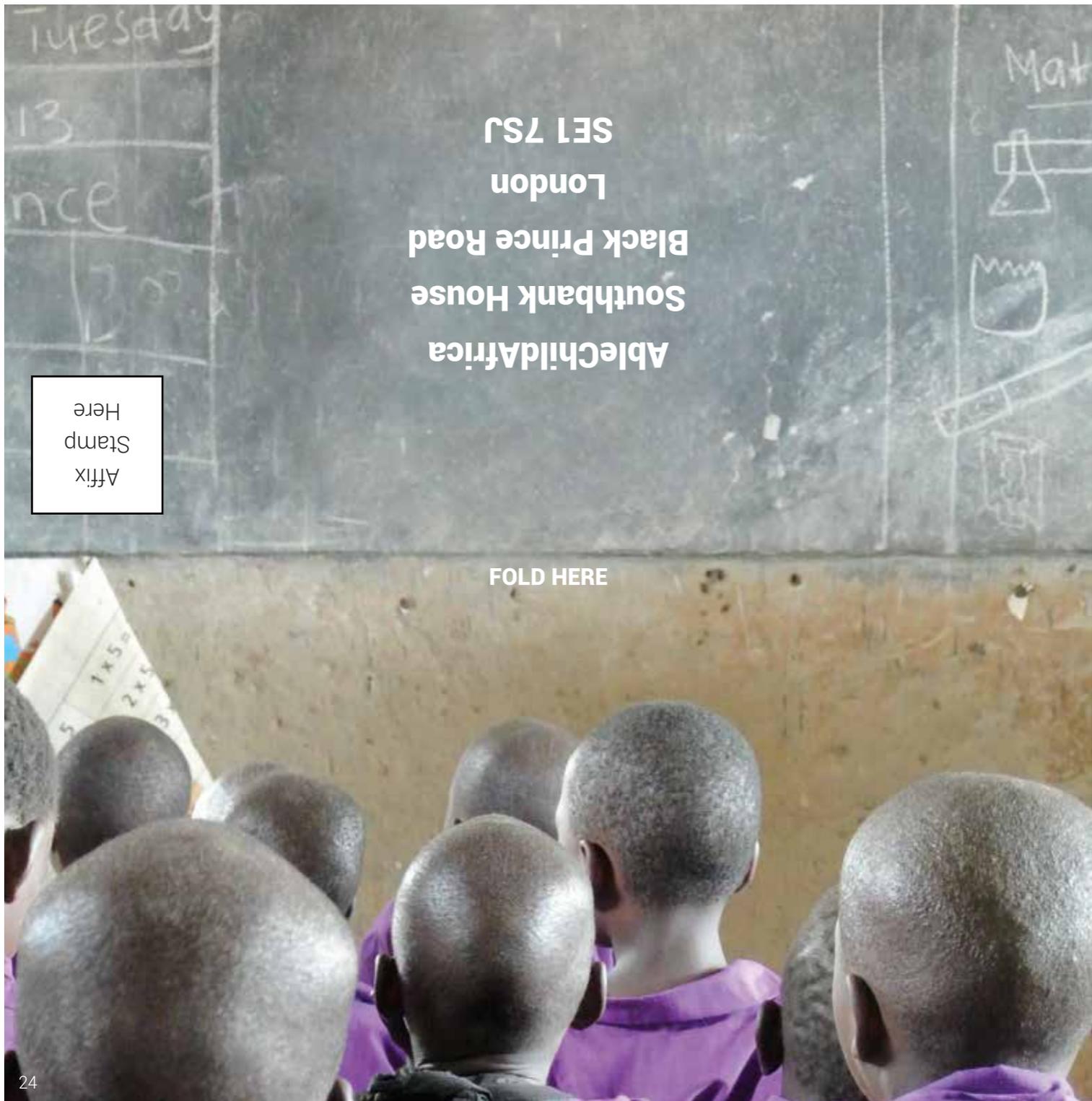
Please pay AbleChildAfrica the sum of each month / quarter / year (delete as appropriate) Starting on until further notice.

My account details are as follows

Name on account Account Number Sort Code

Signature Date

Thank you for choosing to support AbleChildAfrica!
For CAF bank use only: Please quote 'Friend of AbleChildAfrica' with all payments. AbleChildAfrica CAF bank details: AN 00085805 SC 40-52-40.
Registered Charity Number: 326859



Affix
Stamp
Here

AbleChildAfrica
Southbank House
Black Prince Road
London
SE1 7SJ

FOLD HERE

Get involved

You could help AbleChildAfrica by...

Joining our Friends of AbleChildAfrica regular giving programme

Volunteering with us

Participating in a challenge event such as the London Marathon, Ride 100, Tough Mudder or one of your own choosing

Following us on Facebook and Twitter

Signing up to our monthly e-newsletter

Fundraising to support our work

Helping us to develop innovative corporate partnerships

Leaving a legacy to support disabled children in Africa for generations to come

TEXT 'ABLE11 £5' TO 70070

Thank you!

This has been a fantastic year at AbleChildAfrica and we are very fortunate to have some amazing fundraisers who have raised vital funds to support our work. Alongside the London Marathon, this year we extended our events portfolio to allow our supporters to take part in a number of **exciting new challenges** from cycling past the iconic landmarks of London at night (Nightrider) to an endurance testing Triathlon, Ride 100 and climbing Kilimanjaro. We thank all of our supporters for the sweat, love and tears they put in to fundraise for us!

We also wish to extend a heartfelt **thank you** to everyone who attended our Paralympic themed Annual Gala dinner this year. With live entertainment from Coco Mbassi, a special performance from our Patron, deaf percussionist Dame Evelyn Glennie and an inspirational speech from Anne Wafula Strike, portraits with a Paralympic torch and silent auction items signed by David Weir, the six times Gold Medal winning wheelchair racer, it was truly **a night to remember**. We are very grateful for the generosity of guests on the night and to everyone who volunteered on the evening.

Last June, in celebration of the International Day of the African Child, we launched our event The Extraordinary Mile. Our Patron Anne Wafula Strike attended the event amongst children and families from the local community who journeyed along a path of inclusive games and activities, a sensory yurt, storytelling, face painting and educational information about disability in Africa. There are very few public events in the UK which are truly inclusive so we were very proud to offer a chance for disabled children in our community to have **a great day out**. Thank you to the more than 45 volunteers who supported us on the day!



Thanks to the Euromoney Institutional Investor PLC. team for completing the 2012 London Triathlon to raise vital funds in support of Little Rock.



2012 Marathon Runner Kath Ludlow waving to the AbleChildAfrica cheer station.



One lucky raffle prize winner from our 2012 Annual Gala dinner got to train with Parlympian Anne Wafula Strike.



Ambassadors of AbleChildAfrica- Vascroft Foundation at our Cisco House Paralympic Event.



Thank you!

From everyone at AbleChildAfrica, we send out a huge heartfelt Thank You to all of our supporters who enable us to continue to give the very best chance in life to disabled children and young people in Africa. We would like to particularly acknowledge the following donors:

- Vascroft Foundation ● Comic Relief ● Jersey Overseas Aid Committee ● Marr Munning
- Sylvia Adams Charitable Trust ● Allen and Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust ● Memery Crystal
- Performers Aid Trust ● Euromoney Institutional Investor PLC. ● Medicor Foundation
- Commonwealth Foundation ● Vodafone World of Difference

We are also grateful for the in-kind support we received this year including:

- Trustee meeting rooms, refreshments and video conferencing facilities from Doughty Street Chambers and Cisco
- Computers from Euromoney Institutional Investor PLC.
- Printing by Cards Made Easy
- Allen & Overy for pro-bono legal support in drafting policies, in particular our Anti-Bribery Policy
- The time, dedication and professionalism of all our volunteers and interns, including in particular Anthony Ford-Shubrook, David Baines, Ruby Livings-Waterworth and Louisa Wells

And a big **THANK YOU** to all of our Friends of AbleChildAfrica. Your invaluable regular gifts allow us to plan sustainably for future growth as well as the flexibility to respond to immediate needs as they arise.



Report of the Trustees

This is an excerpt of the Trustee Report and Annual Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2013. The full report is available online on our website or through the Charity Commission. We would be happy to provide a hard copy of the full accounts or larger print version of this report upon request.

Objectives and Activities

AbleChildAfrica is a registered UK Charity (326859) and a Company limited by guarantee in England and Wales (company number 01861434) and is governed by Memorandum and Articles of Association. Since becoming AbleChildAfrica in 2007, our strategy has been to carry out our charitable object by working in partnership with African organisations who share our mission. During the year we worked with a total of 5 partner organisations in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda in order to work achieve our mission, to promote and facilitate the participation of young disabled people in all aspects of development in Africa.

Continuing on from work begun last year, this year the Trustees finalised and agreed an updated Strategic Plan... (which) will cover the financial years 2013-2016 (April 1st 2013-March 31st

2017). The Trustees wish to reaffirm here that while AbleChildAfrica seeks to grow and further develop our work, our primary mission, vision, values and commitment to working in partnership with local organisations, remains consistent throughout the next strategic period.

Activities, Achievements and Performance

Our aims for the financial year 2012-13 fell under the four objectives of our current Strategic Plan (2007-2012):

1.Support African models for ensuring that young disabled people are included in the development of their communities.

We continue to support our network of 5 partners across Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. We support our partners in their organisational development and to become models of successful practice, with the potential for scaling up and replication. AbleChildAfrica is also committed to ensuring the voices of disabled children in youth in Africa are heard....During our recent strategic review the Trustees of AbleChildAfrica reaffirmed that our primary role is to provide assistance, mentoring and capacity building opportunities to our partners and not to act as an independent grant-maker or donor, instead acting as a catalyst to funding opportunities.

2.Develop child-focused policies and systems which enable both us and partners to ensure full participation, accountability and child safety.

We have made a commitment to making our values a reality. This means making sure that the young people we work with play a key role in the design and development of what we do and it also means doing everything we can to promote and ensure their safety. We are currently developing a toolkit to support our partners and other agencies to meaningfully include disabled children in child participation activities.

3.Effect change in policy and practice so that the rights of young disabled people are mainstreamed across Africa, nationally and locally.

As well as continuing to support the advocacy work carried out by our partners, we have also actively participated in relevant networks and consortia, allowing us to join forces with like-minded NGOs to leverage our shared commitment to the rights of disabled children. This year we have participated heavily in conversations and consultations on the post-2015 agenda, with the goal of influencing decision makers to recognise the essential need for disability and an inequality framework to be

central considerations in any set of international development goals that supersede the current UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) when they expire in 2015. We have also sought to influence other organisations that do direct work with, or are concerned for, vulnerable children in Africa to more seriously consider the needs of disabled children in their work.

4.Develop AbleChildAfrica so that it can effectively support and initiate activities to achieve its mission.

AbleChildAfrica is establishing itself as a specialist agency providing high quality support to disabled children and their families in Africa. We are excited to announce our new Strategic Plan (2013-2016) and are proud of the development of AbleChildAfrica's first Theory of Change (ToC). We have refreshed our Monitoring and Evaluation framework and are currently in the process of developing new tools to allow us to monitor our impact in an increasingly systematic way. Following on from our Strategic Review and renewed commitment to working in partnership with African led organisations we have begun a partnership review; this will allow us to learn from our work in partnership to date and improve it even further going forward.

Financial review

We are proud that our work offers real value for money to our donors. 93% of total expenditure over this year was spent on charitable activities. We are in a **period of growth** yet our 'fundraising and publicity costs' have decreased this year, from £41,341 in 2012 to £31,632 in 2013. Similarly, our expenditure on 'project support in Africa' increased by 78.5% this year, but our total support costs have only risen proportionally by 35%. As a small bespoke charity we recognise the **value of every penny** donated and reaffirm here our continuing commitment to keeping support costs as low as possible and maximising expenditure on charitable activities.

The majority of income for the financial year was restricted through grants from institutional donors and a corporate partnership with Euromoney Institutional Investor PLC. This year's restricted income totalled £368,840 and represents **continued growth** from previous years, both in amount and diversity of donors. Unrestricted income this year was £128,016, including £31,556 from Friends of AbleChildAfrica and £50,584 in sponsorship raised by runners in Virgin London Marathon. This is slightly down from the previous year, due largely to lower than average income from our London Marathon income, but is expected to rise in future years through our regular giving programme **Friends of AbleChildAfrica** and planned annual events.



93p of every £1 donated spent on charitable activities



INCOME

Restricted £368,840 + Unrestricted £128,016	£496,856
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EXPENDITURE

Restricted £579,940 + Unrestricted £126,847	£658,428
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Restricted expenditure totalled £579,940, the majority of which was carried forward from the previous financial year and earmarked for the build of a new inclusive early childhood centre for our partner Little Rock in Nairobi, Kenya (£361,762). Remaining grant funding was spent delivering projects to benefit disabled children in Africa; these are detailed in the full accounts.

The Trustees remain confident AbleChildAfrica is a **going concern**, indicated both by the financial review contained here as well as forecasting for the next financial year.

Reserves policy

It is our policy to retain sufficient reserves to safeguard ongoing commitments and operations... Trustees (have) concluded that a free reserves target of three months' committed expenditure is appropriate and would be sufficient to allow the organisation to wind up in the event that its financial survival becomes untenable at any time in the future, which is not presently likely or anticipated. We are pleased to report that we have again been able to meet this target and end the financial year holding our reserves in full. The Trustees remain assured that the reserves we currently carry are sufficient to undertake all of their legal obligations.

Statement

Of Financial Activities For The Year Ended 31 March 2013

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2013 £	Total 2012 £	
INCOMING RESOURCES	Incoming resources from generated funds				
	Donations and legacies	18,888	180	19,068	25,060
	Activities for generating funds	108,782	-	108,782	113,883
	Investment income	346	-	346	584
		128,016	180	128,196	139,527
	Incoming resources from charitable activities				
	-	368,660	368,660	804,783	
	128,016	368,840	496,856	944,310	

RESOURCES EXPENDED	Costs of generating funds				
	Fundraising and publicity costs	(31,632)	-	(31,632)	(41,341)
	Charitable activities				
	Project support in Africa	(78,488)	(579,940)	(658,428)	(386,858)
	Governance costs	(16,727)	-	(16,727)	(12,542)
	(126,847)	(579,940)	(706,787)	(440,741)	

Net movements in funds	1,169	(211,100)	(209,931)	503,569
Fund balances at 1 April 2012	48,951	521,106	570,057	66,488
Fund balances at 31 March 2013	50,120	310,006	360,126	570,057



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The names and corresponding pictures of all children in this document have been changed to protect their identity and ensure the safety of all children involved. All images are reproduced with permission.

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