

Annual
Report

October 31

2012



Registered in the
UK 1138256

Our Aims

Our objectives as set out in the formal registration are; the relief of financial hardship, the advancement of education and the relief of unemployment among refugees living in the UK and their dependent family members.

Our vision is that all refugees living in the UK seeking to be reunited with their family are not prevented from doing so by financial circumstance. We also aim to ensure that no hardship is caused by the costs of the reunion and that the family are able to travel in safety.

Our core activity to support these aims is the provision of grants to cover family reunion costs for those granted refugee status in the UK.

Our plans for the second year included:

- Developing our activities to look at being able to generate our own income
- Continuing to build up our fundraising activities
- Promoting our work to raise the profile of both the issue and the organisation

Achieving Our Aims

In order to achieve our aims and maximise use of available funds we continue to ensure that there is little or no spending on administrative costs. In our second year there was no spending on these costs although some fundraising materials were donated.

Having looked at the limitations of the grant programme and the need to maximise the impact of our work a travel service was developed to address both these issues.

Travel service

Aims:

- To extend the impact of our work
- To generate income for the grant programme

How it works:

The service will provide access to our 'charity' fares for those who meet our criteria but are able to pay for the travel themselves. The criteria for the travel service is more open than the grant programme and includes additional types of immigration status with no income restrictions.

In order to ensure that clients are getting the best service this programme also relies on referral organisations to discuss details with clients, ensure good communication and a smooth process.

Income generation comes through the charging of a fee that is calculated as a percentage of the saving to the family over a commercial airfare.

The travel service has been well received among partner organisations and there was one successful reunion through the service at the end of Year Two.

In our third year we are able to further develop the service through working more effectively with partner organisations to identify potential clients.

Development

In December of our second year we saw two children reunited with their father. In March the next recipient was identified and at the end of the second year the reunion has still not taken place despite the money being in place.

It has to be expected that working on a one by one basis is sometimes going to result in significant delays due to issues arising during the visa process or in obtaining other documents needed to travel. Issues arising can also result in additional costs arising before the family can travel and the amount of contingency allocated needs to be carefully assessed on a case by case basis.

Development of our work centres around establishing more funding avenues and building on our work with the travel service.

We also hope to be able to make more use of our volunteers and developing their fundraising ideas.

Supply and demand

There continues to be a lack of funding for family reunion. There was a significant rise in enquiries made to 157 in total from individuals and 15 from other agencies. This is despite it being clearly stated on the website that the grant programme is closed.

Out of the enquiries made there appears to be 38 that would have qualified for a grant.

Working on the average of around £500 for each person travelling an additional £34,000 of funding would have been needed to provide grants for these cases.

Fundraising activities

We continue to be able to make the promise that all money raised goes straight towards grants with none going on administrative costs.

Our fundraising activities this year have included some supermarket collections and sponsored activities. In the coming year we hope to expand on these methods by booking more dates and engaging more volunteers and supporters.

Financial Overview

2011 / 2012 Year Two Financial Summary

Restricted Funds	£2685.14
Unrestricted Funds	£104.27
Total Income	£2789.41
Total Grants Made	£3186.60
Total Expenditure	£3186.60
Total Carried Over to Year 3	£4084.98

A significant part of the trust's promise to those who donate is that none of their donation is spent on running the organisation. There was no expenditure on anything other than grants in Year Two.

There is still a large amount carried over to Year Three. The majority of this is allocated to grants that have been approved within Year Two including a contingency to allow for fluctuations in the cost of tickets and unforeseen costs associated with these cases.

Sources of Income

Individual Giving	£1275
Fundraising Activities	£1510.14
Miscellaneous	£4.27

There has been a drop in overall income due to a losing the corporate support and a small fall in fundraising activities.

The need identified in Year One to establish more sustainable sources of funding is being worked towards through the setting up of the travel services. We hope that we are able to build further on this work in our third year.

Looking ahead

In the coming year we hope to be able to continue to build up our activity and work more closely with partner organisations. Establishing more sustainable sources of income continues to be a key priority along with promotion of both the organisation and the cause.

Thanks

David Wostenholme and idHost for continuing to host our website free of charge.

Zaki Grant for use of your photos

Ben Leach and Iced Gecko for donating t-shirts and printing

Stephen Jones and the rest of the staff at Diversity Travel for your patience and advice

For more information please contact us at:

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