

DOCTORS FOR NEPAL

Doctors for Nepal (“DFN”)

Trustees’ Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements

Year ended: 31 December 2015

Charity No: 1133441

1 Reference and Administrative Information

Date registered as a UK charity

4 January 2010

Registered charity number in the UK

1133441

Governing document

Trust deed dated 16 October 2009

Trustees

Dr Kate Yarrow (chair)

Anne Yarrow (secretary)

Nigel Lewers (treasurer)

Chris Yarrow

Dr Natalie Thurtle

Dr Rhian Edwards (together the **"Trustees"**)

Operational address

Dr Kate Yarrow

Highwell,

Hamsey,

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Other contact information

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www.doctorsfornepal.org

www.justgiving.com/doctorsfornepal

Bank account details

Lloyds Bank
171/173 North Street
Brighton
BN1 1GL

Sort Code: 30-91-25
Account Number: 00284204

SWIFTBIC: LOYDGB21002
IBAN NO: GB67 LOYD 3091 2500 2842 04

2 Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

Doctors for Nepal (“**DFN**”) is a registered charity, number 1133441, and is constituted under a trust deed dated 16 October 2009. New Trustees are appointed by the existing Trustees in accordance with the provisions set out in the trust deed. The trust deed provides for a minimum of 3 trustees.

Trustees

All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no financial benefit from the charity. The Trustees bring wide and relevant experience to the charity. Three Trustees are medical doctors, 2 Trustees have worked for Médecins Sans Frontières, 1 Trustee is a member of the Board of Governors of a primary school, 1 trustee is a lawyer and former trustee of a school, and 3 Trustees have experience working abroad.

The Trustees are also committed to personally raise funds for the charity.

Risk Management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The main risk to which the Charity is subject is that of a student not completing the agreed time period of service as a doctor in rural Nepal. DFN has, in co-operation with Patan Academy of Health Sciences (“**PAHS**”) put in place measures to minimise this risk. In particular, PAHS has put in place a policy which provides that no medical student on full scholarship may receive his or her final degree certificate until having served for at least 4 years as a doctor in a rural area of Nepal.

DFN is exposed to fluctuations in foreign currency as tuition and other fees for the medical students are paid in Nepalese rupees.

3 Objectives and Activities

Charitable objectives and aims

The trust deed provides that DFN's objectives are:

1. to advance the education of medical students in Nepal by providing financial assistance to enable them to pursue their studies; and
2. to relieve sickness and to preserve the health of people living in Nepal by assisting in the provision of healthcare.

Doctors for Nepal's aim is to improve healthcare in rural Nepal. DFN aims to do this by sponsoring poor students from rural Nepal to attend medical school in Nepal. In return, the students pledge to return to rural Nepal to practice medicine for a certain amount of time (2-4 years, depending on scholarship received). Apart from providing scholarships, DFN will also be implementing health care projects and provide continuing education for health care staff such as midwives and nurses.

To ensure that DFN's work delivers its aims and meets the objectives as set out in the trust deed, the trustees review the fundraising activities and projects on a regular basis throughout the year. In addition, and on the basis of this review, the trustees are able to plan DFN's future projects and fundraising activities.

Main activities

DFN was established in 2007 and this is the sixth annual report since it achieved charitable status in January 2010. It was established with the main purpose of supporting the training costs of selected medical students from very poor backgrounds in Nepal. In return, our medical students pledge to work for an agreed period post-qualification as doctors in rural areas of Nepal.

The provision of scholarships to medical students remains the key area of focus of DFN. The first DFN scholar, Lalit Shahi, who graduated in November 2012, during the year secured a one-year post with the Nick Simons Institute, including training in caesarian sections and rural postings. All of the charity's students at Patan Academy of Health Sciences (PAHS) passed their exams during the year; Meena Kafle Chaulagain and Nahakul Shahi passed their fourth year exams, and entered their final year at PAHS, which includes practical placements. Meena's progress is particularly noteworthy as she struggled with English to start with. Prakash Joshi entered his third year. Apsara Hamal (on a full DFN scholarship) and Kamal Hamal (receiving help with living expenses books and laptop) passed into their second year. All students are from the remote mid-west of Nepal. No additional scholarship was awarded in 2015 as no appropriate candidate was offered a place by PAHS.

Kate Yarrow, Chair of Trustees, continued to serve on the International Advisory Board of PAHS.

We continued to help UK medical students to travel to Kalikot for their "elective", and DFN has a formal process with PAHS, which arranges an urban and a rural placement for each student, the latter with a DFN doctor or student.

During 2015 work continued on a documentary film about the plight of health services in the mountains of Nepal, to raise awareness of the problems and the need for DFN. The film-makers

are either donating their time or charging much reduced rates. The film will now incorporate the terrible after-effects of the two earthquakes which rocked the country in 2105, filmed on a trustee visit in the autumn. DFN students participated in the energetic and well-organised response by PAHS, and fortunately there were no casualties among the students' families. Following the earthquakes DFN launched an appeal, and trustees agreed a four-phase response: providing funds for immediate medical care at Patan Hospital; assisting the provision of medical care in rural areas immediately affected, via other charities already on the ground such as PHASE (Practical Help Achieving Self-Empowerment); providing assistance with medical care to regions indirectly affected; and continuing to provide a sustainable approach to rural healthcare in Nepal, eg by providing scholarships at PAHS, and collaborating with other NGOs working in the same field.

It is intended to award another full-time scholarship at PAHS in 2016 if a suitable candidate is selected, and an additional half-scholarship if funds allow.

The activities of DFN will evolve in the future and may not be limited to the activities described above. Trustees are considering whether the charity should offer financial support to the post-graduate training of its doctors. They continue to be mindful of the importance of helping communities as a whole and the links between education, health and economic development; and of the importance of ensuring that potential candidates from remote rural areas have the educational opportunities they need to apply to medical school.

How our activities deliver public benefit

Our activities focus on the improvement of health care standards in rural Nepal and therefore deliver a tangible public benefit.

In deciding what activities Doctors for Nepal should undertake, the Trustees have complied with their duty to have regard to the public benefit guidance as set out in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006.

4 Financial Review

Reserves policy

The charity had, at 31 December 2015, unrestricted reserves amounting to £39,095 in the bank account, and owed PAHS an estimated £22,927, as shown on page 7 of these financial statements. The policy of continuing to hold solely an unrestricted reserve is deemed appropriate by the Trustees given the size and the nature of the charity. The Trustees do not foresee any need to change this policy.

Future Developments

Support for existing students cost £22,927 in 2015. In addition, a new full scholarship at PAHS will cost £7,000 in 2016 and subsequent years. All sums are dependent on exchange rates which are unusually volatile at the present time.

It is planned to increase the number of scholarships at PAHS by at least one per year and this will increase significantly the need for fundraising.

5 Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31 December 2015

A summary of income and expenditure is given in the separate financial statement.

Income

At 31 December 2015 there were regular donations from 29 standing orders, totalling £6,492 in the year. Many one-off donations totalling £13,890 came through Justgiving, which reclaims Gift Aid on the charity's behalf. Further donations of £8,024 were made through Giving.com.

Over the year income from all sources totalled £61,973, a significant increase over the previous year's £27,594. The major individual donor this year was Capsugel, a pharmaceutical company manufacturing pill capsules, which donated £13,004.

Expenditure

Expenditure for the financial year was significantly increased because of the costs of making the promotional documentary which required two visits to Nepal, and an increase in administrative costs. Otherwise, costs were minimised by the majority of work being done by the trustees and other volunteers, who also donated most of their expenses.

Payment of student support costs was delayed, being paid in March 2016 in the sum of £22,927 and they therefore do not appear in these accounts.

Donations of £4,000 and £2,800 were made to PHASE Nepal and to Patan Hospital respectively in support of their assistance in the aftermath of the earthquakes.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 21 October 2016 and were signed on its behalf by:

Nigel Lewers – Trustee and Hon. treasurer

