



S.A.L.V.E. International Annual Report 2024



A message from our CEO



I joined S.A.L.V.E. as CEO in March 2024 and I am humbled to have the opportunity to lead such an incredible organisation forward.

2023/24 was a big year for S.A.L.V.E., as we published our head counting research results. They showed a dramatic 192% increase in the number of children living and working on the streets of Jinja since the last data was collected in 2017. We have seen the impact of this increase across all of our departments – from the number of children accessing our Drop in Centres on a daily basis, to our Halfway Homes and Drug Rehabilitation centre regularly reaching full capacity, as well as the number of families across the country who are in need of support from our community, permaculture and education departments. Our team has worked hard to expand our reach, without compromising on the quality of the services we offer.

After considerable growth in the last few years, and in the context of a global cost of living crisis, I am pleased that we have maintained our income level this financial year. The whole S.A.L.V.E. team deserve credit for continuing to envisage creative solutions to the challenges we face, allowing us to secure strong, impactful partnerships with funders and supporters.

I know none of what we have achieved so far would have been possible without the enduring support of our global family, staff team and volunteers. Thank you for believing that no child should have to call the streets their home.

With optimism and thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Lucas Mee'.

Lucas Mee, CEO

Secretary of Children's Council for S.A.L.V.E. International

Dear S.A.L.V.E. friends,

I am 17 years old and the newly elected secretary of the S.A.L.V.E. Children's Council. My hope as a secretary is to closely work with the entire S.A.L.V.E. team and all of my peers on the Children's Council to see how we can talk to our peers about the dangers of street life. I want to make sure that children understand the importance of going back to their families. They should know that no street should be called home.

I want to support more children attain vocational skills like tailoring, plumbing, carpentry and many more. This should be done through conducting career guidance sessions. I wish in the future to be the reason why someone smiles because of the impactful knowledge shared by this committee.

Beatrice*, Children's Council Secretary



A child's journey from the streets to a brighter future

Street Outreach

S.A.L.V.E. Residential Site

Resettlement

Learning and Growing



Our Street Outreach team do regular street walks through Jinja to areas where children can often be found, such as around the rubbish dumps collecting scrap, or near the markets searching for work. There are over 11,000 children on the streets of Jinja.

Children are encouraged to attend one of our two Drop in Centres to access nutritious food, medical care, counselling and a place to wash and bathe.

When they are ready to transition away from the streets, children are referred to either our Drug Rehabilitation Centre or Halfway Homes at our residential site depending on their needs.

Here they will receive medical care, drug addiction support, nutritious food, counselling, educational lessons, permaculture farming skills training and the love and care of supportive social workers, whilst we look for their families.

Children are then supported to resettle back to a loving family home. This can be anywhere across Uganda or neighbouring countries and our team don't stop until the right home is found.

While we typically try to find a home for a child back within their extended family, we also use foster families as well where needed.

Once safely home, our social workers assess the need for further support, such as financial help to attend school or training for their family in business or permaculture skills. We do this to ensure that a child stays happily settled at home with opportunities for their future.

We encourage caregivers to share the skills they have learnt with their community, so our work has even bigger impact.

Street Outreach

822 children attended our Drop in Centres in the last year

590
boys

232
girls

76
sports
sessions

161
street walks

4,688
meals were
given to
children

This year, our
team carried out:



S.A.L.V.E. Residential Site

136

children stayed
in our Halfway
Homes

35
girls

101
boys

75

children stayed in our Drug
Rehabilitation Centre

53
boys

22
girls

This is an increase of

67%

Masiko's Journey

Masiko* left home at 14 to find work as a maid. She worked for a wealthy family and for a while she was happy.

One day a tragedy struck and one of the young children Masiko was looking after sadly died. Even though she was not in the house at the time, Masiko was blamed for the accident. She was scared the family would kill her in retribution so she ran to the streets.

Masiko was alone and scared. She didn't want to return to her family in case her previous employers looked for her there. Instead, she tried to forge a new life, renting a small mud hut for just 10,000 shillings (around GBP £2.50) a month and going to the streets to earn money to survive.

Masiko met some other girls who were also living like this. They were regularly using alcohol and mafuta (aeroplane fuel) as a means of numbing their own experiences of the street. Masiko soon began using drugs and alcohol too. She lived like this for 18 months and during this time was a victim of both physical and sexual violence.

Our Street Outreach team met Masiko and her friends during a street walk and encouraged them to attend our Drop in Centre. In time Masiko was referred to our Drug Rehab Centre to get the specialist support she needed to overcome her addiction.

Whilst undergoing rehabilitation, we were able to trace Masiko's family and they were delighted to be reunited with her. We supported them in rebuilding their relationship as a family and helped them understand what had happened to Masiko and the trauma that she had faced. Masiko has now been resettled and we are following up with her regularly as she adjusts to life back at home.



Resettling Children Home

142

children were resettled back
to a loving family home

We have an

81%

long-term success rate of
children remaining home
for 12 months or more



This year, our
team carried out:

684
physical
follow ups

1,643
phone
follow ups



Learning and Growing

Business Empowerment & Permaculture

86

new businesses were started

This is a

41%

increase from last year

41 permaculture businesses

13 single mother's businesses

27 urban focussed businesses

26 advanced business grants were given

Mamma Mark's Journey

We helped Mamma Mark start a business selling cassava through our main business programme. She was doing well selling by the roadside and was always positive and motivated by her business, using her profits to support her children's basic needs.



Through the Advanced Business programme, we helped her think about expanding and she had some great ideas but just needed the capital and the self-confidence to try them. With some encouragement, she went and visited a local secondary school – one of the biggest schools in the area - and formed an agreement to be their main supplier of snacks. This helped her expand her business and she now employs two other people to help her because the demand is so high.

During the school holidays, she returns to selling by the roadside, but is pleased with the profits that she is making throughout the year.

Her son, who was once on the streets, has just joined a vocational course. She was proud that she was able to cover many of the school requirements and we are in the process of transitioning him back to her support fully over the next few months.

You can learn more about Mamma Mark in her video bit visiting our [S.A.L.V.E. YouTube channel](#).



Learning and Growing

Education

18
children
graduated
this year

A total of

158

children were supported in education
during the year and at the end of the
year, we have

123

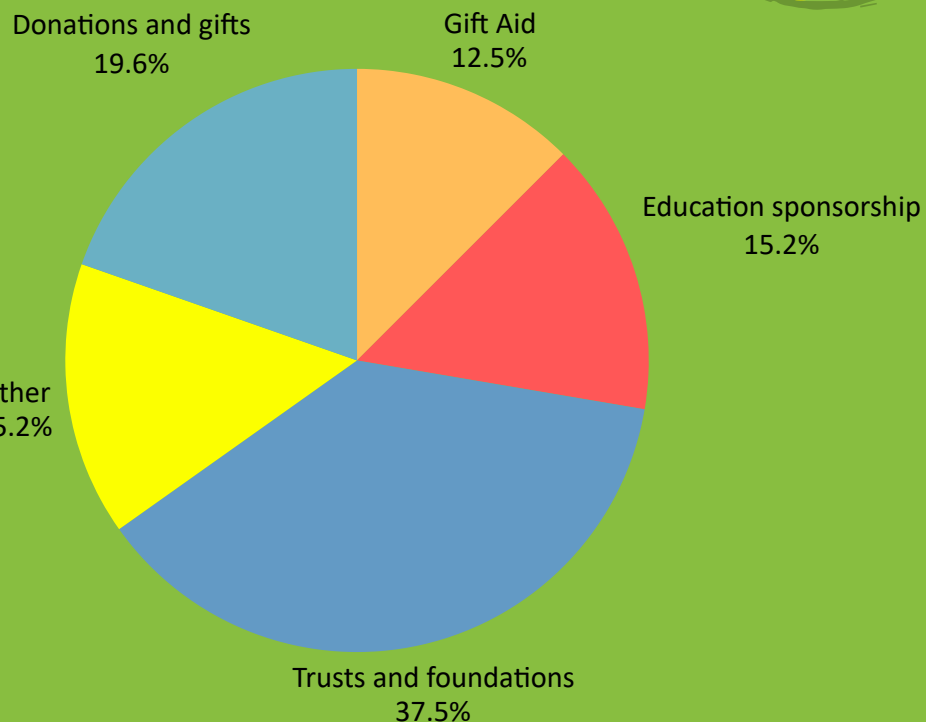
currently in education.

*'Attaining an education and being
able to go to school has changed
my life'* Shakira, 15



Income

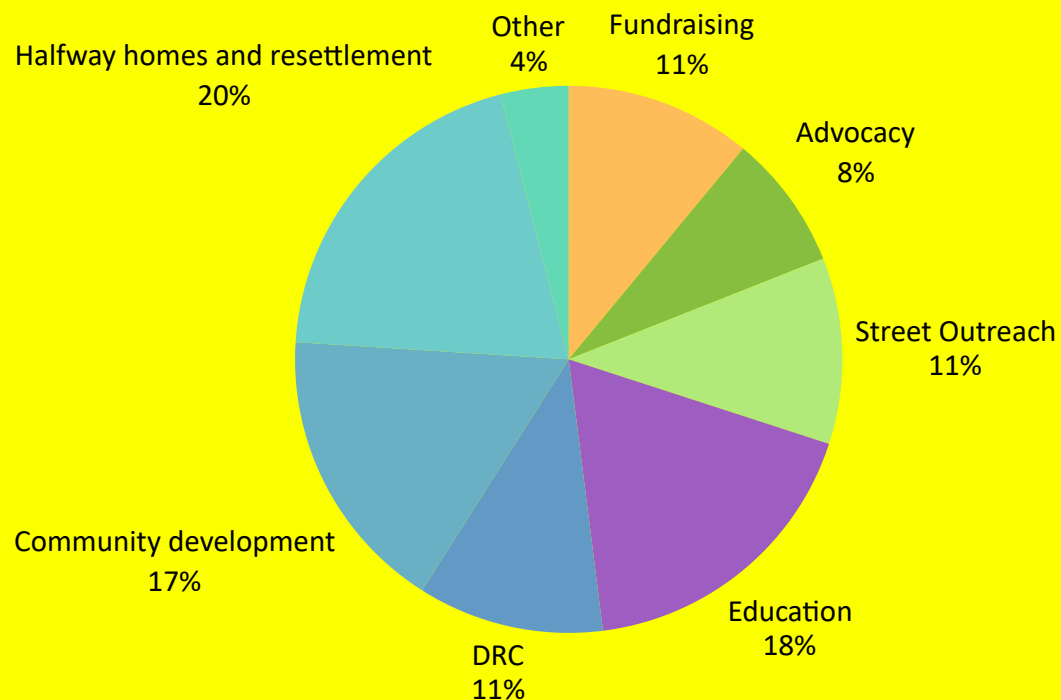
£283,957
which is a 1%
increase from
2022/23



80% of our
expenditure was
on programme
delivery

£270,369
a 3%
reduction
from 2022/23

Expenditure



£225 is our
approximate
investment per
child

Supporting S.A.L.V.E.

We want to say a very big thank you to everyone who has supported S.A.L.V.E. over the past year. Below are just a few. Our work would not be possible without your help.

Aarven

Alfreton Inner Wheel
Brian Murtagh Charitable Trust
Catenian Association Circle 151 Droitwich and District
Exodus Travels Foundation
Father O'Mahony Memorial Trust
Garstang Quaker Meeting
Help Change Lives
MJB Charitable Trust
Nalu Afrika
One World Centre
Opportunity to Hope
Paradigm Norton Trust
Pro-Seed

Shishukunj

Soroptimist International Manchester
The Angela Gallagher Memorial Fund
The Coles-Medlock Foundation
The Evan Cornish Foundation
The Hudson Charitable Trust
The Mirianog Trust
The Pat Newman Memorial Trust
The Peter Stebbings Memorial Trust
The Rates Family Charitable Trust
The Rozelle Trust
The Souter Charitable Trust
Ward Family Charitable Trust
Webmart



Get Involved

Fundraise

Challenge yourself and make a difference.



Partner

Nominate us for your office giving, link your school or see how your business can benefit along with ours.

Donate

Provide life-changing opportunities for children by donating money or giving in kind.



Volunteer

Give your time and skills to make a lasting impact.



www.salveinternational.org



info@salveinternational.org

UK Charity number: 1126793 & Ugandan
Registered Charity number: JJA/07/2016/570