

Charity Registration No. 1185078

Company Registration No. 09527065 (England and Wales)

**ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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<b>Trustees</b>	Ms E Jones Mr J O'Sullivan Mr J Lenihan Ms B Seaborne Ms H Wilson	(Appointed 28 April 2023)
<b>Charity number</b>	1185078	
<b>Company number</b>	09527065	
<b>Registered office</b>	30 Commercial Road Swindon SN1 5NS	
<b>Independent examiner</b>	Shaw Gibbs Limited 264 Banbury Road Oxford OX2 7DY	

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# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

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## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23

For The Year Ending 31 March 2023

### Foreword by AAFDA's CEO

The demand on AAFDA's services continues to grow. As the only organisation providing specialist advocacy support to families bereaved by suicide or unexplained deaths in the context of domestic abuse, and due to our work to highlight the need for Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) after these deaths, we received more than double the amount of suicide and unexplained death related referrals than homicide related in 2022/23. Responding, with limited resources, to the needs of family members is challenging, as is supporting the learning of the other agencies and professionals that families come into contact with, to make sure that they also understand the families' needs. AAFDA's expertise has been drawn upon across the academic, voluntary and statutory sectors and we have assisted with DHR related research, the development of community initiatives for families concerned about a loved one, changes in police practice as regards investigating suicides and work to reform the DHR process. We look forward to working with stakeholders to further develop the revised statutory guidance for DHRs.



With the Board of Trustees, we have, this year, worked on developing a renewed strategy for AAFDA, utilising a theory of change approach and drawing on our learning from bereaved families and the policy environment. Critical to this is ensuring that all of our efforts and resources are rightly focused on achieving our ultimate aim of a future free of domestic abuse.

2022/23 concluded with AAFDA's hugely impactful conference, hosting 282 delegates. Reflective of everything that AAFDA stands and advocates for, bereaved family members were integral to the delivery of this, and their strong presence (almost equalling the number of professionals) meant their voices were heard and their stories were able to positively influence practice.

AAFDA has achieved a lot, for many, with very little, and could not have achieved this without the hard work and commitment of our team, to whom I am immensely grateful. I also extend my gratitude to the Board of Trustees, our supporters and our funders, all of whom enable us to do what we do best – supporting families following the trauma of fatal domestic abuse and illuminating the past to make the future safer.

Frank Mullane MBE



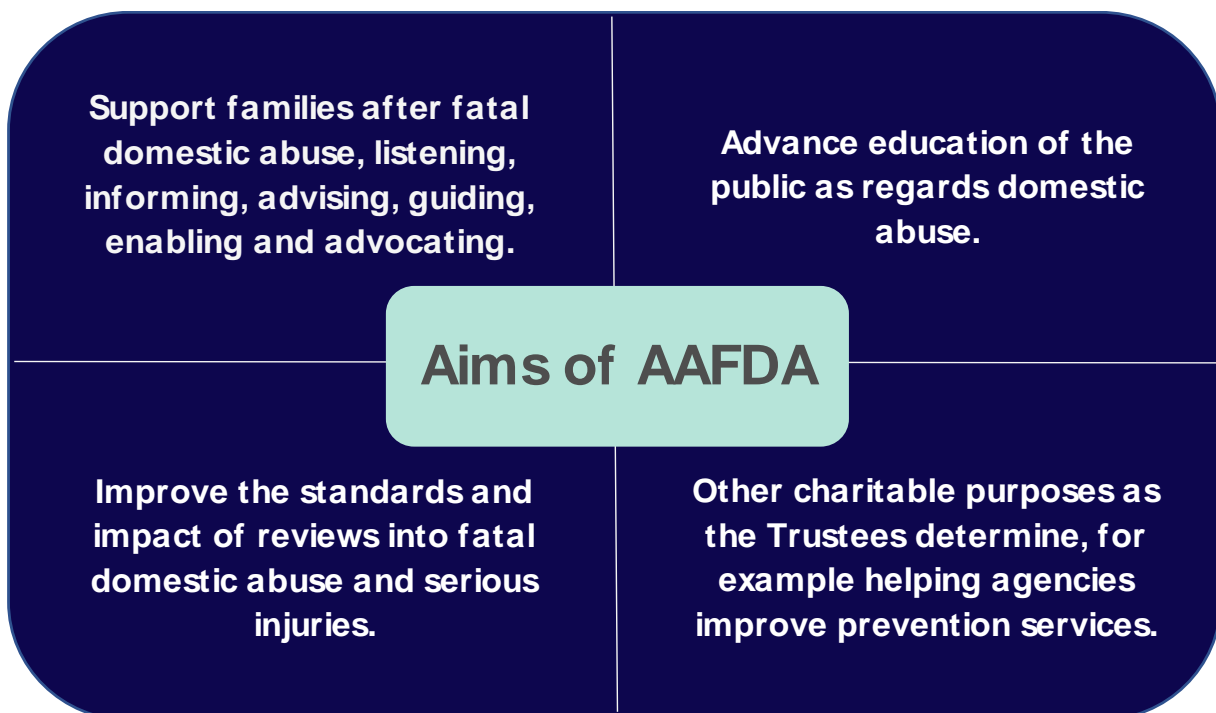
## About AAFDA

Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse (AAFDA) was founded by Frank Mullane MBE in 2008, in memory of his sister and nephew, Julia and Will Pemberton, whose murders in 2003 prompted an inquiry exposing the difficulties families face in these circumstances. Known as the Pemberton Homicide Review, the inquiry was the first of its kind, exposing a deeply inadequate response to domestic abuse victims. The emotionally exhausting, arduous, and costly process gave Frank the resolve to ensure no one else faced the same barriers to access justice. He then helped to establish Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs), which became law in 2011.

AAFDA is also a centre of excellence for reviews into domestic homicides, suicides and unexplained deaths following domestic abuse. We are particularly skilled in DHR methodology and best practice, having been closely involved in developing the model with the Home Office since 2008, three years before they became law. Using our specialist knowledge and collective insights, we provide for the needs of families bereaved by fatal domestic abuse and help agencies to refine their services for victims suffering domestic abuse and to review domestic abuse related deaths more effectively. We provide a unique national voice for the learning that each DHR generates. While no two cases are the same, we believe that each DHR is an opportunity to end domestic abuse.

### AAFDA's Vision: A future free of domestic abuse

AAFDA's Mission: We advocate, educate and influence to ensure victims' voices are heard, driving change.





## Our work with families impacted by fatal domestic abuse

### Advocacy:

AAFDA's specialist and expert advocates are at the heart of the charity. They have lived experience and understanding of the issues faced. Our advocates provide specialist and expert advocacy and peer support, working with the family to secure their right to an adequate investigation and equal treatment within the post-fatal domestic abuse process. They challenge disadvantage, raise the status of the victim in the case narrative, and ensure that the family is integral (not just involved) within post-homicide reviews. AAFDA's trauma-informed service, providing long-term advocacy, goes 'above and beyond' to restore dignity and bring relief to families.



*The Blanket of Everlasting Love was borne out of AAFDA's peer support sessions. The squares were knitted by and for particular families and have been marked with an inscribed heart attached. Families were invited to add a heart representing their lost loved one at AAFDA's 2023 conference.*

**Some highlights of the advocacy support provided in 2022/23 include:**

- Securing seven DHRs where it was not the intention of the commissioning authorities to undertake one. We also began the process of securing a further four DHRs.
- Successfully influencing the police in multiple areas to reopen two criminal investigations and improving interaction between bereaved families and the police and/or the coroner.
- Increasing the number of statutory agencies providing support to families: 40 Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs), 55 Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) and 22 other agencies, including Children’s Social Care.

AAFDA continues to be the only national provider of specialist and expert advocacy and peer support to people bereaved by suicide and unexplained death where there was a history of domestic abuse.

In 2022/23 we received 97 new referrals, taking the total receiving active advocacy support, in that year, to 255 family members impacted by fatal domestic abuse.

2022-2023	Ongoing/existing support	New referrals	Total
Homicide	69	27	96
Suicide	65	50	115
Unexplained/sudden death	18	10	28
Ongoing abuse	0	5	5
Other/not known	2	4	6
Parole	4	1	5
Total	158	97	255

**Support for children and young people:**

Whilst the Home Office Multi-agency Statutory Guidance for the Conduct of Domestic Homicide Reviews (2016) acknowledges that children should have the opportunity to participate in reviews, this rarely happens, with professionals involved in DHRs lacking the knowledge and tools to facilitate this. And there has been no specialist support available to assist children impacted by fatal domestic abuse. In response to these identified needs, in 2022/23 AAFDA has:



- Established a dedicated support service for children bereaved by fatal domestic abuse delivered by Specialist and Expert Children and Young People’s Advocates.
- Worked with a very experienced DHR Chair and a local Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to finalise the first Child Appropriate DHR.
- Built on our collaboration with AVA (Against Violence and Abuse) and continued to raise awareness of our guidance for professionals, carers and children and young people to help support children affected by DHRs.

## **Giving families a platform to influence change:**

AAFDA has always held in high regard the personal testimonies of the families and friends who use our services and the importance of these in influencing improvements to policy and practice. Further, we recognise that, for some family members, telling the story of their lost loved one and ensuring that lessons are learned is critical to their recovery process. AAFDA invites contributions from family members to all of our training and significant events.

We supported systems change in both England and Wales – drawing out key learnings from families' cases where agencies could have intervened, improving understanding of domestic abuse and how to respond more effectively. This included bringing together the National Police Chief Council Domestic Abuse and VAWG leads, civil servants from the Home Office and families as part of the development of the Domestic Abuse Act guidance and updated DHR Guidance.

In 2022/23, 12 family members contributed to training or other events held by AAFDA and 22 family members were involved in consultation workshops.

*“AAFDA has given me strength to find and use my voice, to have my sister understood as a person in what is a professional landscape, they need to understand who she was and what she was like to understand her experience, I am her voice now” (Family member)*

In February 2023, AAFDA facilitated another learning day, bringing together 10 family members bereaved by suicides or unexplained deaths following domestic abuse and the Metropolitan Police Service Assistant Commissioner, National Police Chief's Council lead for domestic abuse, police colleagues, Home Office and VKPP<sup>1</sup> project representatives. The purpose of the day was to present the findings of the Domestic Homicides and Suspected Victim Suicides 2021-2022 Year 2 Report, seek feedback from family members and to foster continual learning about what needs to improve regarding police responses to suicides/unexplained deaths within the context of domestic abuse.

With a range of partners and led by Wearside Women in Need, AAFDA has supported the development of the 'We Findaway' project, bringing together a reference group of family members who are experts by experience. The project has launched a critically-needed support service for family and friends concerned that someone they care about may be experiencing domestic abuse.

## **Peer support:**

AAFDA's drop-in peer support sessions (facilitated online at least once a week by an AAFDA team member) are an established safe space to enable families impacted by fatal domestic abuse to connect and share ways to cope with their loss. These sessions also enable families who wish to remain in touch with AAFDA to do so once their advocacy support ends. 72 individuals attended peer support sessions.

*“I quite simply would not have survived without AAFDA, the staff, peer support and advocates changed my life” (Family member)*

<sup>1</sup> National Policing Vulnerability Knowledge and Practice Programme





## Our work with professionals

In addition to the direct work our advocates undertake with agencies and professionals to improve their responses to individual cases, AAFDA has a wide-ranging training and professional development offer, with the aim of improving practice. We examine ways to help them, particularly in the reviews that follow fatal domestic abuse.

In March 2023, AAFDA published 'Learning Legacies: An Analysis of Domestic Homicide Reviews in Cases of Domestic Abuse Suicide', research which was undertaken in partnership with Warwick University. This highlights ways in which DHRs might develop our understanding of the experiences of those who take their own lives and identify pathways to improved suicide prevention in the context of domestic abuse. The research was launched in the Houses of Parliament.

### The DHR Network:

The DHR Network has continued to grow its membership to include almost 250 members representing professionals involved in DHRs, including CSPs and Independent Chairs. The main aim of the DHR Network is to create a consistently high standard of DHRs and offer resources and support for the key professionals involved in them. Benefits for members during 2022/23 included:

- An online discussion forum, with 31 new discussion topics active during the year
- 60 DHR alerts circulated, connecting Chairs with CSPs undertaking a DHR
- A repository of research, articles and resources that is regularly updated
- Short monthly learning and connecting events
- Longer quarterly learning events with expert speakers.

Amongst other topics, events this year included learning sessions on involving children and young people in DHRs, DHRs and inquests, the challenges of being a new Chair, DHRs involving sex workers, and understanding autism and good practice in DHRs. Feedback on these events has been overwhelmingly positive.

*“Being a member of the DHR Network has been really useful. The zoom sessions provided lots of useful information and perspectives from both members of DHR panels, survivors of domestic abuse and family members” (DHR Network member)*

The DHR Network Steering Group has continued to meet, drawing on intelligence provided by the DHR Network membership and enabling national work on DHR reform to be connected.

## Training:

Given the importance of DHRs in driving improvement in domestic abuse services, a primary focus for AAFDA is the professional development of DHR Chairs. This year we facilitated five deliveries of our accredited national DHR Chair training with 51 participants. These sessions incorporated presentations from several external speakers, including family members who have previously undertaken the DHR process and Professors from Oxford University and Gloucestershire University. In addition, we delivered two refresher courses for more experienced Chairs.



AAFDA delivered both bespoke and CPD accredited national training on “Being an Effective DHR Panel Member”, “Reviewing Suicide and Unexplained Deaths” and “Managing a Domestic Homicide Review”, as well as many other topic related training events. A total of 273 professionals received training by AAFDA in the year. That does not include the hundreds of professionals in audiences that our CEO addressed.

*“It gave me confidence to challenge when I think decisions are being made that are not in line with the statutory guidance. I really liked the emphasis on no blame and I think I need to remember that.” (Training participant)*



## Our national influence

AAFDA has continued to support leadership in the public policy arena, exerting strategic influence, representing the needs of those affected by fatal domestic abuse and the professionals involved in this work. To this end, we successfully challenged a weakened definition of victim in the Victims Bill, which reflected wording in the Victims Code. Our concern was that if the narrower definition was used as the foundation for drafting the proposed Victims' Law, there may have been a reduction in access to victims' rights for some. We brought this to the attention of the Justice Secretary at the time (Dominic Raab) and the Victims Commissioner at the time (Dame Vera Baird KC), who supported our concerns.



The current draft Bill reflects the definition per previous statute which AAFDA sought to protect, as it recognises victims of crime/criminal conduct where criminality has not been established.

To support the embedding of the Non-Fatal Strangulation (NFS) offence, we supported the Institute for Addressing Strangulation and SafeLives to develop and deliver sessions and training which enable professionals to recognise when the offence has occurred and/or the life or health of a victim of NFS may be at risk.



In March 2023, we held our national conference, bringing together 139 bereaved family members with 143 professionals, providing opportunities for peer support and learning. Four bereaved family members gave moving accounts of their experience of loss as a result of fatal domestic abuse, which provided impactful learning for professionals. After the event, the Domestic Abuse Commissioner, Nicole Jacobs wrote the following on Twitter:

*“I was honoured to chair @AAFDA6 conference this week - the biggest gathering of bereaved families. It was humbling to hear so many moving + painful stories. Testaments of resilience, bravery + courage @AAFDA6 advocates and @FMullaneAAFDA have a powerful impact on so many lives. There were so many strong + inspirational voices in the room working to drive change – academics; campaigners; families. Every day the families I met will be in my mind as my team + I work hard to make changes. Next time we meet I hope I can share significant progress.”*

### **Raising the profile and understanding of domestic abuse and fatal domestic abuse:**

AAFDA, along with sector partners, has continued to provide strong leadership in building the knowledge base about domestic abuse and fatal domestic abuse, the needs of those impacted by it and best practice responses. This includes heightened awareness of and improving responses to suicide and unexplained deaths following domestic abuse and the Government’s commitment to reform the DHR process.

We also supported the national Support After Suicide Partnership’s annual conference, raising awareness of the postvention support needs of families impacted by domestic abuse related suicides to the 253 colleagues who attended this remote event.

During the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence 2022, AAFDA hosted a series of webinars to shine a spotlight on some of the different players with a role in responding to domestic abuse. This included health, social care, criminal justice, financial institutions, specialist support, communities and prevention through learning reviews, as well as a national policy overview.

Our CEO, Frank Mullane, was invited to address multiple audiences as keynote speaker or presenter, including for example, events in Northern Ireland and others held by Probation, and agencies from Hertfordshire, Devon and Cornwall.

Additionally, AAFDA has issued press releases on relevant topics and Frank was regularly approached to provide comment in national and local media.

The website [www.aafda.org.uk](http://www.aafda.org.uk) continues to be a key source of information for both families impacted by fatal domestic abuse and professionals. We have further built upon our online presence throughout 2022/23 and our dedicated peer-support mailing group enables us to share information about third party research and support available for families to the 204 families who are members of this group.



AAFDA has continued to be a member of the Home Office Quality Assurance Panel, jointly assessing 229 DHRs and multiple CSP decisions not to undertake DHRs.

*“Moreover, the work of the charity Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse has been pivotal in getting us here today. I have huge respect for the chief executive Frank Mullane, who works tirelessly to help support traumatised families and ensures that professional training is given towards understanding domestic homicide reviews.” (Baroness Newlove)*



## Good governance and management

During 2022/2023, our Board consisted of five Trustees. New Trustee David Ford joined as our Treasurer and, with his lived experience as a bereaved family member, complemented the diversity of our Trustees which include a local authority strategic Violence Against Women and Girls lead and expert in the criminal justice sector, a restorative justice practitioner, a safeguarding lead for a Clinical Commissioning Group and senior health advisor and a business and finance specialist.

Our Board meets, at minimum, on a quarterly basis. The Chair and Treasurer have regular and frequent contact with the CEO. During Board meetings the CEO and Deputy CEO report on the main aspects of the charity (work with beneficiaries, impact on victims, emerging issues, finance, strategic plan, operational performance, and risk).

The Board is very aware of its responsibilities to identify and manage risk. A risk management register is reviewed regularly by the CEO who highlights to the Board any increased or new risks identified.

The Board complies with statutory obligations to submit Full Year Accounts, a Trustees' Annual Report, and an Annual Return to the Charity Commission.

### **Trustee induction and training:**

We review the composition and skills of the Board each year to ensure that AAFDA has the skills and knowledge to allow the Board to provide robust governance. All new trustees are supplied with a copy of “*The Essential Trustee*”, provided by the Charity Commission, and relevant training is provided to support trustees in their role.

### **Finance:**

#### ***Commentary on 2022/23:***

AAFDA has seen its income for 2022/23 increase to £968K. This was mainly due to new grants from PCCs and the Home Office. Combined, this revenue has enabled us to ensure a period of stability for our employees and to invest, in line with the restricted nature of the grants, in more support for families. In addition, the Charity has seen an uplift in costs consistent with an organisation growing in size. More funds have been expended in developing the Charity's infrastructure and systems, increasing our efficiency and sustainability whilst ensuring our staff are supported to case manage in psychologically safe environments.

As AAFDA grows, the Trustees are allocating more resources to continue to maintain and improve good governance, excellent internal controls and compliance with regulations.

### **Reserves Policy:**

To ensure the long-term success and sustainability of AAFDA amidst a very uncertain funding and operating environment, the Trustees aim to maintain free reserves (which exclude restricted grants) equivalent to between three to six months of budgeted operating costs. These free reserves include designated funds which are set aside for specific projects decided by the Board.

### **Public Benefit Statement:**

The Trustees understand it is their duty in exercising their powers to meet the obligations as outlined by the Charity Commission. For example, these responsibilities include being clear that the activities undertaken by AAFDA are for the public benefit and meet the objectives outlined in the Charity's Articles of Association.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 30 Jan 2024

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James O'Sullivan  
Chair

The  
Henry Smith  
Charity

founded in 1628



Esmée  
Fairbairn  
FOUNDATION

John Ellerman  
Foundation



THE DULVERTON TRUST

C L I F F O R D  
C H A N C E

*“ANYWAY, LISTENING ISN'T ENOUGH”*

*(FAMILY MEMBER)*

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

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I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse Ltd (the Charity) for the period ended 31 March 2023.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the Trustees of the Charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the Charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

*Samantha Daniels*

Samantha Daniels FCA  
For and on behalf of  
Shaw Gibbs Limited  
264 Banbury Road  
Oxford  
OX2 7DY

Dated: .30 Jan 2024..

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

*FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023*

	Notes	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds general 2022 as restated £	Unrestricted funds designated 2022 as restated £	Restricted funds 2022 as restated £	Total 2022 as restated £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>									
Donations and legacies	3	16,978	-	809,878	826,856	4,289	-	502,067	506,356
Charitable activities	4	139,616	-	-	139,616	73,350	-	-	73,350
Other income	5	1,501	-	-	1,501	-	-	-	-
<b>Total income</b>		158,095	-	809,878	967,973	77,639	-	502,067	579,706
<b>Expenditure on:</b>									
Raising funds	6	29,547	-	-	29,547	24,842	-	-	24,842
Charitable activities	7	150,057	-	684,878	834,935	110,865	-	502,067	612,932
Total expenditure		179,604	-	684,878	864,482	135,707	-	502,067	637,774
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		(21,509)	-	125,000	103,491	(58,068)	-	-	(58,068)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	(35,000)	35,000	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(21,509)	-	125,000	103,491	(93,068)	35,000	-	(58,068)
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>									
Transferred from previous charity						373,827	15,000	-	388,827
Fund balances at 6 April 2022		280,759	50,000	-	330,759				
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2023</b>		259,250	50,000	125,000	434,250	280,759	50,000	-	330,759



# **ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD**

## **STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

***FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023***

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The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

		2023		2022 as restated	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	12		12,791		-
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	13	105,376		1,980	
Cash at bank and in hand		448,129		447,826	
		553,505		449,806	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	14	132,046		119,047	
Net current assets			421,459		330,759
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			434,250		330,759
<b>The funds of the Charity</b>					
Restricted income funds	15	125,000			-
Unrestricted funds - general		259,250		280,759	
Unrestricted funds - designated	16	50,000		50,000	
		434,250		330,759	

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the period ended 31 March 2023.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the period in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 30 Jan 2024



Mr J O'Sullivan  
Trustee

Company registration number 09527065 (England and Wales)

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
Cash generated from operations	20		14,942		314,578
<b>Investing activities</b>					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(14,639)		-	
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>			(14,639)		-
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>			-		-
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>			303		314,578
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period			447,826		133,248
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of period</b>			448,129		447,826

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# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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#### 1 Accounting policies

##### Charity information

Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse Ltd is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 30 Commercial Road, Swindon, SN1 5NS.

##### 1.1 Reporting period

The Trustees have elected to change the current reporting date to 31 March 2023. As a result the current period is shorter than a full year from 6 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 which is not directly comparable with the comparative 12 months ended 5 April 2022.

##### 1.2 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charity's [governing document], the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

##### 1.3 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

##### 1.4 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

##### 1.5 Income

Income is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 1.6 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

#### 1.7 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Computers	3 years straight line
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The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

#### 1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the Charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

#### 1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

#### 1.10 Financial instruments

The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

#### **Basic financial assets**

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### **Basic financial liabilities**

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **Derecognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

#### 1.11 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

#### 1.12 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

### 3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds as restated 2022	Restricted funds as restated 2022	Total as restated 2022
	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	16,978	-	16,978	4,289	-	4,289
Grants received	-	809,878	809,878	-	502,067	502,067
	<u>16,978</u>	<u>809,878</u>	<u>826,856</u>	<u>4,289</u>	<u>502,067</u>	<u>506,356</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 3 Income from donations and legacies (Continued)

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds as restated 2022	Restricted funds as restated 2022	Total as restated 2022
	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Grants receivable for core activities</b>						
Police and Crime Commissioners	-	206,105	206,105	-	114,095	114,095
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	150,142	150,142	-	11,267	11,267
Wearside Women in Need	-	20,000	20,000	-	-	-
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	-	73,000	73,000	-	-	-
Home Office Perpetrator Home Office	-	70,631	70,631	-	5,000	5,000
John Ellerman Foundation	-	250,000	250,000	-	304,148	304,148
The Henry Smith Charity	-	40,000	40,000	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	60,000	60,000
	-	-	-	-	7,557	7,557
	-	809,878	809,878	-	502,067	502,067

### 4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023	Unrestricted funds as restated 2022
	£	£
<b>Training and influencing</b>		
Speaking, consultancy and training fees	139,616	73,350

### 5 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2023	Unrestricted funds as restated 2022
	£	£
Other income	1,501	-

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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### 6 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds as restated 2022 £
<b>Fundraising and publicity</b>		
Other fundraising costs	29,547	24,842



# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Advocacy Training and and peer influencing support		Total	Total
	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	as restated 2022 £
<b>Direct costs</b>				
Staff costs	456,126	36,302	492,428	311,097
Depreciation and impairment	130	-	130	-
Travel expenses	29,187	4,812	33,999	12,258
Domestic homicide review network	-	15,445	15,445	31,849
Project partner costs	-	5,841	5,841	17,058
Support materials	1,511	-	1,511	7,140
Equipment renewal	1,552	-	1,552	10,667
Trauma therapy	(8,315)	-	(8,315)	13,500
Peer support	22,899	-	22,899	21,479
Supervision and staff welfare	12,691	378	13,069	7,962
Training and recruitment	11,206	40	11,246	7,408
Monitoring and evaluation	15,090	-	15,090	25,739
Strategic review and capacity development	-	5,800	5,800	26,342
Advocacy awareness cost adjustment	-	-	-	(5,511)
External training and event costs	-	31,320	31,320	28,197
Temporary external staff costs	9,139	-	9,139	-
Annual conference	-	36,642	36,642	-
Other charitable expenditure	1,864	-	1,864	4,294
	<u>553,080</u>	<u>136,580</u>	<u>689,660</u>	<u>519,479</u>
<b>Share of support and governance costs (see note 8)</b>				
Support	95,894	16,923	112,817	88,549
Governance	27,589	4,869	32,458	4,904
	<u>676,563</u>	<u>158,372</u>	<u>834,935</u>	<u>612,932</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>				
Unrestricted funds - general	(8,315)	158,372	150,057	110,865
Restricted funds	684,878	-	684,878	502,067
	<u>676,563</u>	<u>158,372</u>	<u>834,935</u>	<u>612,932</u>

Amounts totalling £60,000 accrued in previous periods have been released in the current period. Of these approximately £15,000 related to expenditure which was expected to be incurred but which was not subsequently charged. This has resulted in the above expenses being lower than actually incurred in the current year

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 8 Support costs allocated to activities

	2023	2022
	£	as restated £
Staff costs	50,554	36,578
Depreciation	1,718	-
Travel costs	1,193	139
IT systems and website	443	14,556
Telephone and postage	4,660	3,312
Security	1,665	3,836
Office supplies and utilities	3,184	5,652
Insurance	2,299	4,303
HR services	6,176	5,940
Legal and professional	12,857	12,209
Supervision and staff welfare	1,826	1,113
Training and recruitment	19,983	911
Other costs	6,259	-
Governance costs (see below)	32,458	4,904
	<u>145,275</u>	<u>93,453</u>
<b>Analysed between:</b>		
Advocacy and peer support	123,483	93,453
Training and influencing	21,792	-
	<u>145,275</u>	<u>93,453</u>

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>Governance costs comprise:</b>		
Accountancy	25,314	2,794
Board governance	7,144	2,110
	<u>32,458</u>	<u>4,904</u>

In the prior year, training and influencing costs have been included within the advocacy and peer support charitable activity.

### 9 Trustees

During the year, the charity reimbursed expenses incurred by one of the trustees, totalling £1,156 (2022: £NIL).

During the year, the charity purchased services from one of the trustees, totalling £4,800 (2022: £NIL).

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 10 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the period was:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
Fundraising	1	1
Charitable activities	20	12
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Total	21	13
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

### Employment costs

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	490,202	316,390
Social security costs	39,795	22,618
Other pension costs	12,985	8,667
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	542,982	347,675
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000 is as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
£60,001 to £70,000	1	-
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

### 11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

### 12 Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Computers</b>
	<b>£</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
Additions	14,638
	<u>          </u>
At 31 March 2023	14,638
	<u>          </u>
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>	
Depreciation charged in the period	1,847
	<u>          </u>
At 31 March 2023	1,847
	<u>          </u>
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
At 31 March 2023	12,791
	<u>          </u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 13 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>		
Other debtors	78,352	-
Prepayments and accrued income	27,024	1,980
	<u>105,376</u>	<u>1,980</u>

### 14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2023	2022
		£	£
Other taxation and social security		31,004	-
Deferred income		46,300	-
Other creditors		5,197	-
Accruals and deferred income		49,545	119,047
		<u>132,046</u>	<u>119,047</u>

### 15 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 6 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Police and Crime Commissioners	-	201,105	(201,105)	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	150,142	(25,142)	125,000
Wearside Women in Need	-	20,000	(20,000)	-
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	-	73,000	(73,000)	-
Home Office Perpetrator	-	70,631	(70,631)	-
Home Office	-	250,000	(250,000)	-
John Ellerman Foundation	-	40,000	(40,000)	-
Other grants	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>809,878</u>	<u>(684,878)</u>	<u>125,000</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 15 Restricted funds (Continued)

Previous year:	At 6 April 2021 as restated £	Incoming resources as restated £	Resources expended as restated £	At 5 April 2022 as restated £
Major trusts and foundations	-	173,719	(173,719)	-
Government grants	-	182,429	(182,429)	-
Sundry grants	-	145,919	(145,919)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>502,067</u>	<u>(502,067)</u>	<u>-</u>

### 16 Unrestricted funds - designated

These are unrestricted funds which are material to the Charity's activities.

	At 6 April 2022 £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
Designated fund	50,000	-	50,000
	<u>50,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>50,000</u>
Previous year:	At 6 April 2021 £	Transfers £	At 5 April 2022 £
Designated fund	15,000	35,000	50,000
	<u>15,000</u>	<u>35,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>

The Charity maintains a designated fund to facilitate its capacity building projects.

### 17 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 6 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
General funds	280,759	158,095	(179,604)	-	259,250
	<u>280,759</u>	<u>158,095</u>	<u>(179,604)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>259,250</u>
Previous year:	At 6 April 2021 as restated £	Incoming resources as restated £	Resources expended as restated £	Transfers as restated £	At 5 April 2022 as restated £
General funds	373,827	77,639	(135,707)	(35,000)	280,759
	<u>373,827</u>	<u>77,639</u>	<u>(135,707)</u>	<u>(35,000)</u>	<u>280,759</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible assets	10,563	-	2,228	12,791
Current assets/(liabilities)	248,687	50,000	122,772	421,459
	<u>259,250</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>125,000</u>	<u>434,250</u>

	Unrestricted funds general as restated 2022 £	Unrestricted funds designated as restated 2022 £	Restricted funds as restated 2022 £	Total as restated 2022 £
<b>Fund balances at 5 April 2022 are represented by:</b>				
Current assets/(liabilities)	280,759	50,000	-	330,759
	<u>280,759</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>330,759</u>

### 19 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the period (2022 - none).

### 20 Cash generated from operations

	2023 £	2022 as restated £
Surplus/(deficit) for the period	103,491	(58,068)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	1,848	-
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in debtors	(103,396)	(1,980)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(33,301)	129,673
Increase in deferred income	46,300	244,953
<b>Cash generated from operations</b>	<u>14,942</u>	<u>314,578</u>

# ADVOCACY AFTER FATAL DOMESTIC ABUSE LTD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

### 21 Prior period adjustment

	6 April 2021 £	5 April 2022 £
<b>Adjustments to prior period</b>		
Release accrual	10,625	-
Release deferred income	244,954	118,235
Unrestricted funds as previously reported	118,248	151,899
	<u>373,827</u>	<u>280,759</u>
<b>Analysis of the effect upon reserves</b>		
Unrestricted fund	255,579	118,235
	<u>255,579</u>	<u>118,235</u>
<b>Reconciliation of changes in for the previous financial period</b>		
	2021 £	2022 £
Total adjustments	-	(126,720)
Net incoming/ (outgoing) resources as previously reported	(2,416)	68,652
	<u>(2,416)</u>	<u>68,652</u>
Net incoming/ (outgoing) resources as previously reported as adjusted	(2,416)	(58,068)
	<u>(2,416)</u>	<u>(58,068)</u>

In the prior year, there have been reallocations between direct costs and support costs to ensure the accounts are comparable with the current year. There is no impact on the overall funds.



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