

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

HANDS AT WORK IN AFRICA (UK)

A LOOK BACK AT 2023

Dear Friends,

This report gives a brief snapshot of the work of Hands at Work in the UK over the last year. A year where we saw a UK partner visiting Mozambique for the first time, had our first UK gathering since the pandemic, welcomed two new partners, and a new Partnerships Team started to take shape to help communicate information from our communities in Africa.

We built upon existing work by continuing to improve on our governance and policies, by strengthening our Safeguarding Team and processes, and by working closer than ever with our counterparts in other International Offices across the world.

Another important moment to celebrate as we reflect on 2023 is how the Hands at Work UK community came together in response to the purchasing of land for the Buhimba Care Point in the Democratic Republic of Congo. This speedy and exceptionally generous response meant that 100 children at Buhimba could continue to come to this place of safety and life amongst such turmoil and instability.

Our day-to-day support for the most vulnerable children would not be possible without the monthly commitment from our partners and individual givers. This enables the sustainable transformation and growth of these communities and the children who live there.

In looking back over this last year, and considering our 26 partners, over 40 Advocates, 31 UK volunteers, and support for over 1,000 children in 13 communities and in 5 countries, we give thanks for this generosity and service. We thank you for all your faithful support and prayers and give thanks for God's faithfulness and mercy. We do not take it for granted!

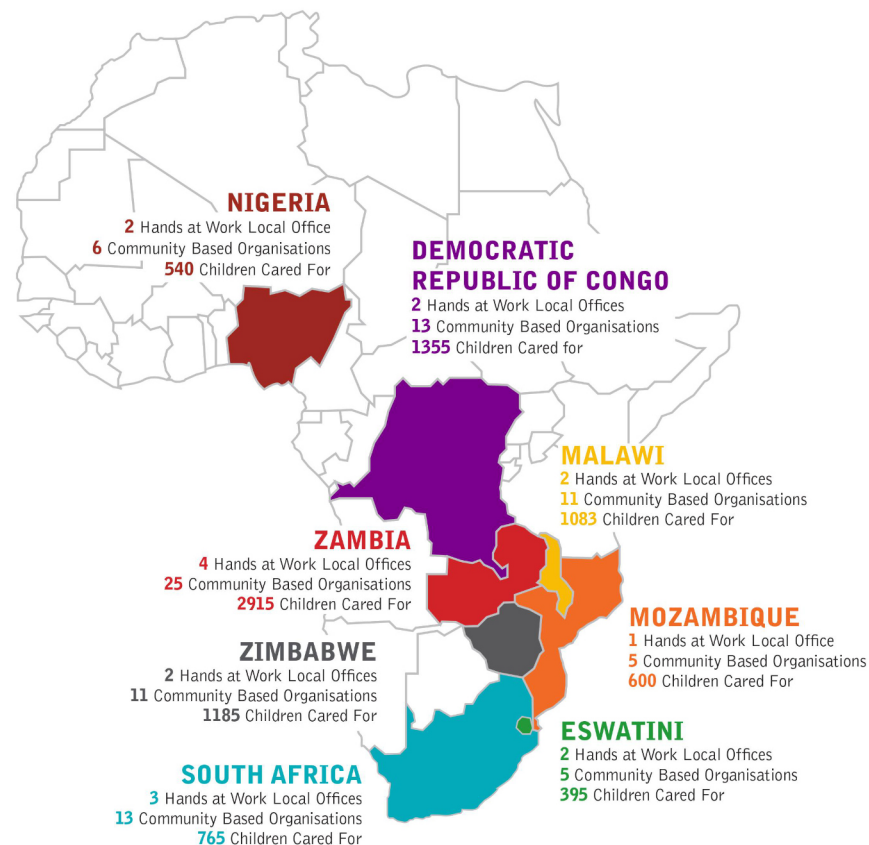


Oliver Westmancott

Chair of the Board for Hands at Work in Africa, UK

"Give justice to the poor and the orphan; uphold the rights of the oppressed and the destitute." - Psalm 82:3 (NLT)


WHERE WE WORK



Our mission is to, through relationship with the local Church in Africa, challenge, encourage, develop and support the ministry of servanthood among those in need in their community by replicating the Hands at Work community intervention model.

We believe the biblical mandate to care for the orphaned, the widowed and the dying is not only for the Church in Africa, but also elsewhere. Hands at Work seeks to be a prophetic voice to the churches outside Africa, challenging them to fulfill this mandate.

THE MOST VULNERABLE CHILD

 **8,746**
Children Cared for
In 88 Communities
Across Africa

 **1,268**
Children Cared for in 13
African Communities Supported
by UK Partners

Knowing that the first five years of a child's life are critical to their overall development, Hands at Work has established a programme for children which incorporates breakfast, play, sleep, and the learning of basic skills. **Our hope is that, through these programmes, children will grow and develop into healthy and whole adults who love Jesus.** Moses is one example of a child who is experiencing freedom from extreme poverty and is showing how God is caring for and protecting the "least of these" (Matthew 25:40).

When Care Workers in Buhimba first saw Moses*, he was sitting with his sister against a wall outside the Care Point, watching other children play. Moses was wearing a torn girl's dress, he was severely malnourished, and he had no social skills. Moses was invited to join the Under 5s programme where, over time, he began gaining weight and started to flourish. The local Hands at Work team in Goma has been spending lots of time with Moses' mother, helping her to process the pain and trauma that has prevented her from effectively caring for her children. Through their support and faithful encouragement, she is starting to care for her children in a more holistic way. **Praise Jesus for the way that He is restoring and redeeming Moses and his family!** Pray that God will continue to do a deep work in their family. For more on Moses, please click [here](#).

"He took a little child whom He placed among them. Taking the child in His arms, He said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in My name welcomes Me; and whoever welcomes Me does not welcome Me but the one who sent Me."

- Mark 9:36-37 (NIV)



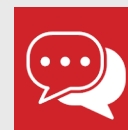
PRIMARY CAREGIVER



"I have done many Maranatha Workshops and been to Chilabula many times, and even done one in Chilabula before and not seen the fruit. We needed to depend on God, not on our own knowledge. We prayed for weeks ahead of time. We prayed that God would do the work and bring the fruit, not using our own programme or knowledge. This time we saw God's hand because we trusted Him."

- Sylvia Mwelwa, Zambian leader

Hands at Work believes that **caring for a child also means caring for their entire family.** Orphaned children are often left in the care of an elderly grandparent, widowed parent, elder sibling or other relative, known as Primary Caregivers. Maranatha Workshops provide Primary Caregivers with an understanding of the unconditional love and healing that come through Jesus. As they are set free from the inner wounds of their trauma, they are able to better care for their children and share the hope of Christ with them. In the community of Chilabula in Zambia, lives were transformed during a Maranatha Workshop. As the local Hands at Work leaders shared about Christ, five Primary Caregivers put their faith in Jesus. Among them was the mother of Silas*, a boy who had been severely malnourished. Both of his parents struggled with the use of alcohol and arrived drunk on the first day of the Workshop. Hands at Work leaders knew the couple needed Christ so they invited them closer. Silas' mother said, "You people care for my child and I want to care for people the way that you do." A few days later both she and Silas' dad were the first ones to arrive, and they were both sober. Since then, they have stopped drinking alcohol and the father is even attending the regular Relationship Group! For more on the Maranatha Workshop, please click [here](#).



SHARE



PRAY



GIVE

CARE WORKER



1,040
Local Volunteer
Care Workers
across Africa



191
Care Workers in
Communities Supported
by Hands at Work UK

Care Workers are the heart of the ministry of Hands at Work as they daily live out being the hands and feet of Jesus, serving the most vulnerable in their communities. As these local volunteers pour themselves out to serve others, Hands at Work is committed to continually investing into their lives. One of the ways this is done is through Care Worker Revivals: **to encourage the Care Workers, lift them up and help to draw them closer to God as they serve the most vulnerable.** A Care Worker Revival weekend took place at the Hub in South Africa for Care Workers from Pfunani, Sommerset and Seville B communities. A highlight from the weekend was building deeper relationships with one another across the different communities, and participating in some fun activities to learn new skills, such as making their own baskets and cell-phone bags. However, the truly transformational aspect of the weekend was through the times of worship, prayer and ministry, where Care Workers felt safe enough to share about the brokenness in their own lives and particularly in their marriages. They were able to hear that **their desire to be loved can only ultimately be fulfilled in God's unfailing love for them.** Many responded to the call to experience God's love in a deeper and more personal way. For more on Care Worker Revivals, please click [here](#).

"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."
- Proverbs
11:25 (NIV)



HANDS AT WORK IN AFRICA



"Without intentionally seeking people out, people are left extremely vulnerable with no one to care for them..."

- Xolani Makwakwa, African Leader (South Africa)

The commitment to reach the most vulnerable requires prayerful consideration, having to make tough decisions about where we should not go, and brave decisions about where we should. **Expanding into new communities and reaching even more of Africa's vulnerable children is a focus for Hands at Work.** We are committed to extending our reach and equipping more churches to understand their responsibility in caring for the vulnerable in their communities – not simply meeting physical needs but through empowering them with the gospel of Christ. At its core, seeking out a new community is simple: we follow the guidance and prompts of the Holy Spirit. But this takes time, resources and lots of prayer. It may take weeks or months to find the community that God is leading us to, but once there, we find a community of people willing to partner with Hands at Work and learn what it means to seek out the lost, the lowly and the destitute. Broken people serving alongside broken people is not always easy, but our call and commitment to one another remains the same. We believe that God can do extraordinary things through the faithfulness of ordinary people. In 2023, Hands at Work expanded into 10 new communities and there are plans to expand into 5 new communities in 2024. For more on expanding into new communities, please click [here](#).



129
African
Volunteers



17
International
Volunteers



5
International Volunteers
from the UK

HANDS AT WORK UK OFFICE



97

Partners Around The World



26

Partners in the UK



31

Volunteers in the UK

This year we have sent four teams from the UK to four different countries that Hands at Work serves in: Mozambique, Eswatini, Zambia and South Africa. We are very aware of the need to be strategic with the teams we send to their partner communities in Africa in order to balance this with our responsibility to be good stewards of the environment, as we know that climate change impacts those who are most vulnerable first. Our teams are an expression of long-term relationships; we do not engage in short-term mission trips. Our teams this year included a team of young adults from a high school in Staffordshire, a family team from Bristol, a joint team comprising two different partners from the West Midlands and East Anglia, and a small church team from a new partner in Scotland. It was great to hear from the returned teams at our Hands at Work UK Gathering this year as they shared news, updates, stories and passion for their partners in Africa. The face-to-face Gathering is one of the ways we seek to connect and inform the Hands at Work UK family and **build a community of people who seek to 'do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with (their) God' (Micah 6:8) as they advocate for the poorest of the poor.** For more on the Gathering, please click [here](#).

"On a Holy Home Visit, I got to meet three girls and their father for whom I had been praying over several years – and the fact that God in His kindness orchestrated that just blew me away, and as I learnt their story it touched my heart even more."

- Judith Moreland, from the Turning Point Church team who visited their partner community of Matsinho B in Mozambique



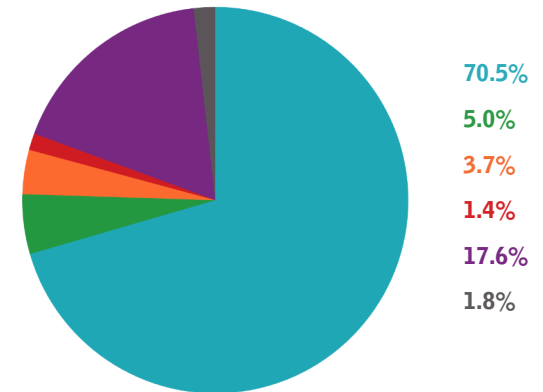
"When we left Mafambisa, it was like a weight in our chests, because we loved our time there but we knew that their stories need to be shared with others so awareness of their lives can be shared and brought to light."

- Lucy, a student from the Wolgarston High School team who visited their partner community of Mafambisa in South Africa

"I'm so excited about the next chapter of Hands at Work for a few reasons. Our vision is laser focused on Jesus, the only one who can truly bring transformation to all of us. Our leaders didn't have to learn about the Hands model; they experienced it. And they are determined to bring that same amount of love to the most vulnerable children in their communities. Most of our partners are churches that have been with us for many years, and they are deeply invested into the Hands model. **They have made it personal and it's an act of worship from their side.** These things excite me for the next chapter of Hands at Work."

- George Snyman, Hands at Work Co-Founder

FINANCIALS



2022 Financial Statements