



Baobab Women's Project

ANNUAL REPORT
2022 - 2023



ABOUT US

In 2022 - 2023 Boabab Womens Project continued growing in strength; advocating, assisting, inspiring and raising awareness in the West Midlands.

Our mission is to promote justice, enabling asylum seeking, refugee and migrant women (and other genders who identify themselves as women), in the UK to live sustainable, cooperative, fulfilling lives, free from violence and discrimination.

We believe in the dignity of all people, and that they should have access to social and economic opportunities, regardless of nationality and status.

Women we assist will have experienced hardship due to precarious immigration status, refusal of asylum, domestic or gender based violence, labour and sex trafficking or domestic servitude.

We value and inspire hope, love and humanity.



Profit and Loss	
April 2022 to March 2023	
Income	
Deferred Grants Income Movement	39613
Beneficiary Support Grant Distribution	5710
Reimbursements and Repayments	494
Restricted Grant	3683
Sales	16364
Other Unrestricted Income	5275
Total Income	71,140
Gross Profit	71,140
Expenses	
Accounts Fees	3542
Beneficiary Zoom Meeting	35
Childcare Expense	1474
Computer Resource	504
Computer Running Costs	657
Corporation Tax	594
Beneficiary Support Grant Distribution	6007
Food and refreshments	602
Insurance	434
Internet and telephone	941
Networking Events and Training	135
Payroll	44125
Printing, postage and stationery	73
Recruitment expenses	239
Rent	3653
Sessional Workers and Interpreters	2184
Sundry expenses	225
Therapeutic Support / Counselling	387
Travel Expenses	613
Volunteer Expenses	887
Depreciation	628
Total Expenses	67939
Net Income	3201

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Our accounts are inspected by Third Sector accountants and they are satisfied that the invoices, receipts, credits and bank statements produce an accurate statement of Baobab Women's Project CIC's financial affairs. The groups directors have also approved the accounts.

Below is a profit and loss and balance sheet summary for 2022 - 2023, for our full accounts see our Companies House [Filing here.](#)

Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2023	
Fixed Assets	
Computer equipment accumulated depreciation brought forward	-1,613
Computer equipment cost brought forward	2,552
Total Fixed Asset	939
Cash at Bank and In Hand	
Bank Account	33,290
Total Cash at Bank and In Hand	33,377
Debtors	
Debtors	480
Total Debtors	480
Current Assets	
Accrued income	4,446
Prepayments	500
Total Current Assets	4,946
Net Current Assets	38,803
Creditors: amount falling due within one year	
Total Trade Creditors	0
Current Liabilities	
Accruals	840
Corporation tax payable	594
Deferred Grants	35,567
Net Pay	0
Payroll Liabilities	
HMRC	-2,606
Pension	0
Total Payroll Liabilities	-2,606
Wages Control Account	0
Total Current Liabilities	34,395
Total Creditors: amount falling due within one year	34,395
Net Current Liabilities	4,408
Total assets less current liabilities	5,348
Total net assets (liabilities)	5,348
Capital and Reserves	
Retained Earnings	2,148
Profit for the year	3,201
Total Capital and Reserves	5,348

In 2022 - 2023 our core work remained our advocacy project. Funding for the advocacy project was received through Barrow Cadbury, Smallwood, Passionist Grant Fund and Lush Foundation.

The advocacy project takes initial enquiries through our weekly advice line, and then allocate cases for follow up and ongoing support to our caseworkers specialising in asylum and immigration, financial resilience, and no recourse domestic abuse. Caseworkers will then work with the women until she feels the issue is resolved or we reach a point where there is nothing else that we can identify to support; at this point we will stop active casework although we welcome women getting back in touch if things their circumstances change or they need further support. We are seeing increased demand for our services both especially an increase in the complexity of the cases that we are seeing.

Throughout the year we supported 156 women with over 1000 appointments.

We seek a person-led, trauma informed approach in our advocacy with the principle that each woman we work with is the best person to make a decisions about her own life. We seek to support women with the information and plan holistically to enable them to make an informed decision and carry it through. The advocacy project always seeks to build the skills and knowledge of women to manage issues themselves as much as possible; this is done through involving women in phone calls, appointments, and applications as much as is reasonably possible and ensuring we explain clearly what is being done and why at every stage. This can take longer initially but builds resilience and reduces dependency in the long run. If we see an issue recurring for several women we work with we will organise workshops to give women a chance to gain more information and discuss in a small group. In our last survey of beneficiaries 90% said they better understood their situation after working with us, and 80% of respondents said they would feel more confident in representing themselves.

We also continued to develop our Influencers project, working with women with lived experience to identify priorities for change, collect case studies, participate in discussions with stakeholders and present to decision makers. In addition to Policy and Advocacy focussing on asylum and destitution we worked in partnership with Birmingham and Solihull Womens Aid to facilitate workshops and develop a similar model for women with no recourse to public funds with experience of domestic abuse.

Finally we were thankful to receive funding from Rosa Rise to employ a part time development worker (eventually taken on as a job share) to work on governance, financial systems, funding, and otherwise building capacity and resilience in the organisation.



Some highlights of the year...



THE BIG QUESTION
Features | Refugees

Can asylum seekers in Europe survive the cost-of-living crisis?

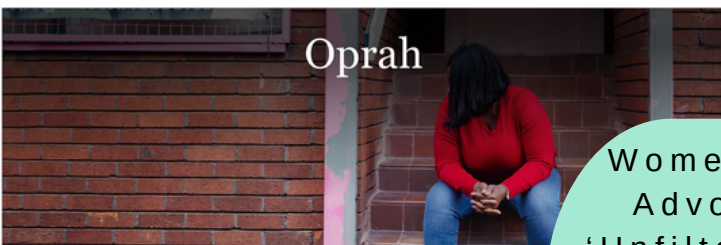
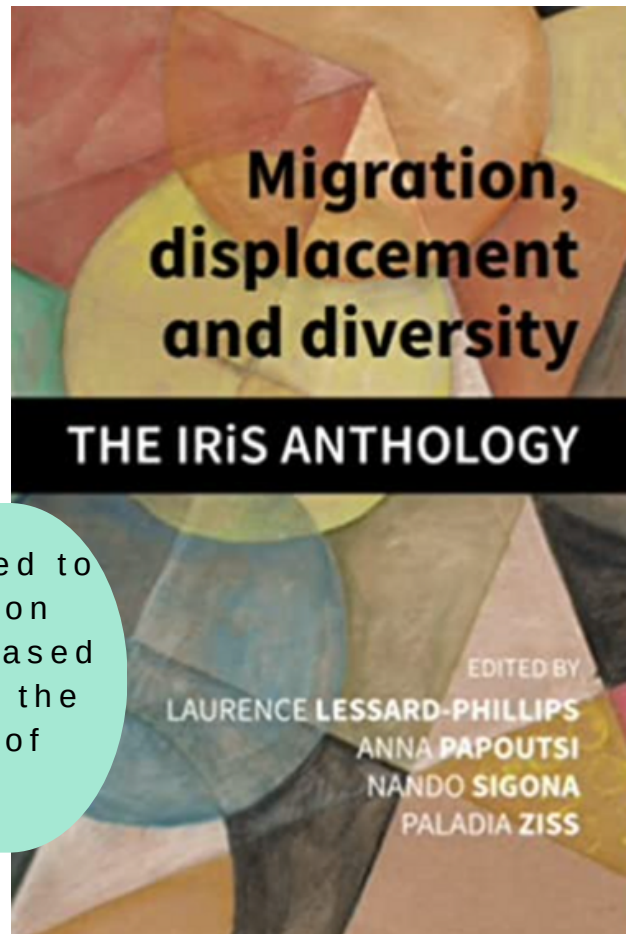
People fleeing violence are being driven into extreme poverty by escalating prices – but there is hope.

Baobab contributed to this article about how the cost of living crisis was affecting asylum seeking women

Thanks to the Childrens Society for Christmas gifts for those we support



Baobab Womens Project contributed to this anthology by IRiS, drawing on research into sexual and gender based violence in the hope of improving the handling of the gender aspects of womens asylum claims



Oprah's journey with the asylum system started... She had little knowledge of the processes, how it worked, or even how to claim asylum. A victim of trafficking, Oprah is unable to escape the traumatic experiences and finds it difficult to sleep at night.

Women assisted by the Policy and Advocacy project contributed to 'Unfiltered Lives - when refuge isn't safe', produced by the University of Birmingham to highlight abuse and failures of victims of SGBV in the asylum system.





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