

Company registration number **07108914**

Registered charity number **1137179**



PROSHANTI UK
Company limited by guarantee

Trustees' report and financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2017



Charity information

Trustees who served during the year

	Lilu Ahmed (Chair of Trustees)	
	Meriel Barclay (Treasurer)	Resigned 21 January/2017
	Shafi Ahmed	Resigned 21 January 2017
	Dr Rebecca Scott	
	Dr Jaha Afroze Momena	
	David Storr	Appointed 21 January/2017
President	Sir Stephen O'Brien	
Vice President	Rev Helen Matthew	
Vice President	Shafi Ahmed	
Secretary	Graham Rowbotham	
Programme Consultant	Dr A KM Momin	
Treasurer	Susan Storr	

Charity number 1137179

Registered office
The Bromley by Bow Centre
St Leonard's Street, Bromley by Bow
London
E3 3BT
UK

Independent Examiner
Meer and Company Chartered Accountants
No. 1 Cochrane House
Admirals Way
Canary Wharf
London
E14 9UD

Bankers
HSBC Bank Plc
38 Canada Place, Canary Wharf
E14 5AH



Contents

President, Vice President and Chair Person's comments	1
Activities of Proshanti	4
At a glance Proshanti-UK Statistics	6
Partnership work	7
Proshanti Juri Clinic Staff	7
Impact of Proshanti's work	7
Funding Support	8
Financial review	8
Reserves policy	8
Principal funding sources	8
Investment policy and objectives	9
Statement of Trustees responsibilities	9
Independent examiners' report	10
Statement of Financial Activities	11
Statement of total recognised gains and losses	11
Balance sheet	12
Notes to the financial statements	13



Proshanti



Sir Stephen O'Brien
Proshanti UK President

“Proshanti has had a terrific year and has built its foundations deeper than ever. It was the year when the Community in East London really took on fundraising in a major way. The dinner at the Atrium in East London organised by our Chair and her family and friends, not only raised money on a large scale but increased the awareness of Proshanti very considerably. At the same time the care of young mothers and would-be mothers in Juri, Sylhet reached over 170 women, many of whom who, without Proshanti, might well have had very wretched outcomes.”

“Since the first visit to Juri, as a group of health professionals, community workers, artists and volunteers from East London, we have been committed to improving the health care of the poorest people in the region. I have been delighted to see how the work of Proshanti has blossomed since those early days. The charity has persevered with many challenges and now has roots deep in this isolated community. We continue to make a huge difference to the lives of families in Juri and believe that, with the support of our generous donors, we will be able to develop this work in the future to ensure that women and children in Juri have the health care that they deserve.”



Rev Helen Matthews
Proshanti UK Vice-President

It is now the 10th Year of Proshanti UK offering antenatal and post-natal services to poor women in Juri, Bangladesh. We cannot save mothers and prospective new born babies without the help of our long standing donors such as East London NHS Lift Company alongside many other individual donors. At the same time, I would like to thank our honourable trustees, our clinical advisory team members and supporters for their tireless support for Proshanti. You will be pleased to know that Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios, an international Architectural Design Firm, have committed to designing the Proshanti Healthy Living Centre, a major aspon of Proshanti which has been 10 years in the making. This can only be realised, and Proshanti can only develop upon the vital work it has been doing in the Bangladeshi community with your continued support.



Lili Ahmed
Proshanti Chair



Statement from Trustees

The focus in the past 12 months has continued to be our Sylhet-based health clinic in Juri, north east Bangladesh, providing ante-natal and post-natal care to poor and marginalised women. We started this clinic in 2011 with a grant of £15,000 from DFID through the International Health Links Partnership Scheme and have raised sufficient funds since then to continue the work. In 2017 we made significant strides in improving the health care of the pregnant women registered with the clinic. At any one time there are 100 women being cared for during their pregnancies and for six weeks after the babies' births. In total we supported 162 women in 2017.



Dr Rebecca Scott
Trustee

Over 753 women have been supported in the period between our beginnings in 2011 to December 2017. The services we provide include doctor's appointments, home visits by Proshanti nurses and midwives, blood tests, abdominal scans, medication, the transportation of patients and delivery costs, including C-sections where required. These are all provided free of charge to poor and marginalised women, regardless of religion.



David Storr
Trustee

Proshanti currently employs five members of staff in Bangladesh. The Proshanti Trustees are very grateful to them for their hard work and dedication to the clinic. Successes in the past 12 months include several fundraising events, notably the May Dinner, that have resulted in awareness of Proshanti UK's work and an increase in regular giving on a monthly or quarterly basis. We are working on developing further, individual and corporate giving.



Graham Rowbotham
Company Secretary



The clinical advisory team have continued to provide clinical support to our midwives and seek to ensure that they maintain high professional standards. Dr Ian Gibson visited in January 2018 to provide further training. In addition to this clinical support, management support and monitoring of performance at Juri is given by our London based Programme Consultant, Dr AKM Momin.

Much energy has been put into developing the clinic at Juri, currently held in a room donated by a private clinic. We have been given some land in Juri and our plans for 2018 -2019 include building a new, modern clinic to improve our ability to provide holistic health care and support that will benefit the neediest, in a convenient location.

What is Proshanti?

Proshanti UK is a UK based charity and was formed in 2010 after several UK professionals and volunteers visited Juri, a remote sub-district (Upazila) of Moulvibazaar District in the Sylhet region of Bangladesh.

It was set up in 2009 with the aim of transforming health care in rural Bangladesh by creating a healthy living partnership between the communities in Bangladesh and Bromley by Bow, Tower Hamlets in East London. The aim is to build a Healthy Living Centre in the Juri sub-district of Moulvibazaar District that will provide free affordable primary health care, together with preventive and health education, as well as an effective patient referral service to a trusted hospital.

Governance of Proshanti UK

Proshanti UK is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The Company's objects are the relief of sickness and the promotion and preservation of good health, in particular but not exclusively, of people living in the Juri region of Bangladesh, by the support and establishment of a healthy living centre or centres.

The Trustees of the Charity are also the Directors of the Company. We have formal Board meetings at least four times a year and meet informally between Board meetings. Our volunteer medical advisers in London meet about twice a year and report directly to the Board.

Trustees are recruited from those who show an interest in the work of Proshanti and who can contribute to the work of the Board. Trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing Proshanti's aims and objectives. In particular, the Trustees have considered how the activities of the organisation will contribute to the objectives that have been established for the charity.



Activities of Proshanti

Proshanti UK provides the following clinical services from the Juri clinic:

- **Referral service**

In most communities in Juri Upazila, Proshanti is a well-known reliable service provider for pregnant women. Most women are referred by fellow service users. As there are no community level clinics, Family Welfare Visitors also refer pregnant women to Proshanti. Proshanti staff also hold community meetings throughout Juri to raise awareness of its' services. In 2017, around 300 pregnant women were referred to Proshanti, of whom 174 were enrolled.

- **Assessment**

Proshanti's staff assess all referred pregnant women as per Proshanti's enrolment criteria. The criteria are set so that women who would not otherwise have access to antenatal services would be offered such services by Proshanti.

- **Home visits**

Proshanti Outreach workers make home visits to prospective Proshanti clients whilst they are being processed for enrolment.

- **Enrolment**

After assessment and home visits, 174 pregnant women were enrolled to Proshanti from 6 Unions of Juri Upazila during 2017.

- **Antenatal care**

675 Antenatal care appointments were provided to 174 pregnant women. Most women received five appointments during which the health of the woman and her baby are monitored. They are able to ensure the clients receive appropriate blood and urine tests and ultrasound scans.

- **Services for high risk patients**

Proshanti offered services to 27 high risk patients, of which 18 had a C-section delivery. High risk patients include women who have had a previous still birth or who have high blood pressure or who are rhesus negative.

- **Telephone follow-ups**

1,093 follow-up calls were made during the year to enrolled pregnant women particularly to support them as they are nearing their due date and to assist them and their families in making good decisions about the delivery.

- **Supplementary food support**

Proshanti provide food support to those pregnant women who are found to be significantly malnourished. As Proshanti patients are from the poorest backgrounds, many benefited from these food supplements to ensure a safe delivery. On average, 15 to 20 pregnant women received supplementary food support every month. In total, 87 women received food support continuously for 3 to 5 months.



- **Health Education sessions**

In 2017, we offered 180 health education sessions to 1,093 people, including the pregnant women themselves, their partners and young people. The topics of the health education sessions included: nutrition during pregnancy (type and amount of food, the best way to prepare vegetables), personal hygiene, rest, danger signs, birth planning, breast feeding, new-born baby care and the importance of antenatal and postnatal care.

- **Delivery at home or hospitals**

Proshanti offered delivery services to 162 women, of which 120 deliveries took place at home. Among them, 94 deliveries were conducted by Proshanti's midwives and the remaining 26 were delivered by family members/ local birth attendant before Proshanti midwives arrived at their home.

- **Postnatal service**

We provided 277 postnatal care visits, of which 162 were the first postnatal visits and the remainder were second postnatal visits. During the visits, midwives conducted thorough physical examinations of both mother and baby and observed the child's growth. They also offered counselling to mothers on different issues.

- **Discharged**

174 pregnant women were discharged from Proshanti over the year, among them 162 had a live delivery and the remaining 12 babies died around the time of delivery.



At-a-glance Proshanti UK statistics 2017

- At one time, 100 pregnant women received comprehensive medical and rehabilitation support
- 162 new admissions
- 675 Antenatal care sessions (on average 5 sessions per woman)
- 277 Postnatal sessions (on average 2 sessions per woman)
- 180 health education sessions for 1093 people
- 27 high-risk patients receive full support
- 18 C-sections
- 148 deliveries – 82 boys and 66 girls
- 42 deliveries at the hospital
- 106 deliveries at home, of which 94 deliveries were undertaken by midwives
- No maternal deaths
- Eight infant deaths, mostly from premature birth
- 162 clients discharged
- 753 successful deliveries since 2011 to December 2017



Partnership work

To manage Proshanti's work cost effectively in Bangladesh, because of the difficulty of registering as an independent NGO, in July 2016 Proshanti entered an association with Prottoy, an existing Bangladesh-registered NGO. They provide regular support and oversight of our staff and assist in liaising with local government on our behalf.

Proshanti has a Memorandum of Understanding with Abdul Aziz Medical Centre who offer free clinic and office space to run Proshanti's clinical services. In addition, they provide free of charge day-to-day doctors consultation for Proshanti patients.

Proshanti also worked closely with Upazila Health staff, who offered advice and training support for our midwives.

Proshanti Juri clinic staff

Two full time midwives

One full time outreach worker/Project Officer

One part-time trainee midwife

One part time accountant (1 day a week)

In addition, the Executive Director of Prottoy spends one day a week to monitor the quality of services delivered, as well as liaising with the local government administration and the NGO Affairs Bureau.

The Proshanti UK Programme Development Consultant keeps close links with Juri staff as well as the Prottoy Executive Director to ensure Proshanti's work in Juri runs smoothly.

Impact of Proshanti Work

Juri has a diverse population which includes people of various cultures and religions, including Tea Garden workers originally from India, tribal communities such as the Manipuri people, Muslim, Hindu and Christian women. In rural, poor communities in Bangladesh, women often have very little say or control over their own situations and health. Women who live in extreme poverty often have had very little education, little knowledge about health and little confidence to assert their needs. Social and family circumstances can be very difficult with severe overcrowding, poor quality housing, poor diet and the focus of control over family decisions being held by men and parents-in-law. Poor maternal and child health outcomes can have a devastating effect on women and their families.



This project impacts positively on women's experience of health care in preparation for and during pregnancy and childbirth and aims to give confidence to and to empower poor and excluded women, regardless of culture or religion.

Funding support

Proshanti is indebted to numerous individual donors as well as East London NHS LIFT Company for their regular and generous contribution towards Proshanti.

Proshanti organised a fundraising event on 6th May 2017 where around 350 guests attended. Proshanti President, Sir Stephen O'Brien was our guest speaker, and the event was successful in providing exposure about Proshanti's work to a wider audience, which included local media.

"We didn't know Proshanti was running such a wonderful project for vulnerable women in Bangladesh. Really admirable."

"It was an excellent event, perfect timing from start to finish".

"The volunteers were smart and welcoming"

"The food was excellent, like attending a wedding party"

"The presenters were really good and were able to really attract the audience"

"The speakers were smart and shared valuable information"

The event raised £13,521.60. In addition, we received commitment for donations for £3,100 and approximately £600 in standing orders from 25 Proshanti supporters who pledged from £2 to £100 per month. These pledges will be followed up and all interested people, as well as existing supporters, will receive regular updates on Proshanti's work.

Reserves policy

The trustees have reviewed the reserves of the charity. Their policy is to hold enough funds to meet four months' operating costs of the premises. The free reserves as at 31 December 2017 were £35,700 (£20,766 - 31 December 2016).

Principal funding sources

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Investment policy and objectivest

The charity has no long-term investments. Our cash reserves are held in bank accounts.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing an annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures
- Disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the provisions of the trust deed.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees for the purposes of charity law who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on charity information page.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

Lilu Ahmed (Chair of Trustees)

Date: 9th June 2018



Independent examiners' report to the trustees of PROSHANTI UK

I report on the accounts of the trust for the year ended 31 December 2017.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The charity trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to :

- i) examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act ;
- ii) follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- iii) state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of opinion

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the account, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view " and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (i) which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- (ii) to which, in my opinion, the attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Haroon Rafique - Chartered Accountant

For and on behalf of Meer and Company Chartered Accountants

No. 1 Cochrane House Admirals Way Canary Wharf
London E14 9UD

Date: 09th June 2018



**Statement of financial activities
for the year ended 31 December 2017**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2017 £	Total Funds 2016 £
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					-
Donations	2	26,381	18,478	44,859	26,240
Other income			-	-	15
Interest		6	-	6	12
Total incoming resources		<u>26,387</u>	<u>18,478</u>	<u>44,865</u>	<u>26,267</u>
Resources expended					
Cost of generating funds		-	-	-	-
Charitable activities		(8,750)	(8,000)	(16,750)	(16,846)
Administrative costs	3	(3,581)	(9,600)	(13,181)	(17,095)
Total resources expended		<u>(12,331)</u>	<u>(17,600)</u>	<u>(29,931)</u>	<u>(33,941)</u>
Net movement in funds		14,056	878	14,934	7,674
Retained funds brought forward		12,444	8,322	20,766	28,440
Retained funds carried forward		<u>26,500</u>	<u>9,200</u>	<u>35,700</u>	<u>20,766</u>

Statement of total recognised gains and losses

	Year ended 2017 £	Year ended 2016 £
Net incoming resources		
before other recognized gains/losses	14,056	878
Total recognised losses since last annual report	<u>14,056</u>	<u>878</u>



Proshanti

**Balance sheet
as at 31 December 2017**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2017 £	2016 £
Current assets					
Debtors	4	7,221	-	7,221	10,454
Cash at bank and in hand		20,144	9,200	29,344	11,179
		<u>27,365</u>	<u>9,200</u>	<u>36,565</u>	<u>21,633</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	5	(65)	(800)	(865)	(867)
Net current assets		<u>27,300</u>	<u>8,400</u>	<u>35,700</u>	<u>20,766</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		27,300	8,400	35,700	20,766
Net assets		<u>27,300</u>	<u>8,400</u>	<u>35,700</u>	<u>20,766</u>
Funds					
Income funds	6	27,300	8,400	35,700	20,766
Total funds	7	<u>27,300</u>	<u>8,400</u>	<u>35,700</u>	<u>20,766</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The company is exempt from the requirements relating to preparing audited accounts in accordance with section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of the accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 9th June 2018 and signed on its behalf by

Lilu Ahmed

Chair of Trustees

Registration number 1137179



Accounting policies

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received and the monetary value of incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Income

The total income of the charity for the year has been derived from its principal activity wholly undertaken in the UK.

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Year ended 31/12/17	Year ended 31/12/16
East London Lift	-	15,000	15,000	15,000
Other donations	26,381	3,478	29,859	11,240
Other income	6	-	6	15
	<u>26,387</u>	<u>18,478</u>	<u>44,865</u>	<u>26,255</u>



	Year ended 2017 £	Year ended 2016 £
3. Administration Expenses		
Service delivery fees	16,750	16,846
Travelling	2,057	510
Volunteer expenses	-	4,320
Printing, postage and stationery	556	550
Insurance	454	273
Programme management & Consultancy fees	9,600	10,918
Sundry expenses	342	301
Bank charges	172	223
	<u>29,931</u>	<u>33,941</u>
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>7,221</u>	<u>10,454</u>
5. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2017 £	2016 £
Accruals and deferred income	<u>865</u>	<u>867</u>
6. Funds	2017 £	2016 £
At 1 January 2017	20,766	28440
Net income for the year	14,934	(7674)
At 31 December 2017	<u>35,700</u>	<u>20,766</u>
7. Reconciliation of movements in total trust funds	2017 £	2016 £
Incoming resources for the year	14,934	(7,674)
Net addition to funds	<u>14,934</u>	<u>(7,674)</u>
Opening trust funds	20,766	28,440
Closing trust funds	<u>35,700</u>	<u>20,766</u>