

annual report

STREET KIDS DIRECT

"until the last child"

Registered Charity 1102894



2025 – 2026

Introduction

OUR VISION

To see no more street-living children worldwide.

OUR MISSION

Rescue street-living children worldwide, “until the last child.”

Prevent more children from taking the steps towards street life.

Twenty-five years after Street Kids Direct was established, our vision remains as clear and compelling as ever: to see **no more street-living children worldwide**. But the way we pursue that vision continues to grow.

Our experience in Central America has taught us something enormously important. The most effective way to tackle the tragedy of children living on the streets is not only to be there when a child arrives, but to reach them much earlier — when the warning signs first appear.

That is why prevention has become such an important part of our work. Through the projects we support, children and young people are receiving mentoring, educational support, food, clean water, counselling, family assistance and, above all, the consistent presence of adults who believe in them.

Our Christian faith remains at the heart of this work and

inspires us to see the value, potential and God-given worth of every child.

This year has also reminded us how urgently that work is needed. Increasing violence has affected many of the communities we serve, bringing new challenges for children, families and those working alongside them. Yet we continue to see extraordinary examples of courage, resilience and lives moving in a very different direction.

And now our vision is taking us further. We are beginning the ambitious task of identifying and mapping street-living children around the world, asking where they are, why children are considering the streets as an option for life, and where our experience and partnerships might help.

Our geography may be expanding, but our focus remains the same: one child at a time — **until the last child**.

Contents

INTRODUCTION

THE CHALLENGE

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

THE TEAM

CASE STUDY: JEFFERSON'S STORY

DOOR OF HOPE — PUERTA DE ESPERANZA

CASE STUDY: ANGÉLICA

PROYECTO ALAS

GO GUATEMALA

SKDGUATEMALA

SPECIAL FEATURE: MORE THAN SOCCER — KATE IN SANTA FAZ

THANK YOU

FINANCIAL REPORT

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Challenge



Across Guatemala and Honduras, thousands of children live on the edge of crisis every day — growing up in some of the most dangerous and under-resourced communities in Central America, where poverty, violence, family breakdown, and a lack of educational opportunity create the perfect storm for street involvement.

Many of these children are not yet living on the streets, but they are at serious risk of ending up there: children left home alone while parents work long hours in insecure jobs, children who have dropped out of school or never enrolled, and children who work on the streets themselves to survive and support their families.

The frontline of prevention In both countries, the pull of gang life is growing — and by the numbers, this year has been harder than the last. In Guatemala, police estimate more than **400 gangs** are

active nationwide, with over **14,000 members**, many of them under 18 and some as young as 8, recruited as look-outs, runners, or enforcers. In 2025, Guatemala recorded 3,139 murders, an increase of almost 10% on the year before, with much of that rise attributed to gang-related violence — alongside a nearly **40% increase in reported extortion** cases since 2023.

In Honduras, more than half of the children surveyed in one recent regional study are now out of school altogether, with age 11 identified as the point when gang recruitment attempts intensify most sharply.

For our teams, and for the families they walk alongside, this isn't a statistic. This year we lost Yeimi López, a teenage girl who had been part of our Puerta de Esperanza programme, to the violence that surrounds so many of the families we serve.



Her death was felt deeply by the children, staff, and volunteers who knew her, and it's a stark reminder of why this work cannot wait.

We also lost David Cuin, a young man who had grown up in the mentoring programme since the age of 10 and was gunned down in the street by the gang when he went to visit his girlfriend.

We are increasingly concerned for the safety of our own staff and volunteers, who continue to show up in some of the most difficult neighbourhoods in Guatemala City and beyond, week after week, because the children there need someone to.

What we have found through years of experience is simple but powerful: if we can keep a

child in school and connected to a caring adult, we can keep them off the streets.

Every child we keep in school is a child less likely to join a gang. Every child who receives support is a child who may never need to survive on the streets.

This is the frontline of prevention, and this is the problem Street Kids Direct was born to address.

Director's Report



Duncan Dyason MBE Trustee & Director

When I first arrived in Guatemala in 1992, the children I met lived on the streets — dirty, often high on glue, carrying the physical marks of neglect and the invisible weight of trauma. And yet, almost instinctively, they reached out for a hug.

Recently, one of our team told me about a new girl who

arrived at a mentoring centre with a friend already attending the programme.

She didn't play. She barely spoke. Every time the doorbell rang, she flinched and stared towards the exit.

Trauma has a way of announcing itself quietly.

As the hours passed and the children laughed and settled into the familiar rhythm of the centre, she began to relax.

When it was time to go home, she leaned towards one of the team and whispered something.

"Could I have one of those?" she asked, pointing towards another child being hugged goodbye.

She didn't know the word for

hug. She simply knew she wanted that experience.

This is the heart of what we do.

Sometimes it looks like protection, advocacy or education. Sometimes it is homework support, a hot meal or a safe place to spend the afternoon. And sometimes it is simply arms wrapped around a child who has never known what safety feels like.

Through the four projects we support in Guatemala and Honduras, more than 800 children are impacted by our work every week. Each one matters. Each one has value. And each one deserves to be known, protected and given the opportunity to discover that their circumstances do not have to determine their future.

Thanks to your support, sometimes that journey begins with something as simple as a hug.

Charity Trustees



Matt Levett is a Baptist Minister in Long Buckby and has worked with high-risk children and youth for over 25 years, and visits the projects in Central America each year. Matt lectures on youth culture and youth work and offers his unique perspective on the work in Central America.



Joanna Soden is a busy working mother from Amersham and is committed to the work in Central America and visits every two years. Joanna runs her own cake business and is a trained Christian counsellor.



Jonathan Harbottle lives in Amersham and has been supporting the charity for over ten years. Jonathan is a chartered surveyor who lives with his wife and two sons in Amersham. He runs his own development company and is passionate about the work with street-living children worldwide.



Duncan Dyason first started working with street-living children in Guatemala in 1992 and continues to live in Guatemala City, where he volunteers for the projects the charity supports. Duncan is also developing the global strategy to reach every street-living child over the next 25 years.



A NEW MISSIONARY!

Kate Dotterer is a missionary from the USA serving with SKDGuatemala in the Santa Faz community.

Kate mentors children in Santa Faz and leads the Santa Faz Soccer Club, which has grown from 10 to 17 players this year. Whether it's a community clean-up, a Tuesday practice, or a conversation after a hard day, Kate walks alongside young people as they discover their own worth and their potential to change the place they call home.

Read more about Kate's work on our website under [NEWS](#).

Jefferson's Story



Jefferson is thirteen years old and growing up in Talanga, Honduras.

He is in the care of his father, a shoe-store worker, alongside his nine-year-old sister.

It wasn't always this way.

Jefferson's parents separated when he was younger, and for a time he and his sister lived with his mother, who struggled with her mental health and could not care for them well.

Left largely on their own, the two children spent far more time on the street than in a classroom.

In 2022, Jefferson and his sister started coming to Proyecto Alas, the mentoring centre Street Kids Direct helps fund in Talanga.

The Alas team helped enrol

them in school again, and over time it became clear the children were better cared for living with their father, a decision that has held ever since.

School was never easy for Jefferson.

By fifth grade he still couldn't read much, and his attention and impulsive behaviour made every lesson a struggle.

It was only when Fernanda, the Proyecto Alas psychologist, worked with him that the picture became clearer: Jefferson has ADHD.

Understanding that diagnosis changed everything about how the team could support him — and gradually, session by session, his confidence and his reading began to grow.

Even so, his father had all but decided Jefferson would leave school after elementary and start training in the shoe store instead.

It took real persistence from

the Proyecto Alas team to persuade him to let Jefferson continue with the centre pledging to help cover the materials and support he'd need.

In April, Jefferson proudly showed every adult at the centre his first-term grades from seventh grade: he had passed every subject, and scored 100% in one for the very first time.

In May, Proyecto Alas arranged for Jefferson to see a specialist for a fuller evaluation of his needs, and has committed to supporting whatever the specialist recommends — vitamins, regular appointments, whatever it takes.

Jefferson's story isn't finished. But it's proof of what patient, consistent support can do: a boy who could barely read is now a boy who scores 100%, and who has a father who now believes he can finish school.

None of that happens without people who choose, week-on-week, to keep showing up and being available.



***Did you know
that your support
means we can
serve over 6,000
breakfasts
and 12,000
lunches a week
to vulnerable
children?***

The Door of Hope

A Door of Hope for Guatemala's Street-Connected Children.

In the heart of Guatemala City, where poverty, danger, and displacement shape daily life, Puerta de Esperanza — the Door of Hope — continues to live up to its name.

Serving the communities of La Terminal and Zone 8, the project reaches children and young people with strong ties to street life: many working to survive, many who have dropped out of formal education, some who have never stepped into a classroom at all.

This year, the team launched a new Computer Classes programme across both its Terminal and Gerona sites, giving children and adolescents in the School Support and PRONEA alternative-education programmes real access to technology for the first time — learning to type, use the internet safely, and navigate



everyday digital tools.

Despite some early setbacks with import delays and faulty equipment, the fifteen laptops were purchased this year, thanks to the generous support of Hazel's Footprints Trust, are now in weekly use, and the team is already planning how to build on it: more confident computer users, better equipped for school and, eventually, for work.

Family and community life remained at the heart of the project too. Quarterly family workshops brought parents and children together for a day of activities, devotionals, and a swim at a local campsite — a rare chance for families under daily pressure to simply enjoy each other's company.

Children took part in a municipal drawing competition (placing first and second), learned to bake in a hands-on bakery workshop, and marked achievements, large and small, with the kind of celebration that says: you matter, and we noticed.

It has also been a harder year. The team walked alongside the family of Yeimi López, a teenage participant in the programme, following her death — a loss felt across the whole community the project serves.

Through it all, Puerta de Esperanza continues to work not just with the child in front of them, but with the whole family, equipping parents and children together to build a future where the streets no longer feel like the only option.



“Every child matters.
Every life has worth.
And every child
deserves more than
what the streets will
give them.”

DUNCAN DYASON MBE — THE LAST CHILD

Angelica's Story

Angélica is ten years old and in second grade at a public school in Guatemala City.

From a very young age, she has helped her family survive by collecting cardboard around the market to sell, working long hours into the evening while caring for her three younger siblings — her older brother, at thirteen, already works alongside their parents.

Despite it all, Angélica rarely misses a session of the school support programme at Puerta

de Esperanza. Her effort shows: her marks in the first school term were strong enough to make her whole family proud. One moment says everything about her spirit.

At her school's carnival, Angélica almost didn't go, she had no costume and thought it was better to stay home and help her family instead.

When the Puerta de Esperanza team found out, they found her a costume, and the teachers helped her get ready. She

left for school transformed into a ballerina, and came first in the costume competition. She shared the sweets she won with her younger siblings.

Angélica's story is a small one in the scheme of a big city, but for her and her family it is enormous: proof that with a bit of perseverance and people willing to help carry the load, even the hardest circumstances don't have to be the end of the story.



Proyecto Alas

A Safe Haven in Talanga: How Proyecto Alas Is Changing Lives

Thanks to the continued support of Street Kids Direct, Proyecto Alas in Talanga, Honduras, marked its ninth anniversary this year – nine years of keeping its doors open and, with them, the hope of dozens of vulnerable children and young people.

This year, the centre is supporting 61 children and young people: 46 are enrolled in school, and 15 remain highly street-connected, with the team working to reintegrate them into education.

A further ten young adults and four mothers are receiving scholarships to complete secondary school, university studies, or a trade course, and one young man is being sponsored through a drug rehabilitation programme.



The team itself is growing too. This year, Proyecto Alas welcomed Rita, once a child of the streets herself, as a part-time counsellor and teaching assistant.

Rita has volunteered with Alas since its inception and now leads weekly sessions with the children and youth group — including a series on healthy friendships that proved hugely popular with teenagers.

Her own story gives her a unique ability to relate to what the Alas children and youth are facing.

The team also held its first-ever Mother's Day dinner this year — a small thing on paper, a big thing in practice.

Mothers were treated to a meal, a gift, and an evening of feeling valued, with some for the first time in a long time.

One mother, bedridden for twelve years, was gifted a wheelchair and was able to leave her house to attend; she arrived nervous and shak-

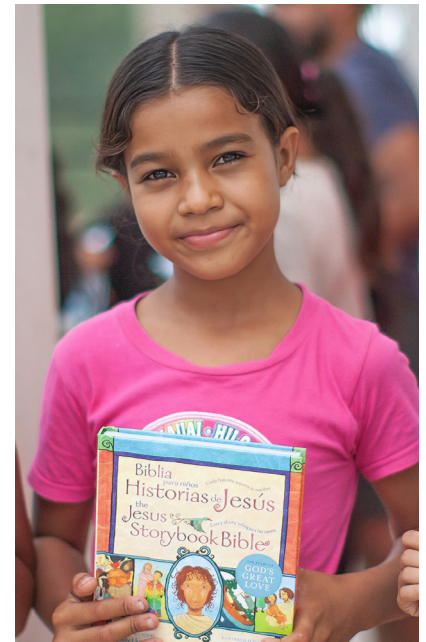
ing, and left having spent an evening laughing with other mothers.

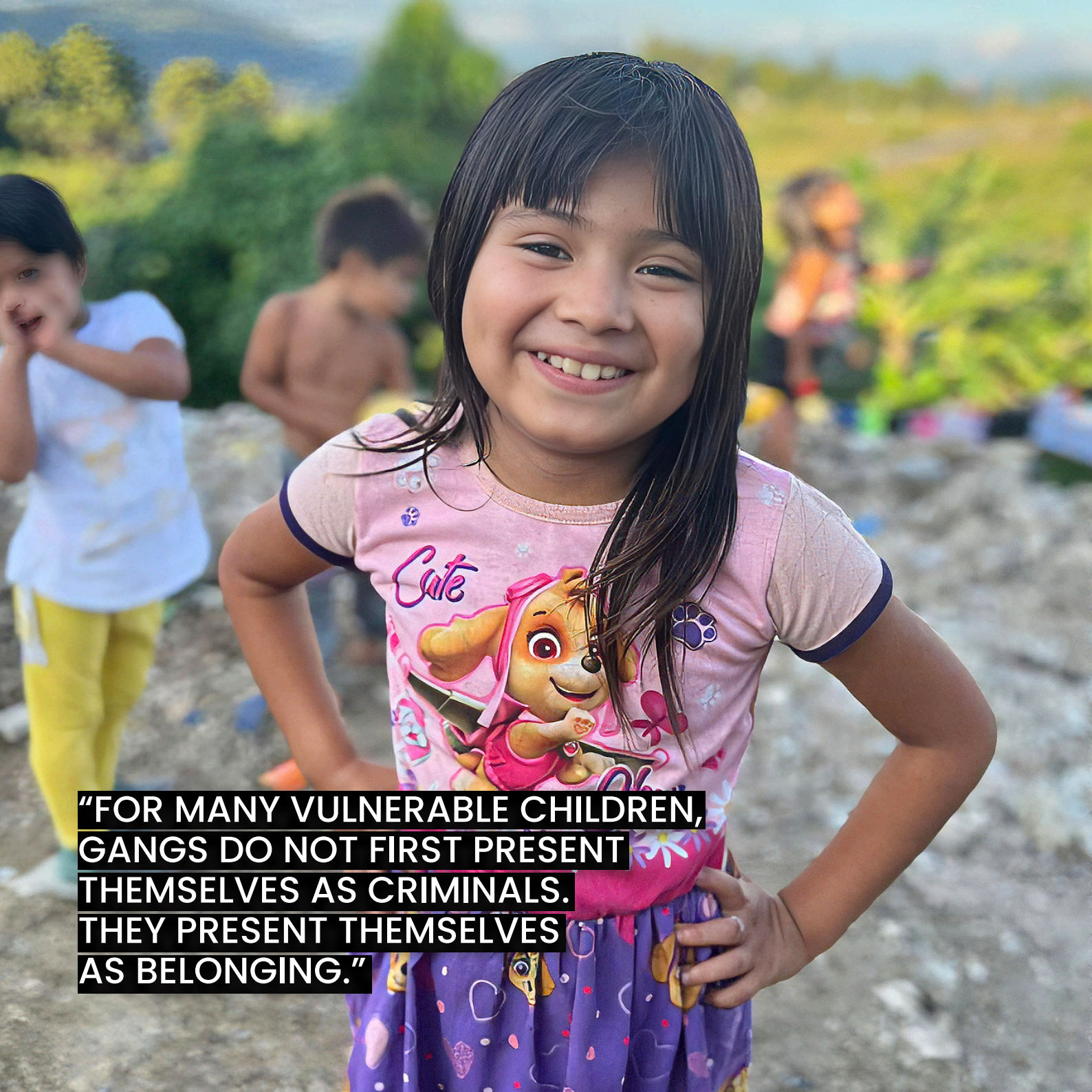
Younger children, such as Dayana, eleven, who was first found by the Alas team playing in the street instead of at school in 2023, are now steadily working through their education — Dayana is currently completing third grade with growing confidence.

This May, two more children, Anderson (8) and Fabiola (12), joined the programme after Anderson arrived at the centre's door, selling sweets to help his family, and explained he couldn't attend school because of unpaid fees.

Proyecto Alas is now covering the family's debts and providing uniforms, and the two are already among the most consistent attendees at the centre.

None of this happens without steady, patient people choosing to stay.





**"FOR MANY VULNERABLE CHILDREN,
GANGS DO NOT FIRST PRESENT
THEMSELVES AS CRIMINALS.
THEY PRESENT THEMSELVES
AS BELONGING."**

Go Guatemala

Hope in Zone 18: Go Guatemala's Lifeline for At-Risk Youth.

For over 12 years, Street Kids Direct has supported the Go Guatemala project — a vital initiative that brings light and hope to one of Guatemala City's most challenging areas: Zona 18, known for its poverty and deep-rooted gang presence.

This year, the project continued to provide a weekly supplemental breakfast to children, reaching more than 175 fami-

lies each week and 350 families each month, alongside deliveries of purified water — 400 drums a month, benefiting some 80 families — and fresh vegetables, reaching well over 100 families every month.

Around Christmas, the team also served a special Christmas dinner to more than 200 people.

The education programme, known locally as Big Brother, continued to support children with their daily schoolwork,

materials, and research projects, practical help that keeps children in the classroom and working towards their goals. A parent programme runs alongside it, helping mothers and fathers support their children's learning at home.

While the risks in Zona 18 remain severe, so does the resilience of the children, and the team's quiet, consistent presence in a community too often forgotten.



SKDGuatemala

SKDGuatemala's four programmes — CasaClub, El Centro, Prevention, and Mentoring — together directly supported more than 120 children, adolescents, and young people this year, providing education, mentoring, emotional support, and family accompaniment in some of Guatemala City's highest-risk communities.

The "CasaClub" centre, based in Santa Faz — a developing slum on the outskirts of Guatemala City — maintained a steady rhythm of weekly group sessions, art workshops, and academic support for around 60 children, with mentoring led by Paula and Kate.

Three teenage girls, Giselle, Sofía, and Keyla, passed their entrance exam for the Instituto Gómez this year, a clear indication of how far consistent academic support can take a child.

El Centro, working with around 45 children, focused on reading and maths support, personalised mentoring, and family visits, alongside a significant and difficult transition: moving the programme from its long-time home in Zone 9 to a new space in Zone 11.

It hasn't been easy logistically, but the team's persistence has paid off for children like Genesis, eight years old, who had never had access to school before starting with El Centro — and who, after a year of steady support, has now learned to read.

The prevention work took the team directly into the highest-risk pockets of the La Terminal market in Zone 4 of Guatemala City, reaching around 40–65 children, adolescents, and families through home visits, legal case support, and assistance with registering children's identities with the national

civil registry — work that often goes unseen but opens doors (literally, in the form of a birth certificate) that would otherwise remain closed.

The one-to-one mentoring programme for teenagers and young adults continued to build long-term relationships through its group-mentoring model — though the team is the first to admit that finding and retaining enough committed mentors remains one of their biggest ongoing challenges.

SPECIAL THANKS TO
JONNY & ANA
MARIA HARBOTTLE,
WHO PROVIDED THE
FIRST MENTORING
CENTRE IN GUATEMALA
CITY "EL CENTRO".



MORE THAN A GAME: BUILDING BELONGING, CHARACTER AND HOPE

One of the highlights of the year in Santa Faz has been watching a football pitch become something much bigger than a game.

What began as a Tuesday-and-Thursday club of just ten children has grown to seventeen, with more asking every week to join.

Kate Dotterer, the SKD missionary who leads the club alongside her mentoring at CasaClub, has watched some of the older boys step into real leadership, not by scoring the most goals, but by lifting up struggling teammates.



After a hard defeat, the team's young goalkeeper walked away convinced that one bad game meant he was a bad player.

It was his own teammates, not the coaches, who put an arm around him and told him otherwise, and in the conversation that followed, the whole team discussed what it means for your worth not to depend on winning or losing.

Santa Faz is not an easy place to grow up; it is the same neighbourhood where children have grown up amid fear, violence, and isolation.

But this year, the Santa Faz community also came together for a clean-up day: children who normally see only the problems around them spent a morning clearing litter, tidying public spaces, and serving refreshments to volunteers, then went home already asking what they could tackle next.

It's a small, practical kind of hope: young people learning that they can be the ones to make their neighbourhood better, not just the ones who have to survive it.

THANK YOU

AS A VOLUNTEER-RUN CHARITY, WE
CAN'T DO THIS WITHOUT YOU!

Everything you have read in this report has been made possible by people who chose to care.

Some give regularly, others organise events, speak in schools, pray, volunteer their time or offer professional skills. Many have journeyed with Street Kids Direct faithfully for years. Whatever part you have played, thank you.

Your generosity enables our partners in Guatemala and Honduras to be there for children when they need someone most — helping them stay in education, strengthening families, providing food and practical support, creating safe places, and offering the mentoring and encouragement that can help prevent a child from turning to the streets.

We are particularly grateful to **Stephen Castree**, who once again gave his time and professional expertise to produce our independent financial report, and to **Cat Dale** and **Janet Wickham**, whose careful work behind the scenes helps us manage and report the charity's finances responsibly.

Steve & Nicola Raher

Much of what happens in the UK would simply not happen without Steve and Nicola. From their home in Chesham, they continue to give generously of their time to Street Kids Direct. Steve helps coordinate fundraising and events, while Nicola maintains our important relationships with local schools, helping a new generation of children understand the very different realities faced by children

growing up in Central America.

Helen Carmody

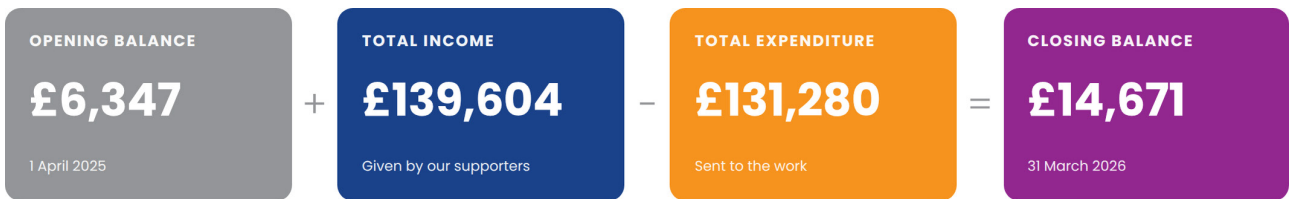
Helen continues to be a wonderful ambassador for Street Kids Direct in the High Wycombe area, taking the stories and needs of the children we support into local schools and helping young people in the UK discover that they, too, can make a difference.

And to all of you...

Whether your contribution has been visible or quietly offered behind the scenes, you are part of this story.

Thank you for standing with us, for believing that every child matters, and for helping us continue the journey — until the last child.

FINANCIAL REPORT



WHERE EVERY £1 WENT

98.5p in every £1 went straight to partner projects



INCOME BY SOURCE		£139,604	
General donations		£43,172	30.9%
Events		£25,800	18.5%
Gift Aid & other income		£21,730	15.6%
Monthly giving		£20,655	14.8%
Trusts & charities		£11,720	8.4%
Schools		£6,791	4.9%
Churches		£6,784	4.9%
CAF		£2,391	1.7%
PayPal		£559	0.4%

EXPENDITURE		£131,280	
PARTNER PROJECTS			
SKDGuatemala		£99,402	75.7%
Go Guatemala		£10,350	7.9%
Puerta de Esperanza		£8,600	6.6%
Casa Alexis		£5,000	3.8%
Asociación Jesús		£4,000	3.0%
Asociación Vida Nueva		£2,000	1.5%
Charity repayments & bank charges		£1,928	1.5%

£12,000 was donated to Proyecto Alas, Honduras – supported directly through SKD funds sent via WGM, USA

Street Kids Direct is a small volunteer-run charity. We remain committed to our founding principle that 100% of all donations go directly to the projects we support in Central America. The trustees donate to cover any UK bank charges or another sundry costs.

Accounts prepared on a cash basis, 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026.

Figures rounded to the nearest £; bars share one scale

Stephen Castree

Flat 7, 37–38 Adelaide Crescent Hove
East Sussex BN3 2JL

To: The Trustees of Street Kids Direct

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees
of Street Kids Direct Charity for the year ended
31st March 2026

I report on the accounts of the Street Kids
Direct Charity for the year ended 31st March
2026, which is set out on one page.
Respective responsibilities of trustees and
examiner

The charity's 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:

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accor-
dance with the general Directions given by
the Charity Commission. 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 accounts, 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
statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe
that in any material respect the requirements:

- * to keep accounting records in accordance
with section 130 of the 2011 Act
- * to prepare accounts which accord with the
accounting records and comply with the
accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should
be drawn in order to enable a proper under-
standing of the accounts to be reached.

Stephen Castree

BA Comb Hons, ACA, MBA, BA(PPE)

Date 11th September 2026



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