April 2021/22

Trustees' Annual Report

Safe Anaesthesia Worldwide
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6th April 2021 to 5th April 2022

Safe Anaesthesia Worldwide, White Lyon House, Marden, Kent, TN12 9DR, UK.

Registered Charity Number: 1148254

Telephone: 07527506969
Email: info@safe4all.org.uk
Website: www.safe4all.org.uk

Trustees
Roger J Eltringham, Chair and Medical Director (2011 - March 2022), President (appointed 8th March 2022)
Michael C Cox, Chair (appointed 8th March 2022)
Geoffrey R Burr, Treasurer
Emma C Freeman (resigned 20th Sept 2021)
Beverly S McGaw (resigned 7th October 2021)
Dr Julie Morgan
Colin E Whittle
Anne Cox (appointed 14th Sept 2021)

Advisers
Secretary: Carol Newman
Technical Adviser: Robert Neighbour

Bankers: CAF Bank, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, ME19 4JQ
National Westminster Bank, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XU

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 5th April 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 1993 and the Charity reporting and accounting: the essentials November 2016 (CC15d).

Structure, governance and management

The Trust is a registered charity, number 1148254, and is constituted under a trust deed dated 18th July 2012. New Trustees are appointed by the existing trustees by a resolution at a special meeting. The Trust Deed provides for a minimum of 3 trustees. The Trustees do not benefit financially from their Trusteeship.

The Trustees hold at least two ordinary meetings a year to oversee the charity's work. The day to day running of the charity is carried out by volunteers and there are no paid staff. The charity's work overseas is made possible by the voluntary contributions of professionals working in or visiting developing countries to deliver anaesthesia and support.

Risks associated with delivering safe anaesthesia in low-resource settings are taken into consideration by the Trustees. Importantly, only appropriate equipment that is safe, effective and inexpensive to use and maintain is provided by the charity. Equipment is only supplied to end-users who are suitably trained to use it safely. Training and continuing support is provided wherever requested.

Changes to the board of Trustees

This year saw the resignation of two founder Trustees, Beverly McGaw and Emma Thompson. Both have supported the charity since its initiation and were crucial to its establishment. Their contribution over the past decade has helped to improve anaesthesia services in poor countries around the world and is greatly appreciated. We wish Beverly and Emma well as they move on to new stages in their lives.

Founder of the charity, Dr Roger Eltringham, stepped down as Chair of the Trustees on 8th March 2022 and was appointed as President of SAWW in recognition of his longstanding and inspirational leadership of the charity and his outstanding contribution to global anaesthesia.

Anne Cox was appointed as a new Trustee on 14th September 2021.

Mike Cox was appointed as the new Chair of the Trustees on 8 March 2022.

Objectives and activities

The objectives of the charity Safe Anaesthesia Worldwide (SAWW) are to preserve and protect good health by: the provision of suitable anaesthetic equipment to deprived areas of the world; and the support of research, education, and training to ensure its effective use, care and maintenance.

Anaesthesia services are crucial to achieving the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 3 Good Health and Well-being**, and SAWW's objectives support this goal, and in particular the following targets:

- *3.1 By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births*
- *3.2 By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births*
- *3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment*
- *3.6 By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents*
- *3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including access to quality essential health-care services*

SAWW's objectives focus on the provision of:

- Safe anaesthesia and pain relief to help women in labour and to reduce the unacceptably high number of women who currently die in pregnancy and childbirth.
- Appropriate anaesthesia for remote low-resource locations to enable essential surgery to treat life-threatening, painful or disabling conditions such as trauma, tumours, hernias, obstetric fistulas, wounds, animal bites, burns, infections and congenital deformities.
- Oxygen therapies for newborns and infants to prevent unnecessary deaths from pneumonia, malaria, sepsis and premature birth.
- Portable anaesthesia equipment for emergency response to save lives of those affected by natural disasters or war.

To achieve its objectives the charity undertakes the following activities:

- The purchase and supply of equipment that is suitable for use in low-resource settings and remote locations, to people in need.
- The delivery of training for medical and technical staff in poor countries, to enable them to deliver safe anaesthesia and maintain equipment in good working order.
- Support for research into ways of improving the safe delivery of anaesthesia in poor countries.

In planning and conducting the charity's activities for the year the Trustees have given due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.

Day-to-day administration of the charity is carried out by the Trustees and other volunteers. Co-ordination of activities and secretarial support is provided by Carol Newman, whose employer, Diamedica (UK) Ltd, generously permits her to assist the charity from her place of work. Voluntary work by numerous individuals has enabled the delivery of anaesthesia training and the provision of research.

Activities

At the start of this year, the Covid-19 pandemic generated an increased demand for medical oxygen to treat patients at hospitals worldwide which resulted a shortage of oxygen generating equipment. Despite this difficulty, SAWW was able to source and donate oxygen concentrators, pulse oximeters and patient monitors, to hospitals in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo) and Uganda. SAWW provided further support to hospitals in Burundi, Mongolia, Uganda and Tanzania, and established a new collaboration to provide anaesthesia training in Zambia.

EQUIPMENT DONATIONS

Recipients of equipment donations during this year were as follows:

1. DR Congo, Matanda Hospital

In February 2021, Matanda Hospital in north Kivu province began tackling its twelfth outbreak of Ebola, amid the COVID pandemic and in a province affected by armed conflict since 2004. The 400-bed hospital had many patients in respiratory distress and in need of oxygen. SAWW donated four oxygen concentrators with pulse oximeters to improve treatment of patients in the emergency, intensive care and neonatal units. The donation was arranged with the assistance of Congolese anaesthetist Dr Furaha Blaise Pascal.

2. DR Congo, University Clinics of Graben

Dr Blaise Pascal helped us to send a further oxygen equipment and a portable anaesthesia machine to the University Clinics of Graben, Butembo, also in the troubled region of north Kivu. The non-profit hospital had only second-hand oxygen concentrators delivering low flows that were inadequate for their patients' needs and there are no local services to supply or refill oxygen cylinders. The hospital was short of oxygen for patients every day and had no anaesthesia machine. SAWW helped to improve their facilities by donating a portable anaesthesia machine and a patient monitor, to enable emergency surgical procedures, and three oxygen concentrators that each deliver up to 10 litres of oxygen per minute to improve oxygen supplies.

3. Uganda, St Mary's Hospital

SAWW has previously assisted the not-for-profit St Mary's Hospital Lacor, near Gulu, a very poor area in northern Uganda. St Mary's is a teaching hospital that undertakes training of anaesthetic officers who provide the bulk of anaesthesia services in the hospital and the country. In the face of third wave of the Covid pandemic in Uganda, SAWW was able to donate an oxygen concentrator to help alleviate the increased need at St Mary's hospital and boxes of masks to protect staff.

4. Tanzania, Haydom Hospital

SAWW continued to support Haydom Hospital in Tanzania by donating spares and consumables to keep respiratory equipment in good working order. SAWW recognises the importance of helping to maintain donated equipment, to ensure it is not discarded or left unusable due to lack of spare parts. Equipment that is not functional will mean death for some patients.

5. India, Himalayas

A portable ventilator was donated to Manali Hospital in the Kulu Valley, a remote rural area in the Himalayas. The ventilator was for use with a portable anaesthesia machine previously donated by SAWW. Manali Hospital provides affordable care for the poor and carries out some 250 major surgeries each year, as

well as conducting surgical camps to treat patients in outlying areas. The donated equipment will be used both in the hospital operating theatre and on the surgical camps to alleviate suffering of patients in this remote rural region.

6. Zambia, Kapirir District Hospital

A new collaboration for SAWW was made this year with Dr Leah Seaman in Kapiri, a small town in an agricultural region of central Zambia. Dr Seaman has established a special baby care unit at Kapiri District Hospital that has rapidly expanded. As knowledge of the baby unit spread and more babies were referred to it, the unit became overcrowded. With one oxygen concentrator CPAP in constant use, but only able to treat one baby at a time, Dr Leah was desperate to obtain a second one, as all too often difficult choices had to be made as to which baby would receive treatment and survive. She was overjoyed to receive a second oxygen concentrator CPAP donated by SAWW, which that was unpacked and in use within an hour of arriving at the hospital. The staff were all trained and are now competent at using the new device.

7. DR Congo, Nebobongo Hospital

Nebobongo Hospital in north-eastern DR Congo serves an area of over 260,000 people, despite very limited resources. The hospital's old anaesthesia system had given good service for 20 years but had eventually failed and lacked patient monitoring. A new anaesthesia machine and patient monitor were donated at the request of Dr Jean Claude Bataneni, the chief surgeon and medical officer at Nebobongo. This donation was assisted by Dr David Kim, who delivered the equipment in person whilst visiting from the UK and reported that the hospital was now able to perform surgery again in a much safer manner. This will help to improve patient outcomes in the coming years.

8. Mongolia,

SAWW has previously donated anaesthesia machines to Dr Ganbold Lundeg to improve anaesthesia services in rural areas of Mongolia. One million people in the Mongolian countryside cannot have emergency surgery due to a lack of appropriate equipment that will operate in hospitals without reliable electricity or oxygen. A project headed by Dr Ganbold and assisted by anaesthetists from Australia and New Zealand, is developing rural anaesthesia and emergency services at the Soum hospital level by equipping hospitals with draw-over anaesthesia machines accompanied by training. Thanks to a generous donation from supporter, Dr Haydn Perndt, SAWW was able to donate an ECO2 anaesthesia machine and a portable anaesthesia machine to this project.

9. Burundi, Anaesthesia Society ATSARP

A portable ventilator and an oxygen concentrator were donated to Gilles Eloi Rwibuka, President of the Anaesthesia Society in Burundi (ATSARPS). Working to improve the provision of anaesthesia in his country, Gilles had co-authored a study of anaesthesia facilities in Burundi which unsurprisingly found a significant lack of equipment. Over a third of hospitals reported that their anaesthesia machine was not functional and 18% were only partially functional. SAWW was happy to donate the ventilator and oxygen concentrator requested by Gilles, to accompany an anaesthesia machine, to support patients (adult and paediatric) in need of assistance with breathing during and post-operatively.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Zambia Anaesthesia Program

Towards the end of this year, SAWW established a collaboration with the Global Anaesthesia Development Partnerships – Zambia Anaesthesia Program (ZAP).

The ZAP was established in 2011 to support Zambia's first physician anaesthetist training program. It has successfully trained 30 anaesthetists and established the professional organisation: The Society of Anaesthetists in Zambia (SAZ). A further 13 anaesthetists are currently in training, and it is anticipated that further 5 to 8 will be joining in 2022.

Since March 2020, they had to work remotely due to Covid, and there has been little clinical training, as volunteers have been unable to visit, and Zambian faculty have been overwhelmed running COVID wards and ICUs.

In country training is planned to resume in 2022 and SAWW has provided funds to support the costs of in-country volunteers, and 50% of costs of Project Manager's costs in Zambia for 12 months.

Increasing the trained anaesthesia workforce in Zambia is crucial to improving access to safe anaesthesia and surgery.

RESEARCH

No research activities were supported this year.

Plans for the coming year

In the coming year April 2021/2022 SAWW will continue to improve anaesthesia services for those in need. SAWW's specific plans for the coming year include:

Emergency response
February 2022 saw the outbreak of war in Ukraine and in the months following, appeals began to reach us from Ukrainian doctors for anaesthesia equipment that would work in emergency situations and mobile hospitals. Whilst aware of the risks associated with sending medical equipment into a war zone, the Trustees agreed that the need to alleviate suffering of people injured in Ukraine could not be ignored and organised events to specifically fundraise for Ukraine. In the coming year, SAWW will continue to respond where possible to from anaesthetists working in difficult and dangerous locations, including conflict zones.

Equipping rural hospitals
SAWW will continue to provide anaesthesia equipment to rural hospitals in low- and middle-income countries, to enable safe surgery to save lives in the event of emergency c-sections, wounds, hernias, and accidents.

Collaboration with other groups
SAWW intends to continue to collaborate with church groups, schools, clubs and Rotaries, in the UK and overseas, to raise funds to supply appropriate anaesthesia equipment to hospitals in need.

Expanding governance and advisory expertise
SAWW's income and activities continue to grow, despite not currently employing any paid staff. Looking to the future, we wish to continue to expand SAWW's work and to help more people. To achieve this, we plan to enlist more advisors, ambassadors, educators and potentially board members.

Financial review

Income

Total income for the year was £56,260

The charity's principal sources of funding have been donations from charitable trusts, groups and individuals.

The mainstay of the fundraising has been talks delivered by the charity's Medical Director to schools, Rotary clubs, church groups and similar fundraising organisations.

Total expenditure for the year was £66,293

- 78% Medical equipment £51,704
- 19% Training £12,831
- 2% Printed Fundraising materials £1,255
- <1% Governance £179
- <1% Banking and other charges £324

Balance at the end of the year was £8,654

An independent examiner, Dennis Jeffrey Treman, retired Nat West Senior Bank Manager, approved the accounts and completed the Independent Examiner's Report required by the Charity Commission.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's Trustees

Signature: Date: 04/12/2022

Michael Cox

Chair