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Annual Report 2024 (DRAFT June 05, 2025)

Stichting Hope for Tomorrow, Utrecht

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Introduction

Foundation Hope for Tomorrow

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Director's report 2024



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Stichting Hope for Tomorrow (www.hopefortomorrow.nl) is a private voluntary foundation, established in 2014. Its aim is to raise and provide funding to support disadvantaged children in deprived circumstance achieve better educational opportunities than would otherwise be available to them. Our foundation seeks to achieve this through supporting likeminded organisations who share our aims and who are already active in providing disadvantaged children with the educational support, and care, that improves their chances to have happy, safe and productive lives. From the outset, our geographic focus has been directed towards helping children most in need in Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires. We choose these locations based upon working experience in these places. This has left us with a strong awareness of the needs that exist there for poorer children to get a decent education.

Currently, we have identified three organisations who meet our criteria for ethical and governance standards in the provision of educational support and care for children born into underprivileged circumstances. These organizations are Estrela da Favela and Edumais in Rio de Janeiro, and Fundacion Nicolas Lowe in the state of Buenos Aires. We describe later in this report the work of each of these organisations.

Since the beginning of our journey with these organizations we have learned that many children, including those born into extremely disadvantaged situations, still have their individual dreams of finding a way to make better lives for themselves. However, in reality, their chance of fulfilling their dreams is an uphill struggle, and requires a helping hand in their formative years. Our aim is to give this helping hand to as many children as our means permit. We do so while respecting their dignity and individuality. We aim to give these children the reassurance that their dreams can be realised when pursued with dedication and determination. We aim to show them the value of education. State support for education, and for child care, for underprivileged children in both Brazil & Argentina is exceptionally poor in terms of both quality and availability. Typically, funding is completely insufficient or even not available at all. In such circumstances, it is only

dedicated voluntary organisations that can try to fill the gap left vacant by the state, and give hope and opportunity to as many children as possible.

Our foundation takes great care to ensure that the financial support we provide goes directly to, and touches upon, the lives of those it is intended to help. With this in mind we have ensured that 100 percent of our foundation's funds are applied in supporting the identified children, with no fees or expenses paid from the fund to its directors or any other advisors.

During 2023, our foundation donated a total of Eur 55,000 to the three organisations described below. In each case, our donation was critical to the continuity and successful functioning of the organisation in question. In addition, in each case it also represented the single biggest individual donation they will have received in the year.

Estrela da Favela (www.estreladafavela.com)

Located in the Mangueira favela, close to the world famous Maracana football stadium, Estrela da Favela, which translates as Star of the Favela, operates a school currently of 140 local children ranging in age from 4 to 14. The school's founder is Dutchman Edwin Roodenburg, who remains passionately committed to the functioning of the school and is also its chief fundraiser. The school relies totally on voluntary donations. The vast majority of these donations originate outside Brazil. Day to day the school is run by local lady Mrs Edna Silvera. Edna is a passionate and dedicated teacher and mentor to her students. She is totally familiar with, and universally respected, in the whole of the Mangueira neighbourhood. She knows the family circumstances of her pupils which, in many cases, is poor and dysfunctional. Very often a child's primary carer is more likely to be a grandmother than either parent. Edna is supported by a combination of part-time teachers, and teaching volunteers. Edna, and most of her colleagues, are from similar neighbourhoods to Mangueira in Rio.

The students are taught the typical primary school subjects in a friendly and safe environment. The favela culture is very aggressive, with regular outbreaks of serious violence among drug gangs. Children traumatized as a consequence of this can respond with their own aggressive behaviour. Teaching them conflict resolution and constructive behaviour is a big part of their education in Estrela da Favela. It can easily be observed that the children love having the opportunity to learn in a respectful and stress free environment. Close bonds develop between teachers and students. The school is hugely respected in the Mangueira favela. Many parents, and guardians, yearn for a decent education for their children in a safe setting, and are enormously grateful to Estrela for all that they do. There is always a long waiting list of students seeking enrolment in the school. Physical space in the school has been so limited that many applicants have had to be turned away to the extreme disappointment of their guardians. However, a solution is at hand. After a lengthy search, Edwin Roodenburg and the team at Estrela have secured and extensively



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renovated a second building very close to the original school which will enable the doubling of the student intake from originally 100 to 200 in the near future. The second building is a great credit to Edwin and his team. It will supplement the present school with additional clean and modern classroom space, and improved teaching facilities.

The longer term aim of Estrela da Favela is to set its young students on a sound path for life. They aim to do this by teaching norms and values, and sound social skills, in addition to the typical primary school range of subjects. For the boys this is typically about guiding them towards the avoidance of gang culture. For the girls the aim is similar but, for them, it is also about encouraging them to see the value in continuing their education post primary school level, and giving them a sense of the role of women in the formation of a stable and sustainable society. A very practical element in this for the girls is the need for the avoidance of teen pregnancy. Edna and her team are superb role models for their young students, coaching and mentoring them to be the best that they can be.

In 2023, our foundation made a donation of Eur 20,000 to Estrela da Favela for educational support. We congratulate the Estrela team for their excellent work with the children in their care.

Edumais (www.edumais.org)

Edumais became the second of the organisations in Rio that our foundation Hope for Tomorrow identified for support. Edumais was founded by Mrs. Diana Nijboer, a Dutch lady originally experienced in Human Resources management and also skilled as an educationalist. For many years already Diana has been dedicating her life to the education and development of underprivileged children in the city's Pavao-Pavaozinho and Cantagalo favelas. These favelas sit side by side with Rio's fashionable district of Ipanema.

Diana works in tandem with the hugely respected and long established SOLAR MENINOS DE LUZ school (www.meninosdeluz.org.br). Solar combines a primary and secondary school, serving the same favelas as Edumais. It is also a private voluntary school, predominantly dependent upon private donations for its funding. It has a distinguished history having originally been established in 1983 and has, since then, been providing a high level of educational and welfare support to its local community. It serves approximately 400 students, from junior infants through to secondary school level. Diana, with her Edumais foundation, offers supplementary education programmes to those being offered by Solar. The students participating in the Edumais programmes are mostly drawn from Solar's student population. These programmes range from English language training, to courses on web design, to modules on entrepreneurship delivered by experienced local business volunteers. Special group activities and sports based programmes are delivered to help in the social and behavioural development of, especially, students who may be suffering from trauma and severe lack of self esteem. There is regular testing of students to determine the impact of the material presented on their educational development. In addition to Diana herself, Edumais works almost exclusively with teaching volunteers, mostly expatriates on assignments of varying duration in Rio de Janeiro.

Hope for Tomorrow made a donation of Eur 20,000 to Edumais in 2023.



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Longer term the aim of our foundation as it relates to Edumais will change towards assisting, against agreed criteria, a number of highly talented but underprivileged students gain a third level education that will secure their economic independence into the future.



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Fundacion Filantropica Nicolas Lowe (www.fundacionlowe.org.ar)

In Argentina, the organisation that we support is the long established Nicolas Lowe foundation. Its mission is caring for pre-teenage children whom the judicial system has directed should be removed, at least temporarily, from their family home environment for their personal safety and protection.

There are two facilities under the umbrella of the Nicolas Lowe foundation. The main Nicolas Lowe children's care home is located in the town of Mercedes, approximately 100 kilometres from Buenos Aires. The second home is a family run foster home nearer to Buenos Aires itself. Between the two locations approximately 30 to 35 children are under the care of the Nicolas Lowe Care Home foundation at any given time. These Homes provide safe and secure accommodation, nourishment, education and recreation to the children under their care. In addition, the children also receive necessary medical and psychological care both through the public health system and from voluntary private professionals. While under the care of the Nicolas Lowe foundation the children attend local schools. This is to ensure the continuation of their education and leave them with as normal a routine as possible given their unfortunate circumstances. The Nicolas Lowe staff are completely dedicated to the children and provide loving substitute parenting in the absence of a normal home life.

Between 2019 and 2023, the Nicolas Lowe foundation admitted 94 children, of whom 27 were eventually returned to their family of origin, including extended family, and 30 were successfully adopted. The remaining number is primarily comprised of the current population of children under the care of the foundation.

In the normal course of events approximately 50 percent of the children are eventually returned to live with a parent or a blood relative, based on a judicial process. The remainder are made available for adoption based on a rigorous process also overseen by the courts.



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The Nicolas Lowe foundation is a registered foundation, and is run by a reputable and diverse Board of Trustees. Similarly to the organizations our foundation supports in Rio de Janeiro, The Nicolas Lowe foundation is also highly dependent upon voluntary private donations to enable it to continue with the valuable work it undertakes to care for the most vulnerable and unfortunate children of all. In 2023, Hope for Tomorrow contributed Eur 15,000 to the Nicolas Lowe foundation, equivalent to just over 10 percent of its annual running costs.

Our foundation, Hope for Tomorrow, has contributed additionally towards structural repairs and maintenance work undertaken in both of the Lowe Homes.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, the board of our foundation is eager to remain in a position to continue supporting causes that share our passion to help make better lives for as many underprivileged children as possible for the coming years. We realise that we only scratch the surface of the need for such help that exists in many parts of the world. Nevertheless, we are eager to help as much as we can and we are willing to make every effort to continue doing so.

P.J. Kennedy, Chairman

J. de Visser

W. van der Woerd



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Financial statements



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Balance sheets as per December 31

		December 31, 2024		December 31, 2023	
		€	€	€	€
Assets	Ref.				
Current assets	4				
Banks			369,554		405,325
			369,554		405,325
Liabilities					
Equity	5				
Reserves					
Continuity reserve		83,000		83,000	
Designated reserves		130,000		175,000	
Revaluation reserve		25,000		25,000	
Development reserve		100,000		100,000	
General project reserve		22,325		22,360	
Total		360,325		405,360	
Result current year		-/- 35,771		-/- 45,035	
Total Equity			324,554		360,325
Provisions	6		-		-
Short term liabilities	7				
Donations committed			45,000		45,000
			369,554		405,325

Statements of income

		December 31, 2024		December 31, 2023	
	Ref.	€	€	€	€
<i>Income</i>					
Received donations					
Donations			0		0
Received Interest			9,624		
Total income			9,624		0
<i>Expenditure</i>					
Donations					
Paid		0		0	
Committed		45,000		45,000	
Provisions		0		0	
		45,000		45,000	
Costs					
Bank charges		86		35	
Other costs		309		0	
		395		35	
Total costs			395		35
Net result			-/- 35,771		-/- 45,035

Notes to the financial statements

1. General

Stichting Hope for Tomorrow (Foundation) aims to be among those organisations that try to help disadvantaged children by making education, in a safe and caring environment, a fact rather than just a dream.

2. Basis for valuation of assets and liabilities

2.1 General

The financial statements are in accordance with accounting standards generally accepted in the Netherlands and are stated in euros. Assets and liabilities are carried at cost unless indicated otherwise. In the balance sheet and statement of income references are made to the notes to the financial statements.

2.2 Comparison to last year

The principles for valuation and determination of income remained unchanged compared to the prior year.

3. Basis for determination of income

3.1 General

The net result is determined as the difference between the total income and expenses incurred during the financial year. Income and expenses are allocated to the period to which they relate.

3.2 Received donations

Received donations are recognised when committed.

3.3 *Foreign currencies*

Transactions denominated in foreign currency are translated into euros at the exchange rate applying on the transaction date.

3.4 *Donations*

Donations are recognised when committed:

- donations committed and paid
- donations committed and reserved.

4. **Current assets**

The ABN AMRO bank account is carried at nominal value.

5. **Equity**

Equity consists of reserves from accumulated net results of the past financial years.

Continuity reserve functions as a buffer for periods of imbalance in funding versus outflows. This represents 1.5 times the normal average outflow of the Stichting.

Designated reserves are intended annual donations and/or committed donations, as well as an amount for scholarships.

Revaluation reserve will be held available referring to currency risks in South America.

Development reserve is a reserve for support of new initiatives relating to organisations for mentally handicapped children and support of organisations in new geographical areas.

General project reserve is available for covering additional urgent needs addressed during site visits.

Reserves development in notes to balance sheet

Reserves	Continuity	Designated	Revaluation	Development	General Project	Total
December 31, 2023	83.000	175.000	25.000	100.000	22.359	405.359
Result appropriation 2023		-45.000			-34	-45.034
December 31, 2024	83.000	130.000	25.000	100.000	22.325	360.325

6. Provisions

none

7. Short term liabilities

Donations committed as per December 31, 2024, represent the committed amounts for 2025 to support the two foundations in Brazil and one foundation in Argentina.

8. Contingent liabilities

Apart from those liabilities disclosed under donations committed in the balance sheet, our Foundation has not entered into long-term commitments towards the organisations it supports or any other third party.

Signatures Board

Members of the Board

P.J. Kennedy (Chairman and Secretary)

J. de Visser

W. van der Woerd

Amersfoort, **xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx13, 2025**

