

APPENDIX 1

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Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator

Trustees' Annual Report for the period							
Period start date				Period end date			
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	01	01	2025	To	31	12	2025

Reference and administration details

Charity name
Other names charity is known by
Registered charity number
Charity's principal address

MalDent Student Aid
SC50001
11A Westbourne Gardens
Glasgow
Postcode G12 9XD

Names of the charity trustees on date of approval of Trustees' Annual Report

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Prof Jeremy Bagg	Principal		
2	Dr M. Petrina Sweeney			
3	Mr Niall Rogerson			
4	Ms Alex Mackay			
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Reference and administration details

Names of all other charity trustees during the period, if any, (for example, those who resigned part way through the financial period)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

Constituted as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Constitution (SCIO), gaining charitable status on 3rd March, 2020.

Trustee recruitment and appointment

Trustees are appointed by the Board by way of resolution passed by a majority.
Board members will retire as follows: 1/3 shall retire and may offer themselves for re-election.
A register of Trustees is maintained by the Principal Trustee.

Objectives and activities

Charitable purposes

To enhance the opportunities for Malawian students from poorer backgrounds to enter the study programme at the University of Malawi College of Medicine (now re-named as the Kamuzu University of Health Sciences [KUHeS]) that culminates in award of a Bachelor of Dental Surgery degree.

To raise funds that can provide support for students in the form of a “hardship fund” to be called “Dentist to Dentist” for Malawian students enrolled on the Bachelor of Dental Surgery programme at the University of Malawi College of Medicine (now KUHeS) who are struggling to fund costs of food, accommodation or transportation.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

Activities follow from an established partnership between Kamuzu University of Health Sciences (KUHeS) and the University of Glasgow, known as the MalDent Project (www.themaldentproject.com). The overall programme of work has benefitted from award of a grant (£1.3m from 2018 – 2023) from Scottish Government as part of its international development programme. A one-year extension to the MalDent Project was agreed in March 2023, adjusting the end date of the grant to 31st March 2024 and increasing total funding to £1.6m.

A Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) degree course has been established at KUHeS as one of the work packages of the MalDent Project. The course was launched in 2019 and now has 124 students studying towards the BDS degree. The initial cohort of 10 students graduated as Malawi's first ever home trained dentists in April 2025.

Many students in a low-income country such as Malawi struggle to meet the costs of attending higher degree programmes, particularly during the transition from their home family environment to the university. Inevitably this means that some very capable students are unable to continue their studies for fiscal reasons rather than through academic challenges. The challenge has been made even more significant because of the ongoing fall in value of the Malawian Kwacha. This impacts negatively upon development of a national skilled workforce, in this case relating to oral health (Malawi currently has 50 dentists for 22 million people).

The Student Aid structure via this SCIO aims to provide additional support through both fund raising and related activities, helping financially needy but capable students to complete the BDS degree programme and enter Malawi's healthcare workforce.

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Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the financial period

The process established in 2023 for equitable distribution of funds to the dental students who were suffering from financial hardship in Malawi proved very effective in 2024. The small local committee established by the Head of the Dental School at KUHeS with two colleagues working in other areas of the University and with support of the MalDent Project Administrator has functioned well. The welfare account with the National Bank in Malawi continues to accept donations from MalDent Student Aid and any other donors who wished to contribute. Formal applications from students for financial support are sought at the beginning of each academic semester. The committee reviews the applications and determines the outcomes through a robust local process. Awards are then made through an auditable financial transfer to the individual students.

During 2024, a transfer of £2000 was made on 6th June from the MalDent Student Aid CAF Bank account to the National Bank welfare account.

During 2024, 48 bursaries were awarded to dental students facing financial hardship at Kamuzu University of Health Sciences. These bursaries significantly reduce financial worries for students, allowing them to concentrate on their studies and retain their places on the BDS degree programme. The following are two messages of thanks received from recipients of bursaries:

"Am so much excited to hear this. Thank you so much for granting me this opportunity. This will surely help me a lot. I will be able to eat proper meals every day. This is also going to help me in my studies, as I will be able to study with no hunger issues".

"I write to express my total joyous gratitude towards the offer I have been given. May God bless you. Once again I am very glad for this offer and it will help me to work with an extra mile in studies".

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The charity does not require to maintain any reserves of scale as costs of governance are minimal with individuals donating their time to establish the charity.

As the financial activities will be fundraising in nature then all costs with minor exception will be charitable and therefore the Trustees do not consider that there is likely to be a requirement for holding funds other than through timing of distribution.

Details of any deficit

N/A

Donated facilities and services (if any)

During the period under review, no activities were undertaken that required specific facilities. All activities were undertaken online.

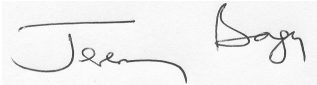
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Other optional information

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Prof Jeremy Bagg	
Position (e.g. Chair)	Principal Trustee	
Date	16 September 2026	