



**The  
Ben  
Raemers  
Foundation**



# Delivery Report 2024

Check out what we've been up to as another year at The Ben Raemers Foundation. We've remained committed to honouring Ben's legacy by supporting the skateboarding community in suicide prevention and awareness. This delivery report reflects the movements we have made over the past year - through community outreach, education, and collaborations, we have continued to expand our impact and provide essential resources to those who need them most. Here's to another year of creating safe spaces for the skateboarding community to feel seen, heard and supported.

**- Lucy Raemers**



The Ben Raemers Foundation

We started the year with a trustee away day developing our Strategic Plan with our newly recruited board team. This led to identifying our first task for 2024 and the need to update our website. This is now live and linked to our stickers through the QR code to enable people to access information about mental health and support through helpful links. It also hosts updates of our Instagram messaging (for those not on social media) and enables our films to be fully accessible.



The other area of work we identified was the need to evaluate the organisation, which will be a significant project for 2025. We were connected with UCL and a Masters of Global Health candidate, who undertook an initial evaluation of our SMiLe films. Morgan Love reviewed the SMiLes on YouTube and analysed the content and comments. The report found that SMiLe Films promotes mental health awareness and conversations within the skateboarding community.

**“The first was mental health experiences that recognised the pressures of skateboarding and other life events on mental health. The second theme was substance use, stemming from its influence on skate culture and its management of negative feelings, such as stress and anxiety. The last theme was mental health conversations that stressed the importance of reaching out for support and checking in with friends. A total of 696 comments varied between the eight SMiLe Films, while the 280,824 views and approximately 9,341 likes were more consistent. Most comments were positive (54.9%), with many viewers showing their appreciation or acknowledgement towards the interviews (18%) and/or sharing their personal experiences (8.4%).”**

**- Love, 2025**





# Events and Fundraisers

We delivered, partnered, and attended various events throughout the year. Some of these were aimed to benefit the skateboarding community directly, and some were aimed to present our work on a different, new, and unusual stage.

An emotional and impactful wellbeing evening at Pitt Street Skatepark, where we screened some of the SMiLe films and had an open and honest community conversation around suicide grief and prevention.



A similar event took place at TR7 Skatepark, where we screened some SMiLe films and opened the conversation around suicide prevention in the Cornish skate community.





Partnering with Planet Good Earth, UCL, Urban Organic, and Betong Park for an edible skatepark with mental health at its heart in the prestigious Chelsea Flower Show.



Once again, Thrasher donated us the ticket profits from their annual Death Match.

Graystone hosted the annual Coping event, bringing together skaters and services for a fun day out in Manchester.



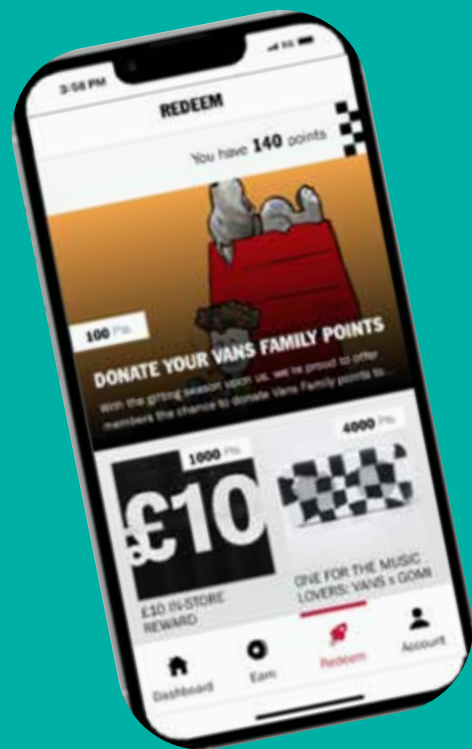


We had a fantastic time hosting one of the events at CPH Open, which for 2024 moved from Copenhagen to Athens. We had 'Ben's Coffee Corner' down at the harbour with massive support from Converse and the team of our friends at Color Skates, Place Skateboard Culture and Yeti. Despite the weather, it was an event to remember!





In London, UCL at City Mill hosted an International Symposium, and the Keep Rolling crew did a brilliant job hosting a fundraiser jam. We used the funds from this event to invest in producing our Writing Towards Wellbeing zine.



Across the year, we have been partnering with Vans Shop Riot to raise awareness of the foundation at these events and linking with skate shops across Europe. Each shop is sent a welcome pack with key information about our work and how they can access it.

Following this, the Vans Family held an online funding weekend where Vans customers were asked to trade their family points into donations to us. We are using this funding for a 2025 fun new project.



Through RVCA, we worked on a tote bag campaign to raise awareness of the foundation in all the Boardriders shops across Europe.



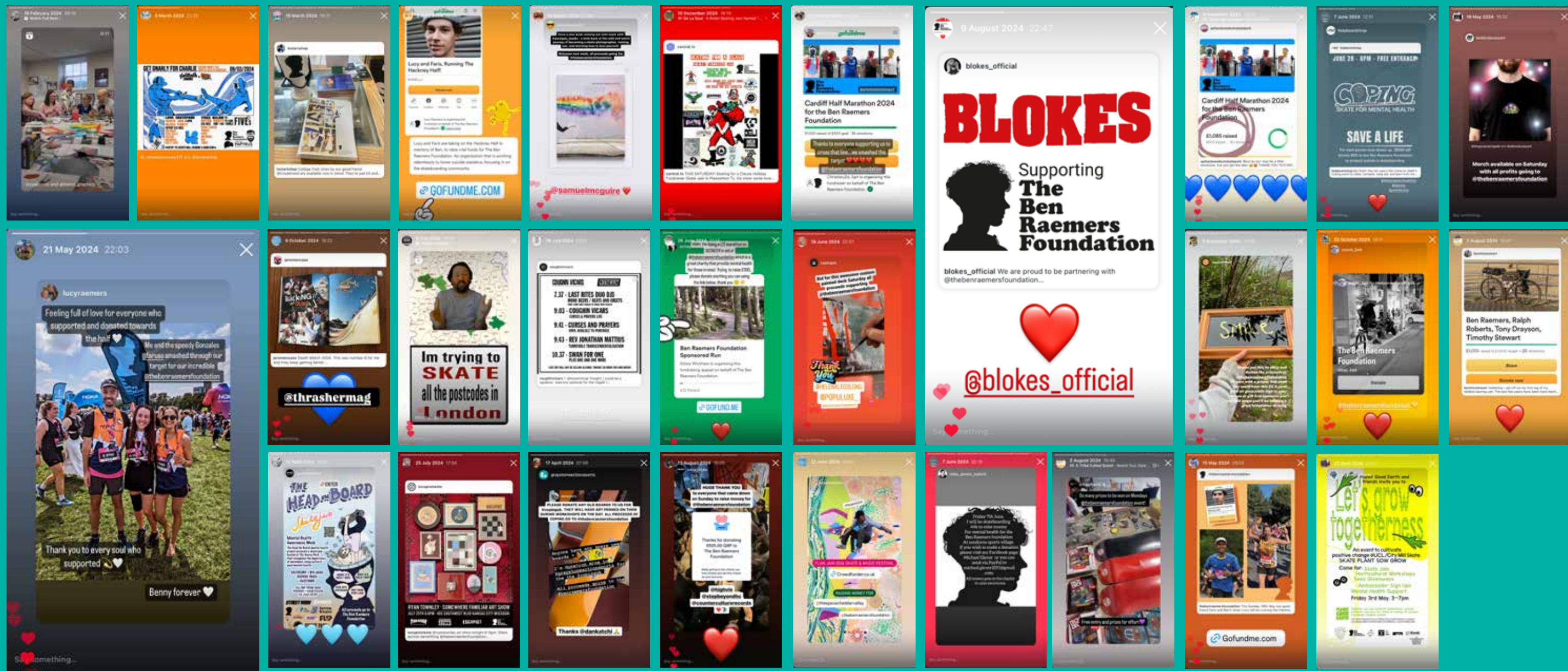
Alongside Sam Buchan Watts, we took the Writing towards Wellbeing workshops to an international platform at the Vladimir Film Festival and the DACS event in Leipzig. At Vladimir, we also showcased the two zines made from the workshops in 2023.

These are just some of the events and fundraisers that have brought income and awareness towards the foundation's work.





There have also been numerous inspiring fundraisers, including skate jams, bike rides, sponsored runs, donations at events such as the Blokes 2 screening, a raffle from the Cornish Shredders, a skate auction in Liverpool in collaboration with Gabes Law, the skate community in Turino, 30 Day Challenges, Postcode Challenges, our generous regular donors, gigs in skate shops and skate parks, garden parties, and memorial fundraisers for other skaters that have sadly been affected by early death and suicide. These are greatly appreciated, and we are incredibly grateful for these efforts.

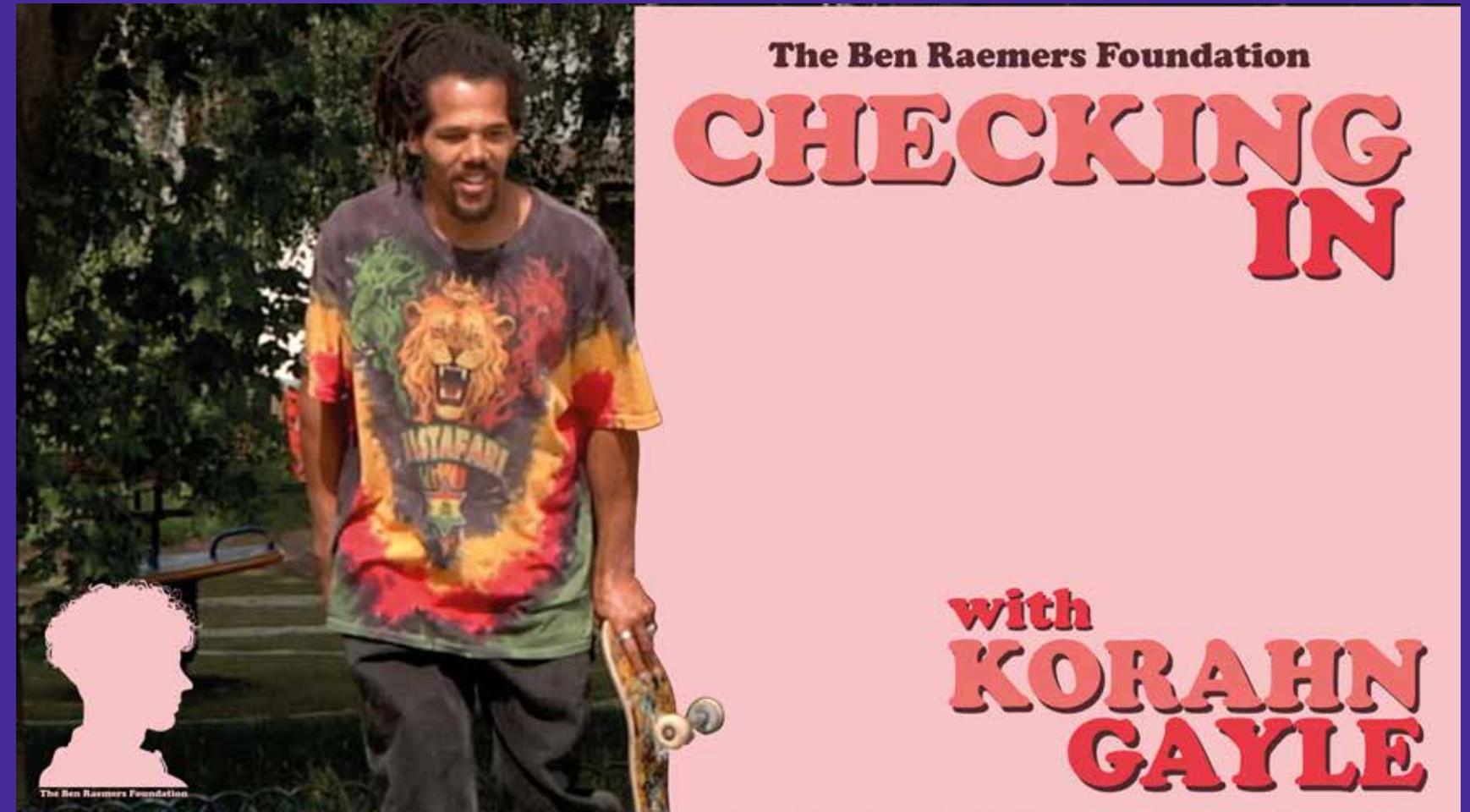




# Films

## CHECKING IN

We were able to share our latest Checking In with Kohran Gayle. In this film, Nike SB Team Manager Kohran shares how he manages his mental health and checks in with himself and friends, following attending suicide prevention training with The Ben Raemers Foundation.







# FEELING SCENE SKATE FOR BEN

We launched a new project, with funding from Converse, called Feeling Scene/Skate for Ben.

This project aims to explore the skate scene in different areas and shine a light on some of the mental health services in the local area. For this two-year project, we go to a town or city, spend some time street skating with locals, and learn about the area's skate history and knowledge.

We then host a fun, family-focused Skate For Ben jam with tons of prizes. Thanks to all those who have attended and donated to these events.

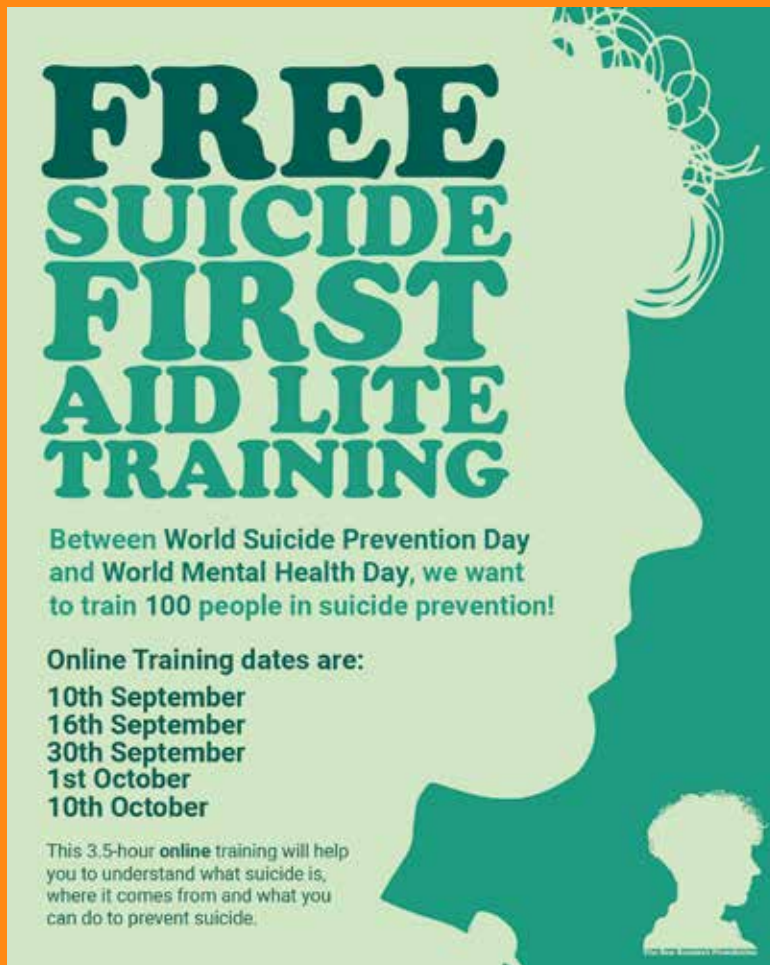
Two of these films came out in 2024, **Feeling Scene Cardiff** and **Feeling Scene Leeds**.





# Suicide Prevention Training

Training on suicide prevention is still a significant focus of our work, and in 2024, we trained more people than ever. We held 12 online delivery sessions including our challenge to train 100 people in Suicide First Aid Lite in the month between World Suicide Prevention Day and World Mental Health Day. We held two in-person sessions with Cardiff skaters at Spit n Sawdust and a cohort at the Inverness Skate Club as part of their Board Brain project. We also enabled a Living Works SafeTalk delivered in Seattle with 35 and North Skateshop.

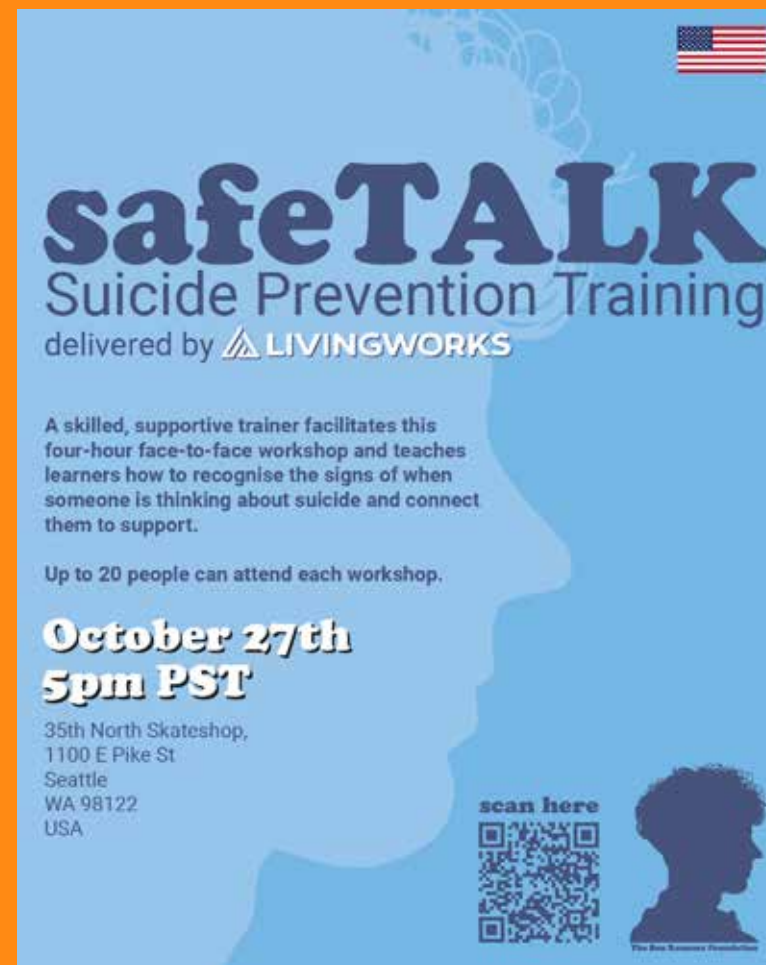



**FREE  
SUICIDE  
FIRST  
AID LITE  
TRAINING**

Between World Suicide Prevention Day and World Mental Health Day, we want to train 100 people in suicide prevention!

Online Training dates are:  
10th September  
16th September  
30th September  
1st October  
10th October

This 3.5-hour online training will help you to understand what suicide is, where it comes from and what you can do to prevent suicide.




**safeTALK**  
Suicide Prevention Training  
delivered by  LIVINGWORKS

A skilled, supportive trainer facilitates this four-hour face-to-face workshop and teaches learners how to recognise the signs of when someone is thinking about suicide and connect them to support.

Up to 20 people can attend each workshop.

**October 27th  
5pm PST**

35th North Skateshop,  
1100 E Pike St  
Seattle  
WA 98122  
USA

scan here 



**Suicide  
First Aid  
Lite  
Training**

**Sunday 7th April  
6pm**

This training starts at 6.15 pm; please arrive promptly to ensure your attendance.

**SPIT  
&  
SAWDUST**

Unit B,  
Rhymney River Bridge Rd,  
Cardiff, CF23 9AF



**Suicide  
First Aid  
Lite  
Training**

**Saturday 16th March  
1-5pm**

This training starts at 1.15 pm; please arrive promptly to ensure your attendance.

Inverness Creative Academy,  
Midmills Building,  
Crown,  
Inverness







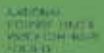

# Counselling

Following the 2023 pilot, the counselling project had a revamped approach.  
This is a quarterly offer where ten people can apply for six free counselling sessions with a trained professional.

# FREE COUNSELLING

**The Ben Raemers Foundation is delighted to offer more spaces on our counselling service pilot project.**

Counselling is a talking therapy that allows people to talk about their feelings, needs and problems in a safe, structured, confidential setting.



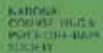



Working with the National Counselling and Psychotherapy Society (NCPs), we have trained practicing counsellors in understanding skateboarding and the lifestyle that often comes with it. This pilot project will offer anyone over the age of 18 and living in the UK the opportunity to receive up to six counselling sessions for free.

To sign up, complete and submit the online application form (link in bio).


Once your application has been assessed, you will be sent a link to the NCPs database of practitioners trained on Skateboarding and The Ben Raemers Foundation.

\*as this is a pilot project, spaces are limited and given out on a first come first serve basis.



### How to apply for up to six free sessions of counselling through The Ben Raemers Foundation:

1. Complete and submit the online application form.
2. Once your application has been assessed, you will be sent a link to the NCPs database of practitioners trained on The Ben Raemers Foundation and briefed about skateboarding.
3. You will be sent a description of the terms and conditions and expectations from yourself and your counsellor; you will receive a Purchase Order number to give to the counsellor for payments.
4. Use the NCS link to find counsellors you feel would benefit you.
5. Find a practitioner who you feel will be good to work with.
6. Contact them and say that you would like an initial assessment for free through the agreement with NCPs (they'll know what this means).
7. You'll meet for a short initial assessment, either in person or online. This is a 'getting to know you' thing.
8. If you decide to proceed, you will arrange a suitable time to meet in person or online.
9. When you meet for your first full session, please provide the counsellor with your Purchase Order number.
10. If you think your counsellor is not the right fit for you after 1-2 sessions, return to step two and try again; sometimes, it takes some time to get the right fit.

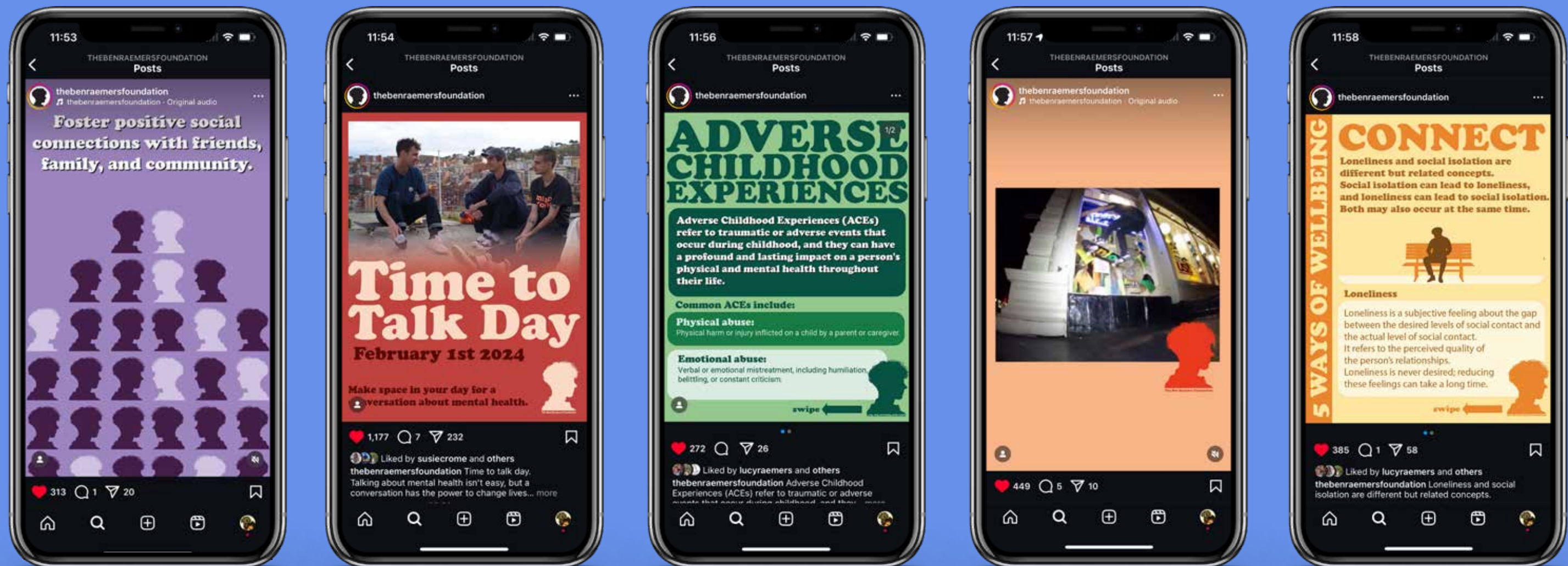




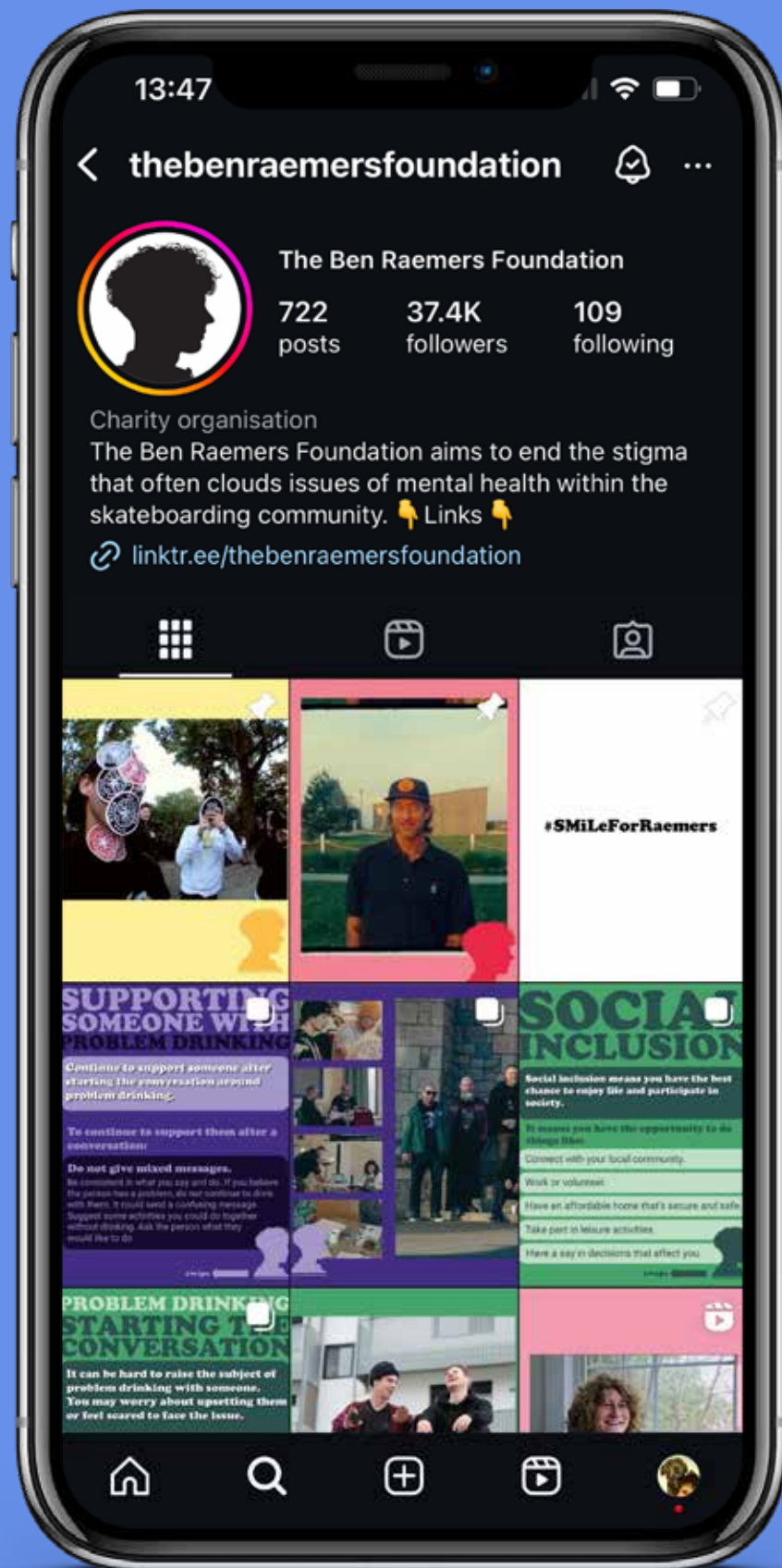


# Social Media

Our Instagram and YouTube channels are an essential outlet for our delivery. They enable us to communicate with an ever-growing number of followers. The communication works both ways, as we receive feedback and messaging in return. This continues to let us know that our work is having a big impact on the lives of skaters. It helps us to further inform us, and to make posts aligned with the important issues within the diversity of the global skate community.







stuartgibson24 59w · ❤️ by author  
Thank you @thebenraemersfoundation for putting on the Suicide First Aid course, I genuinely feel so much better equipped to be able to support those struggling around me, and recognise signs and behaviours of someone dealing with Suicidal thoughts. So much love for the work you guys are doing ❤️  
Reply Hide

thelucyraynerfoundation 53w · ❤️ by author  
Thank you so much for sharing! We are inspired by the work that you do ❤️👉  
Reply Message Hide

cardiffmind 45w · ❤️ by author  
Wow 1000 people, imagine how many people those 1000 people know, and how many people they will come across in their lifetimes, they are beacons of light wherever they are, incredible guys, well done 🙌👉  
Reply Hide

\_wu\_whey 44w  
Fantastic content!  
Reply Hide

shellinishino 40w  
Thank you for posting, I really needed to see this. I will watch the full video. I appreciate your openness about mental health!  
Reply Hide

spkttt 26w · ❤️ by author  
Guys what you are doing is amazing! I would have loved to take part to this project!  
Much love from Italy 🇮🇹❤️  
Reply Hide

mrsdaniesteves 26w · ❤️ by author  
This is such an important initiative! Thank you for raising awareness and creating a space for people to have these vital conversations ❤️  
Reply Hide

mavedorgan 26w · ❤️ by author  
💙 truly one of the most valuable courses to take. Thanks for your amazing work @thebenraemersfoundation  
Reply Hide

squeakygates932 26w  
💖 ty so much for what u guys do  
Reply Hide

domrushing\_ 23w  
Ben forever 🙌👉  
Reply Hide

hiddenstrengthuk 22w · ❤️ by author  
Free support, we love to see!! 🙌👉  
Reply Hide

lexistrawbz 21w · ❤️ by author  
This is a really good tool for people to use and share. Thank you 🙏  
Reply Hide

mile\_end\_high\_club 19w  
I delivered a mental health first aid course this week and showed your content in the training.... You're exemplary in what you do. Big up your excellent selves 🙌  
Reply Hide

37.4K Followers

Most Liked Post

❤️ 3,835

🗨️ 1,106

💬 55

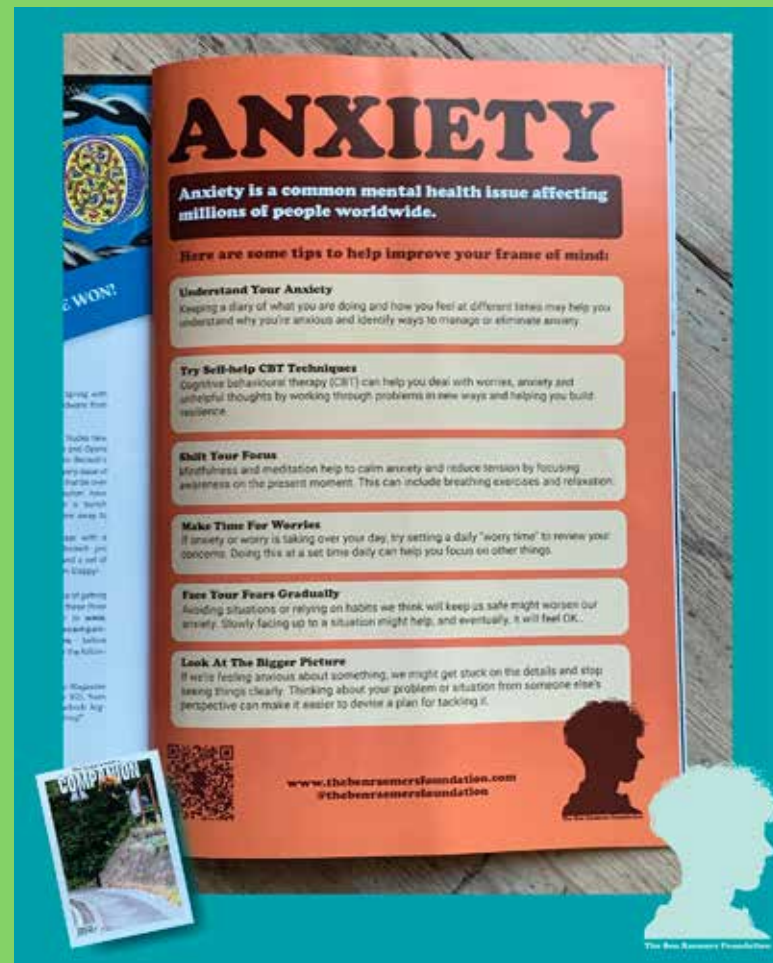


The Ben Raemers Foundation



# Media

We have had advertising space in skateboard magazines donated to us which we have used to raise awareness about our work, mental health and suicide prevention.



The Ben Raemers Foundation



# Products



Our tee shirts were sold through our friends at Palomino with a limited pre order run to save on additional costs and needless waste.





# Feedback

We have received significant feedback demonstrating the impact of what we do. Here are a few examples:

## SKATE FOR BEN

“One of, if not the best skateboarding event I've ever been to. The staff, the structure and the organisation of the day, the quality of the venue, the raffle, and the quality of the prizes for the skaters taking part was incredible. The jam atmosphere was so much better and more inclusive than a comp format and the pro skaters were so friendly to all the attendees.”

## FREE COUNSELLING

“I have just completed my 6 free counselling sessions, provided by the foundation free of charge. They really helped me gain perspective and coping skills, and things are looking up for me and my family. Thank you all and big up to the Foundation, you do great work under a great name.”

## DIRECT MESSAGE

I love what y'all are doing and would be keen to support in any way i can. Thank you so much for all you do, it means the world. Just know you have impacted my life in a beautiful way.”

## SUICIDE FIRST AID TRAINING

“I would highly recommend this course to friends and family. Coming from a group of close friends who have lost people through suicide, I personally feel I can talk about it with more confidence and freedom and hope my friends start to feel the same way through this. Thank you to The Ben Raemers foundation for giving me this opportunity it really helped me reflect and learn a lot which I will utilise and carry for life.”





# Financial Report

The Foundation is pleased to report that, thanks to the ongoing generosity of individuals and key industry partners, it remains in a strong financial position, ensuring continued support for the skateboarding industry.

Expenditure for the year totalled £103,000, which was covered by donations and grants received. A portion of this spend relates to a restricted grant from 2023. The expenditure was directed towards advancing the Foundation's mission and core principles, including significant spend in media and content production, individual counselling sessions, as well as events and training programs delivered throughout the year.

The Trustees are confident that the Foundation has adequate reserves and resources to sustain its operations for the foreseeable future.

## Key Financial indicators 2024

Cash	
Opening Balance	347,843
Cash Received	107,963
Cash Spent	(107,845)
Closing Cash Balance	347,962
Net Movement in Cash	119
Unrestricted Cash	X
Restricted Cash	X

Income Statement	
Proceeds From Donations	63,389
Proceeds From Restricted Grants	38,754
Other Income	996
Total Income	103,140

Staff & Consultancy	(28,482)
Content and Media Production	(36,334)
Restricted Spend	(16,015)
Promotional Materials	(6,984)
Admin Expenses	(4,609)
Other Expenses	(3,146)
Travel	(7,451)
Total Expenses	(103,021)
Net Income	119

