

Impact Report

2024



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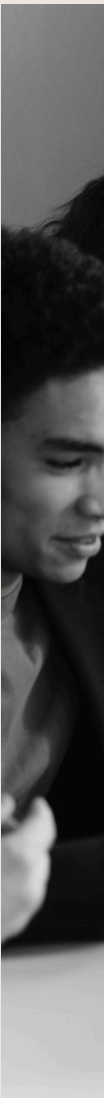




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Executive Summary

The Caribbean Centre for Human Rights (CCHR) had made significant strides in 2024, upholding its mission to defend and strengthen human rights across the Caribbean through education, empowerment, and strategic action. The year had been marked by notable achievements in legal support, advocacy, and organisational growth, driven by the unwavering dedication of its team and the support of key partners.

Throughout the year, CCHR delivered critical legal assistance to asylum seekers, refugees, and other vulnerable groups. Strategic partnerships with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Open Society Foundations (OSF) had been instrumental in advancing CCHR's work. The collaboration with UNHCR had enabled the establishment of a fully operational legal unit, while OSF's support had facilitated groundbreaking research into colonial-era savings law clauses, paving the way for constitutional reform across the region.

Advocacy efforts included participation in high-level dialogues on trafficking in persons and training sessions for law enforcement on refugee rights, reinforcing CCHR's role as a leading voice in human rights policy. Financially, the organisation had maintained stability, with prudent management of resources ensuring the effective delivery of programmes.

As CCHR looked ahead to 2025, plans for expansion and sustainability were already underway, with new initiatives targeting domestic abuse survivors, marginalised women, and poverty-related criminalisation. The organisation remained steadfast in its vision of a Caribbean where human rights are universally upheld, and its 2024 achievements had laid a strong foundation for continued impact in the years to come.



Message from the Chairman of the Board of Directors - Dr. Carolyn Gomes.

As we approach the end of 2024, we want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible year we've had and express our deepest gratitude to each of you for your unwavering commitment, hard work, and passion for advancing human rights.

This year, we faced numerous challenges, but together, we turned obstacles into opportunities for growth and impact. Your dedication to advocating for justice, equity, and dignity for all has made a tangible difference in the lives of countless individuals. Every project, every case, every effort you've contributed has helped us move closer to the world we envision—a world where human rights are universally respected and upheld.

The care and professionalism you bring to your work, and this collective spirit has propelled us forward as an organisation. Your accomplishments are a testament to your unwavering belief in our mission and your determination to create change.

As we prepare for 2025, We are excited about the opportunities ahead and confident that, with a team like ours, we will continue to make a profound impact. Together, we will push boundaries, innovate solutions, and uphold the principles of justice and equality in every corner of the world we serve.

Thank you for being the heart and soul of this organisation. Your work matters, and you are appreciated beyond measure.



Message from Executive Director – Mary Joanna Marsden.

What an incredible year 2024 has been for CCHR — a year marked by bold strides, unwavering dedication, and inspiring progress.

From the foundational setup of our new offices to our pivotal role in supporting the UNHCR legal assistance initiative, this year has been defined by both tremendous challenges and even greater achievements. We proudly launched a fully operational legal unit that has handled cases from inception through to potential strategic litigation before the high court — a milestone that speaks volumes about our growth and capability.

Navigating the expectations of a new donor and building a fully functional office could have been daunting, but our team rose to the occasion — and exceeded every benchmark. What began as a small team working in close quarters quickly transformed into a tightly-knit unit powered by collaboration, innovation, and a shared purpose. Every member stepped up — taking on new responsibilities with enthusiasm and embracing even the unexpected with grace and determination.

Our outreach efforts not only extended vital support to refugee and asylum-seeking communities, but also became a space of mutual care, camaraderie, and strength for our team. The response from the community reaffirmed our purpose: legal care delivered with compassion makes all the difference.

As we look ahead to 2025, we carry forward the momentum of a team that has grown stronger in every way. January 2025 has already proven to be one of our most successful months yet — a sign of the incredible impact that lies ahead.

We are proud. We are prepared. And we are just getting started.

Go Team!

I am truly blessed to share my career journey with such a special team and a Board of Directors that offers me support and guidance every day and in every way.



Mary Jo

Mission

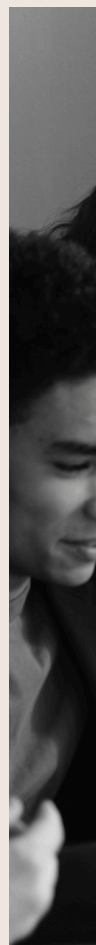
Upholding & strengthening human rights across the Caribbean through education, empowering communities, collaboration, and strategic action that safeguard human dignity, rights and freedoms for all.

Vision

A Caribbean where human rights are upheld, ensuring dignity, rights, and freedoms for all.

Core Values of the Caribbean Centre for Human Rights (CCHR).

- **Equality and Non-Discrimination:** Commitment to ensuring equal rights and opportunities for all, regardless of race, gender, nationality, or socio-economic background.
- **Human Dignity:** Upholding the inherent worth of every individual and advocating for respect and protection of their basic human rights.
- **Justice and Accountability:** Promoting access to justice and holding governments and institutions accountable for human rights violations.
- **Protection of Vulnerable Groups:** Defending the rights of marginalized communities, including migrants, refugees, women, children, and LGBTQ+ individuals.
- **Freedom and Autonomy:** Advocating for personal freedoms, self-determination, and protection of civil liberties.
- **Integrity and Transparency:** Ensuring ethical conduct, honesty, and transparency in their actions and operations.
- **Collaboration and Solidarity:** Building partnerships and fostering unity in addressing human rights challenges across the Caribbean region.



Areas of Focus of the Caribbean Centre for Human Rights.

In 2024, the organisation concentrated its efforts on a range of critical and intersecting issues affecting marginalised communities. These thematic areas informed the strategic direction of all programmes and advocacy initiatives throughout the year:

- **Economic Inequality:** The organisation addressed widespread poverty and disparities in access to healthcare, education, and housing.
- **Gender-Based Violence:** The organisation responded to high rates of domestic violence and insufficient protection for survivors.
- **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer + (LGBTQ+) Discrimination:** The organisation tackled cultural and legal stigmas that perpetuated inequity and violence.
- **Climate Change:** The organisation responded to displacement and livelihood threats caused by rising sea levels and extreme weather.
- **Weak Justice Systems:** The organisation worked to address prolonged pre-trial detention and limited access to legal representation.
- **Migrant and Refugee Rights:** The organisation confronted xenophobia and inadequate legal protections for displaced individuals.
- **Youth Challenges:** The organisation addressed high unemployment and limited opportunities, which contributed to crime and social unrest.
- **Healthcare Inequities:** The organisation worked to reduce unequal access to medical care, particularly in rural areas.



Core Services

The Caribbean Centre for Human Rights offered a wide range of legal services during this reporting period, detailed as such:

Throughout FY2024, CCHR continued to fulfil its mandate of monitoring human rights issues and advocating with government stakeholders for the human rights of refugees and migrants in Trinidad and Tobago and across the Caribbean. The organisation's strategic partnership with UNHCR remained central to its operational model, enabling the delivery of comprehensive services to vulnerable populations. The following services were provided:

- Provided free legal advice and support to asylum-seekers and refugees in Trinidad and Tobago, addressing critical protection needs
- Conducted regular monitoring of human rights conditions affecting refugees and migrants throughout the region
- Delivered human rights education and awareness through structured public campaigns and community outreach activities
- Implemented legal advocacy initiatives to advance protection standards and access to rights
- Facilitated and co-hosted technical training programmes for stakeholders and service providers engaged with refugee and migrant communities.
- Fostered strategic partnerships to enhance service delivery capacity and coordination across sectors.

Legal Support Services.

- Offered individualised legal consultations addressing specific protection concerns and legal status issues
- Provided representation for asylum-seekers navigating refugee status determination procedures
- Assisted refugees with documentation challenges and administrative barriers to accessing services
- ❖ Supported cases involving detention, deportation risks, and other urgent protection matters
- ❖ Delivered legal literacy training to empower communities with knowledge of their rights and available protections
- ❖ Facilitated access to complementary services through referral mechanisms and interagency coordination



Organisational Structures

Board of Directors

Our Board of Directors provides crucial governance, strategic direction, and fiduciary oversight for the Caribbean Centre for Human Rights. These dedicated individuals volunteer their time and expertise to guide our mission. We extend our sincere gratitude for their leadership and commitment during 2024.

Diana Mahabir-Wyatt

Diana Mahabir-Wyatt is a prominent human rights advocate in Trinidad and Tobago. She has played a pivotal role in the establishment of several organisations dedicated to the protection of vulnerable populations, including *The Shelter for Battered Women and Children* and *the Coalition Against Domestic Violence*. A former Independent Senator, she has also served as Chief Executive Officer of the Employers' Consultative Association and was a founding member of the National Insurance Board. She currently leads *Personnel Management Services Ltd*.

Dr Carolyn Gomes

Dr Carolyn Gomes, O.J., is a Jamaican physician and an internationally recognised human rights advocate. She co-founded *Jamaicans for Justice (JfJ)* in 1999 and served as its Executive Director until 2013. From 2014 to 2018, she led the *Caribbean Vulnerable Communities Coalition (CVC)*, focusing on the rights of marginalised groups affected by HIV/AIDS. Dr Gomes was awarded the *United Nations Prize in the Field of Human Rights* in 2008 and the Order of Jamaica in 2009. She currently serves as Co-Chair of the *Caribbean Centre for Human Rights* and is a board member of the *Developing Country NGO Delegation to the Global Fund*.

Dr Timothy Affonso

Dr Timothy Affonso is a legal scholar and lecturer at the Faculty of Law, University of the West Indies, St Augustine Campus. His academic work centres on human rights and legal reform in the Caribbean.



Rajiv Persad

Rajiv Persad is a Senior Counsel and Head of Allum Chambers in Trinidad and Tobago, specialising in constitutional law, human rights, and criminal litigation. He has served as a High Court Judge in several Caribbean jurisdictions, including Trinidad and Tobago, Grenada, and the British Virgin Islands. Mr Persad has held key leadership roles, including Vice President of the Law Association and Deputy Chairman of the Integrity Commission. He also lectures at the Hugh Wooding Law School. His notable legal work includes human rights cases challenging the mandatory death penalty, and he has contributed to legal scholarship, including co-authoring sections of Taylor on Appeals.

Ria Mohammed Davidson

Ria Mohammed Davidson is a legal professional with a focus on human rights law. She has contributed to various initiatives promoting social justice and legal equity throughout the Caribbean region.

Kamilah Morain

Kamilah Morain is a communications specialist and advocate for social development. She has worked extensively on initiatives related to public health and community engagement, with a strong emphasis on the development of inclusive public policy.

Dr Catherine Ali

Dr Catherine Ali is a medical professional with a particular interest in public health and human rights. Her work frequently intersects with issues of health policy and the protection of marginalised populations.



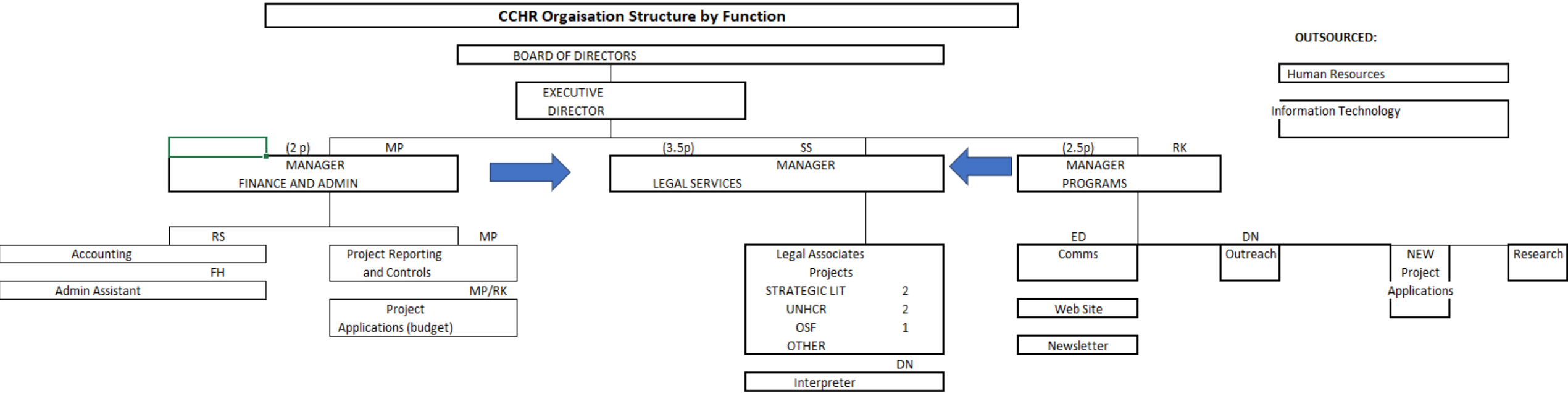
Workforce Composition of Caribbean Centre for Human Rights.

Our talented and committed staff work tirelessly every day to execute our programs and advance the mission of CCHR. Their expertise, passion, and hard work are fundamental to our impact in the communities we serve.

- ❖ **Mary Jo Marsden**, Executive Director
- ❖ **Marsha Poliah**, Program Manager (OSF)
- ❖ **Riana Kanhai**, Program Manager (UNHCR)
- ❖ **Sheldon Sookram**, Legal Officer – Strategic Litigation
- ❖ **Féyi Calliste-Lemessy**, Legal Officer – Savings Law Clause
- ❖ **Ana-Lissa Jack**, Legal Associate
- ❖ **Cherisse Lambert**, Legal Associate
- ❖ **Daniel Natera Narine**, Outreach and Interpretation Coordinator
- ❖ **Fédon Honoré**, Administrative Assistant
- ❖ **Elias Dunbakli**, Digital and Communications Intern



Organisational Structure by Function.



Partnerships

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (The Refugee Agency) – Provisions of Legal Assistance to Forcibly Displaced People in Trinidad and Tobago.

This partnership was initiated in 2023, with formal operations commencing on 1st February 2024. Under this agreement, **the Caribbean Centre for Human Rights (CCHR)** became the official legal implementing partner for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Trinidad and Tobago.

The primary focus of this collaboration was to provide legal representation, counselling, and support to asylum-seekers and recognised refugees in key areas where no formal legislation or officially recognised asylum-determination procedures currently exist under Trinidad and Tobago's statutory framework. In addition to direct legal support, the partnership also aimed to advance the rights and protection of beneficiaries through targeted advocacy campaigns, public education sessions, and coalition-building initiatives.

Progress under the partnership was measured using three outcome indicators, as detailed in the revised and approved workplan:

1. Number of people who received legal assistance. **Target five-hundred (500) Individuals.**
2. Number of people reached through information, awareness and/or sensitisation sessions. **Target two-hundred (200)* Individuals.**
3. Number of people who used UNHCR supported feedback and response mechanisms to voice their needs/concerns/feedback – **Target seventy (70)* Individuals.**

During the year 2024, these metrics were revised due to an early completion of objectives detailed in Items 1 And Items 3 above to **seven-hundred (700)** and **one-hundred (100)** respectively.



Open Society Foundations (OSF) – Strategic Litigation and Savings Law Clause Projects.

In 2024, the Caribbean Centre for Human Rights (CCHR) had continued its partnership with the Open Society Foundations (OSF), advancing critical initiatives aimed at strengthening human rights protections in Trinidad and Tobago and across the wider Commonwealth Caribbean.

The Strategic Litigation Project (OSF2), which had formally ended in November 2023, had focused on training a team of junior lawyers in human rights litigation, with particular emphasis on refugee and migrant cases. CCHR had provided a formal training programme on strategic litigation, led by senior legal professionals, and had facilitated opportunities for practical experience through collaboration with seasoned attorneys and international human rights organisations such as the International Detention Coalition (IDC). Despite the official closure of the project period, work initiated under OSF2 had continued into early 2024 to complete the placement and mentoring of the trainee cohort, thereby ensuring the full realisation of project objectives.

Additionally, in 2024, CCHR had successfully secured an extension and greenlighted the next phase of work under the **Savings Law Clause Project** (OSF3), ongoing until September 2025.

This project had sought to address the persistence of outdated constitutional clauses in the Commonwealth Caribbean that restrict the evolution of human rights protections. Over the course of 2024, CCHR had made substantial progress in completing the first two phases:

❖ **Phase 1:** A comprehensive review of the structure and function of savings law clauses

across the Commonwealth Caribbean, categorising and explaining each provision.

❖ **Phase 2:** A review of key judicial challenges to savings law clauses within the region, highlighting recurring legal arguments and outcomes.

The organisation had also initiated preparations for **Phase 3**, which would involve the development of clear, accessible guidance for Caribbean governments on the procedural steps required to repeal savings law clauses in their constitutions.

Through diligent management and advocacy, CCHR had demonstrated its commitment to advancing human rights law and had strengthened its partnership with OSF, ensuring that each phase of both projects was implemented with precision and impact.

Advocacy and Policy Work

Throughout 2024, the Caribbean Centre for Human Rights (CCHR) had undertaken several strategic advocacy initiatives aimed at advancing the protection and promotion of human rights within Trinidad and Tobago and across the Caribbean region. These efforts had been directed towards fostering informed public discourse, enhancing institutional knowledge, and supporting collaborative responses to humanitarian concerns.

CCHR had participated in the **Humanitarian Breakfast Series**, which had taken place on 14th June 2024 at the Hilton Trinidad and Conference Centre, and March 2024 at CCHR's head office, located in Plaza de Montrose, Chaguanas. This event had been co-hosted by the Trinidad and Tobago National Response for Venezuela (R4V) Platform and the Embassy of the Dominican Republic. The session had been convened to facilitate dialogue between humanitarian actors and representatives of the international community, with a specific focus on **Trafficking in Persons (TIP)**. The event had included formal remarks from His Excellency Wellington Darío Bencosme Castaños, Ambassador of the Dominican Republic, and contributions from Trinidad and Tobago's Counter Trafficking Unit and national TIP focal points. CCHR's presence had reflected its ongoing commitment to engaging in national responses to exploitation, forced migration, and regional displacement.

Additionally, CCHR had co-hosted a **training session on International and Refugee Protection** in partnership with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). This session had targeted national law enforcement personnel and had sought to enhance institutional capacity and awareness regarding refugee rights and the responsibilities of host states under international law. The session had contributed to strengthening the broader protection framework in a national context where dedicated asylum legislation had yet to be formally established.

Together, these initiatives had demonstrated CCHR's continued dedication to human rights advocacy through capacity building, multilateral cooperation, and policy engagement across key sectors.



Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning.

Methods used to track impact

The organisation implemented a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation framework throughout 2024 to track the impact of its legal assistance and outreach programmes. Monthly data collection occurred across three primary service areas: legal assistance delivery, outreach and sensitisation activities, and feedback mechanisms. Each service area employed specific tracking methodologies, including client intake forms, attendance registers for outreach sessions, and structured feedback collection tools. These methods ensured consistent monitoring against predetermined annual targets and facilitated regular progress assessments.

Key indicators and performance results

Legal Assistance Programme

- Target achievement: The programme exceeded its annual target of 500 new clients, reaching 436 new clients (87% of target) and 703 total beneficiaries.
- Client-attorney sessions: 1,005 sessions were conducted throughout the year, with particularly strong performance in May (105 sessions) and July (103 sessions).
- Service delivery locations: The programme delivered assistance across multiple venues, with walk-in clients (188), special inquiries (62), court representation (43), police station visits (28), immigration detention cases (7), and airport suites (1).

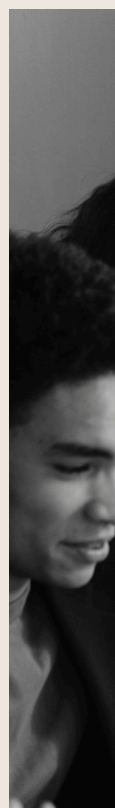
Outreach and Sensitisation

- Target achievement: The organisation reached 643 persons through information, awareness, and sensitisation sessions, exceeding the annual target of 500 persons (129% of target).
- Session delivery: 16 outreach sessions were conducted throughout the year, with the most significant engagement occurring in June (123 persons reached) and October (105 persons reached).
- Target achievement: The feedback collection system received 101 responses, exceeding the target of 70 (144% of target).
- Monthly distribution: Feedback collection showed improvements in the latter half of the year, with peak response rates in August and September (22 responses each).

Organisational changes implemented based on feedback and data analysis.

Following comprehensive analysis of the collected data and feedback, the organisation implemented several strategic adjustments to enhance service delivery and operational effectiveness:

1. Resource reallocation was conducted to address the higher-than-anticipated demand for court representation services and walk-in client assistance, particularly during peak months identified in the data (May-July).
2. The outreach programme methodology was refined based on the success of the June and October sessions, which demonstrated significantly higher participation rates than other months. Best practices from these sessions were documented and integrated into the standard operating procedures.
3. Training protocols for legal staff were enhanced to address specific legal needs identified through client case analysis, with particular focus on immigration matters where consistent service delivery was noted throughout the year.
4. The feedback collection system was restructured in mid-2024, resulting in the marked improvement in response rates observed in the latter half of the year (August-November).
5. Service delivery locations were optimised based on utilisation data, with increased resources allocated to walk-in centres and special inquiries, which showed consistent demand throughout the reporting period.



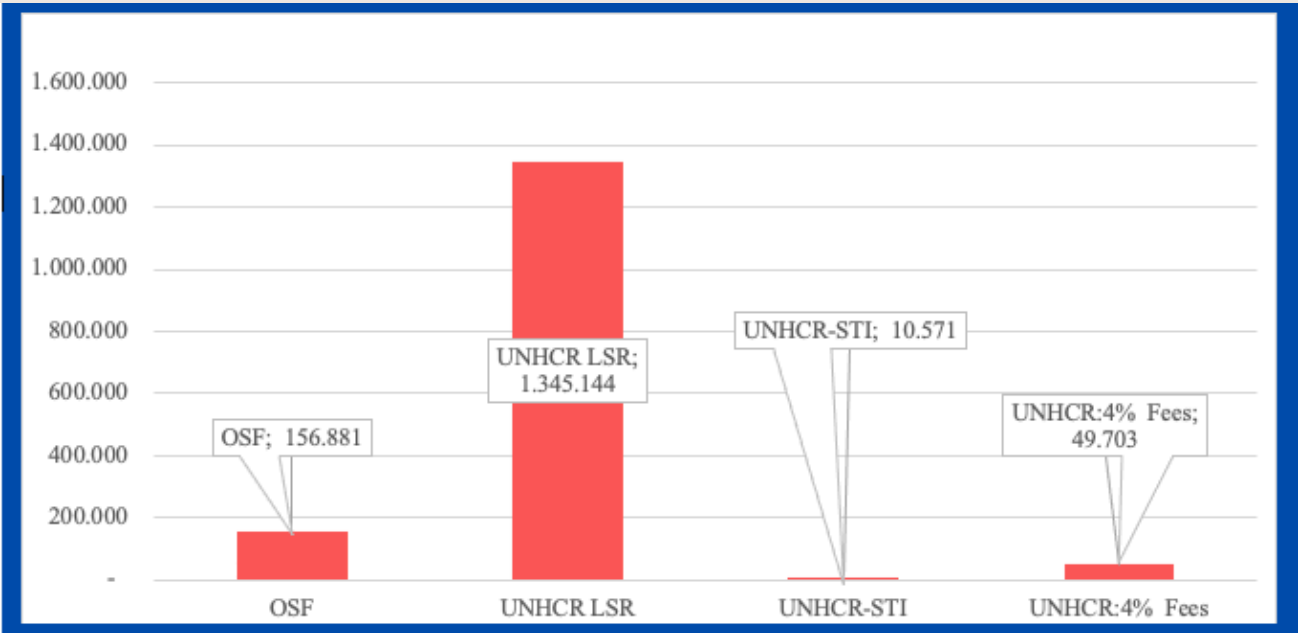
Financial Summary for the period January 1st 2024 to December 31st, 2024.

Overview

The fiscal year ending 2024 saw CCHR maintain strong financial health with total income of TTD 1,562,299, primarily sourced from UNHCR LSR funding. Total expenditure amounted to TTD 1,528,602, with personnel costs representing the largest allocation. The organisation operated within budget constraints whilst effectively delivering its core services and maintaining essential operational infrastructure, ending the year with a modest surplus that strengthened overall financial stability.

Financial Summary

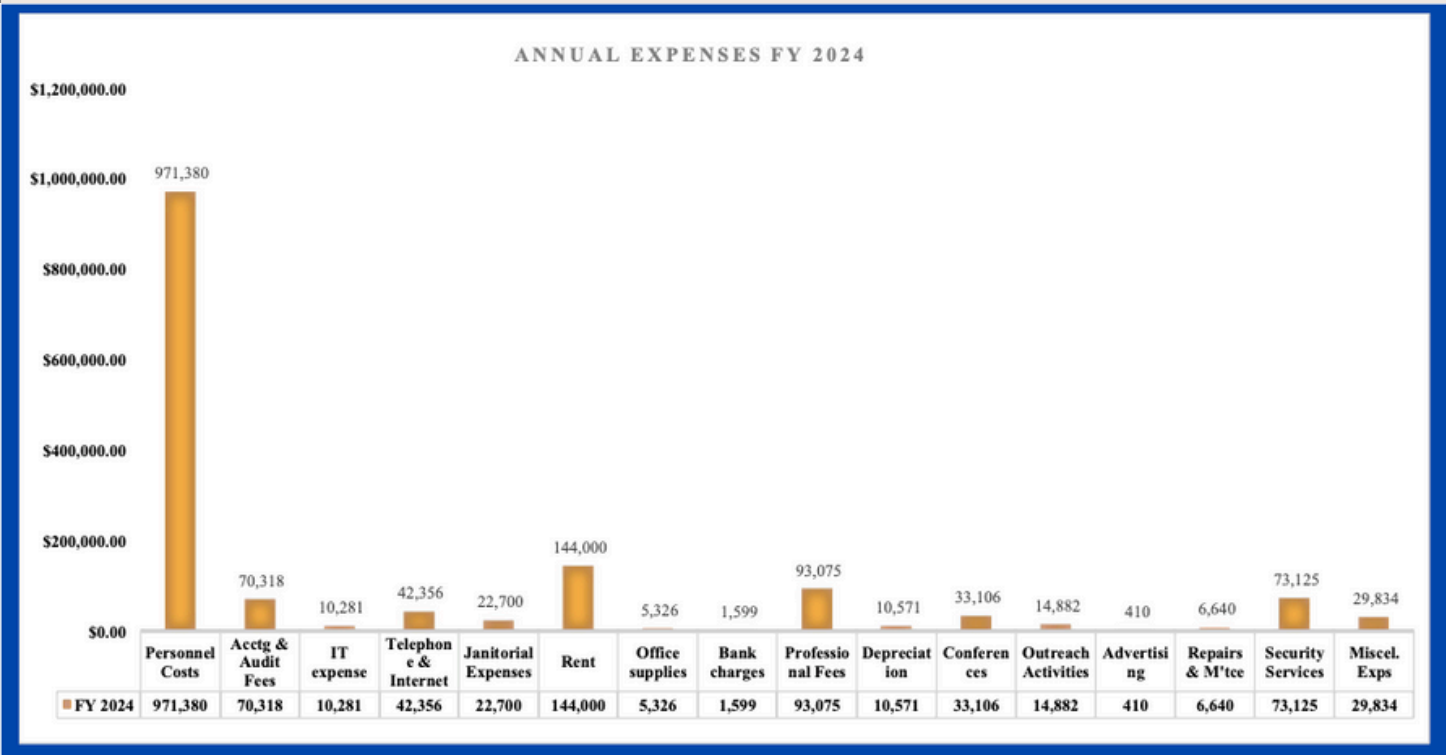
Funding Sources (2024)



This graph illustrates CCHR's funding sources for FY2024. UNHCR LSR provided the majority of funding at TTD 1,345,144, complemented by OSF (TTD 156,881), UNHCR 4% Fees (TTD 49,703), and UNHCR-STI (TTD 10,571). The organisation's financial sustainability remained predominantly anchored in UNHCR support.

During the fiscal year 2024, CCHR continued to maintain a diversified funding structure, with the UNHCR LSR grant constituting the largest portion of our income. The organisation successfully secured TTD 1,345,144 from UNHCR LSR, which represented the primary source of our funding. Additionally, the OSF contributed TTD 156,881, whilst UNHCR-STI provided TTD 10,571 and UNHCR 4% Fees added TTD 49,703. This funding structure ensured organisational stability whilst enabling CCHR to deliver its critical services throughout the year.

The predominance of UNHCR funding has allowed the organisation to maintain its core programmes throughout the fiscal year.

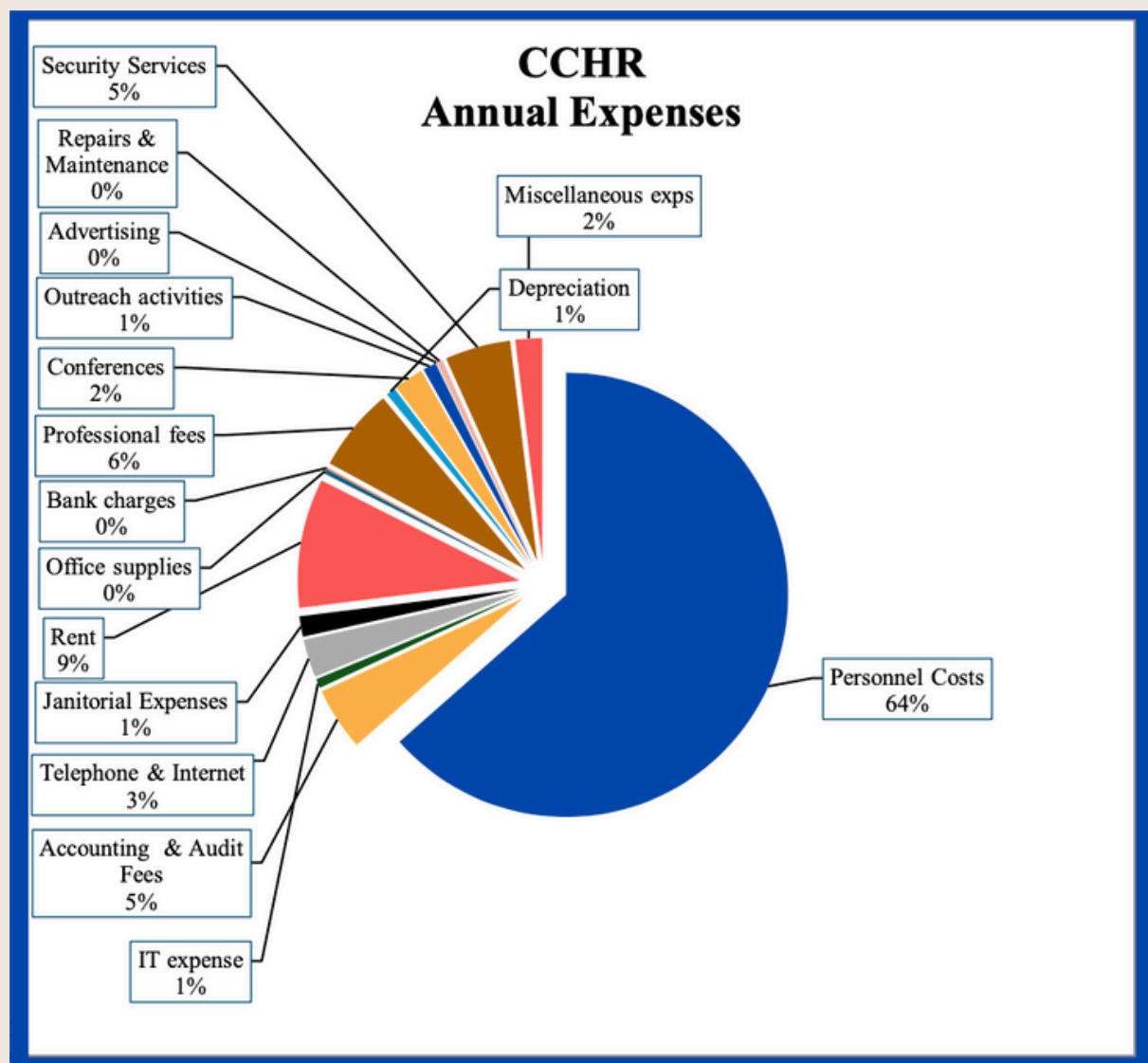


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This pie chart represents the proportional distribution of CCHR's expenses for FY2024. Personnel costs dominated at 64%, followed by rent (9%), professional fees (6%), security services (5%), and accounting & audit fees (5%). This distribution reflects the organisation's investment in qualified staff and secure operational facilities.

CCHR's expenditure for FY2024 reflected its operational priorities and commitment to efficient resource allocation. Personnel costs constituted the largest expenditure category at TTD 971,380, representing 64% of total annual expenses. This investment in human resources underscored the organisation's recognition that its professional staff remain the foundation for effective service delivery and programme implementation.

The second largest expenditure was premises rental at TTD 144,000 (9%), followed by professional fees at TTD 93,075 (6%). Security services accounted for TTD 73,125 (5%) and accounting and audit fees totalled TTD 70,318 (5%) of total expenses, reflecting CCHR's commitment to maintaining robust operational safeguards and financial governance.

The organisation maintained prudent financial management throughout the fiscal year, with expenditures closely aligned with budgetary allocations and programmatic priorities, whilst ensuring compliance with donor requirements and accounting standards.

Recognising Our 2024 Donors

In 2024, the Caribbean Centre for Human Rights was empowered by the unwavering support of our partners and donors—organisations whose commitment to justice, equality, and human dignity has helped shape a stronger, more inclusive Caribbean.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

We are profoundly grateful to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), whose partnership has been transformative. Entrusting us with their legal assistance program for asylum seekers and refugees, UNHCR provided us not only with funding, but with the very foundation to build a programme from the ground up. Through their support, we were able to establish a dedicated office, equip our legal team, and deliver critical services to some of the most vulnerable non-nationals in the region. Together, we've been able to provide legal representation, restore hope, and uphold the rights of those seeking safety and protection.

Open Society Foundations (OSF)

The support of the Open Society Foundations has been instrumental in taking our advocacy to the highest levels of legal impact. With their significant funding, we have been able to engage in strategic litigation—giving voice to the unheard, challenging unjust laws, and pursuing constitutional reform. Their backing has allowed us to move beyond research into action: reviewing and proposing amendments to outdated laws, including colonial-era “savings clauses,” to ensure that all individuals are treated with dignity, equality, and respect under the law. OSF has been a catalyst for change, helping us push the boundaries of justice across the Caribbean.

Thanks to the investment and belief of these donors, our organisation continues to grow. Our team has expanded in both skill and impact, and the communities we serve are feeling the tangible effects of our work—measured not only in legal victories, but in lives changed.

We provide a legal voice. We provide hope for change.



Funders

In 2024, the work of the Caribbean Centre for Human Rights (CCHR) was made possible through the generous support of our key partners: the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Open Society Foundations (OSF).

UNHCR has supported our ongoing project to provide free legal services to refugees and asylum seekers, while also promoting public education and awareness about the rights and protections available to displaced communities in Trinidad and Tobago.

The Open Society Foundations (OSF) has funded our project focused on the research and development of a book on the Savings Law Clause—a colonial-era provision that continues to restrict human rights in the Caribbean. The project aims to raise awareness and advocate for constitutional reform across the region.

We are sincerely grateful for the partnership and support of our funders, which enables us to continue working toward a Caribbean that upholds human dignity and freedoms



Strategic Objectives for 2025

Outreach and Awareness

- Enhance brand recognition for CCHR through implementation of targeted digital awareness campaigns
- Forge additional strategic partnerships with key stakeholders to amplify organisational impact and reach
- Foster deeper collaboration within existing human rights coalitions to strengthen collective advocacy efforts

Legal Assistance for Asylum Seekers, Refugees and Others

- Provide specialised legal support services for asylum seekers and refugees in partnership with UNHCR
- Expand legal assistance capacity for individuals whose human rights have been compromised
- Develop standardised protocols for case management to improve service efficiency and client outcomes

Review and Reform of Outdated Laws

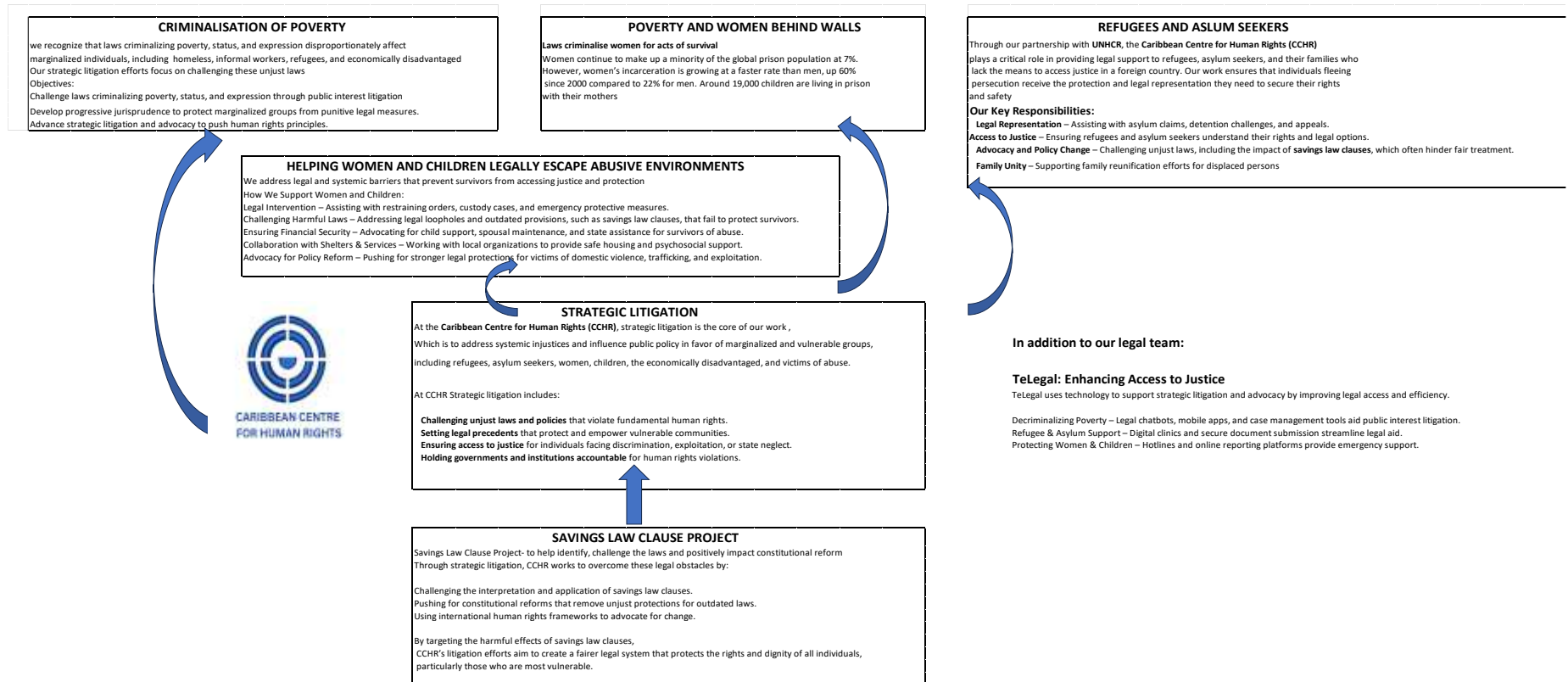
- Conduct comprehensive review of outdated Caribbean laws that impact human rights protections
- Develop evidence-based recommendations for necessary reforms to existing legal frameworks
- Provide technical assistance and advocacy support to facilitate the implementation of meaningful legal changes

Strategic Litigation Expansion

- ❖ Expand the CCHR team to include additional skilled lawyers specialising in various areas of human rights law.
- ❖ Enhance organisational capacity to provide strategic legal services across multiple human rights domains.
- ❖ Effectively litigate precedent-setting human rights cases to contribute to the improvement of the human rights landscape in Trinidad and Tobago.



Plans for Programme Expansion and Sustainability .



Our depth of understanding of the Savings Law Clauses in the Caribbean allows us to provide support and influence change through Strategic Litigation for the following projects



Appendices

Appendix 1. – Consolidated Financial Report for the Period ending in December 31st, 2024.



CARIBBEAN CENTRE
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Thank You



**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING
DECEMBER 31 ,2024**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Singh', is positioned above the printed name of Mr. Roger Singh.

Mr Roger Singh
FCCA, CA (ICATT #
(ICATT # 1636)

Caribbean Centre For Human Rights
Financial Statement
For the Financial Year Ended December 31,2024

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Caribbean Centre For Human Rights

Statement of Financial Position

As at 31 December 2024

		2024	2023
	<u>Note</u>	<u>TT\$</u>	<u>TT\$</u>
Assets			
Non-Current Assets			
Equipment		4,215	4,969
Office Refurbishment		57,150	63,500
Computer		1,333	2,000
Cellulars		5,600	8,400
Total Non Current Assets	4	68,298	78,869
Current Assets			
Accounts receivables	5	27,701	-
Rent Security Deposit	6	12,000	12,000
Cash and Bank	7	1,686,590	1,468,737
Total Current Assets		1,726,291	1,480,737
Total Assets		1,794,589	1,559,606
Net Assets and Liabilities			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts payables and accruals	8	23,938	77,140
Other current liabilities	9	1,657,520	1,393,390
Deferred grant income	10	68,298	78,869
Total Current Liabilities		1,749,756	1,549,400
Net Assets			
Retained earnings		44,833	10,206
Total Net Assets		44,833	10,206
Total Liabilities			
Total Equity and Liabilities		1,794,589	1,559,606

The notes on pages 5 to 10 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Caribbean Centre For Human Rights
Statement of Comprehensive Income
For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

		2024	2023
	<u>Note</u>	<u>TTS</u>	<u>TTS</u>
Income			
Grant Income	11	1,512,596	278,427
Admin Income: UNHCR 4% Partner Fees		49,703	8,734
Loss(Gain) on forex		1,932	-
Total Income		1,564,231	287,162
Expenses			
Salary expense		890,885	133,500
NIS employer expense		71,485	9,794
Travel Expenses		9,010	-
Accounting fees		80,318	39,500
Audit Fees		(10,000)	-
Statutory fees		245	-
IT expense		10,281	32,560
Telephone & Internet		42,356	1,882
Janitorial Expenses		22,700	1,840
Rent		144,000	30,313
Penalties and interest		9,164	2,784
Office supplies		5,326	23,914
Bank charges		1,599	396
Professional fees		93,075	-
Depreciation		10,571	-
Conferences		33,106	-
Outreach activities		14,882	
Advertising		410	4,900
Repairs & Maint-Other		6,640	-
Security Services		73,125	-
Miscellaneous expenses		20,425	-
Total Expenses	12	1,529,604	281,384
Net Income		34,627	5,778

The notes on pages 5 to 10 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Caribbean Centre For Human Rights

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

	Capital Reserve TT\$	Retained Earnings TT\$	Total TT\$
Balance at, 1 January 2023	5,778	4,428	10,206
Net surplus for the year	-	34,627	34,627
Total	5,778	39,055	44,833

The Net Assets above are disaggregated into capital reserve and retained earnings. In total, the Net assets have grown from \$10,206 to \$44,833 during the current year

The Caribbean Centre For Human Rights

Statement of Changes of Cashflow

For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
	<u>TT\$</u>	<u>TT\$</u>
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
Net Income for the year	34,627	5,778
<u>Add (deduct) items not involving cash:</u>		
Depreciation of non-current assets	10,571	-
Changes in:		
Accounts receivables	(27,701)	(264,236)
Payables	(53,202)	14,166
Other liabilities	264,129	-
Cash (used In) Provided By Operating Activities	<u>228,424</u>	<u>(244,292)</u>
Cash Flow Provided by Financing Activities:		
Capital injected	-	11,282
Deferred grant income	(10,571)	250,170
Total	<u>(10,571)</u>	<u>261,452</u>
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>217,853</u>	<u>17,160</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year	1,468,737	-
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year	<u>1,686,590</u>	<u>1,468,737</u>
<u>Cash and Cash Equivalents Represented by:</u>		
FCB Checking Account	1,615,668	1,468,381
CIBC CARIBBEAN BANK (T& T) LIMITED -TT\$	67,583	-
Petty Cash	1,427	356
Petty Cash:UNHCR	1,912	-
	<u>1,686,590</u>	<u>1,468,737</u>

Caribbean Centre For Human Rights

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2024

1. Incorporation and principal activity

The Caribbean Centre For Human Rights ("CCHR") was incorporated in the year 2007, as a nonprofit organization in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, under the Companies Act 1995. CCHR provides human rights education and awareness through public campaigns, policy recommendations, legal advocacy, training and strategic partnerships. CCHR also monitors human rights issues and advocates with government stakeholders for the human rights of refugees and migrants in Trinidad and Tobago and across the Caribbean.

2. Summary of significant accounting policies Basic of preparation

The financial statements of CCHR have been prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities ("IFRS for SMEs"). They have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the IFRS for SMEs requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying CCHR's accounting policies. Areas involving a higher degree of judgement of complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimations are significant to the financial statements are disclosed in note 3.

a) Cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less at the time of purchase, which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

b) Revenue recognition

Income is recognized by CCHR when it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the entity.

c) Impairment of tangible assets

At the end of each reporting period, the entity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

If the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognized immediately in the statement of comprehensive income and accumulated fund.

d) Taxation

Income tax expense represents the sum of the tax currently payable and deferred tax.

Current tax

The tax currently payable is based on taxable profit for the year. Taxable profit differs from profits as reported in the income statement because it excludes items of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other years and it further excludes items that are never taxable or deductible. The liability for current tax is calculated using tax rates that have enacted or substantively enacted by the end of the reporting year.

Deferred tax

Deferred tax is recognised in full, using the liability method on temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the corresponding tax bases used in the computation of taxable profit. Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all taxable temporary differences.

Deferred tax assets are generally recognised for all deductible temporary differences to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which those deductible temporary differences can be utilised. Such deferred tax assets and liabilities are not recognised if the temporary difference arises from goodwill or from the initial recognition (other than in a business combination) of other assets and liabilities in a transaction that affects neither the taxable profit nor the accounting profit. The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at the end of each reporting period and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available to allow all or part of the asset to be recovered.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the period in which the liability is settled or the asset realised, based on tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the end of the reporting period. The measurement of deferred tax liabilities and assets reflects the tax consequences that would follow from the manner in which the Company expects, at the end of the reporting period, to recover or settle the carrying amount of its assets and liabilities.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to set off current tax assets against current tax liabilities and when they relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority and the Company intends to settle its current tax assets and liabilities on a net basis.

e) Provisions

Provisions are recognized when CCHR has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that CCHR will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognized as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the end of the reporting period, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. Where a provision is measured using the cash flows estimated to settle the present obligation, its carrying amount is the present value of those cash flows.

When some or all the economic benefits required to settle a provision are expected to be recovered from a third party, a receivable is recognized as an asset if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received, and the amount of the receivable can be measured reliably.

f) Comparative information

When necessary, comparative figures are adjusted to conform with changes in presentation in the current year.

3. Critical judgments and the use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS for SMEs requires management to make critical judgments and use estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and related notes to the financial statements. Actual results may differ from the estimates and assumptions used. Key sources of uncertainty, which requires the use of estimates, include:

Useful lives and residual values of property and equipment

The estimates of useful lives as translated into depreciation rates are detailed in the property and equipment accounting policy. These rates and the residual lives of the assets are reviewed annually taking cognizance of the forecasted commercial and economic realities.

Caribbean Centre For Human Rights

Notes to the Financial Statements (con'td)

For the year ended December 31,2024

4.Non-Current Assets

					Total	
	Equipment	Office Refurbishment	Computer	Cellulars	2024	2023
Cost						
At beginning of year	4,969	63,500	2,000	8,400	78,869	78,869
Additions	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At end of year	4,969	63,500	2,000	8,400	78,869	78,869
Depreciation						
At beginning of year	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charge for the year	755	6,350	667	2,800	10,571	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At end of year	755	6,350	667	2,800	10,571	-
Net book value at end of year	4,215	57,150	1,333	5,600	68,298	78,869

		2024	2023
5. Accounts receivables		TTS	TTS
Funds Receivable (2a)		15,701	-
Prepayments (2b)		12,000	-
		27,701	-

6. Rent Security Deposit

Security deposit made on office rental space	12,000	12,000
	12,000	12,000

7. Cash and Bank

FCB Checking Account	1,615,668	1,468,381
CIBC CARIBBEAN BANK (T& T) LIMITED -TT\$	67,583	-
Petty Cash	1,427	356
Petty Cash-UNHCR	1,912	-
	1,686,590	1,468,737

Caribbean Centre For Human Rights

Notes to the Financial Statements (con'td)

For the year ended December 31,2024

	2024	2023
	TTS	TTS
8. Accounts payables		
Accrued expenses: General	4,266	20,000
Accrued expenses: UNHCR	6,015	18,156
Net salaries payable	-	25,982
National Insurance payable	9,918	9,086
Health Surcharge payable	248	388
PAYE Payable	3,492	3,528
	23,938	77,140

9. Other current liabilities

Other Current Liabilities: General	19,068	5,000
Rent Deposit Payable	12,000	12,000
Open Society (1)-Operating Expenses	-	20,221
Open Society (2)-Operating Expenses SL	473,381	506,813
Open Society (3) SLCP	1,151,151	625,992
Amnesty-SF-CCHR/Womantra	908	3,251
US Embassy Funding	-	15,477
UNHCR-LSR-2024 / 2023	528	204,636
Project Funding (Misc one off)	484	-
	1,657,520	1,393,390

10. Deferred grant income : UNHCR-NCA-STI

Opening Balance at beginning of the year	(78,869)	-
less,		
Drawdown for STI for Qtr1 to Qtr 4,2024- (\$2,642.80 x 4)	10,571	-
Drawdown for acquisition of NCA		(78,869)
Closing Balance at end of the year	(68,298)	(78,869)

11. Grant Income

Opening Society Funding:OSF1	(10,000)	93,973
Opening Society Funding:OSF2	31,500	12,946
Opening Society Funding:OSF3	135,381	34,548
US Embassy	-	7,468
UNHCR LSR	1,345,144	129,492
UNHCR-STI	10,571	-
UNHCR-4% Partner Fees	49,703	-
	1,562,299	278,427

Caribbean Centre For Human Rights
Notes to the Financial Statements (con'td)
For the year ended December 31,2024

12.Total Expenses **\$ 1,529,604**

An analysis of the functional expenses generates the following analysis for the twelve(12) month period ending December 31,2024:

	<u>Amount</u>
Salary expense	\$ 890,885
This is the gross salaries expensed for the UNHCR project.	
NIS employer expense	\$ 71,485
This sum represents CCHR's two-thirds portion of employees' deduction being expensed	
Accounting fees	\$ 80,318
This represents accounting fees provided , for twelve months ending December 31,2024	
Statutory fees	\$ 245
Payments made on behalf of two staff members,K Jacob-\$145.00 and K Nancoo-\$100.00	
IT expense	\$ 10,281
This represents IT support expenses incurred for the UNCHR LSR project, including zoom platform of \$1,019.32,and acquisition of Sage 50 accounting software and other related IT expenses of \$2,215.80	
Penalties and interest	\$ 9,164
This sum relates to the late submission of PAYE and National Insurance payments ,resulting in late fees and interest charges.	
Office supplies	\$ 5,326
Includes stationary and office supplies purchased	
Bank charges	\$ 1,599
This sum represents banking transactional expenses incurred.	
Professional fees	\$ 93,075
This sum consists of payments made to Attorneys' at law and to interim Executive Director, for the twelve months ending December 31,2024	
Advertising	\$ 410

13. Contingent liabilities

There are no contingent liabilities as at the reporting date.

14. Capital commitments

There are no capital commitments as at the reporting date.