



Stichting WithWomen

Annual Report and
Financial Statements 2021

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Koninginnegracht 60, 2514 AE
The Hague, The Netherlands
Registration Chamber of Commerce: 860734183


WITHWOMEN
Midwives Raising Childbirth Standards

Launched in 2021, WithWomen was created to promote midwifery and support every person to have a positive childbirth experience.

Evidence clearly shows that care by midwives, especially continuity of midwifery care, not only improves the quality of care for mothers and babies but is also more cost-effective and sustainable.

Midwives can provide 87% of the essential care needed for women and their babies.¹ Universal access to midwives by 2035 could avert 67% of maternal deaths, 64% of newborn deaths and 65% of stillbirths. An estimated 4.3 million lives per year could be saved by 2035 if all countries were to introduce and support midwife-led childbirth services.²

Globally, women face many issues during pregnancy and childbirth, including disrespect, poor access to quality care, lack

of choice and lack of control over their own choices and bodies. Maternal mortality and morbidity rates remain alarmingly high. What should be a normal physiological life event for childbearing women, is life-threatening for some.

The world is short of approximately one million midwives. When midwives are undervalued and under resourced, access to high-quality sexual and reproductive healthcare declines, and women's rights suffer.

WithWomen aims to address these challenges by supporting initiatives to increase the global midwifery workforce and overcome the barriers midwives face in providing quality care, so that more women and babies can survive and thrive.



Mission and Vision

To improve accessibility to and competence of midwives through quality standards, advocacy, and action.

The vision of WithWomen is for every woman or other birthing person to have a safe and positive childbirth experience.

Midwives can make a positive impact on the health and well-being of women, other birthing

people and their babies during the childbirth continuum. Care from a midwife is a human right.

WithWomen works closely with the International Confederation of Midwives to improve access to competent midwives, to maintain high standards of midwifery care and to support midwives through advocacy and action.

1 United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), (2014), The State of the World's Midwifery (SoWMy) 2014: A Universal Pathway. A Woman's Right to Health. UNFPA, USA

2 Nove A, Friberg IK, de Bernis L, et al. Potential impact of midwives in preventing and reducing maternal and neonatal mortality and stillbirths: a Lives Saved Tool modelling study. Lancet Glob Health. 2020;9(1):e24–e32. doi:10.1016/S2214-109X(20)30397-1

WithWomen and the Sustainable Development Goals

Midwives are critical in achieving sustainable development and contributing to the achievement of SDGs 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 13, 16 and 17. Midwives can address health and gender inequalities by performing an outsized role in providing accessible, secure, and positive childbirth; improving sexual, reproductive, maternal, child and adolescent health and equal access to quality healthcare for women and communities.

Midwives also have an emerging key role to play in mitigating the effects of climate change and addressing SDG13 on climate action. At the recent UN climate conference, COP26, a call for

action has been launched so that “the climate crisis be recognised for the global emergency that it is and that health care providers lead as advocates, in research interpretation, capacity building and education.” It was also noted that “the climate crisis disproportionately affects the health of women, children and vulnerable populations, including pregnant people, communities of colour, low-income communities and countries”.

WithWomen’s mission and vision is specifically aimed at contributing directly to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3 and 5.



SDG3 aims to reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births by 2030. SDG3 also aims to ensure universal access to health-care services, information and education and family planning.

Pregnancy and childbirth pose particular risks for some people. According to the UN, 830 women around the world die every day from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth.

By improving accessibility to and competence of midwives through quality standards, advocacy and action, supporters of WithWomen make a substantive contribution towards this important sustainable development goal.



SDG5 aims to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls by 2030.

As a predominantly female profession (over 90% of midwives are women), midwives have long been marginalised, and subject to sexism, harmful treatment, low pay and lack of decision-making authority. This impacts the quality of care they can deliver to women and babies.

The supporters of WithWomen will directly contribute to initiatives that ensure that midwives’ voices, and the voices of the women they serve, are heard. WithWomen supports solutions to increase midwives’ roles in decision making.



2021 Activities

OUR ACTIVITIES DURING 2021 HAVE CENTERED ON GETTING WITHWOMEN UP AND RUNNING:

We have **established** a governance and management structure and are working on governance and operational policies and procedures.

We **invested in** developing a fundraising strategy with support from a fundraising consultant. We are operationalising this strategy by setting up fundraising, marketing and communications capacity and infrastructure.

We **set up** and **enabled** the cross border and multi-currency donation policies, processes and facilities.

Although WithWomen developed a website in 2020, we **appointed** a web design agency to further develop the website and digital infrastructure.

We also **formalised** our partnership with the International Confederation of Midwives as the main recipient of WithWomen's support.





Looking Ahead

LOOKING AHEAD, OUR
ACTIVITIES WILL BE:

WithWomen will be undertaking projects in furtherance of its mission and vision in cooperation with the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) and its partner network. ICM, as the global voice for midwives, is uniquely positioned to improve midwifery standards, enhance gender equality in midwifery and promote quality childbirth services around the world.

Launch the first fundraising campaign.

Operationalise fundraising strategy.

Launch the updated WithWomen website.

Complete governance and operational policies and procedures.

Set up donation processing and donor management facilities.

Further develop fundraising capacity, policies, and procedures.

Develop grant making and grant monitoring policies and procedures.

Undertake projects to increase the educational and professional standards impacting midwives and the midwifery profession.

Advocate to influence public policy, laws, and budgets of national and international policy-making bodies and multi- and bi-lateral organisations and their agencies to increase the educational and professional standards impacting midwives and the midwifery profession.

Support in-country midwifery professional organisations and those working to increase the educational and professional standards impacting midwives and the midwifery profession. WithWomen only assists other organisations financially when:

- the organisation qualifies as an ANBI or holds a similar status; and
 - when the objectives of the organisation are similar to the objectives of WithWomen.
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Conduct any other activities that may be connected to or conducive to the foregoing.



Finance

WithWomen aims to finance its activities by collecting funds and seeking recurring gifts from donors and charitable donations from both companies and individuals. The funds will be, more specifically, as per our Articles of Association, received through:

- subsidies and other contributions,
- gifts, bequests and legacies, and
- all other acquisitions and gains.

Governance

WithWomen is overseen by a management board which is composed of professionals from within and outside of the midwifery community. Over time, we aim to attract additional Board Members in order that WithWomen can become as effective as possible and draw on a rich diversity in experiences and a broader network.

MANAGEMENT BOARD

Mr. R Willing
Mrs. F. Cadée
One vacant position

Acknowledgements

WithWomen gratefully acknowledges our partners, donors and supporters.

WithWomen would like to pay special tribute to its first-ever donor, Wilhelmina 'Mieke' Johanna Meijer.

Mieke was a Dutch midwife, educator and a passionate advocate of pregnancy and childbirth as a natural life event with midwives as the best-possible care providers for birthing women. Throughout her career, Mieke defended and promoted the professional autonomy of midwives, leading a charge in the 1970s to oppose the Dutch government's decision to prohibit the direct entry midwifery education route to midwifery registration, leaving only a post-nursing route to becoming a midwife. Beyond this successful campaign, Mieke contributed

to midwifery in her home country in many ways, serving terms as a Board Member and Advisor to the Board with the Dutch Organisation of Midwives (later becoming the Royal Dutch Organisation of Midwives – KNOV). Mieke also encouraged her younger colleagues to join the KNOV and unite at the national and international levels.

On April 5, 2019, Mieke passed away at the age of 95.5, continuing to attend midwives' meetings until the end. According to friends and family, Mieke would have been proud to be WithWomen's first donor, thereby promoting normal birth and the autonomous role of midwives. Her generous contribution will contribute to WithWomen's work to strengthen midwife-led care for all women.

**There are many ways you
can support WithWomen.**

Tell your family and friends about our work, connect us with like-minded people or organisations, or donate to support our mission. Your donation to WithWomen is a commitment to the health and prosperity of future generations.

Please visit
withwomen.org/donate
to learn more.



Approved by the directors on 30 June 2022 and
signed on their behalf on 30 June 2022 by:

Robin Willing

Robin Willing
CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Annual Financial Statement 2021

2.1 Balance sheet as at 31 December 2021

(AFTER APPROPRIATION OF THE RESULT TO
RESERVES AND FUNDS)

| Assets | 31 December 2021 (EUR) | 31 December 2020 (EUR) |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Cash at bank | - 5,804 | - 5,954 |
| Total assets | 5,804 | 5,954 |
| Equity and Liabilities | | |
| Equity | | |
| General Reserve | - 11,633 | - 8,264 |
| Short term Liability | | |
| Creditors | 14,018 | 14,018 |
| Other | 3,419 | 200 |
| | 17,437 | 14,218 |
| Total equity and liabilities | 5,804 | 5,954 |

2.2 Statement of income and expenditure for the year 2021

Notes

1. The professional services contains the support from ICM, providing support on administrative and secretarial tasks, and the work of Karla Espinoza who developed a fundraising strategy for the Stichting WithWomen.
2. The work provided by the consultant was covered by a donation in kind from ICM.

| Income | Note | Budget (EUR) | Actual 2021 (EUR) | Actual 2020 (EUR) |
|------------------------|------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Private donations | | | | 830 |
| Legacies and heritages | | | | 5,000 |
| Income in kind | 2 | | 4,000 | |
| Subtotal Income | | | 4,000 | 5,830 |

Expenses

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|--|---------|---------|
| Professional Services | 1 | | 7,219 | 14,018 |
| Subtotal Expenses | | | 7,219 | 14,018 |
| Operational Result | | | - 3,219 | - 8,188 |
| Financial cost | | | - 150 | - 76 |
| Total Result | | | 3,369 | - 8,264 |

Appropriation of the result

| | | | |
|--|--|---------|---------|
| Add to/(deduct) from general reserves | | (3,369) | (8,264) |
| Total Appropriation of the result | | (3,369) | (8,264) |

2.3 Statement of Cash Flows

| Cash flow operational activities | 2021 | 2020 |
|---|--------------|---------------|
| Net generated result | - 3,369 | - 8,264 |
| Change in current assets and liabilities | | |
| Receivables | | |
| Liabilities | 3,219 | 14,218 |
| Total cash flow operational activities | 3,219 | 14,218 |
| Cash flow of financial activities | | |
| Change of cash in hand and at bank | - 150 | 5,954 |
| Cash at 31 December | 5,804 | 5,954 |
| Cash at 1 January | 5,954 | 0 |
| Change of cash in hand and at bank | - 150 | 5,954 |

3 General notes to the Financial Statements

GENERAL

On December 16th 2019 the Stichting WithWomen was established, with its listed address as Koninginnegracht 60, 2514 AE The Hague.

The purpose of the Foundation is to improve access to and competence of midwives by means of quality standards, advocacy and action, and to enhance gender equality in midwifery and promote quality childbirth services globally. The Foundation received the charity status "Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling" (ANBI) on December 19, 2019.

The Board of the Foundation comprises three members- an independent chair, a secretary and ICM as treasurer. Board members are jointly authorised.

The Foundation has no Founding Capital and is qualified as a subsidiary company with ICM as the head of the group.

Using the exemption according to article 407, lid 2 sub a Title 9 BW2 (of the Dutch constitution) the Foundation is not consolidated by ICM.

CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

No change in accounting principles have taken place in the reporting period.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The generally accepted accounting standards in the Netherlands applying to not-for-profit organisations have been applied. The financial statements 2021 are prepared according to the guideline RJ

micro and small sized entities C1 "small sized not for profit organisations".

The financial statements have been prepared using the principle of purchase value. If not otherwise indicated, all assets and the equity and liabilities are stated at face value. Revenues and costs are recognised on accrual basis.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEAR

The valuation principles and method of determining the result are the same as those used in the previous year, with the exception of changes as set out in the relevant section, if applicable.

PRINCIPLES FOR THE VALUATION OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Receivables

All receivables are recorded with fair value and valued against amortised cost. The fair value and the amortised cost are both equal to the nominal cost. Any necessary provision due to possible bad debts has been deducted. The provision has been determined based on an individual assessment of the claim.

Liquid assets

All liquid assets are valued at nominal value. If any resource is not freely available, it has been taken in account with the valuation of it.

Equity

The equity of the organisation is divided into different funds and reserves, which are defined as restricted funds or unrestricted reserves

The unrestricted reserves include the general reserve, which serves as an assurance for the continuation of the activities of the International Confederation of Midwives, and earmarked funds available for activities defined by the ICM Board. Restricted reserves are only available for specifically defined activities as stated in the Terms of References of the funds, defined by the donors or external contributors to the funds.

Current liabilities

Borrowing and payables are initially recognised at fair value and valued against amortised cost.

PRINCIPLES OF THE STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE

Unrestricted funds raised, inheritances and donations are recorded in the year in which they have been received or as per the date the receipt becomes certain. Other income and expenditure will be accounted for in the relevant reporting period to which they relate.

During the year a midpoint daily exchange rate is used for the transfer of foreign currencies to or from Euros. At year end, monetary assets and liabilities will be (re)valued against closing rate.

Fundraising activities comprise the balance of income and expenditures of fundraising activities. Income and expenditures are accounted for in the relevant reporting period to which they relate.

PRINCIPLES OF THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

The overview is stated with the indirect method. This means that the change in cash is explained by the changes of the other balance lines.