

sainted roots

# Sainted Roots

# 2025 Annual Report

Charity Number: **1184408**

# Contents


| | |
|---|---|
| Executive Summary | P 3 |
| How We Make A Difference | P 4 |
| 2025 Achievements Summary | P 5 |
| Community Champions Programme | P 7 |
| Programme Challenges & Lessons Learnt | P12 |
| Impact Since Inception | P13 |
| 2024 Financial Review | P14 |
| Meet The Team | P16 |

# Executive Summary

**Growing Resilience, Strengthening Communities**

At Sainted Roots, our mission remains firmly rooted in empowering rural communities to take ownership of their development, strengthen their livelihoods and build sustainable futures. We believe lasting change begins with individuals who recognise their potential and work together to create opportunities for themselves and their communities.

**Community Leadership and Personal Growth**

During the first half of 2025, we continued developing our Community Champions Programme, encouraging local leadership, entrepreneurship and self-reliance. Our Champions remained active in agriculture and livestock production, demonstrating how individual initiative can create opportunities within rural communities.

We also extended our leadership development activities to young people, delivering a Prefect and Leadership Development programme to 40 pupils at Gwidza Secondary School. By nurturing leadership skills in the next generation, we aim to encourage greater responsibility, confidence and community participation.

**Climate Resilience and Sustainable Agriculture**

Climate change and water scarcity continue to present significant challenges to rural livelihoods. In response, we explored improvements to water infrastructure and encouraged sustainable agricultural practices.

Our rural team planted 560 gum and baobab trees, while Community Champions continued cultivating crops, raising livestock and developing poultry projects. Harvesting and local trading activities provided opportunities for income generation and seasonal employment.

**Looking Ahead**

Our focus remains on strengthening community leadership, improving access to resources and encouraging sustainable economic opportunities. We recognise that meaningful development takes time, requiring patience, cooperation and a willingness to adapt. As we continue this journey, our guiding principle remains unchanged: ***helping rural communities to help themselves.***

Faith Nyabdza - St Francis
**Co-founder and Chair of Trustees**

# How We Make A Difference

**Introduction**

Sainted Roots is a community-led development organisation working with rural communities in Makoni District, Zimbabwe, to promote sustainable livelihoods and reduce poverty through local leadership and self-reliance.

Our Community Champions Programme remains central to our approach, supporting proactive individuals to develop their skills, strengthen their livelihoods and inspire positive change within their communities.

Through leadership development, sustainable agriculture and community collaboration, we encourage individuals to take ownership of their development and make better use of the resources available to them.

**Aim**

To promote long-term sustainable development in rural communities by empowering individuals and families to become increasingly self-reliant, strengthening local leadership, economic independence and community cooperation.

**Objectives**

1. To support sustainable livelihoods through the provision of skills and resources.
2. To promote economic growth and regeneration through capacity building.
3. To empower communities to develop sustainable, locally led solutions.

**Activities**

1. Support and train proactive individuals to become Community Champions and local leaders.
2. Encourage sustainable farming, livestock production and income-generating activities.
3. Promote environmental conservation through tree planting and improved agricultural practices.
4. Provide leadership development and personal growth training, including opportunities for young people.
5. Work with local communities and agencies to promote cooperation, wellbeing and safeguarding.

# 2025 Achievements Summary

**Community Leadership and Personal Growth**

During the first half of 2025, Sainted Roots continued strengthening its **Community Champions Programme**, encouraging local leadership, personal development and greater **self-reliance.** Strategic planning meetings brought together our rural team, Community Champions and young people from surrounding villages to discuss development priorities and opportunities for collaboration.

We also extended our leadership development activities to Gwidza Secondary School, where **40 pupils** participated in a Prefect and Leadership Development training programme. This initiative reflects our commitment to nurturing responsible young leaders who can contribute positively to their schools and wider communities.

**Sustainable Agriculture and Environmental Stewardship**

Our Community Champions continued developing their agricultural and livestock projects, cultivating maize, potatoes, rapoko, sugar beans and sunflower.

Harvesting and local produce sales provided opportunities for **income generation**, while expanding poultry projects and seasonal employment supported local economic activity.

Environmental conservation remained an important priority. Our rural team planted **400 gum trees and 160 baobab trees,** with subsequent inspections reporting healthy early growth. We also explored improvements to water infrastructure to address the challenges of **water scarcity** and support more reliable agricultural production.

**Strengthening Operations and Community Resilience**

This year Sainted Roots continued improving its operational infrastructure, completing community food storage construction and trashing floor paving works at the rural homestead. Alongside agricultural activities, our team maintained the tree plantation and supported preparations for winter livestock feeding.

These activities reflect our continued commitment to **building practical skills, encouraging local initiative and strengthening the foundations for sustainable, community-led development**.

# 2025 Achievements Highlights

***Achievements Include:***

- **40 pupils trained** in leadership development at Gwidza Secondary School.
- **560 trees planted, i**ncluding 400 gum trees and 160 baobab trees.
- **Strategic planning meetings held** with Community Champions, rural staff and local youths.
- **Agricultural production continued, i**ncluding maize, potatoes, rapoko, sugar beans and sunflower.
- **Poultry and livestock projects maintained,** including broiler production and animal disease prevention.
- **Seasonal employment opportunities** provided by Community Champions during harvesting.
- **Local produce sold** at village markets and Evergreen Market in Rusape.
- **Borehole siting completed** and water infrastructure improvements explored.
- **Horticultural production expanded** to include irrigated sugar beans and tomatoes.



- **Crop storage and thrashing floo**r completed for processing harvests and storing
- **Zunde raMambo** stores delivered sugar beans and maize to the elderly community.

# Community Champions Programme

Pragramme Outline Definition

## Purpose

Why are we doing this? (in order to …)

To harness the power and vision of individuals in order to deliver projects that provide a positive economic and social outcome for both their households and surrounding communities.

## Key Stakeholders

- Proactive individuals or groups coming from villages connected to SR's work.
- SR Team - Who will manage the day to day?
- Consultants / Third Parties
- Funders, Donors, Investors and the SR Board

## End Result

What do we need to achieve in the time available?

- A documented Community Champions programme by June 2023.
- Initial trial of programme on "Big 5" 2023-24 Farming Season.
- Full programme roll out to start Farming Season 2024 - 25.
- Funding and resources available for Initial trial and roll out.

## Success Criteria

Against which criteria will the result be measured?

- **People:**
  - ✓ xx Community Champions
  - ✓ xx Projects Created
  - ✓ xx Employed by SR
- **Households:**
  - ✓ xx Children impacted
  - ✓ xx% increase in household income
- **Community**
  - ✓ xx Community Projects Initiated By Champions
- **Economic**
  - ✓ xx Seasonal Jobs Created
  - ✓ $xx Profits Generated
- **Biodiversity:**
  - ✓ xx Trees planted
  - ✓ xx projects focused on biodiversity
- **Longevity**
  - ✓ xx% of projects are running for 5 years plus

# Community Champions Program

A summary of the year 2025

The Community Champions Programme continues to play a **central role in Sainted Roots' approach to sustainable rural development.** During the first half of 2025, our Champions remained actively involved in agriculture, livestock production and local enterprise, demonstrating the importance of self-reliance, initiative and community leadership.

Throughout the farming season, Champions cultivated maize, potatoes, rapoko, sugar beans and sunflower, alongside poultry and livestock projects. Harvesting and local produce sales **created opportunities for income generation**, while some Champions provided seasonal employment to members of their communities, contributing to **stronger local livelihoods.**

Despite ongoing challenges associated with climate change and water scarcity, Champions continued adapting their agricultural activities through crop management, livestock care and irrigated sugar bean production. Strategic planning meetings also provided opportunities to engage with young people, encourage collaboration and strengthen the foundations for **independent, community-led development.**









# Sainted Roots' Theory of Change

Activities Refined

## 1 Encourage Personal Growth

- Community wide training on principles of personal growth: Being Proactive.
- Identify potential community champions
- Complete initial assessment of community



## 2 Nurture Strong Community Champions



- Enhanced training for proactive individuals to help them set up their own projects / expand existing projects.
- Support proactive individuals to become leaders and share learning.
- Provide resources for projects that align with SR Mission.

## 3 Support Community Champions To Lead Community Projects



- Encourage regular community meetings.
- Use available communal lands to produce cash & stable food crops
- Grow and plant fruit and indigenous trees
- Create shared community spaces
- Improving community infrastructure
- Ensure Animal Welfare

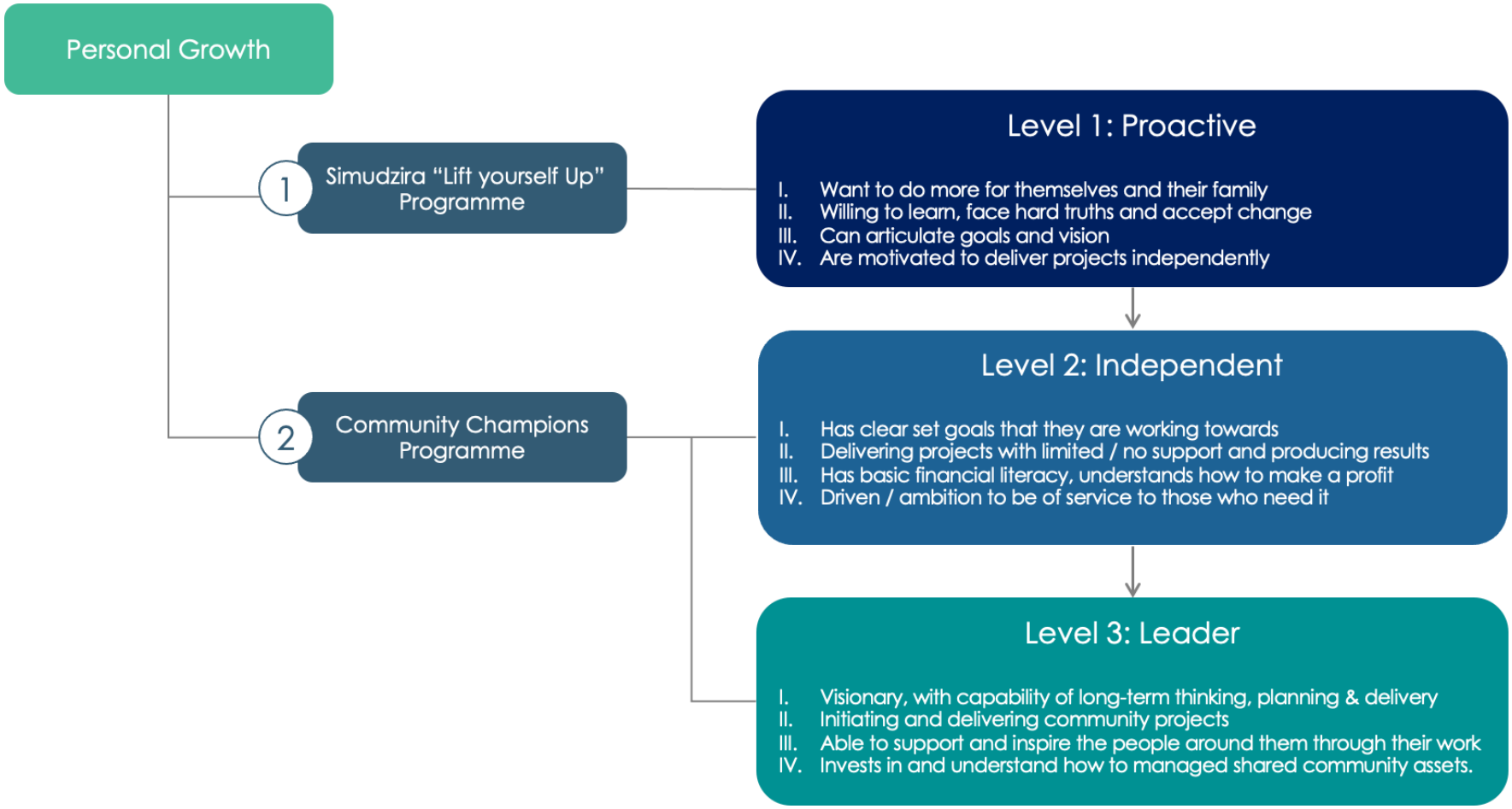
## 4 Connect Community Champions to Other Villages



- Provide opportunities for / encourage community champions to work with other communities.
- Build a network of communities working together.

# Community Champions Programme

Programme Overview as part of the Personal Growth Programme



# Community Champions Photos

Community  Champions at work farming and raising animals.














Photographs courtesy of African farming Content Creator **She_Africa**. Follow on Youtube: @SheAfrica5933

# Programme Challenges

A summary of the challenges faced with delivery/scaling of programmes and improvements that will be made as a result.

| | Challenges | Lessons Learnt |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | **Reduced On-Site Leadership:** Our Founder, Faith Nyabadza-St Francis, has been unable to visit the rural team regularly due to ill health. Although communication continues remotely, her presence and guidance are greatly missed. | **Strengthen local leadership** and communication to ensure continuity of operations and greater independence among the rural team and Community Champions. |
| 2 | **Agricultural Risks:** Ongoing weed and pest management, alongside livestock diseases, continue to present challenges to agricultural productivity. | **Strengthen preventative crop management**, livestock health programmes and climate-resilient farming practices. |
| 3 | **Climate Change and Water Scarcity:** Limited water availability continues to affect agricultural production. Borehole siting on Sainted Roots' land failed to identify a suitable water source, restricting irrigation opportunities. | **Prioritise sustainable water solutions**, including water harvesting, improving existing boreholes and exploring irrigation and micro-market gardening to mitigate drought risks. |
| 4 | **Limited Employment Opportunities:** Seasonal agricultural work provides some local employment, but opportunities for consistent income remain uncertain. | **Encourage diversified, year-round enterprises** through the Community Champions Programme to strengthen local livelihoods |
| 5 | **Resource and Infrastructure Needs:** Limited infrastructure, including fencing and reliable water supplies, continues to constrain agricultural development. | **Prioritise essential infrastructure improvements** and develop realistic investment plans aligned with available resources. |

# Impact Since Inception

**Data:** Activities delivered between Nov 2015 - Dec 2025.



School Fees Funded For 175 Children (including 35 orphans), supporting the education provision for 600+ children from surrounding villages



Ongoing support continues for 33 adults living with HIV. *Zunde raMambo* food and seed were distributed to those most in need.



Working in 6 villages though the Community Champions Program and community farming projects



$50,000 income generated and invested back into the community



40% of villagers surveyed were reported to have access to 3 meals per day & further 54% had access to at least 2 meals per day



Support given to children and vulnerable adults experiencing abuse. Domestic violence incidence reduced following community awareness training and safeguarding.



20 Hectares of communal land donated to support our work. Some lands returned to indivdual use following the collapse of the community farming programmes



6 villages impacted through training provision



$71,397.82 Donated to SR programmes and invested in rural communities. Most going to local employment and farming inputs



50+ seasonal jobs and 6 part time jobs created to support delivery of our work



0ver 120 Tonnes of produce grown



Over 3,500 Trees budded & grafted.

# 2025 Finance Review

**2025 Charity Commission Report**

Sainted Roots – 11844084

For the year ended 31 December 2025

| | | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | Total Funds |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Net Income / (Expenditure)** | | | | | |
| **Income** | | | | | |
| | **Donations & Legacies** | | | | |
| | Donations and Gifts | 2,797.09 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2,797.09 |
| | Total Donations & Legacies | 2,797.09 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2,797.09 |
| | **Other** | | | | |
| | Bank Interest | 0.73 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.73 |
| | Total Other | 0.73 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.73 |
| **Total Income** | | **2,797.82** | **0.00** | **0.00** | **2,797.82** |
| **Expenditure** | | | | | |
| | **Charitable Activities** | | | | |
| | Delivery of Charitable Goods and Services | (2,661.07) | 0.00 | 0.00 | (2,661.07) |
| | Total Charitable Activities | (2,661.07) | 0.00 | 0.00 | (2,661.07) |
| | **Other** | | | | |
| | Connectivity, Phone & Data | (136.75) | 0.00 | 0.00 | (136.75) |
| | Total Other | (136.75) | 0.00 | 0.00 | (136.75) |
| **Total Expenditure** | | **(2,797.82)** | **0.00** | **0.00** | **(2,797.82)** |
| **Total Net Income / (Expenditure)** | | **0.00** | **0.00** | **0.00** | **0.00** |

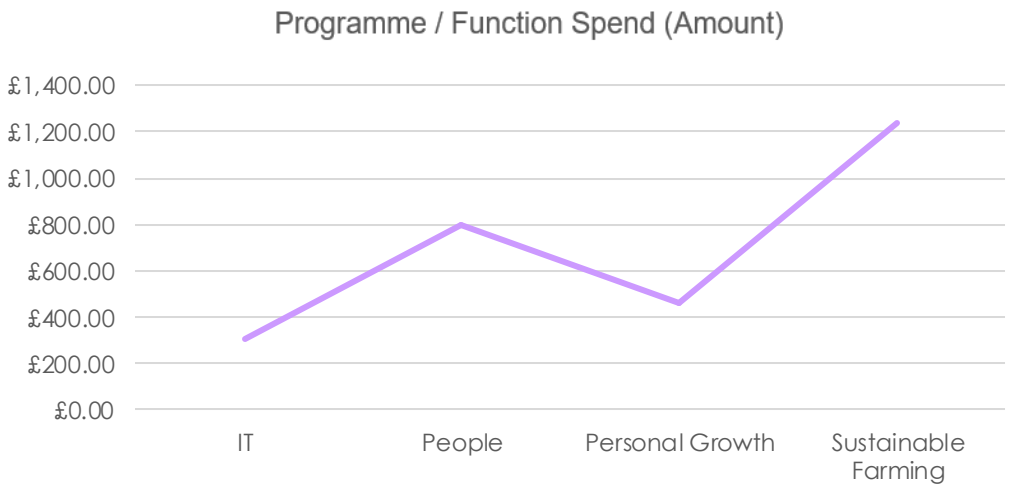
# 2025 Finance Review

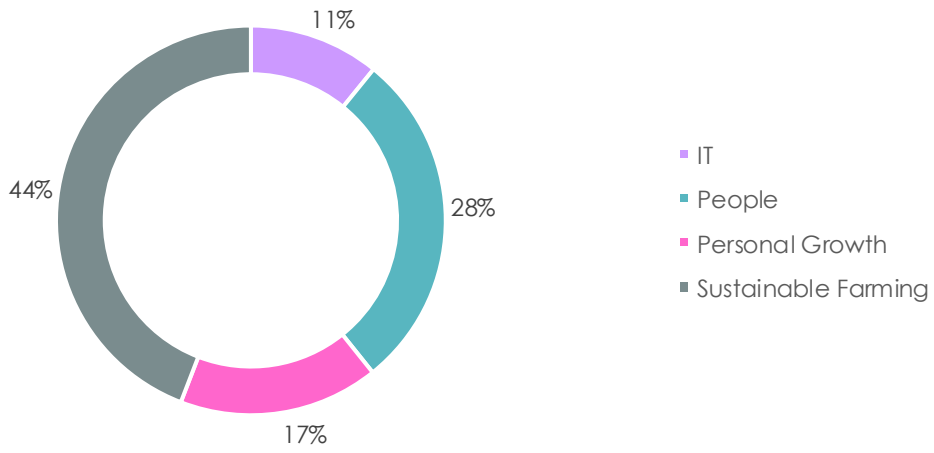
**2025 Spend Breakdown by Function / Programme**

Sainted Roots - 1184408

For the year ended 31 December 2025

| Expense | Amount |
|---|---|
| **IT** | **£303.63** |
| Laptop | £166.88 |
| Phone & Data | £136.75 |
| **People** | **£794.47** |
| SR Wages | £794.47 |
| **Personal Growth** | **£464.70** |
| Fuel - Freelander | £377.01 |
| Rural Food | £76.46 |
| Social Service Fee | £11.23 |
| **Sustainable Farming** | **£1,235.02** |
| Cement for building work | £100.13 |
| Cultivator Hire | £161.82 |
| Farming Inputs | £307.67 |
| Field Day Celebrations | £536.75 |
| Police for field day | £20.00 |
| Tractor Hire | £108.65 |
| **Grand Total** | **£2,797.82** |



# Meet The Team

**Think Long Term:** Hope grows where teamwork sows its seeds

## UK Trustees

**Ms. Faith Nyabadza-St Francis**
Chairperson
Overseeing and organising programs & safegaurding on the ground. Developing structure and capacity building programmes.

**Ms Tendy St Francis**
Secretary
Accounting, Operational procedures, Architecture & Infrastructure Program, Governance and Reporting

**Ms Chi St Francis**
Treasurer
Accounting, Operations & IT, Programme Development, Digital marketing, Fundraising, Governance & Reporting

## UK Board of Advisors

**Ms Christina Adetiba**
Operational procedures, Governance and Reporting

**Mrs. Tsitsi Masukume**
Safeguarding advisor.

**Mrs. Annette Mashingaidze**
General Guidance

## Zimbabwe Managing Committee

**Ms. Faith Nyabadza-St Francis**
Chairperson
Retired District Nurse

**Mrs. Mercy Hatendi**
Vice-chairperson:
Health Development Practitioner

**Ms Lizzy Chekeche**
Secretary:
Logistics and Marketing Officer

**Mr David Nyamurera**
Vice Secretary
Provincial Director-National AIDS Council

**Ms Ruth Tapfumaneyi**
Treasurer:
Health Education and Promotion

**Other Members**

**Mr Simon Matsvai**
Sustainable Farming Programme Advisor

**Stanley Makoni**
Farmer / Rural projects coordinator

# Meet The Team

## Sainted Roots Rural Team

**Mr Stanley Makoni**
Rural Farming Projects Manager

**Mr Enoch Chibika**
Shenayeguta Farming Projects Supervisor
Tree Grafting & Budding

**Mr Enock Nyabadza**
Assistant Shenayeguta Farming Project Supervisor
Construction Projects

**Mrs Melodious Gudoricharima**
Homestead Maintenance and Hospitality Supervisor

**Mrs Chipo Nyabadza (Mai Tapi)**
Assistant Homestead Maintenance and Hospitality

## Consultants and Support

**Mrs Mashaya**
Agriculture Officer

## Community Champions

**Mrs Makoni**
Program Coordinator
Njanike Village

**Mr Mutondoro**
Program Coordinator
Gandanzara / Mutondoro Village

**Mr and Mrs Chikuruwo**
ChikuruwoVillage

**Mr Sandzira**
Tree Program Coordinator
Jecha Village