

# Stichting Trans Rescue Foundation

## Policy Plan

Feb 2, 2022

Publicatie gegevens inzake ANBI regelgeving 2022

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## Data

Naam	Stichting Trans Rescue Foundation
RSIN	863372417
KvK-nummer	84793252
Rechtsvorm	Stichting
Statutaire Naam	Stichting Trans Rescue Foundation
Statutaire zetel	Gemeente Enschede
Bezoekadres	Schietbaanweg 103, 7521DA Enschede
Eerst inschrijving handelsregister	16-12-2021
Datum akte van oprichting	15-12-2021
Aktiviteiten	SBI-code: 94996 - Overige ideële organisaties  Het wereldwijd helpen van transgender personen te vluchten van plaatsen waar het gevaarlijk is om een transgender te zijn.
Contact phone	+(31)629252517
mailing address	Trans Rescue  Schietbaanweg 103, 7521DA Enschede

# Managing Board

Samah Abdulrahman Mohammed Balhamar, secretary

Geboortedatum 05-04-1996

Jennifer Willow List, treasurer

Geboortedatum 23-10-1970

Anne Ogborn, chair

Geboortedatum 15-01-1959

## Objective

Stichting Trans Rescue Foundation is an independent organization that helps transgender people flee from places where it is dangerous to be transgender.

In 14 countries it is de jure illegal to be a transgender person. In most of those countries the penalty is death or long prison sentences. In many others, transgender people can be killed with impunity, and often with the support of the state. In well over half the countries in the world, being transgender is quite dangerous. All over the world, trans people are in danger from their own parents.

We move trans people to a situation of reasonable safety and quality of life. We don't just move people to traditional migrant destinations.

We do so legally. We don't put people on rubber rafts or forge travel documents. We comply with the spirit of the 1951 UN Declaration on refugees and migrants. We are not people smugglers.

We move trans people as safely as we can. We believe that helping support our passengers emotionally during the invariably traumatic event of relocation is critical to their physical safety. We attempt to keep our volunteers safe as well.

We are trans lead. Our management board is composed entirely of trans people.

We never ask for money or work from the people we're moving. Any of our travellers are free to leave the program at any time. Financial ability is not a criteria in whether we help someone flee.

Our output is transgender people whose lives have been saved.

Our outcome, besides the lives directly saved, is to raise awareness of the ongoing transgender genocide. Our work raises global awareness of discrimination against transgender people and provides an alternative narrative to the hateful portrayals of trans people as predators.

## **Our History**

Trans Rescue is the reorganization of TransEmigrate. TransEmigrate was started in 2020 by Misty Hill, with a similar mission to Trans Rescue – to get trans people out of danger.

TransEmigrate never formally incorporated, and operated as a loose collection of activists.

Helping trans people flee is a serious business, and a more formal organizational structure was needed. It's also an expensive business, and TransEmigrate was funded from GoFundMe's and out of it's volunteer's pockets.

TransEmigrate was, in some sense, a successful experiment. It helped about a dozen people find new lives in safe places, and taught the participants the techniques we will use as Trans Rescue.

In late December 2021 the current board formed Trans Rescue with the intention of creating a stronger organization capable of helping more people escape.

## **Our Partners**

Trans Rescue works with partner organizations in the US, UK, Kenya, Turkey, the Netherlands, and Indonesia.

We work with organizations supporting LGBTI+ people in the immigration and refugee systems of Germany, the US, France, and the Netherlands.

We also work with the immigration systems of these countries. We have a good relationship with COA and IND in the Netherlands, and with the immigration authorities in France.

We also work with a group of very brave individuals who operate inside dangerous countries.

And we work with other organizations that do similar work.

## **Activities**

- We provide advice about relocating. We formulate, with our clients, a plan for them to leave their country, and help them carry that plan out.
- We provide assistance with arranging a visa, often working both in the country of concern and the safe arrival country to obtain a visa. We never move anyone illegally, but rather work within the principles of the 1951 UN Refugee Convention.
- We pay costs associated with visa applications.
- We provide airline and other carrier tickets.

- We sometimes help physically extract people. Our volunteers work in some of the most dangerous countries on Earth, helping trans people leave.
- We may provide short term housing and stipend while a person is in hiding prior to or during transit. We do not provide “maintainence” funds unless we are actively trying to move the person.
- In addition, we may perform any legal activity which furthers this goal. We may establish safe houses, arrange local contacts, establish an office, and perform any other action which furthers our goal.

## Target Group

Our primary target group is transgender people. We also will occasionally help larger LGBTI+ people. And we may occasionally move cis people in danger because of a relationship with a transgender person – for example, accepting families of trans people, children of trans people, and we have a single traveller who just fits in the ‘no one else would help him’ category.

But our focus is transgender people.

Our definition of ‘transgender’ is broad. We move people, we don’t decide if they are ‘truly’ transgender.

## Raising Funds

Our work requires funds, obviously.

We are just getting established, and our current fundraising has been limited, as this is written, to a few donations from people in our personal network and a loan from one of our board members.

We expect within a few weeks to start to engage in the normal sort of fundraising any charity might engage in.

We are the follow on to a loosely organized activist group, TransEmigrate. TransEmigrate found some success with pleading for funds on GoFundMe via Twitter and Instagram campaigns.

We intend to be more intentional about operating a normal marketing program.

We will drive traffic to our website with social media outreach, and with content marketing programs.

We will attend physical events (as Corona restrictions allow) and seek funds and engagement.

Our board members will network with identified donor communities and seek donations.

We will have an aggressive public speaking program, raising awareness of trans people’s plight, and will

We will use all these methods to cultivate a mailing list. The list, rather than the events above, will be our expected main source of revenue. In particular, we hope to draw in supporters who will make larger contributions.

We will seek grants from private and public sources. We are currently particularly interested in pursuing a Google Grant. This grant is in the form of free advertising on Google Adwords. This allows us to not only fundraise, but to reach our client population.

We have already received major in-kind donations. We have the use of an office space, furniture, and computers. We’ve had in-kind donations of IT labor., drawings (useful for fund raising, and needed, as our passengers are in danger and we can’t use images), web

and logo design, professional consulting from a psychologist, the same from attorneys and from a psychiatrist.

## Fund Management

We will maintain proper accounting, and will retain a professional accountant.

Our accounts will be published on our website.

All donations and other income will be deposited in our Bunq bank account, NL53BUNQ2067331108.

Our work is dangerous. Things go wrong. While an extraction that goes well averages about 2500 EU, we must maintain a generous emergency fund. There are realistic scenarios under which we could be targeted for legal harassment or physical attack by foreign governments.

5% of all income will be placed aside in a savings account for emergencies and long term projects. If this fund exceeds 6 months operating budget, the board will divert the excess to programs and capacity building.

Of the remaining 95%, less than 10% will be spent on fundraising costs. The remainder will be used for programs and capacity building. We currently are operating with low fundraising costs. While we have startup costs in Q1, we expect after this quarter to spend more than 90% on direct program costs.

Realistically, there will always be more people to get out than we can handle. So if we can get more people out by hiring professional fundraisers or purchasing advertising, we will do so. In that case our percent spend on fundraising will increase, but administrative and fundraising costs shall not exceed 30% under any circumstance.

Similarly, our major expense is moving passengers. We will maintain a minimum balance, to be decided by the board. We will take on additional passengers only when they can be accommodated. Our board will set an account 'trip wire'. When the balance goes above this level, we will move another client.

No board member shall receive payment for services to the foundation. Board members may be reimbursed at cost for direct purchases on behalf of the foundation to the same limits established for purchases direct from the foundation's account.

Board members have made interest free loans to the foundation for startup expenses. We will liquidate those loans during the first year.



# **Abbreviated Budget, 2022**

## **Income**

81000 EU – fundraising goal

## **Expenses**

2500 EU – office expenses and IT<sup>1</sup>

8100 EU – fundraising and publicity, including 3375 for credit card processing

4050 EU – to savings

913 EU – one time charge for incorporation related expenses

65000 EU – Cost to assist 26 transgender people to flee

437 EU – remainder carried over to 2023

## **Purchases**

Currently only board members may make purchases. We're a very small organization, as we grow this will be modified.

Any board member may make purchases not to exceed 1000 EU / day.

The board, in it's entirety, may authorize an unlimited purchase.

The board, in it's entirety, may authorize transfers from the savings to the active account.

# Financial Statements

All values in Euros.

## Income and Expense statement

December 20, 2021 – February 3, 2022

### Income

Loan to cover immediate expenses during startup,	2654.25
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### Jennifer List

Donations	3063
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In-kind donations	1500
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total	7217.25
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### Expenses

Program expenses	1600.44
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Capacity expenses	1053.81
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Total	2654.25
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Net 3063

# Balance Sheet

December 20, 2021 – February 3, 2022

## Assets

Operating cash	2913.91	
Savings	150	
Intangible Assets	1000	
Tangible Assets	500	
total		4563.91

## Liabilities

loan from Jenny List	2654.25	
Accounts payable	12.68	
total		2666.93

1In-kind donation of office space and computer equipment, but we maintain secure servers to communicate with clients