

Annual Report 2024

Act against Aids



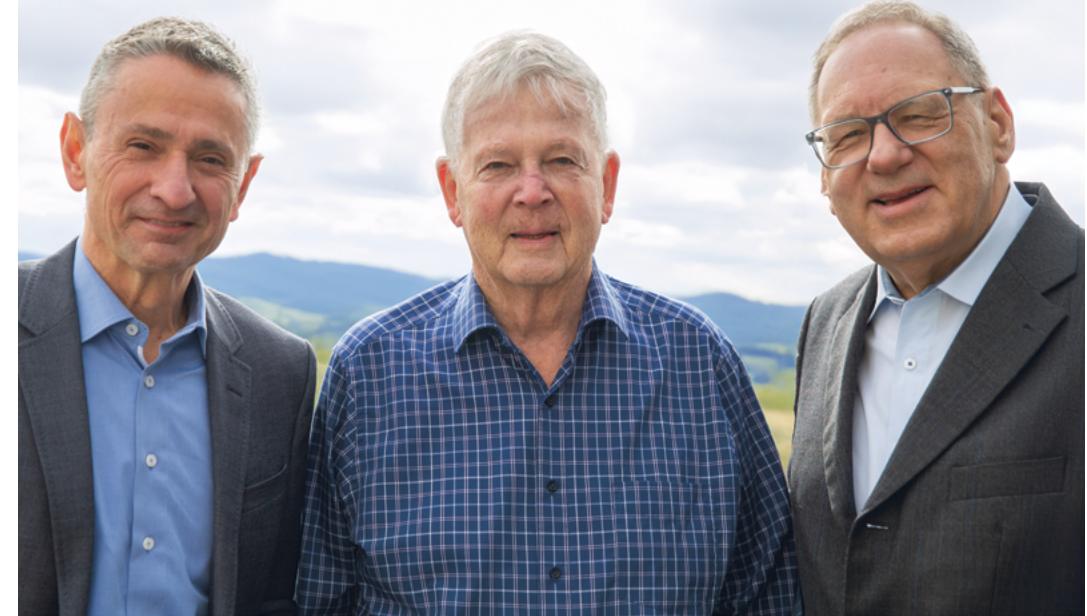
The fact that others continue my work makes me happy.

When I visited our Newlands Clinic last autumn, I felt a deep sense of satisfaction. Because one thing was recognisable to me everywhere: the endeavour to treat and empower our HIV patients so that they can **lead a dignified, self-determined life – despite poverty and illness**. Our people at the clinic put their heart and soul into this.

People infected with HIV and AIDS **require regular and lifelong treatment**. Accordingly, we are dependent on **donations for the entire life of every single person** we admit to the clinic. **Donations have been shrinking since 2021**, last year slightly less than before. On the other hand, there were more people who left us **legacies or bequests** in their wills. We are also grateful to **Swiss foundations** that have granted **additional funding** for our projects. Despite this, we were unable to compensate for the **decline in donations of medicines and funds from state actors**. It was therefore difficult for me when we had to **cap the number of patients at Newlands Clinic for the first time in our history in the summer – with a maximum of 8,200 people whose treatment we can finance**. Having to turn away people seeking help is stressful for both those affected and our staff. We are therefore enormously grateful to you, who are now holding this annual report in your hands. Many of you have been loyal to us for years – **always knowing that your donations are used directly in our own clinic**, where they have a direct impact.

I am relieved that the management of the foundation is once again complete and in good hands – with the new **President of the Board of Trustees, Harald Henggi**, and the new **CEO, Roman Mezzasalma**. The two of them took over in mid-2024 from our President Hans Lutz, who passed away far too early, and my daughter **Sabine Lüthy**, who is suffering from Long-Covid. The entire office team is committed to **finding enough donations** every day to finance our support for people affected by HIV. And who knows: perhaps we will soon be able to take in all those seeking help at the clinic again.

Thank you very much for standing by our side!
Ruedi Lüthy



“We are committed to ensuring that your donations have a direct impact on those affected by HIV through our own clinic.”

Founder Prof. Ruedi Lüthy (centre)
President of the Board of Trustees Harald Henggi (left) and CEO Roman Mezzasalma

Expertise and individual care

Newlands Clinic has set itself the goal of providing the best possible care for patients living with HIV. Our medical team works hard every day to provide personalised care that goes far beyond the mere administration of medication.

The best possible care for people living with HIV requires far more than just access to medication. Newlands Clinic therefore offers holistic care that also includes psychosocial support, nutritional counselling and the treatment of comorbidities. At the end of 2024, we had 8,147 patients in care, including many children, adolescents and older people with complex medical needs. A particular focus is on the early diagnosis and treatment of concomitant diseases such as diabetes or high blood pressure, which occur more frequently in people living with HIV. Another core element of our treatment is continuous therapy support to ensure long-term medication adherence. To this end, individual consultations are held, digital reminder functions are used and group programmes are offered.

All of this serves to support patients in adhering to their therapy consistently. Viral load suppression, a key indicator of treatment

success, was 91.72 per cent at the end of 2024. In these patients, the medication worked so well that the number of HIV viruses in the blood was reduced to such an extent that they are no longer transmissible. The previous year's figure of 91.91 per cent was slightly better because in 2024 the clinic increasingly focused on difficult cases when admitting new patients.

In order to reach as many people as possible with HIV treatment, the clinic is expanding its mentoring programme for medical staff in rural areas which is implemented together with local institutions. As a result, the impact of the clinic's efforts is not limited to Harare, but also reaches people in remote areas of Zimbabwe.

Knowledge as the key to HIV treatment

In order to sustainably improve HIV treatment in Zimbabwe, Newlands Clinic provides practical and needs-based training and further education for healthcare professionals. In 2024, over 1,200 doctors, nurses and other professionals were trained in current HIV management methods.

The treatment of people with HIV requires specialised knowledge that must be constantly adapted to new scientific findings. The Newlands Clinic Training Centre (NCTC) has therefore been training medical professionals from all over Zimbabwe for years.

One focus is the Advanced HIV Management Course, which is aimed at nursing staff. In 2024, 247 professionals took part in this intensive course, which combines theory with practical assignments in the clinic. The majority of participants come from the public healthcare sector, including provincial, district and mission hospitals. Doctors also benefit from specific training: 132 doctors took part in six specialised courses that specifically address the challenges of HIV treatment. Following the full resumption of normal operations after the pandemic, the highest number of daily units (5,084) since the opening of the training centre in 2011 was reached in 2024.

This confirms the upward trend of recent years.

In addition, the NCTC supports specialists in remote regions with online training courses that enable flexible participation without the need for long journeys. In 2024, five such training courses were held with a total of 325 participants.

Education remains a key component of Newlands Clinic's strategy to improve the quality of healthcare throughout Zimbabwe. Demand shows that practical on-site and digital training is essential to disseminate knowledge. This is why the programmes are continuously being updated and new formats are being developed – always with the aim of providing the best possible care for people with HIV.



Tawanda Mugayi in dialogue with a patient.

“We provide all our patients with comprehensive care – this goes far beyond the purely medical.”

Tawanda Mugayi,
nursing specialist

Tawanda, have you always wanted to work in the healthcare sector?

In our community, we had a health professional who we children simply called the doctor. When he gave us an injection, it was no big deal for us. Because we had the feeling that the syringes from his hand didn't hurt so much. Even back then I thought: 'Oh, I want to be such a good "doctor" one day and be able to give perfect injections'. That's what happened and I've never regretted it.

How did you come to work at Newlands Clinic?

I used to work for Médecins Sans Frontières and in various hospitals in Harare. In this role, I attended a two-week training course in HIV management at Newlands Clinic. At that time Professor Ruedi Lüthy gave this course in

person. In 2013, a position became available at Newlands Clinic and I applied immediately.

What was your first impression of Ruedi Lüthy?

When I didn't know Ruedi Lüthy personally, I thought he was rather reserved and somewhat stubborn. But I was proved wrong: he is an exceptional person, he approaches people without prejudice and is a wonderful teacher. Never before had I experienced someone who could explain things so well. Today, when I'm teaching myself and the participants don't understand what I'm trying to explain, I find myself imitating Ruedi Lüthy's voice. This is probably in the hope that I will be better understood!

Are you a father figure for the young patients?

When children or adolescents come to see me, they are often very insecure. With male adolescents in particular, it can happen that they confide their worries to me. I am happy to listen and support them. But for me, there is a clear boundary between private and professional. My colleagues in our Mental and Social Health department are responsible for psychological counselling. HIV is a diagnosis, but behind it there is always a person with his or her own individual destiny. 'We provide all our patients with comprehensive care – this goes far beyond the purely medical.'

From childhood dream to vocation: Tawanda's path into nursing

Tawanda Mugayi has been working as a nurse at Newlands Clinic for eleven years. In this role, he primarily cares for the youngest patients and adolescents. In this interview, Tawanda explains why he is still very passionate about his job even after many years in the nursing profession.

New findings for better HIV treatment

Research is one of the central pillars of the Ruedi Lüthy Foundation's work. Scientific studies are an indispensable tool for continuously developing HIV treatment and adapting it to the specific needs of our patients. Last year's results were convincing and our research projects have provided important findings that have helped to optimise treatment.

One focus of our research work was on the investigation of concomitant diseases in people living with HIV. Thanks to increasingly effective antiretroviral therapy, those affected can now live significantly longer, but this also brings new challenges. Older HIV patients in particular often suffer from non-communicable diseases such as high blood pressure or diabetes. One of our studies investigated how these diseases can be detected and treated at an early stage in order to minimise long-term health consequences.

The research team at Newlands Clinic also analysed the effect of new treatment methods on patients with resistant virus variants. We wanted to find out which treatment strategies work best and how we can prevent the development of resistance in the future. The results of these studies are directly integrated into our clinical practice and support us

in developing customised treatment plans. Our findings are continuously published in specialised journals and presented at scientific conferences, making a significant contribution to global HIV research. At the same time, we ensure that patients always benefit from the latest scientific findings.

A total of nine studies were conducted, some of which were part of international research networks such as leDEA. In addition, four scientific articles were published and a further manuscript was submitted for publication in 2025.



“Science done with and communicated to stakeholders from policy makers to recipients of care is key to a unified and sustainable HIV response.”

Ardele Mandiriri
Doctoral Fellow/Research Coordinator

Our foundation and its bodies

► The foundation was established in March 2003 with the purpose of providing comprehensive treatment and care for destitute people with HIV/Aids in southern Africa. To this end, the foundation can run clinics and train doctors and nurses. The foundation does not pursue any commercial purposes and does not aim to make a profit.

Board of Trustees: Harald Henggi, (President from 12.06.2024) | Prof. em. Dr. med. vet. Hans Lutz, (President †29.3.2024) | PD Dr. Eliane Rohner, Head of Research at the Institute for Social and Preventive Medicine, Bern (Vice President from 12.06.2024) | Prof. Dr. med. Dr. h.c. Ruedi Lüthy, Founder | Gregor Neidhart, certified expert in accounting and controlling | Dr. iur. Manuel Sager, former director-general of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) | Prof. Dr. med. Gilles Wandeler, Head of Clinical Research and Senior Physician at the University Clinic for Infectiology in Bern | lic. phil. Martin Fuhrer, former Head of international Cooperation at the Swiss Red Cross (until 20 November 2024)

Chief Executives: Dr. rer. pol. Roman Mezzasalma, Chief Executive (from 13.05.2024) | Gregor Neidhart, interim Co-Chief Executive (until 30.06.2024) | Sabine Lüthy Hieringer, Co-Chief Executive (until 31.03.2024) | Hans-Peter Wüthrich, Deputy Chief Executive

Newlands Clinic Directorate: Dr. Cleophas Chimbutete, Director Training and Research | Dr. Margaret Pascoe, Medical Director | Matthias Widmaier, Administrative Director

Patronage Committee: Kurt Aeschbacher, publisher, speaker, former television presenter | Ruth Dreifuss, former Federal Councillor | Prof. em. Dr. med. Felix Gutzwiller, former Director of the Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine in Zurich | Patrick Rohr, communications consultant, photographer and journalist | Marcel Stutz, former Swiss Ambassador | Prof. em. Dr. med. Martin Täuber, former Rector of the University of Bern | Prof. Dr. rer. nat. Alexandra Trkola, Head of the Institute of Medical Virology | Luca Papini, DJ & Entertainer

Income falls more sharply than expenditure

For 2024, the operating loss increases to CHF 1,306,000. The annual loss decreased to CHF 219,000 thanks to a very positive financial result.

At CHF 6.3 million, total income is 9.6 % below the previous year's figure. In particular, donations in kind in the form of medicine deliveries were down (from a previously extraordinary CHF 2.1 million to CHF 1.5 million). The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC supported the Newlands Clinic with CHF 1.09 million (previous year: CHF 1.24 million). In contrast, monetary donations from private individuals and institutions as well as from legacies increased by 6.4 % to CHF 3.6 million.

Income falls more sharply than expenses
At CHF 7.6 million, the Foundation's operating expenses were 5 % lower than in the previous year. An unchanged 88 % of expenditure went directly to projects: around CHF 5.5 million to the clinic (-9 %), CHF 614,000 to the training centre (+10 %) and CHF 555,000 to the women's health centre (+33 %). This increase in costs for women's health was due to increasing treatments for cervical cancer in HIV patients as a result of temporary acute bottlenecks in public cancer care. A provision of CHF 393,000 was recognised for the accrued severance

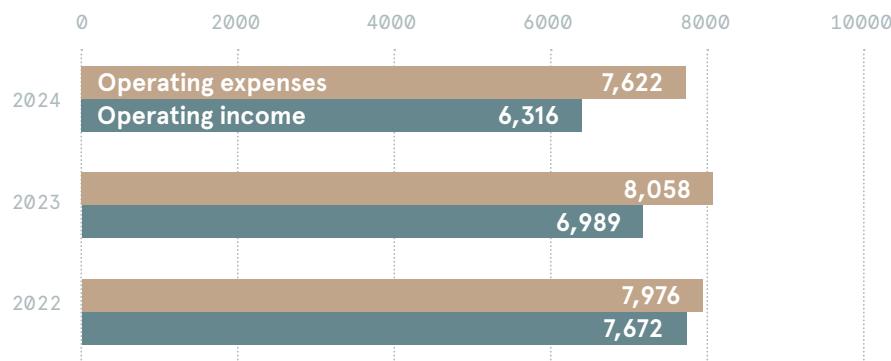
payment obligations to clinic staff. General expenses for administration (CHF 437,000) and for fundraising and communication (CHF 479,000) decreased by CHF 90,000 compared to the previous year. This is due to the fact that the team at the head office in Bern was able to handle more fundraising and communication tasks internally. As the chart shows, operating income (-9.6 %) fell more sharply than operating expenses (-5.4 %).

Balance sheet and annual result

Current assets amounted to CHF 22.9 million (+2 %) as at 31 December 2024, of which CHF 15.9 million was attributable to securities. In the reporting year, earmarked donations of CHF 730,000 for the training of healthcare staff in Zimbabwe exceeded the project expenditure incurred for the first time. The remaining capital of currently CHF 116,000 is recognised separately as fund capital in the balance sheet until it is used for its intended purpose. The organisational capital amounts to CHF 23.3 million, of which CHF 17.9 million is designated capital. These funds could be used to ensure HIV treatment for patients even in the event of a sharp decline in income until patients could be transferred to another healthcare institution.

The operating account closes with a loss of around CHF 1.3 million. The extremely positive

Income falls more sharply than expenditure (in 1,000 CHF)



development of the financial result reduces the annual loss after changes in funds and capital to CHF 219,000, which can be covered from unrestricted capital.

Financial statements Zimbabwe

The local organisation Ruedi Lüthy Foundation Zimbabwe ensures the operation of the Newlands Clinic and the Ruedi Lüthy Foundation in Switzerland generates the necessary funds. The financial statements of the Ruedi Lüthy Foundation Zimbabwe, which include Newlands Clinic, the training centre and the women's health centre, were audited by the auditing firm Grant Thornton in Harare and consolidated in these accounts.

Organisation and compensation

The members of the Board of Trustees provide their services on an honorary basis and are elected for a term of four years. Re-election is permitted. They are responsible for the strategic management of the Foundation and the management of its assets. The salaries and

fees of the Chief Executives and the Deputy totalled around CHF 280,000, including employer contributions. Of this amount, CHF 113,000 was attributable to project expenses and CHF 167,000 to general expenses.

Outlook

Expenditure on administration, fundraising and communication is set to fall significantly in 2025. Project expenditure in Harare is to be kept stable or reduced slightly through efficiency improvements. The income side will be reduced in 2025 by a further decline in government support funds and a possible further decline in donations of medicines. Achieving stable general donation income remains very challenging. The head office in Bern will continue its successful efforts to increase donation income from institutions (such as other foundations). We also continue to count on the loyalty of our private donors.

Income statement

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| | CHF | CHF |
| Income | | |
| Donations | 5,087,371 | 5,540,148 |
| Thereof monetary donations | 3,630,666 | 3,412,364 |
| – Ordinary donations | 1,999,538 | 2,033,368 |
| – Donations from legacies/gifts | 413,419 | 380,059 |
| – Earmarked donations | 1,217,708 | 998,937 |
| Donations in kind | 1,456,706 | 2,127,784 |
| SDC contributions | 1,089,046 | 1,241,625 |
| Income from the Training Centre | 4,271 | 10,944 |
| Other income | 135,630 | 196,768 |
| Total income | 6,316,319 | 6,989,485 |
| Expenses | | |
| Project expenses Harare | | |
| Newlands Clinic | 5,536,940 | 6,076,373 |
| – Personnel expense | 2,408,197 | 2,237,542 |
| – Medication and medical costs | 2,738,015 | 3,430,471 |
| – Infrastructure and vehicles | 207,525 | 211,457 |
| – Various project costs | 183,203 | 196,903 |
| Training Centre | 614,486 | 558,496 |
| Women's Health Centre | 554,985 | 416,841 |
| Total project expenses Harare | 6,706,411 | 7,051,710 |
| General expenses | | |
| Administration | 436,754 | 498,092 |
| Fundraising and communications | 479,310 | 508,332 |
| Total general expenses | 916,064 | 1,006,424 |
| Total expenses | 7,622,475 | 8,058,134 |
| Operating result | – 1,306,156 | – 1,068,650 |
| Financial result | 1,153,600 | 749,400 |
| Non-operating result | 21,076 | 24,128 |
| Annual result before changes in funds and capital | –131,480 | –295,122 |
| Allocation to earmarked fund | –115,514 | 0 |
| Withdrawal from designated capital | 28,049 | 13,320 |
| Annual result after changes in funds and capital | –218,945 | –281,802 |

Balance sheet

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| | CHF | CHF |
| Assets | | |
| Cash, postal account, bank deposits | 5,638,737 | 6,301,442 |
| Total cash and cash equivalents | 5,638,737 | 6,301,442 |
| Securities | 15,918,923 | 14,941,907 |
| Receivables from goods & services and accrued income & prepaid expenses | 182,128 | 146,197 |
| Inventories | 1,208,436 | 1,145,651 |
| Total current assets | 22,948,224 | 22,535,197 |
| Real estate in Switzerland | 1,630,000 | 1,630,000 |
| Total assets | 24,578,224 | 24,165,197 |
| Liabilities and equity | | |
| Current liabilities | | |
| Liabilities from goods & services and accrued expenses and deferred income | 445,051 | 412,312 |
| Total current liabilities | 445,051 | 412,312 |
| Provisions for severance payments | 393,374 | 0 |
| Deferred long-term liability | 333,333 | 333,333 |
| Total liabilities | 1,171,758 | 745,645 |
| Earmarked fund capital | 115,514 | 0 |
| Organisational capital | | |
| Paid-in capital of the foundation | 100,000 | 100,000 |
| Designated capital | 17,870,925 | 17,898,974 |
| – Training Centre | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 |
| – New projects | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 |
| – Newlands Clinic | 11,572,000 | 11,572,000 |
| – Staff quarters | 298,925 | 326,974 |
| – Women's Health Centre | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 |
| Reserve for fluctuations in asset value | 1,900,000 | 1,900,000 |
| Unrestricted capital | 3,638,972 | 3,802,380 |
| Net profit or loss for the period | – 218,945 | – 281,802 |
| Total organisational capital | 23,290,952 | 23,419,552 |
| Total liabilities and equity | 24,578,224 | 24,165,197 |

RLienhard Audit AG in Zurich serves as the foundation's auditors. The supervisory authority is the Federal Supervisory Board for Foundations (FSBF). The financial statements were prepared in accordance with the accounting and reporting recommendations for non-profit organisations (Swiss GAAP FER 21) and comply with the ZEWO requirements.



The complete financial statements, comprising the balance sheet, income statement, cash flow statement, statement of net increase/decrease in organisational capital and notes can be viewed at www.ruedi-luethy-foundation.ch/en/publications

LIENHARD Audit AG

Report of the Statutory Auditor on the Limited Statutory

to the Board of Trustees of

Ruedi Lüthy Foundation, Bern

As statutory auditors, we have examined the financial statements of Ruedi Lüthy Foundation, which comprise the balance sheet, income statement, cash flow statement, statement of changes in equity and notes for the year ended 31 December 2024. As permitted by Swiss GAAP FER 21 the information in the performance report is not required to be subject to the statutory auditors' examination.

These financial statements in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER and Swiss law, the foundation's deed and regulations are the responsibility of the board of trustees. Our responsibility is to perform a limited statutory examination on these financial statements. We confirm that we meet the licensing and independence requirements as stipulated by Swiss law.

We conducted our examination in accordance with the Swiss Standard on the Limited Statutory Examination. This standard requires that we plan and perform a limited statutory examination to identify material misstatements in the financial statements. A limited statutory examination consists primarily of inquiries of personnel and analytical procedures as well as detailed tests of foundation documents as considered appropriate in the circumstances. However, the testing of operational processes and the internal control system, as well as inquiries and further testing procedures to detect fraud or other legal violations, are not within the scope of this examination.

Based on our limited statutory examination, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not give a true and fair view of the financial position, the results of operations and the cash flows in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER. Furthermore, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not comply with Swiss law, the foundation's deed and regulations.

Zurich, 19 March 2025

Yours sincerely

LIENHARD Audit AG



Claudio Piubel
Licensed Audit Expert
Auditor in Charge



Stephan Lienhard
Licensed Audit Expert

Enclosure:

- Financial statements 2024 (balance sheet, income statement, cash flow statement, statement of changes in equity and notes)

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 Mitglied von EXPERTSuisse

Our heartfelt thanks!

Our project partners and generous contributions from our many donors are what makes treatment of HIV/Aids in Zimbabwe possible in the first place. Our heartfelt thanks!

Special thanks go to the following institutions:

- Edwin and Rita Kilcher
- Foundation 'Bernhart-Matter-Stiftung'
- Foundation 'Fondation Hubert Looser'
- Foundation 'Hans-Eggenberger-Stiftung'
- Foundation 'Lotte und Adolf Hotz-Sprenger Stiftung'
- Foundation of the Rotary Club Bern Bubenberg
- Foundation 'Rita und Guido Heule Stiftung'
- Foundation 'Rosmarie Mettler-Stiftung'
- Foundation 'Schmid Unternehmerstiftung'
- Foundation 'Stiftung Bernhard Kunder'
- Foundation 'Stiftung Palliacura'
- ISPM University of Bern
- Jansen PrimeSteps Foundation
- Leopold Bachmann Foundation
- Ministry of Health and Child Care, Zimbabwe
- NatPharm
- Pharmacy 'Apotheke zum Rebstock'
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- The Dr. Rau Foundation
- Tschikali Foundation
- University Hospital of Bern
- Vrenjo Foundation

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