



Foreign Communities of Alba  
**ASSOCIATION**

2024 plan and strategy

# Our history

And who are we today

Foreign Communities of Alba Association (known under trading name 'FCA Association') is registered under [SC052771 with the OSCR \(Scottish Charity Regulator\)](#). We are a charity focused on Sports, Recreation, Integration and Removing Social Isolation. We are operating in West Lothian, Falkirk and North Lanarkshire councils in Scotland.

Back in late 2021 five of our founders couldn't find many sports activities for Poles in Falkirk, Bathgate and Whitburn area. They felt a bit depressed, some had addiction history. To not fall into bad habits, they decided to start a football group. It was a stunning success, given that it offered not only sports, but also socialising. People made friends, families met.

Today we are an active group, which has about 300 members. We have three football trainings a week. On top of that, a very big hiking group and a lot of volunteering opportunities. We've done loads of socializing and charitable events. Many of us found new friends. We are planning for a bicycling group, DIY group, chess group, a community house and a women football section ... and more. Through our group we have also integrated with locals and this tremendously helped to remove the feeling of loneliness and removed the cultural barriers. In some cases helped in finding better jobs.

We are open for anyone to join.



# Organization mission and strategy

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## **Mission:**

Enabling social engagement and cultural integration of ethnic minorities in Scotland through sport, recreational, cultural and social events and activities.

## **Strategy:**

The advancement of public participation in sport, by (but not limited to) running football training and forming teams to compete in local leagues; organising hiking and trekking groups and excursions; other sporting activities as directed by the membership

The organization of recreational activities, with the object of improving the conditions of life, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended, including social activities for families; community events and events to celebrate the many ethnic backgrounds represented in our communities

The advancement of public participation in non-profit, charitable movements and general activation and integration of ethnic minorities in Scotland, through lectures, joint events, volunteering, encouragement to entrepreneurship and building a shared support platform.

# What have we done in 2023?

And where are we today

- 3 football trainings a week
- regular hiking events
- regular socializing
- regular cycling
- Regular socializing events (Kroki, Andrzejki) for 60+ people
- 3 'quality of living' workshops, focusing on mental health and quality of family life (Family Constellations)
- regular volunteering events (Carboot, Wojtek Scotland, GOCC, School day for children, Cleaning Polish graves)
- [The Grand Orchestra of Christmas Charity](#), main organizer for 2024 (started in 2023)
- Partnerships with: Cemvo Scotland, Bathgate Partnership Centre, Kate Fit Design, Unicorn Markets, Edinburgh Bears, No Boundaries School, Polish Reservists in UK Association, Emito.net, a large hiking group - Na Szlaku z Sercem w Plecaku and recently Biffa Waste Management in Broxburn
- Got 25 registered members
- Over 400 people in total participated in our events
- Registered with HMRC and got a bank account
- Estimated annual turnover of ~4000 GBP based on donations, fundraising, and membership fees



# 2024 Goals

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- Find a permanent location (an office or a building)
- Start an entrepreneurship group and help them kick off a local business (with sales aiming at 1000GBP), which will also support our charity
- Open a discussion with local politicians on possibilities of cooperation
- Fully fund 1 project (with a goal of 800GBP spend)
- Be more inclusive on sports activities (lower the entry criteria)
- Open an official cooperation with one other ethnic group
- Execute at least 3 'quality of living' workshops
- Execute at least 4 socializing events
- Perform trustee elections
- Introduce new procedures (like project coordination or conflict resolution)
- Open 'Safety while hiking' programme
- (once a location is found): open a community centre with access to various activities, lectures, and discussion clubs
- Reach 9000GBP annual turnover not based on grants
- Continue on
  - football
  - volunteering
  - outdoor and hiking
  - cycling
  - social events (like Andrzejki)

# Where do we need help?

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## **Finding a location**

We have made multiple attempts to find a permanent location, however we either couldn't afford it or the venue did not suit our needs.

## **Improving our cash flow**

As we have learned through multiple rejected grants, our organization needs to show a more healthy cash balance to scale up. It would also tremendously help us to organize more events, pay for the office or even for our website and IT infrastructure.

## **Networking**

We are keen getting to know more people, as we truly believe alone we can't do much, together we stand strong. We are happy to accept invites to any conferences / discussion groups or events.

# How to find us?

Yes, we are really active on social media!

- [TikTok](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [YouTube](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [X](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Our Website](#)
- [hello@fcaassociation.org](mailto:hello@fcaassociation.org)

Or email us via our website:

<https://fcaassociation.org/contact-us/>

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Thank you very much!