**Ethical Fundraising Policy: July 2023**

**Fundraising Statement**

Rendez-Vous dance Ltd is a project funded organisation which is reliant on ongoing fundraising to support its core costs and project delivery with and for LGBTQIA+ communities. To guarantee the availability of ongoing funds to support its work, Rendez-Vous dance Ltd aims to maintain a broad base of different funding sources. This policy has been drafted to ensure clarity to all partners and stakeholders.

Through establishing and maintaining relationships with funders and donors, Rendez-Vous dance Ltd hopes to gain:

* Cash income towards project-focused and core costs.
* In-kind support.
* Organisational development/skills development.
* Raised profile as a supported organisation
* Increased access to future opportunities/funding prospects.
* Increased local, national and international networks and signposting to opportunities

Rendez-Vous dance Ltd recognises its responsibility to the communities we work with to consider the ethical issues of accepting funding from/partnering with any external organisation or individual and the reputational risks of doing so.

It is the responsibility of Rendez-Vous dance Ltd’ Board and the Executive Producer to assess potential funders against the considerations detailed below.

**Funding Considerations**Rendez-Vous dance Ltd actively seeks opportunities to work with external organisations and individuals to achieve shared objectives. However, it is vital to the integrity of Rendez-Vous dance Ltd to maintain independence and does not allow any partnership to bring the organisation's name into disrepute.

Rendez-Vous dance Ltd therefore accepts financial support/partnership with companies and individuals on the following conditions:

* The funders values are aligned with Rendez-Vous dance Ltd the result of the funded work will be mutually beneficial.
* There are strong grounds for believing that the funding will benefit the organisation’s beneficiaries.
* The Board and Executive Producer are satisfied that no adverse publicity will result from accepting the support.
* There is no attempt to negatively influence Rendez-Vous dance Ltd policies or actions, explicitly or implicitly.
* Only Rendez-Vous dance Ltd has access to project data, databases and beneficiary contact information, unless a data agreement and relevant permissions are in place.
* The funding has been approved by Rendez-Vous dance Ltd’ board.

Rendez-Vous dance Ltd will not accept financial support from or enter into partnerships with organisations directly involved in activities that run contrary to its values and aims. These activities include:

Animal testing/abuse, developing nations debt, genetic engineering, human rights abuses, illegal activity, intensive farming, manufacture of environmentally hazardous products or chemicals, military contracts, mining, nuclear power, the manufacture of tobacco and water pollution.

**Funding Acceptance Criteria.**When deciding to accept funding, the Board and Executive Producer must be able to demonstrate that they have acted in the best interests of the organisation and its beneficiaries. That association with a funder does not compromise Rendez-Vous dance Ltd’ ethical position, harm its reputation or put future funding opportunities at risk.

The Organisation complies with all relevant legislation, including money laundering rules, the Bribery Act and legal guidance on terrorism and political activity.

Rendez-Vous dance Ltd would not accept any funding, where it:

* was known to be associated with criminal sources and/or illegal activity.
* would help further a funder’s personal objectives which conflict with those of the organisation.
* would lead to a possible decline in support for Rendez-Vous dance Ltd, damaging its long term fundraising prospects.
* would impact adversely on the organisation’s reputation.
* is not aligned with government policy.

**Purchasing**
On occasion Rendez-Vous dance Ltd needs to purchase goods and/or services to support the delivery of its activity. The organisation will not knowingly purchase goods and/or services produced under conditions which involve any form of abuse or exploitation of third parties.

Evidence of such abuse and exploitation includes:

* Use of child labour
* Failure to pay employees a living wage.
* working hours are excessive.
* Evidence of inhuman, unreasonable or discriminatory treatment of employees

All suppliers must accept responsibility for labour and environmental conditions under which their products and services are made and provided.

**Closing statement**Rendez-Vous dance Ltd recognises that, in accepting funding from statutory bodies, it must consider the policy implications and obligations that might be tied to this agreement and ensure that these do not contravene the aims of the organisation.

Rendez-Vous dance Ltd can seek to raise funds from a series of corporate and charitable trusts and foundations. The organisation recognises that simply because a funder has been registered with the Charity Commission, this does not mean that they are ethical givers.

Rendez-Vous dance Ltd will not accept funding from any organisation (charitable or otherwise) if it is a requirement of grant receipt to advertise or promote an organisation whose activities run contrary to Rendez-Vous dance Ltd’ aims.

Rendez-Vous dance Ltd will maintain accountability and open and honest relationships with all funding partners by regularly monitoring and evaluating its work.

This policy is a working guide for the organisation and those who fundraise/seek out fundraising opportunities on behalf of Rendez-Vous ance Ltd. Any final decisions are governed by the Board and Executive Director. It is the duty of the Board and Executive Director to advise of any potential conflicts of interest with regards to funding or partnerships, and to act in the best interests of the organisation at all times.

**Contact**

**Rendez-Vous Dance Ltd Executive Director**Name: Phil Douglas

**Chair of the Board**

Name TBC

**This policy should be read alongside:**

* Rendez-Vous dance Ltd Equality, Diversity, Inclusion & Representation Policy

**This policy has been informed by** Arts Fundraising & Philanthropy.

https://artsfundraising.org.uk