

Trustee board member – counselling and trauma lead

We are looking for a trustee to join our board with professional experience in fundraising, income generation, philanthropy, corporate partnerships or a closely related field.

Rehabit is a small charity that provides free counselling and peer support for people who are struggling with drugs or alcohol and who have no or limited funds. Our ability to maintain and develop those services depends on securing sustainable funding from a range of sources, including trusts and foundations, individual donors, corporate supporters and other funding partners.

Apart from a part-time CEO and part-time service delivery manager, we are a volunteer-led charity. We are therefore particularly interested in trustees who can bring specialist expertise and, where possible, take a more active role than a traditional trustee position. This is ideal but not essential.

The trustee will help shape the direction of a small, personal and developing charity with a strong platform to build on. Rehabit was recently awarded Cranfield Trust's Journey to Excellence award and presented to their patron, HRH The Princess Royal.

Role purpose

The trustee will sit on the board and act as board lead for fundraising and income generation.

This is not a day-to-day fundraising role. The purpose is to help the board take a more strategic approach to income generation, understand funding risks and opportunities, strengthen our case for support and support the CEO in developing a more sustainable and diverse funding base.

Key duties

- Actively engaging with all the governance and legal responsibilities of a trustee.
- Being part of our board of trustees and participating in our monthly board meeting by video and occasional face-to-face catch-ups.
- Acting as board lead for fundraising, income generation and related sustainability matters.
- Helping the board maintain a clear understanding of Rehabit's funding position, pipeline, risks and opportunities.
- Supporting the CEO and board to develop and review fundraising priorities and strategy.
- Helping identify realistic opportunities across trusts and foundations, individual giving, corporate support and unrestricted funding.
- Providing advice and challenge on significant funding bids, approaches and cases for support.
- Helping Rehabit strengthen how it communicates its impact and value to potential funders and supporters.
- Using professional knowledge and networks, where appropriate, to identify opportunities and open doors.
- Helping ensure that fundraising supports Rehabit's strategy and purpose rather than allowing funding opportunities to drive the organisation in the wrong direction.
- Working alongside the CEO and other trustees while maintaining the appropriate distinction between governance and operational delivery.
- Jointly sharing responsibility for the overall strategy, direction and growth of the charity.

Commitment

Around three hours a month for the board meeting: two hours for the meeting and around one hour to read reports and papers.

There may also be occasional additional time to advise on fundraising strategy, significant bids, funding opportunities, donor approaches or organisational development. This is likely to vary depending on need.

Qualifications and experience

We are looking for someone with professional experience in one or more of the following areas:

- Charity fundraising
- Trusts and foundations
- Major donors or individual giving
- Corporate partnerships
- Philanthropy
- Fundraising strategy or income diversification
- Business development within the charity or voluntary sector

The ideal candidate will have at least three years' relevant professional experience. Experience of fundraising for a small charity, health or social care organisation, community organisation or organisation supporting people with complex needs would be especially helpful.

A formal fundraising qualification would be welcome, but we are equally interested in applicants with strong practical experience of securing income, developing funding relationships or helping organisations build a more sustainable funding base.

Key skills

As well as the ability to self-organise, the candidate should be able to demonstrate:

- Strong fundraising or income-generation experience.
- An understanding of what funders and donors look for.
- The ability to assess opportunities realistically and prioritise effort.
- Strategic thinking.
- Decision-making.
- Direction-setting.
- Leadership.
- Good communication and relationship-building skills.
- Teamwork and the ability to contribute constructively to a small board.
- An understanding of the distinction between board oversight and operational delivery.
- An interest in helping a small charity become more financially resilient and sustainable.

About Rehabit

Rehabit provides free counselling and peer support for those who are struggling with drugs or alcohol and who have no or limited funds. We are a small, agile and personal charity that provides a non-judgemental, quick intervention and free service, with lived experience and abstinence at its heart.

We complement the work of larger drug and alcohol services by helping those who are in danger of falling through the cracks in society or who are stuck in the system. We believe those who benefit from our services are often people who need extra time, tolerance, patience and care to get the help they need.

Our services are primarily for clients in Islington and Camden, but we also cover Haringey, Barnet and Enfield. We work closely with statutory-funded bodies and the voluntary and community sector on the frontline to receive referrals. We also take referrals directly from people within the community.