



JEANS FOR GENES TRUSTEES (X 3) – VOLUNTARY (UNPAID) POSITIONS

RECRUITMENT INFORMATION

Jeans for Genes is a dynamic, fresh and exciting organisation that aims to provide understanding and support for the genetic condition community by raising awareness and providing essential grants to small charities and emerging patient groups who are focused on changing the lives of individuals and the 10% of families living with genetic conditions.

Our approach is human, we appreciate the strengths and achievements, as well as the challenges that families and individuals face, and work collaboratively so that the individual charities achieve their own goals. Beyond this, by deploying a collective voice, with a 'can do' attitude, and working to educate and inform schools, organisations and individuals, Jeans for Genes is driving society-wide awareness of the challenges of genetic conditions and the need for support and inclusion.

We are at an incredibly exciting stage of our development, having recently established ourselves as a new charity. From our strong history as an annual fundraising campaign that attracts schools, businesses and individuals to take part in the annual 'Jeans for Genes' campaign, we aim to diversify our income sources, achieve an all year-round impact and test and try new ways of working. We aren't shy of being innovative and fully inclusive in how we operate!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR THREE NEW TRUSTEES TO JOIN OUR GROWING BOARD WHO SHARE OUR:

- **Vision** of a society where people with genetic conditions and their families are supported, valued and included.
- **Mission** To drive towards society-wide understanding, acceptance and inclusion of people with genetic conditions by raising awareness, providing essential grants and championing collaboration.
- **Values** of empathy, collaboration, compassion, transparency, and appreciating difference.
- **Culture** of listening, empowerment, trust, mutual benefit, accountability and responsibility to meaningful impact.
- **Focus** on team work and consensus building, without being afraid to critically challenge or question. Striving for better, rather than best.
- **Healthy appetite for risk** that allows us to continue to be agile and responsive to what we hear and learn from the individuals and charities that we work with. We aim to try and test new approaches and ways of working so being able to balance the promise of rigour with the flexibility of innovation is something we're excited to support.





OUR CURRENT BOARD

We currently have strong skills on our Board of five that include legal, corporate, commercial, innovation, investment and direct experience of the genetic condition community. We are committed to building and sustaining an equitable and inclusive Board culture – something that we recognise is an ongoing commitment. Our Board's strength will lie in ensuring that we reflect a unique range of experiences and perspectives.

We are now looking for three new Trustees to join us to help us to achieve our mission. The kinds of skills and aptitudes we are looking for are as follows:

- A passion for celebrating the strengths and achievements of the genetic condition community as well as the challenges people face.
- An interest in contributing to or learning how, as a grant giver, we can increase our impact and reach to small, less heard and represented charities and groups.
- An interest in exploring new and innovative ways to achieve impact, particularly through the use of digital.
- Some personal experience of the charity sector and/or the kinds of issues that people and families living with genetic conditions face.
- The ability to both communicate and listen to the different views and unique experiences of fellow Board members and the voices of people we aim to support.
- Commitment to principles of diversity, equity and inclusion.

GENERAL DUTIES

The general duties that all Trustees share include:

- Setting and overseeing our strategic aims, objectives and direction ensuring the long-term sustainability and impact of the organisation.
- Making sure the finances of the organisation are robust and sufficiently managed to ensure we can deliver against our strategic objectives and grow in a way to meet our vision.
- Overseeing our risk management processes.

In particular, we are keen to find trustees who have direct experience of at least one of the following:

- **Charity finance, accounting and risk**- we are looking for someone who can take on the role of Treasurer and play an active role in our new finance sub-committee.
- **A background in clinical genetics**, either as a geneticist, genomics nurse or genetic counsellor who has a direct and empathetic link with the families and individuals from the genetic condition community. We are looking for someone who can play an active role in our grant making panel.
- **Digital communication and income generation.** We are looking for someone who can actively contribute and support our income generation working group.





As part of our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion we actively encourage candidates from under-represented communities, individuals with lived experience of the issues we work on, and first-time trustees who may not have considered themselves for this kind of role.

If you are considering a Trusteeship for the first time and wondering whether it's for you, 'Getting on Board' has some great free resources [For aspiring trustees](#) | [Getting on Board](#)

COMMITMENT

We are a fully remote organisation with no physical buildings. As such, the majority of meetings take place online.

We are a new charity so meetings are currently every two months for two hours, with the aim of moving to quarterly once the organisation is more established.

Strategy sessions may be up to twice a year and at least one may be face to face. These have so far been in Central London and the future location and timings will be flexible based on the locations, commitments and access requirements of our team and Board members.

Subcommittee meetings and working groups will likely be shorter, virtual and as they are new, terms of reference will be open for negotiation to ensure participation works for everyone.

We are asking for a minimum 3-year commitment, with a view to extending for a further 3-year term if desired and appropriate.

The Trustee positions are voluntary (unpaid) however expenses for travel will be reimbursed for any in person meetings.

HOW TO APPLY

If you are interested, please submit a CV and cover letter expressing interest and what you feel you could bring to our Board to **Charles.Martin@jeansforgenes.org**.

We welcome other application formats should these work better for you i.e. recorded video.

We welcome candidates regardless of age, race, ethnicity, sex, gender reassignment, religion, disability, socioeconomic status, or any protected characteristic. We actively value diversity in the board and believe the board should reflect the diversity of modern Britain in all of its forms.

