

JEANS FOR GENES GRANT PANEL MEMBERS - 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 two new Grant Panel members 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 understanding, inclusivity, responsiveness and respect.
- **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.



ABOUT THE JEANS FOR GENES GRANT PROGRAMME

The annual Jeans for Genes fundraising event that takes place in September, encourages people to wear their jeans to school or to work on a specific day in exchange for a small donation.

Small charities and groups that work with people in the genetic condition community are then offered the opportunity to apply for support through our grants programme.

Our extraordinary charity partners put the money raised by Jeans for Genes fundraisers to work to change the lives of those across the UK with a genetic condition.

We have launched a new grant strategy in response to what we heard and experienced by working alongside charities and groups during Covid-19. Moving from one grant funding round to a year-round income generator and grant giver will also add a new dynamic to our funding approach.

ROLE OF GRANT PANEL AND COMMITMENT

We are looking for two individuals to join us as part of our grant panel who can commit for a year or two, as we are keen to listen, learn and evolve together.

The Panel will normally meet by video conference at a minimum of four times a year, and at other times as necessary, to fit in with the timetable of our funding programmes and development of new initiatives.

The Jeans for Genes team will carry out initial eligibility and due diligence checks on applications for funding. Grant Panel members will then be expected to read, review and evaluate all applications and score these against the assessment criteria. They may also be asked to participate in the interviewing of applicants if necessary. At the panel meeting applications will be discussed, all scores will be collated and grant awards made.

We anticipate that panel membership will involve 1.5 days' work per round to read applications and attend the panel meeting and all reasonable expenses will be reimbursed.

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SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE

Jeans for Genes wishes to recruit two new members to our grant panel. We are particularly keen to hear from applicants who either:

- have a good knowledge and understanding of the issues affecting individuals and families living with a genetic condition. This may be a result of their own lived experience or due to working/volunteering within the genetic condition community;

and/or

- have knowledge and experience of grant giving and the third sector, in particular the types of organisations that support those with a genetic condition.

Grant Panel members should also be able to demonstrate:

- the ability to give detailed, constructive and, where necessary, critical feedback on grant applications
- good, independent judgement, a working knowledge of organisational and project budgets and an ability to think creatively
- an understanding of the responsibilities of their position

HOW TO APPLY

If you would like to have an informal discussion about this opportunity before applying, please contact Danielle Singleton, Jeans for Genes Community and Grants Officer:

danielle.singleton@jeansforgenes.org

To apply, please provide a personal statement on one page that outlines:

- Why you are interested in this role.
- What skills and experience you would bring to the role, specifically addressing the criteria listed above.

Please then send your statement to: Danielle Singleton, Jeans for Genes Community and Grants Officer:

danielle.singleton@jeansforgenes.org

The deadline for applications is **Monday 1 August** and shortlisted applicants will be invited to an informal online interview shortly thereafter.

We anticipate that our new grant panel members will be appointed by the end of September and the first grant panel meeting will take place in November.

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