

Cattanach Trustees, with Early Years/Charity Expertise

Details

Daily Rate: Voluntary/Unremunerated

Time Commitment: about 10-12 days per year

Line Management: Chair

Background

Are you passionate about making a difference for very young children and their families? Research has shown that strong attachment and nurturing relationships during the first years of life have the highest chances of building resilience and improving lifelong outcomes. Therefore, any investment made during these first years of a child's life will have the highest impact – it is about prevention over intervention. We at Cattanach strongly believe this is how we can make the biggest difference for the public good with the endowment we have been entrusted with. The COVID 19 pandemic is bringing long-standing inequalities to the forefront and we are more determined than ever to make a difference to very young children and their families here in Scotland.

Our grants support organisations that help families with children from pre-birth to about three years of age to form strong relationships with those in their closest circles - parents, grandparents, siblings and carers – and enjoy a happy and healthy early childhood. In particular, we want to foster **strong attachment, build resilience, improve family mental health** and work towards **prevention** over waiting until things are broken. You can find more information in our [2020 Stepping Stone Strategy](#). We also work with partners in the voluntary, public and private sectors to jointly achieve the [National Outcome for children and young people](#):

"We grow up loved, safe and respected so that we realise our full potential."

Together, we want to drive positive change for very young children in Scotland and hope to strengthen our support for frontline organisations. For more information on our work, please visit our [website](#) (you can find our Constitution [here](#)).

Trustee Profile

We are looking for one or more Trustees to join our Board at this exciting time, who would also become part of our Grants Committee.

Over the last three years, we have been growing as a funder and as an organisation, with a highly skilled team, fruitful and productive partnerships, and a strong commitment to being a strategic as well as a successful grassroots funder.

Cattanach welcomes applications from individuals in the private, voluntary and public sectors. We are particularly interested to hear from individuals with experience and expertise in one of the following areas:

- * Early Years Practice and Pedagogy
- * Early Years Education
- * Researchers and/or Policy professionals with a specialisation in the Early Years
- * Social work with Early Years focus
- * Childhood development
- * Clinical staff with a practice in infant and/or perinatal mental health
- * Charity Sector experience

Our Chief Executive, Dr Sophie Flemig will be delighted to have an informal chat with you to provide further information; please contact her via Becca (becca@cattanach.org.uk).

We ask that all candidates demonstrate their understanding and commitment to the four [Cattanach values](#):

- * **INTEGRITY** – We strive to be fair, ethical and accountable.
- * **LOVE** – We recognise the importance of nurturing relationships, with kindness and compassion at the heart of all our work.
- * **CONSIDERATION** – We are mindful of the challenges, hopes and aspirations of others.
- * **HOPE** – We are passionate about enabling change through our work with partners and the organisations we support.

Time Commitment

As Trustee with Cattanach, you will attend four Board meetings per year and be a member of at least one of our Committees, each of which meet four times a year. Meetings tend to be held in Edinburgh or Glasgow, and dial-in via video-conference is possible.

We ask Trustees to accompany staff on at least one project visit every year and to partake in a one-day Strategy Seminar in the autumn. The total time commitment for a Cattanach Trustee is about 10-12 days per year, including reading and preparation time, all meetings (Board and Committee) and individual/Board development. About 60% of this time can be organised flexibly while 40% is reserved for meetings as a Board.

Application Process

To apply, we would like to ask you to submit an **up-to-date CV** as well as our **application form**, which asks you to provide us with the **names and contact details of two referees** (personal and/or professional) and a **personal statement of up to 1,000 words**. The **closing date is 3rd May 2022**.

Shortlisted candidates will be asked to attend an interview with some of our current Trustees. Details of the panel will be provided closer to the time.

If you have any questions about the role or the application process, please contact our Chief Executive, Dr Sophie Flemig via becca@cattanach.org.uk.