

Make a difference in the lives of people seeking sanctuary

BECOME A TRUSTEE

Are you passionate about birth rights and positive birth experiences?

At The Birth Partner Project, our vision is that no woman or birthing person should face birth alone.

The Birth Partner Project provides volunteer birth partners who work in small teams to offer support and friendship to women and birthing people seeking sanctuary. Our volunteers work with people in the latter stages of pregnancy, throughout labour and birth, and the first eight weeks postpartum. We also run a weekly drop-in meeting, which builds social support and friendship between mama's.

We are currently making big strides to develop our small charity so it's fit for the future, focusing on excellence, sustainability and growth. We are looking for dynamic and committed new trustees to join our superb existing team.

The Birth Partner Project is very committed to increasing the diversity of our Board of Trustees. We are particularly welcoming applications from people with lived experience of the asylum process.

For more information about the charity visit www.birthpartnerproject.org and you can find our 2023 impact report [here](#).

How to Apply

Submit a CV and covering letter of maximum 2 A4 pages to bec@birthpartnerproject.org

If you'd value a conversation before applying, please email bec@birthpartnerproject.org to arrange a phone call

There is no closing date for this round of recruitment, as we are welcoming and reviewing applications on a rolling basis. However, we encourage you to contact us as soon as possible, if you are interested.

Key details & commitments

- This is a voluntary role, and is unpaid. All reasonable expenses will be reimbursed to enable your participation
- We ask our trustees to commit to 12 meetings per annum (monthly) plus additional extraordinary meetings and ad-hoc communication/events as necessary. Many of these engagements will be online, although some are in-person. We are based in Cardiff
- The usual term (time spent in the role) for one of our trustees is 3 years

What we're looking for

At The Birth Partner Project, the way we do our work is an important and integral part of the work itself. We are committed to providing culturally safe and trauma informed support, lifting the voices of the women and birthing people we work with. We are looking for trustees who can commit to reflective, considered, and respectful practice.

Some of the key areas of expertise we are seeking for our board are:

- Understanding and/or lived experience of the UK asylum system
- Understanding and/or lived experience of maternity care in Wales, particularly midwifery
- Knowledge and expertise in financial management, particularly in a small charity
- Experience of fundraising, particularly achieving diversification of income for sustainable growth
- Understanding of what good governance looks like in a UK charity, and how to achieve it
- Expertise in people management, HR and organisational development
- Understanding and/or expertise in measuring impact
- Skills and expertise in communications and marketing, particularly using social media
- Frontline experience of services which involve consideration of safeguarding, and the assessment and mitigation of risk
- Digital skills, including digital development for efficiency and future-focused services

What we expect of our trustees

In addition to the skills, experience and knowledge we are specifically seeking for the board at this time, all our trustees are expected to demonstrate the following behaviours

- Actively listening to the women and birthing people we work with, centring their voices and respecting their experience
- Commitment to and passion for The Birth Partner Project
- Working effectively as a member of a team
- Communicating effectively (in a timely and considered manner, mindful of audience)
- Making sound, independent judgements which have put the interests of the women and birthing people we support at the heart of all decision-making
- Thinking creatively, proactively and with optimism that we can create change
- Taking the time and responsibility to understand and undertake the legal duties, responsibilities, and liabilities of trusteeship
- Actively making time for the work of the trustee role, and giving it proper attention

What will you be doing, as a trustee?

Trustees are not responsible for the operational work of our charity. We have a small and excellent team who manage things on a day-to-day basis. Our trustees are responsible for scrutiny and strategic oversight, to ensure that we operate effectively and in line with our charitable objects.

The work you do as a trustee will include:

- Guiding our team and helping to make decisions which affect our organisational structure, fundraising pipeline, and reach into the future
- Developing our strategy on an ongoing basis, reflecting on our ability to sustainably support the objectives of our charity and secure its long term future
- Ensuring we have set a clear vision, mission and strategic direction and that our aspirations are aligned with our budgets and operational plans
- Scrutinising activity to ensure compliance with legal and regulatory requirements
- Ensuring we pursue our objects as defined in our governing document and apply our resources in pursuance of our objects;
- Providing oversight to ensure we are effectively evaluating our performance against goals and targets
- Scrutinising and robustly testing the resilience of our financial management

Engaging directly with the work we do

We encourage all our trustees to get involved with the work we do outside of board meetings. This might mean attending an event to promote the work of the charity, delivering some of our volunteer training programme, or participating in interview panels for new team members.

Staying connected to the experiences of the women and birthing people we support is really important. We will create all opportunities to help our trustees stay connected.