



THE CARES FAMILY

NEW TRUSTEE POSITIONS

Up to five positions open	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Treasurer2. Trustee (People/HR specialist)3. Trustee (Campaigns and communications specialist)4. Trustee (Safeguarding specialist)5. Trustee (Entrepreneur)
Location	Liverpool, Manchester or London
Costs	This is a voluntary position, but reasonable expenses will be covered for travel

The Cares Family is an anti-racist, anti-discriminatory organisation. We particularly welcome applications from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic people, people with disabilities and people from lower income and diverse educational backgrounds who may be under-represented in our organisation. In addition, we are particularly seeking trustees in Liverpool and Manchester.

ABOUT THE CARES FAMILY

The Cares Family's mission is to **help people find connection in a disconnected age**. Our objectives are to **reduce loneliness and isolation; improve people's connection**, belonging, purpose and power in a rapidly changing world; and **bring people together** to reduce social, generational, digital, cultural and attitudinal divides.

Over the last 11 years our model has grown from a tiny idea in a single place into a national leader. Combined, North London Cares (founded in 2011), South London Cares (2014), Manchester Cares (2017), Liverpool Cares (2018) and East London Cares (2019), have connected some **26,000 older and younger neighbours** to share over **1 million interactions** and **250,000 hours**.

Those relationships have had a dramatic impact. 98% of young people involved say they have a **stronger connection to the community** and **98% say they are able to contribute** in new ways. 73% of older people involved say their **isolation is reduced**; 86% are better **able to appreciate the changing world**; and 77% say their **relations with young people have improved**. Neighbours report feeling a deeper sense of belonging, and **'part of something bigger'** than their own lives.

But as the **pandemic** has shown, loneliness is not just a **personal crisis**; it's also a broader **public health crisis** and a national **political crisis**. It affects millions of people – from people working from home or cooped up in university halls, to new parents; middle aged men to digitally savvy teenagers; LGBTQIA+ people to new migrants. In fact, those who are **already marginalised in society experience its consequences the most**.

This matters deeply, because loneliness causes depression, anxiety, strokes and heart attacks. In a world in which people are increasingly withdrawing from one another and spending less time with people who are not 'like them' it is also contributing to wider **inequity, stereotyping, polarisation and othering** – and the national narratives that perpetuate those separations.

The Cares Family has been improving **individual** lives and community togetherness for more than a decade, and more recently we've been growing our work to **challenge systemic and cultural norms** that drive disconnection too – through new projects, storytelling and campaigns that are rapidly increasing the profile of our work to help make more lasting change.

In 2018, the then Prime Minister launched the government's first ever loneliness strategy at a Cares Family social club. The same year, our CEO was appointed one of **20 inaugural Obama Fellows**, bringing global attention to the issues of loneliness and disconnection and the work we are doing at

The Cares Family to reduce them. We have received coverage in The Economist, The Times, The Guardian, The Telegraph and on BBC1's News at Ten and Channel 4 News.

With the arrival of the pandemic, **loneliness and disconnection are better understood than ever and empathy for people experiencing them has increased**. The Cares Family therefore has an opportunity to make an even bigger difference in the years ahead. Our current three-year strategy to achieve that is threefold:

- **Consolidate operations** to ensure we make the biggest impact possible with our resources.
- **Go deeper with our existing local intergenerational communities** to make the biggest difference we can in people's lives.
- **Spur a national ripple effect across the UK** by sharing what we have learnt to help others to develop initiatives connecting their own communities in their own ways, and to help influence broader systemic, cultural and public behaviour change.

ABOUT YOU

We are looking for:

- **A Treasurer** – someone with expertise in supporting the financial management and growth of a complex organisation or charity. The ideal candidate will have an accountancy qualification and experience of the audit process, either professionally or in a previous charity treasurer role.
- **A campaigns and/or communications specialist** – someone with experience making an impact with systems, government or businesses through strategic, inclusive campaigns.
- **A People/HR specialist** – someone with experience of employment law, policy and practice and who knows how to get the best out of people.
- **A leader with a background in entrepreneurship and start-ups** – someone with significant experience in establishing or supporting the growth of start-up organisations or teams.
- **People from diverse backgrounds** particularly with regards to age, race, class, gender, disability and experience – who can help us deepen our inclusion work.
- **People living in or from the communities we are rooted in (especially Manchester and Liverpool) or those with first-hand experience of loneliness and isolation** – who will bring local insight, networks and an understanding of the issues we address.

All Trustees will:

- Work collectively with the CEO to set the strategic direction of The Cares Family
- Scrutinise operational and delivery decisions
- Support The Cares Family to achieve the best value for funders and our communities
- Ensure good governance and financial management and planning
- Carry out all fiduciary duties
- Bring their own time, energy and networks to support The Cares Family's progress.

Time commitment

- Trustees at The Cares Family are appointed for an initial term of four years, with the option for one more consecutive term of four years.
- You will attend four Board meetings plus one strategy Away Day per year.
- As a result of the pandemic, Board meetings have recently been held remotely. We now expect to return to in-person Board meetings. These will typically take place in London. Reasonable expenses to cover the cost of travel to/from Board meetings will be covered.
- Trustees are invited to attend our events including social clubs with younger and older neighbours, fundraising events and other meetings and/or events as appropriate.

The role of Trustee is a voluntary position and not accompanied by any financial remuneration. To apply, please send a CV and cover note (maximum 2 pages) to pollyannebalsom@gmail.com explaining your suitability for our one or more of our Trustee roles, **by Friday 12 August 2022**. Shortlisted candidates will initially be invited to meet The Cares Family's Interim Chair, CEO and at least one other Trustee. We are aiming to appoint new Trustees by September 2022.