

Background:

Founded in 2005 Yorkshire Yoga is a small, well-established health and wellbeing charity based in Knaresborough. We provide a variety of high-quality exercise, therapy and well-being activities from our fully accessible studio and across our community via outreach projects.

Our motto is Accessible to All. We believe the benefits of Yoga, Wellbeing activity and Mindfulness should be available to all; irrespective of ability, age or experience, situation or finances when people need help the most.

We work hard to address health inequalities and improve the everyday lives of our patrons and provide an opportunity to build friendships, support networks and a community with like-minded people.

Trustee Role:

Yorkshire Yoga and Therapy Centre is seeking to appoint a number of Trustees to join our established board. We are looking for positive and enthusiastic people who between them, can bring a broad range of relevant skills and experience from a business or charity environment to enhance our existing team. You will play a pivotal role in helping to set the strategic direction for our organisation; holding management to account and ensuring we are delivering the best possible service for our patrons. This will be a challenging but rewarding role as we work as a team to navigate through the difficult transition of re-opening our Centre after being closed throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Centre's priority is now to deliver results in the new landscape post pandemic. It therefore needs to further develop its Board capability to ensure that the full range of backgrounds and perspectives are in place for the crucial implementation phase over the next 6 months as the Centre changes, develops and expands its methods of service delivery. Ordinarily a Trustee meeting would be held monthly; however, meetings are currently weekly over the next 6 months due to the pace of change expected as a result of COVID-19.

All of our Trustees are encouraged to be as involved as possible with the charity (depending on their personal commitments and available time) to guide and assist the CEO with operational responsibilities and by continually raising awareness of the Charity and its objectives through extensive partnership working with local businesses, charities and other stakeholders.

In addition the Trustees will support the CEO in:

- Ensuring that the organisation pursues its stated objects (purposes), as defined in its governing document, by developing and agreeing a long-term strategy
- Ensuring that the organisation complies with its governing document (ie its trust deed, constitution or memorandum and articles of association), charity law, company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations
- Ensuring that the organisation applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its charitable objects (ie the charity must not spend money on activities that are not included in its own objects, however worthwhile or charitable those activities are) for the benefit of the public
- Ensuring that the organisation defines its goals and evaluates performance against agreed targets
- Safeguarding the good name and values of the organisation
- Ensuring the effective and efficient administration of the organisation, including having appropriate policies and procedures in place

- Ensuring the financial stability of the organisation
- Protecting and managing the property of the charity and ensuring the proper investment of the charity's funds
- Following proper and formal arrangements for the appointment, supervision, support, appraisal and remuneration of the chief executive (if the charity employs staff)

Experience needed for the role:

No specific qualifications are required however an interest in health and wellbeing and experience in any one of the following areas will extremely beneficial:

- Experience in financial management and oversight gained at a senior management level
- Senior operational leadership or management experience in a business or charity environment
- Experience in Marketing, Communications and Stakeholder engagement; gained in a business or charity environment
- Previous and demonstrable Trustee or Board level experience

Skills and attributes needed for the role:

- A willingness to devote the necessary time and effort
- Enthusiasm and interest
- Strategic vision
- Good, independent judgement
- An ability to think creatively
- A willingness to speak their mind positively and supportively
- An understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship
- An ability to work effectively as a member of a team
- A commitment to the seven principles of public life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership

Practical information:

Regular meetings with the CEO and/or the board will take place either via Zoom or in-person at our purpose-built studio in Halfpenny Close (once re-open) which is conveniently located 10 minutes away from Knaresborough Bus Station and connected by the 1C regular bus route. Car parking is available.

Applications:

Applications should consist of a full Curriculum Vitae detailing professional qualifications and experience and should be accompanied by a covering letter describing briefly how you meet the recruitment criteria above; why the appointment is of interest and what you believe you can bring to the role. To arrange an informal discussion prior to submitting your CV please contact our Chair Monica Uden on monicauden@btinternet.com as soon as possible.