

# Many Minds

## Trustee Recruitment Pack



### About us

Many Minds is a Bristol based mental health charity that facilitate creative spaces and make performance with people managing their mental health. We work with individuals to engage with their creativity, improve confidence, self-esteem and build social skills and networks. We run workshops in theatre making skills to devise and create high quality contemporary performance.

Many Minds main employees are Olivia Ware (Director) and Viki Browne (Artistic Director).

As a result of successful fundraising initiatives, we have also been able to employ some temporary part-time project staff including an Assistant Producer, Development Worker and a Communications Intern (through a University of Bristol scheme).

Many Minds was constituted by the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation CIO in November 2017. We are still in our first year of operation but have already experienced rapid growth. We have worked in schools, secure mental health units and with a diverse range of partners including St Mungos, 1625 Independent People, Cardboard Citizens, Wyldwood Arts and Bristol Homeless Forum. We have also worked with Bristol Old Vic, Theatre Bristol, Watershed, The Wardrobe and Bristol Harbour Festival. We are currently working towards our fifth production.

Our funders include Arts Council England, Big Lottery, Quartet Foundation, Bristol City Council and People's Health Trust. We have also raised charity funds through consultancy work, individual donors and fundraising events.

### The Future

We are in the process of developing our three year strategy and new Board members will have input in to this process. Over the next year, we will be working on a large scale project that has a focus on diversifying our membership and have a big focus on engaging BAME (Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic) and refugee and asylum seeker groups. We particularly welcome people from BAME backgrounds to apply for Board positions. We are also looking to expand our consultancy work with arts organisations around mental health access and engage more with businesses over the next year.



*Many Minds members and volunteers at the Galleries at our launch on the 'Most Depressing Day of the Year'*

## Why Join Us?

This is an exciting time to join a small and dynamic organisation and help to shape the next phase of development. Our members are a huge source of inspiration and drive for Many Minds as an organisation and for everyone involved.

We welcome ideas and input from Board members and we offer training, support and development within your role on the Board.

***“It stops me feeling isolated and depressed. My favourite thing about it is losing myself in laughter. It is so much fun.” - Member***

***“It has helped me come out my shell a lot and embrace who I am and my mental health” - Member***



***Members Sarah and Tyler talk about Many Minds on Ujima Radio***

## The role of a trustee

The trustee role is a voluntary position that helps oversee the running of a charity. The role requires between 5-10 hours each month. We have official meetings quarterly in Bristol that last for up to 3 hours and an Annual General Meeting (AGM) once a year. These meetings may require additional time for preparatory reading supporting documents for presentation. We also run monthly informal check in meet ups that are usually an hour long and have will have an annual Board away day. There will be occasional further opportunities for attending Many Minds activities and for personal development and trustee training. Many Minds cover out of pocket expenses for Board Members.

Trustees are elected to serve for a three year period. At every AGM those who have served three years shall retire from office or stand for re- election. Trustees can serve for a maximum of period of three terms (ie 9 years). As a member led organisation, we positively encourage our members to stand for election.



***Many Minds Artistic Director, Viki being ‘put back together’ by a pupil from Gateway School after her performance of HELP! about her own experiences of mental illness.***

## What we are looking for

We are looking for a wide range of skills and experience including (but not limited to):

- Experience in theatre / arts
- Experience and understanding of mental health (including personal experience)
- Experience in social sector
- Legal skills
- Finance skills
- Business Development
- HR experience.

Trustees are not expected to be experts in every field, but they have a duty to take advice when they are not confident about taking a decision.

Here is also a link to 'The Good Trustee Guide' produced by NCVO to provide further information about being a trustee. <https://www.ncvo.org.uk/accessible-guides>

## Current Board

**Joanna Smith** (Chair -Actress)

**Dr Anna Harpin** (Academic and Theatre Maker)

**Doreen Johnson** (Tax advisor at HMRC)

**Dr Clare Short** (CAMHS Psychiatrist)

## How to apply

The recruitment process will be a two way process to make sure that you are the right fit for Many Minds and that we are the right fit for you.

If you are interested in applying, please send us some background information about yourself and why you are interested in the role to [info@many-minds.org](mailto:info@many-minds.org). Also please specify if you would be interested in one of the specific roles we have advertised (Treasurer, Vice-Chair or Secretary). If

we both agree to progress this further, you will be invited for an informal conversation with a trustee and staff member. You will be invited to attend one of our activities or events so you can meet our members.

The next stage would be to observe a Board meeting. If the process has gone well, and you still wish to be on the Board, in line with our charitable constitution, the current Board members will make a decision.

Please get in touch if you have any access needs for the application process or wish to discuss anything about the role further. ([info@many-minds.org](mailto:info@many-minds.org) / 07843 210272).



*Djemila, one of our many dedicated volunteers helping out for our production of Side Walk at Harbour Festival*



*Team of Many Minds Nightrider cyclist raised over £9,000 riding 100km through London over-night .*