



Trustee Recruitment pack

Welcome

Hello! My name is Angharad Thomas, and I've been lucky enough to be a trustee of Music in Hospitals & Care for almost five years. I'm so proud to hold this role. The work carried out by this charity is quite frankly amazing.

The Trustees have overall responsibility for the charity - we're volunteers from a range of backgrounds, from professional musicians, lawyers, accountants, an intensive care consultant, and in my own case a communications professional. We bring our skills and experience to advise, support and make sure the charity carries out its purposes for the public benefit. Whatever our different backgrounds, the one thing we all have in common is our passion for the work that Music in Hospitals & Care does every day. Many of us have witnessed the impact of what we do at first hand.

I can promise you that being a trustee for this wonderful charity is not all hard work - I thoroughly enjoyed being part of a fundraising event singing carols under the Christmas tree in Trafalgar Square, with passing tourists joining in! It was a beautiful moment as our small choir, led by our wonderful musician Laura, handed out songbooks to quite a crowd and encouraged them all to sing.

It comes down to the simple truth that live music brings joy. If I think back to the greatest moments of my own life, live music features in them all. It brings people together in ways that not much else does.

If you read the stories on our website or follow us on social media, you'll find so many examples of how talented, sensitive live musicians have helped create connection between carers and those they care for, across all age groups and demographics for over 75 years.



Angharad

Hear from our musician Paul Kerr about his experiences of sharing live music with us:





About us

Music in Hospitals & Care is a charity that improves the health and wellbeing of children and adults through the healing power of live music.

Every year, our professional musicians share live music with people from across the UK, who may not otherwise get to experience it. This includes those living with dementia, who have mental health problems, or who are seriously ill.

We believe live music needs to be part of everyone's health and social care. Why? Because research shows that live music heals. It helps people feel relaxed and confident, and can relieve frustration, stress and isolation. Music can also reduce the perception of pain. It brings back memories and helps create new ones. When you move your body to music – even just tapping a finger – it's natural physiotherapy.

Our dedicated music team handpicks professional musicians through audition. They're chosen for their blend of musical talent, sensitivity and people skills. The live music experiences they create and share unlock all kinds of emotions – from joy to loss, pleasure to nostalgia.

Unlocking these emotions supports people's wellbeing. We see people interacting with our musicians by doing everything from smiling to getting up to dance or sing.

Live music can transform relationships between patients, families, healthcare professionals, residents and carers. When people enjoy music together, they feel more connected to each other, which leads to more personalised care.

Visit mihc.org.uk/what-we-do to find out more and watch our mission, vision and purpose video.

About the opportunity

It is an exciting time to join the Board of Music in Hospitals & Care, as we come to the end of a three year period of investment and hope to see the benefit of our new digital systems and changed ways of working. We believe this will help realise our long-term ambition **that people in hospitals and care enjoy a better quality of life and improved health outcomes.**

Our [Theory of Change](#) outlines how we work, what we do and the outcomes and impact we aim to achieve. It incorporates our vision **that everyone can access and experience the joy of live music**, and our purpose - **live music makes people feel more alive. It makes us human.** This vision and purpose create the blueprint from which we deliver our mission - **we take care to create connections and shared, meaningful live music experiences for people in hospitals and care.** You can read about our progress and recent achievements in [our latest annual report](#).

Joining [our Board](#) is an opportunity for strategically minded individuals to help shape our future. We are looking for people who will both support and challenge us, bringing new insights and energy to help us continue to deliver impact. We welcome applications from those who will bring fresh thinking and enthusiasm for our work, and we are looking to recruit individuals specifically with expertise in one of the following areas:

- Music industry: You might be a professional musician or someone with management experience within the music sector. Your sector insights could help expand our network, grow partnerships and broaden our profile.
- Fundraising: You might have experience in philanthropy and major donors or corporate partnerships. Your expertise could help us diversify our income in a sustainable way and realise the lifetime value of our current and prospective donors.

We welcome applications from people across the UK with relevant expertise and experience who have a passion for our cause, an interest in committee work and a willingness to get actively involved in helping to deliver our vision. You don't need to have experience as a trustee or being on a board before - we offer a comprehensive induction programme and training and development opportunities as appropriate.

We are committed to becoming an organisation which reflects society and promotes diversity and inclusion, and would particularly welcome applications from people who are currently under-represented on the Board, including disabled people, those from Black, Asian and other minority ethnic communities and people with lived experience of hospital or community care.

You can find out how to apply and about our information webinar and Q&A session at the end of this pack. If you have any questions in the meantime, please email hello@mihc.org.uk.



About the role

The Board of Trustees is responsible for establishing the essential purpose of Music in Hospitals & Care and for agreeing and safeguarding its vision and values.

Together, the Board of Trustees and the Chief Executive set our long-term strategy and monitor the delivery of its charitable objectives. The board also provides guidance, advice and support to the Chief Executive and the Senior Leadership Team. Meetings are normally held in London or online. The role is unpaid but reasonable travel and subsistence expenses are provided. It is likely that virtual meetings will remain a regular feature of the organisation in the future.

Main Responsibilities

As an individual trustee, you would be expected to:

- Develop a sound and up to date knowledge of Music in Hospitals & Care and the environment in which it operates;
- Regularly attend meetings of the full Board (at least 4 per annum plus training and strategy meetings) and any relevant sub committees, or provide apologies if absence is unavoidable;
- Fully prepare for meetings by reading papers, questioning what you don't understand and thinking through issues in good time before meetings;
- Actively engage in discussion, debate and voting in meetings by contributing positively, listening and challenging sensitively, while also acting jointly and accepting majority decisions;
- Use your specific skills or knowledge to provide specialised support or guidance to the Board and the Senior Leadership Team within your area of expertise. This may include assessing risks and opportunities in specific areas, enabling access to relevant networks and taking the lead in evaluating proposals that relate to your expertise;

- Occasionally travel to live music experiences to see the charity's work in action and help out at fundraising events in your local area.

As a member of the board you will also be required to work with fellow trustees and the various sub committees of the board to:

- Ensure the Charity complies with legislative and regulatory requirements and acts in accordance with its governing documents;
- Oversee sound financial management of the Charity's resources by ensuring that expenditure furthers the organisation's objectives and that investments are managed in accordance with accepted standards and policies;
- Establish and monitor policies to govern the management of the Charity;
- Appoint the Chief Executive and provide relevant support, guidance and management;
- Approve the Annual Report and Accounts;
- Contribute to the annual review by the board of its own performance.

Main qualities

Essential

- A passion for delivering our vision that live music is an integral part of health and care in all settings in the UK;
- Relevant knowledge and expertise;
- Ability to devote time and enthusiasm to the reading of papers and attendance at committee meetings;
- Ability to work as a team;
- We adhere to high safeguarding standards, and successful applicants will be required to undergo a basic criminal records check before taking up post.



Desirable

- An understanding or experience of board and/ or committee work;
- Experience of strategic business planning or working at a senior management/ leadership level;
- Ability to communicate ideas clearly;
- Access to relevant networks and contacts;
- Ability and willingness to act as an ambassador for Music in Hospitals & Care.

Terms of Office

Trustees are appointed for a three year term of office, with the option of renewal for two further terms to a maximum of nine years.

Amari's story



Manchester Sensory Support Service works with families of children with visual and hearing needs in Manchester from birth until they leave school. Music in Hospitals & Care musicians visit the babies and toddlers group in the community room at Asda Eastlands around once a month. Leah has been coming to the sessions with her 17 month old son, Amari, for over a year.

“Deaf and hearing impaired children being exposed to music, especially in this small group, is very important,” says Leah. “They can interact with and touch the instruments to feel the vibrations.”

“There was one little boy today who has only just had cochlear implants in. So he has not heard for the first 18 months of his life. He has been finding household noises like the vacuum cleaner quite frightening, but today with the music he loved every noise he heard,” says Linda Hoburn, Family Liaison Officer.

“Parents often struggle to keep hearing aids in as the children want to take them out and play with them. But when they are listening to the music, they aren't messing with them and really start to experience the benefit. And once they start using that hearing, their language and learning that have been delayed start to come on too.”

Leah: “Amari is very behind in speech compared to friends his age, who are already singing songs. He's just not quite at that level yet. But he loves the double bass, the maracas and the bells, so I do think he will be a little musician when he's older.”

Linda: “Parents have to go through lots of different emotions. They fear that their child will never lead a fully balanced life. So getting them into these groups is so important, as they get support from other parents who are also on that journey. And to have something special like the music to bring them together is wonderful.

It's the only time the children really engage with music. If you put it on the telly, or the radio, or sing it yourself, they might engage for a minute but quickly lose interest. When it's live music, they really start to listen and get so many benefits from it.”

Please visit mihc.org.uk/our-stories to watch the video of Amari's story and hear from more people who have benefitted from our live music.

How to apply:

Please follow the links to complete and submit our online [application form](#) and [equality and diversity monitoring form](#) by **Sunday 10 May**.

We encourage you to attend our information webinar with the opportunity for Q&A with our Chief Executive and a member of the Board, taking place on **Tuesday 5 May**. Please [follow this link](#) to register.

Interviews will be held online **w/c 18 May** and **w/c 25 May**.

Should you be invited to interview, please let us know if you have any accessibility requirements for a disability or health condition. Please also let us know if you have any difficulty completing the application form online and we can arrange to have paper copies sent directly to you.



mihc.org.uk



Music in Hospitals & Care is a registered charity in England & Wales 1051659 and in Scotland SC038864
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