

YOUNG TRUSTEE

APPLICATION PACK

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in joining the Foyer Federation's Board of Trustees!

For over 30 years, we've been working with our national network to create the conditions for young people who can't live at home to realise their power and purpose.

Our Board helps to govern, advise and lead our team, who support the Youth Foyer network to get the best possible outcomes for young people - and we know that the best people to give that leadership are young people themselves.

In this pack, you'll find out more about who we are, what we do and what it means to be a Trustee on the Foyer Federation's Board.

We can't wait to hear from you!

CONTENTS

➔	Who we are.....	3
➔	What we do	4
➔	What makes a service a Youth Foyer?.....	5
➔	The Advantaged Thinking movement	6
➔	What is the Board of Trustees?.....	7
➔	Role description.....	8
➔	Apply	9



Who we are

The Foyer Federation leads a national network of over 50 Youth Foyers. Youth Foyers provide high quality supported housing for young people aged 16-25 who are experiencing homelessness.

- **We are experts,** with a 30+ year track record in high quality, strengths-based work with young people experiencing homelessness.
- **We are connectors,** bringing together young people, practitioners and senior leaders to make meaningful, lasting change.
- **We are champions,** celebrating and mobilising young people and the people who work with them to actively combat deficit-based cultures.

Together, with Youth Foyers and the young people who live in them, we're redefining what 'good' looks like in youth supported housing.

VISION:



All young people who can't live at home can realise their power and purpose.

MISSION:



Support the development of transformational living and learning communities for young people experiencing homelessness.

VALUES:



Authentic: We are unwavering in our purpose.



Brave: We stand up for what matters.



Loving: We care about each other and the world around us.



Maverick: We shake things up to make them better.



Savvy: We keep one eye on the now and one at the end of the game.



What we do

Young people who experience homelessness are more likely to experience it later in life too. Our purpose is to break this cycle.

We work with our national network of Youth Foyers to provide transformative opportunities to young people who can't live at home.

Rather than focussing purely on addressing immediate circumstances, we work with services to centre young people's long term goals and potential.

By building on young people's strengths, talents and aspirations, Youth Foyers offer a holistic living and learning opportunity for young people to realise their power and purpose, and move on equipped to thrive as independent adults.



We build quality: We work with youth supported housing providers to build the resilience, capacity and quality of their services.



We develop practitioners: We work with staff in youth supported housing services to build skills and confidence in coaching and developing young people.



We nurture young leaders: We empower young people with opportunities to lead and develop talents.



We lead change: We challenge deficit-based practices and advocate for young people's strengths and potential.



What makes a service a Youth Foyer?

Youth Foyers are more than a place to stay: they are thriving communities, with people - not circumstance - at the heart. They work with young people to build on their strengths, share power and create holistic development opportunities.

YOUTH FOYER ACCREDITATION:

We developed the Youth Foyer Quality Standards over 30+ years of working with youth supported housing services across the UK and Ireland.

By meeting the standards and gaining Youth Foyer Accreditation, services prove that they deliver a truly high quality, transformational service.

YOUTH FOYER NETWORK:

Youth Foyers are part of a flourishing community of practice, sharing learning and working with young people to realise their power and purpose.

A YOUTH FOYER IS A PLACE OF:



Purpose where young people can grow, develop and thrive.



Choice with bespoke opportunities to learn, be involved, be yourself and have new positive experiences.



Safety with a high quality service; a safe, secure and inviting environment; and a culture of trust.



Inspiration where people with clear roles and responsibilities can coach, develop relationships and build skills with others.



Community where young people belong and are connected to something bigger.



The Advantaged Thinking movement

We developed the Advantaged Thinking approach to challenge and take action against the prevailing deficit-based culture and services commissioned and delivered to young people.

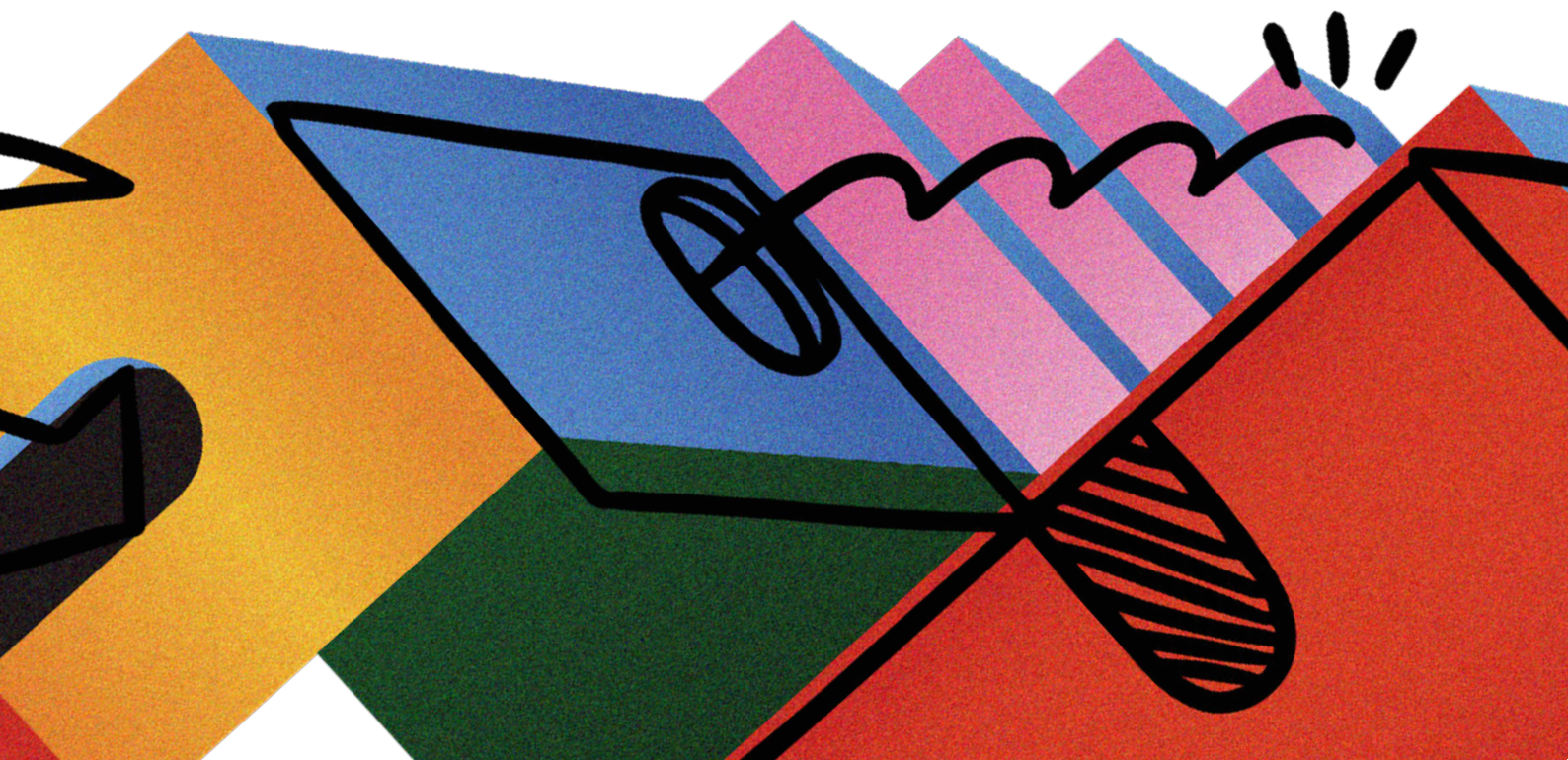
Advantaged Thinking takes the powerful assets-based approach at the heart of Youth Foyers and offers people and organisations beyond the youth supported housing sector practical tools for harnessing and promoting young people's strengths.

It's all about taking a positive view through positive action: understanding ability, recognising qualities, promoting achievements and inspiring what is possible.



“When we focus on the good in people - on their strengths and aspirations - then everyone has the best chance of happiness.”

Find out more about Advantaged Thinking and join the movement at advantagedthinking.co.uk



What is the Board of Trustees?

The Board of Trustees is a group of volunteers who share overall responsibility for the charity.

They set the long term direction, and ensure that the charity is effectively run, meeting its legal obligations, and sticking to the overall purpose set out in its governing documentation.

Boards concentrate on the big issues, making key decisions, monitoring activities and delegating day-to-day work.

As a Trustee of the Foyer Federation, you will make decisions that affect the work we do with Youth Foyers and the young people who live in them.

AS A TRUSTEE, YOU WILL:

- ➔ Receive **training** and mentorship to help you settle into the role.
- ➔ Gain **networking** opportunities to build professional and social contacts.
- ➔ Build **experience** in an executive, strategic role to boost your career.
- ➔ Make a **difference** to young people who can't live at home, and the staff who work with them.
- ➔ **Learn about our Board members [here](#)**



Role description

As a charity working with and for young people, we know that the best people to steer our work are young people themselves.

We are therefore looking for Trustees aged 18-25 to join our Board.

We appreciate that people have different skills, confidence and experience, so we don't expect you to know everything or get stuck in straight away.

We'll provide lots of support and guidance to help you settle in and get the absolute most out of your time as a Foyer Federation Trustee.

THE COMMITMENT

Trustees serve a three year term and attend one meeting every two months, mostly online.

When you are required to attend an in-person meeting or event, your travel expenses will be covered.

On average, Trustees give 2-4 hours of their time per month, in addition to meetings.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- ➔ Attend meetings every two months, mostly online with some involving travel.
- ➔ Play a key role in deciding what will benefit Youth Foyer residents and staff.
- ➔ Make informed decisions on the topics discussed regarding Youth Foyers and the Foyer Federation.
- ➔ Take part in creating new projects and services throughout the charity.

REQUIREMENTS:

- ➔ An interest in improving Youth Foyer services for young people.
- ➔ A desire to ensure that the views of young people are included in decisions.
- ➔ Good communication skills.
- ➔ The ability to work as part of a team.



Apply

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

We actively encourage people from a variety of backgrounds, with a diverse range of experiences, skills and stories to join us.

By taking positive action around diversity (as permitted in the Equality Act 2010), we will guarantee interviews to eligible candidates who meet the minimum criteria and who self-identify with any of the following groups that we have identified as under-represented in our charity's culture, and in the wider cultural sector workforce:

- People from global majority backgrounds.
- People with lived experience of homelessness.
- People with disabilities or learning difficulties.
- People who identify as LGBT+.

APPLY

Thank you for your interest in joining the Foyer Federation's Board of Trustees!

To apply, complete **this form** by Friday 31st July.

If you'd like to find out more, or if you'd like an informal chat to see if this opportunity is right for you, email us at inbox@foyer.net.





The Foyer Federation

Work.Life, Core Building
30 Brown Street
Manchester
M2 1DH

inbox@foyer.net
www.foyer.net



Registered Charity no. 1040482 | Registered in England and Wales no. 2699839