

Trustee (Major Donor Fundraising)

Encephalitis International

Voluntary role | Remote with occasional meetings

Encephalitis International is the world's leading charity dedicated to improving the lives of people affected by encephalitis through awareness, support and research. Encephalitis is a devastating brain condition that can affect anyone, anywhere in the world, often leaving survivors and families facing significant long-term challenges.

As our organisation continues to grow in ambition and global reach, we are seeking to recruit a **Trustee with expertise in major donor fundraising** to join our Board.

This is an exciting opportunity to help shape the future of a growing global charity working and help the philanthropic support needed to improve diagnosis, treatment, support and research for people affected by encephalitis.

The Role

As a Trustee you will share collective responsibility for the governance, strategic direction and sustainability of Encephalitis International.

We are particularly seeking someone who can bring experience and insight in **major donor recruitment, retention and stewardship** to support the charity's development and fundraising ambitions.

Alongside your specialist contribution, you will fulfil the wider responsibilities of a charity trustee, including acting in the charity's best interests, supporting effective governance, overseeing financial sustainability and ensuring that Encephalitis International remains focused on delivering public benefit.

You will:

- Shape and provide oversight of the charity's strategic approach to **major donor and philanthropic fundraising**
- Provide strategic insight to strengthen **donor engagement, stewardship and long-term philanthropic relationships**
- Champion Encephalitis International's mission, profile and strategic priorities as a Board-level ambassador
- Contribute expertise, constructive challenge and sound judgement to Board deliberations and collective decision-making

This role is strategic rather than operational, though trustees may occasionally open doors, make introductions or support relationship-building where appropriate.

What We Are Looking For

We would particularly welcome candidates with experience in:

- **Major donor fundraising or philanthropy**
- **High-value relationship management**
- **Philanthropic giving within the charity, corporate or private sectors**
- **Developing or advising on major gift strategies**

You may have gained this experience through work in the **non-profit sector, philanthropy, corporate leadership, wealth advisory, or as a major donor yourself.**

We are also particularly keen to welcome candidates from under-represented groups. Previous trustee experience is not essential.

Time Commitment

- Approximately **4–6 Board meetings per year** (usually virtual) and one in-person away-weekend.
- Occasional participation in committee meetings or events
- Preparation time for meetings

This is a **voluntary role**, though reasonable expenses will be reimbursed.

Why Join Us?

By joining the Board of Encephalitis International you will play a vital role in helping the organisation expand its impact globally. Strengthening philanthropic support will allow us to reach more people affected by encephalitis, accelerate research and increase awareness of this often misunderstood condition.

You will be joining a passionate and committed Board helping to drive forward meaningful change for patients, survivors and families worldwide.

How to Apply

To express interest, please send your CV and a short statement outlining your interest in the role and relevant experience to ava@encephalitis.info