RESULTS UK Grassroots Trustee Role Description

RESULTS creates the public and political will to end poverty, and empowers individuals to exercise their personal and political power for change.

About RESULTS UK

There are many organisations working to fight hunger and poverty around the world. RESULTS’ particular focus is unique: our mission is to create the public and political will to end poverty by enabling people to exercise their own personal and political power for change.

RESULTS has been established in the UK as a charity since 1986, and is one of six RESULTS organisations around the world. Although not legally incorporated into an international entity and thus being independent organisations, the global RESULTS family has a strong joint mission and shares a vision of a world free from poverty, along with sharing our approach to bringing that vision into being.

‘Ending poverty’ is a big and complex goal – certainly larger than any one organisation can deliver on its own. For us, the building blocks of the end of poverty can be most simply articulated as “health, education, economic opportunities, and citizen voice”. These are the things that all people, wherever they live, need and have a right to.

We achieve these goals through advocacy, as we firmly believe that the world has enough resources – financial, technical, and knowledge – to bring about the end of poverty. What is missing is the political will to do so.

In practice this means we call for increases in resources, better policies, and increases in political leadership on issues of international development. We do this through smart, non-partisan parliamentary advocacy, and through well-researched and evidence-based policy advocacy, both led from a small staff in our London office.

In addition to policy and parliamentary advocacy, our grassroots advocacy is critical. RESULTS’s grassroots network is a movement of passionate, committed, everyday people who, use their voices to influence political decisions that will bring an end to poverty. We have volunteer groups across the UK that meet at least once a month to take regular campaign actions. Our campaigners learn to effectively advise policy makers, guiding them towards decisions that improve access to education, health, and economic opportunities in the poorest communities. The dedication of our volunteers speaks to both our values and history.

The Main Tasks of a Trustee

Given our mission, we ask our grassroots network to elect one of its number to our Board every two years, to serve a single three-year term. This ensure the first year of any Grassroots Trustee’s term there will be overlap with the previous Trustee (to learn from the incumbent), and the last year (to mentor the newly elected Trustee).
Whilst this is an elected post, we expect candidates to have a good understanding of what it means to be a RESULTS grassroots campaigner, and while you will participate as a full Board Member is every respect, with all rights and responsibilities, you have an important additional role in bringing the perspective of a grassroots campaigner to RESULTS governing body.

The main board tasks include:

- To take part in formulating, and regularly reviewing, the strategic aims of the organisation.
- With other trustees, to ensure that the policy and practices of the organisation are in keeping with its main aims.
- With other trustees, to ensure that the organisation functions within the legal and financial requirements of a charitable organisation and strives to achieve best practice.
- To participate in overseeing the finances of the organisation and promoting a positive fundraising culture.

Main Responsibilities

Formulating strategic aims

- Consider the organisation as a whole and its beneficiaries, whether as a member of the trustees or any of its committees, sub-committees, groups etc.
- Reflect the organisation’s vision and principles, strategy and major policies at all times.
- Contribute specific skills, interests and contacts.

Ensuring policies and practices are in keeping with these aims

- Attend meetings of the trustees.
- Reflect the trustees’ policies and concerns on all its sub-groups or committees.

Ensuring best practice

- Be an active member of the trustee body in exercising its responsibilities and functions.
- Maintain good relations with senior managerial staff.
- Take part in training sessions provided for the benefit of the trustees.

Building the financial base of the organisation

- Have oversight of the finances of the charity and its fundraising strategy.
- Speak out on behalf of RESULTS to potential donors and support grassroots fundraising events.
Meetings and Work

Board meetings are held quarterly, usually in the late afternoon/early evenings after a workday. Before COVID-19 restrictions, meetings were usually face-to-face at the London RESULTS office. They comprise a total of 4 formal meetings per year, with occasional additional meetings as needed by teleconference. The Board has two Committees (Finance and HR) that meet via telecon (and, previously, sometimes face-to-face) separately on different dates to advance specific projects. **All meetings are now virtual until further notice.**

Trustees may be asked to serve on one of the Committees due to their background or skills, but committee membership is not required of all Trustees.

Remuneration

RESULTS UK does not pay trustees: these are volunteer positions. Trustees are eligible for reimbursement of agreed expenses incurred while carrying out their duties.

Skills and Qualities

At RESULTS UK, we believe in equality, diversity and inclusion, and that it should be the norm. We are aware of the underrepresentation of certain groups and communities in our sector. These include - but are certainly not limited to - people from Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME), refugee and lower socio-economic backgrounds. We want to change this and are committed to playing our part as an organisation.

We are keen to ensure that our team of Trustees is as diverse as possible and come from a variety of circumstances, not just from the development and charity sectors. We therefore actively welcome applications from people of a wide range of backgrounds, skills and abilities, recognising the value that these different perspectives bring to our organisation.

No one Trustee will possess all the skills and qualities needed for the tasks and duties of trusteeship. The Board of Trustees acts as a team where the essential expertise is distributed amongst its members. From time to time the Board will re-assess its need for additional skills and recruit new Trustees accordingly.

Induction and Mentoring

We provide a full induction for new trustees with informal partnering with an experienced Trustee initially – for the grassroots trustee, the previous grassroots trustee will have a one-year overlap on the board with you. The induction will include meeting the Chair and the Chief Executive, introduction to the staff and the work they do and an overview of RESULTS’ strategy, approach to governance, funding, and finance.

How to apply

Please send your CV attached to a brief covering email outlining why you are interested in the role. Each document should be no more than 2 pages and sent to board@results.org.uk.

The closing date for nominations in 5 pm on Friday 17 July 2020.
Under normal circumstances, Grassroots Trustee Elections would take place during the RESULTS National Conference in June, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic we are looking at alternative ways of holding elections in late July/ early August 2020. Applicants will be informed of the process in due course.

For more information or an informal chat about the opportunity please contact either the Executive Director Aaron Oxley (aaron.oxley@results.org.uk) or the Head of Campaigns, Naveed Chaudhri (Naveed.chaudhri@results.org.uk).

Guidance from the Charity Commission

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** None of the information in this document supersedes the guidance provided by the Charity Commission. Please make sure you have read and understand the official guidance and legal responsibilities of becoming a Trustee prior to applying: