



Trustee Recruitment Pack

Cherie Blair Foundation for Women

September 2024

Registered Charity No. 1125751.



Cherie Blair
**FOUNDATION
FOR WOMEN**



About us

The Cherie Blair Foundation for Women exists to create a future where women everywhere enjoy equal economic opportunities so they can thrive. Together with partners around the world, we work with women in low and middle income countries so they can start, sustain and grow successful enterprises. We collaborate to create fairer business environments so women are not constrained by gendered barriers and can reach their potential on their terms.

Since 2008, our training and mentoring services have supported more than 261,100 women to build successful micro, small and medium enterprises in over 100 countries. By blending insights from research, strong partnerships and pioneering technology we open doors for women entrepreneurs to skills, confidence, networks, finance and markets. We press for change to stop millions of women being held back from having the choice and opportunity to thrive.

Our gender transformative approach means women can achieve their own economic objectives. They create a better future for themselves, their families, and their communities. They contribute to thriving, fair economies, and global economic justice.

Ways to get in touch

www.cherieblairfoundation.org
recruitment@cherieblairfoundation.org

+44 (0)20 7724 3109
PO Box 60519, London, W2 7JU

Our team

The Foundation is run by a dedicated team of 25 staff, overseen by a Board of eight trustees. Based in London, we have a global reach, working in collaboration with partners across Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean.

What we do

We work to effect change through fairer and more inclusive business environments. The Foundation develops and delivers woman-centred services and initiatives that provide sustainable solutions to the challenges facing women entrepreneurs in low and middle income countries so that many more women are able to start, sustain and grow successful enterprises.

Working with our partners across the world we deliver programmes with women entrepreneurs. These are designed to build knowledge, skills, confidence, networks and access to resources at different stages of their businesses. As a result, entrepreneurs can transform their businesses and their futures. Our delivery partners are experienced entrepreneurship experts. They are essential to our work and support us to adapt our programmes to relevant local contexts.

- Our award-winning mobile business skills app, HerVenture, offers essential business training and support on-the-go, covering topics like launching a business, expanding market access, e-commerce and mobile money, for women at the start-up and early growth stages of entrepreneurship.
- We provide blended learning training to target key business development areas such as business growth, accessing finance and leadership through the “Road to” suite of programmes.
- Our Mentoring Women in Business programme matches women entrepreneurs with a dedicated professional mentor from elsewhere in the world. Using our online platform, they work one-to-one for 12 months to share new perspectives, build new skills and take their businesses to a whole new level.

Carrying out primary research and listening to first-hand experiences of women entrepreneurs is also a vital part of the work we do. We advocate for change to governments, multilateral organisations and corporations in order create more inclusive and fairer business environments.



Our values

Women entrepreneurs at our heart: Without women entrepreneurs we wouldn't exist, so it is vital we put their experiences, perspectives and passions at the heart of what we do and how we do it.

Feminist first: We proudly follow feminist leadership principles, building an inclusive environment where everyone feels they belong.

Great to work with: We care. We are experts. We always seek to deliver high-quality work and results. We are positive and professional, and always operate with integrity.

Dynamic and entrepreneurial: The essence of entrepreneurship is creativity and innovation. We harness this spirit of courage, embracing opportunities and making bold moves to achieve our mission.

Powered by knowledge: We seek data to understand and share. We nurture a culture of enquiry and positive challenge. We look outward and encourage dialogue and exchange.

Our strategy

We're going to revolutionise business opportunities for more than one million women by 2030.

Our 'Ready for Business' strategy sees us significantly scale up our work to revolutionise business opportunities for one million more women entrepreneurs in low and middle income countries by 2030 and rapidly accelerate progress for women across the world.

With a global community of partners, donors and institutions, we will fight hard to ensure we contribute all we can towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 5 on Gender Equality and Goal 8 on Decent Work and Economic Growth.

This ambitious new strategy guides our work from 2023 to 2026, building on the success of our last strategy that saw us support over 100,000 women in just four years.

In order to reach one million women entrepreneurs and support them to start and grow successful businesses and drastically shift business ecosystems so they are fair and inclusive we will:

- Develop and deliver digital, women-centred services.
- Grow a network of delivery partners.
- Host a thriving community of expertise in women's entrepreneurship: sharing, learning, advocating for change and challenging the barriers facing women.
- Lead global advocacy to challenge the systems and structures holding women back from success.
- Create a membership community committed to funding our work so that women can fulfil their potential.
- Evolve our organisation to deliver more effective change.

The resilience, drive and ingenuity of the women we work with inspires us to be unstoppable in our commitment to ensuring the economic rights of women everywhere are fulfilled. With this strategy, we believe we have put ourselves in the strongest possible position to achieve this.

A message from our Chair

Thank you for your interest in the role of Trustee at the Cherie Blair Foundation for Women.

The Foundation was founded in 2008 by Cherie Blair CBE KC to support women entrepreneurs in low and middle income countries to build and expand their micro, small and growing businesses.

So far, we have supported over 250,000 women entrepreneurs to transform their businesses and lives, raising over £23 million for this cause. In partnership with organisations in over 100 countries, we deliver training, facilitate mentoring, and share knowledge to support women as they start, sustain, and grow their businesses.

Empowering women is the key to driving social change in low and middle income countries. Working at the Foundation is an opportunity to be part of that change.

We are a growing, entrepreneurial organisation with ambitious goals to empower women entrepreneurs to achieve their ambitions, make a difference in their own communities and contribute to women's economic empowerment.

Recently the Foundation has successfully closed its 100,000 Women Campaign, a major milestone. The resulting momentum has been carried forward into the development and launch of our new four-year strategy, Ready for Business, that will see the Foundation build on past achievements and solidify our position as a leader in women's entrepreneurship development. Focusing on three strategic pathways to scale; Her Business, Her Voice and Her World we will power up entrepreneurship opportunities for women, amplify their voices and improve the eco-system around them.

Our team is dynamic and hard-working. We are passionate about creating a more equal, equitable and just world for generations to come. We have worked intentionally to build a positive, caring and collaborative culture. We are proud of our leadership and management style that encourages teamwork, open and honest communication, while maintaining an environment where everyone can thrive and is valued.

We are not willing to wait the 150 years it is currently predicted to take for women to have economic equality. We have set ourselves the ambitious target to support one million women by 2030 and drastically shift business ecosystems so they are fair and inclusive. We want to meet potential trustees who passionately share this vision and are eager to lead the Foundation in the next stage of our journey.

Tanya Joseph

Chair of the Board of Trustees

Cherie Blair Foundation for Women

Role description

Role title:	Trustee
Responsible to:	Chair of the Board of Trustees
Location:	Virtual with some travel required
Salary:	Voluntary (travel expenses will be covered by the Foundation)
Term:	3 years (can be extended up to a maximum of 3 terms)

Role overview

Trustees play a vital role in making sure that the Foundation achieves its core purpose. They oversee the on-going development of the Foundation and have ultimate responsibility for directing the Foundation's affairs, ensuring it is solvent, well-run, and delivering the outcomes for which it has been set up. As the organisation evolves they will support and challenge the leadership team to enable the Foundation to grow and thrive and deliver our 2030 strategy.

We partner with a diverse range of organisations and corporates globally and our Board needs to reflect that diversity too. As such, we are actively encouraging people from all backgrounds, geographies and experience to apply.

To support the delivery of our 2030 strategy we are seeking two to three new trustees at this time. We would especially welcome hearing from men, who are currently under-represented on our Board, and from people based in the UK.

Specific skills/experience that are sought include, but are not limited to:

- UK employment law and HR practice
- UK charity law
- UK charity governance
- Fundraising

Key responsibilities

- Serve as a trusted advisor to the CEO and senior leadership team as they implement the Foundation's strategic plan.
- Provide governance, leadership and strategic support.
- Apply experience to create a strong and sustainable organisation.
- Act as an ambassador for the organisation.
- Approve operational strategies and policies and monitor and evaluate their implementation.
- Oversee the Foundation's financial plans and budgets and monitor and evaluate progress.
- Review and approve the Foundation's financial statements.

- Ensure that key risks are being identified, monitored and controlled effectively.
- Attend three Board meetings a year (one in person in London) adequately prepared to contribute effectively to discussions.
- Be a member of one of the sub-committees which meet ahead of the Board meetings.
- Attend a strategy day once a year, timed to coincide with the in-person board meeting.

What we are looking for

We are looking for people willing to bring energy, enthusiasm and commitment to the role, and who will broaden the diversity of thinking to our Board.

You do not need previous experience as a Trustee to be considered – we will provide a full induction and training.

Personal skills and qualities

- Enthusiasm for the Foundation's vision and mission
- Willingness and ability to accept responsibilities as a trustee and to act in the best interests of the organisation
- Ability to think creatively and strategically, to exercise independent judgement and to work effectively as a Board member
- Willingness to participate actively in discussions
- A strong personal commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion
- Willingness to lead according to the Foundations' values

As part of a growing charity, our trustees are expected to be involved actively beyond Board meetings. This may involve focussing on key issues arising, providing advice and guidance on new initiatives, presenting externally, or other areas in which the trustee has expertise.

How to apply

For a discussion about this opportunity with the Chair or CEO, Dhivya O'Connor, please contact recruitment@cherieblairfoundation.org and we will be pleased to schedule a conversation.

Candidates who wish to apply are requested to submit:

- Covering letter addressing relevant experience for the role (two A4 pages max)
- Current CV – no more than two pages
- The names and contact details of two referees. We will let candidates know before we contact them.

Please send your application to: recruitment@cherieblairfoundation.org by 17:00 UK time on Thursday 26th September.

Shortlisted candidates will be contacted by Tuesday 1st October.

Interviews for shortlisted candidates will take place week commencing 7th October.

There will be a final round of interviews on week commencing 14th or 21st October.

Equality, diversity and accessibility statement

We are an intersectional feminist, anti-racist organisation. We value diversity and welcome applicants of all backgrounds and identities equally, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, transgender status, disability, religion or belief.

Please inform us if you have any access requirements that you would like us to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate should you be invited to interview.

Data protection

As part of any recruitment process, the Foundation collects and processes personal data relating to applicants. The Foundation is committed to being transparent about how it collects and uses data, and to meeting its data protection obligations as explained in our [privacy notice](#)



Thank you for your interest!

Please contact recruitment@cherieblairfoundation.org with any questions.



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