

Y Cwmni Siarad (YCS) Board Member Recruitment

Remuneration:	The role of Board Member is not accompanied by any financial remuneration.
Location:	We are based at Baltic House, Mount Stuart Square, Cardiff CF10 5FH
Time commitment:	2-3 hour quarterly board meetings which may from time to time give rise to additional time commitments arising from actions such as planning days, plus optional sub-group activity.
Reporting to:	YCS Board

Role Description

YCS' is registered as a company limited by guarantee with social objectives. We operate as a social enterprise. As of August 2018 we are currently in the process of registering as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The role of a Board Member is to ensure that YCS fulfils its legal and good governance duties as well its duty to its beneficiaries and delivery on our objects:

- 1. To work in partnership to deliver mental wellbeing assistance and services to those who experience mental ill health in Wales (the area of benefit)*
- 2. To provide access to evidence based psychological therapies, counselling and support services.*
- 3. To promote social inclusion by involving under-represented groups and communities in designing services that help address their mental health needs*
- 4. To support research into the effectiveness of mental wellbeing services in response to identified need.*

Becoming a Board Member with YCS makes you a Trustee of the organisation and there are some statutory duties attached to this, which are:

- To ensure the organisation complies with its Charitable Constitution
- To ensure the organisation applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its objectives – YCS cannot legally spend money on activities which are not included in its objectives, no matter how 'worthwhile' those activities are.
- To contribute actively to the Boards' role in giving firm strategic direction to the organisation, setting overall policy, defining goals and setting targets and evaluating performance against agreed targets.
- To safeguard the good name and values of YCS.
- To ensure the effective and efficient administration of YCS.
- To ensure the financial stability of YCS.
- To protect and manage the property of the organisation and to ensure the proper investment of the organisation's funds.

In addition to these statutory duties, the Board as a whole is expected to hold YCS "in trust" for current and future beneficiaries by:

- Ensuring that YCS has a clear vision, mission and strategic direction and is focused on achieving these.
- Being responsible for the performance of YCS and for its "corporate" behaviour; ensuring that the organisation complies with all legal and regulatory requirements.
- Acting as guardians of YCS' assets, both tangible and intangible, taking all due care over their security, deployment and proper application.
- Work at all times within YCS' established policies and procedures and to follow the seven Nolan Principles of Public Life and the Code of Governance
- To ensure a regular review of all significant risks to the organisation and to develop actions that mitigate them as far as possible
- Monitoring the performance of staff members. Appointing new staff members.

As well as these duties, any Board Member should make full use of any specific skills, knowledge or experience to help the board make good decisions.

The above list of duties is indicative only and not exhaustive. The Board Member will be expected to perform all such additional duties as are reasonably commensurate with the role.

Person specification

Individuals are sought who have a strong empathy with our objects:

- 1. To work in partnership to deliver mental wellbeing assistance and services to those who experience mental ill health in Wales (the area of benefit)*
- 2. To provide access to evidence based psychological therapies, counselling and support services.*
- 3. To promote social inclusion by involving under-represented groups and communities in designing services that help address their mental health needs*
- 4. To support research into the effectiveness of mental wellbeing services in response to identified need.*

YCS is currently particularly interested in recruiting candidates from a diverse background with experience and knowledge about how to involve underrepresented communities and groups. We are able to provide for a 'buddy' for candidates who do not have any previous governance experience.

YCS Board Members are jointly and severally responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of the organisation, its financial health, the probity of its activities and developing the organisation's aims, objectives and goals in accordance with the governing document, legal and regulatory guidelines.

All Board Members should also be aware of, and understand, their individual and collective responsibilities, and should not be overly reliant on one or more individual Board Member in any particular aspect of the governance of the organisation.

We are also particularly interested in candidates who come from a financial background to support financial management of the organisation.

Preferred experience:

- Experience of working with underrepresented groups and communities.
- Experience of enacting strategic and building new partnerships.
- Successful experience of operating within a board in a charitable, public sector or commercial organisation
- Experience in developing and enacting strategic plans
- Demonstrable experience of building and sustaining relationships with key stakeholders and colleagues to achieve organisational objectives
- A track record of commitment to promoting equality and diversity

Preferred knowledge, skills and understanding:

- Commitment to the organisation and a willingness to devote the necessary time and effort
- Preparedness to make unpopular recommendations to the board, and a willingness to speak their mind
- An understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of Board Membership
- An ability to work effectively as a member of a team
- An understanding of the respective roles of the Chair, Board Members and sub-committee.
- Knowledge of the statutory and third sector commissioning framework in Wales