

ROLE DESCRIPTION

TRUSTEES FOR OPEN DOORS UK & IRELAND

1. Our purpose

Our purpose is to strengthen and equip the body of Christ living under or facing restriction and persecution because of their faith in Jesus Christ, and to encourage their involvement in world evangelism by:

- Providing Bibles and literature, media, leadership training, socio-economic development and through intercessory prayer.
- Preparing the body of Christ living in threatened or unstable areas to face persecution and suffering; and
- Educating and mobilising the body of Christ living in the free world to identify with threatened and persecuted Christians and be actively involved in assisting them.

We do so, because we believe that when one member suffers, all members suffer with him (1 Corinthians 12:26), all doors are open and God enables His body to go into all the world and preach the gospel.

2. Our values

- **We are: Part of the Body of Christ; a 'people to people' people**
Brother Andrew, inspired by Revelation 3:2: 'Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die', tells us that we are more valued by our physical presence than the ten best sermons we could bring. Simply being there' alongside our fellow persecuted brothers and sisters is the single most important thing we can do.
- **'Persecuted church' driven**
Wherever there are needs to be met, whether that is in a church, school, home or market place, Jesus meets them there, because that is where we can be found working alongside them.
- **People of the Bible**
As we read the Bible we see the unfolding picture of God before us and are encouraged to live as his new creations. When we understand who God is and who we are in Him, it completely takes away our fear in any situation or confrontation.
- **People of prayer**
We recognise that we are in a spiritual battle (Ephesians 6:10-18) and see the power of prayer being a powerful weapon in meeting the needs of others. It is always in relation with reaching out to a lost world with Jesus.

- **Living and working by faith**
We believe the door has always been open for the Gospel, because the door has never been closed (Matthew 28:19). We will never lose sight of this fundamental truth. It keeps us outward-focused.
- **Devoted to Jesus Christ with His commission**
We want to show the world that there is a different lifestyle available for those in Jesus Christ and to conquer the world as his witnesses to that eternal truth. As the last spoken words of Jesus say in John's Gospel, "You must follow me" (John 21:22). Therefore, we see the outside world as a challenge, never a threat.
- **Motivated solely for the glory of God**
Our only motivation should not be for ourselves, but a compassion for the lost, bringing glory to God through His son Jesus Christ.

3. The duties of a trustee

Our trustees are responsible for:

- Ensuring that Open Doors UK&I achieves its mission and vision by agreeing a long-term strategy.
- Ensuring that Open Doors UK&I complies with its memorandum and articles of association, charity law, company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations.
- Ensuring that Open Doors UK&I applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its charitable objects (ie the charity must not spend money on activities that are not included in its own objects, however worthwhile or charitable those activities are) for the benefit of the people we serve.
- Ensuring that Open Doors UK&I defines its goals and evaluates performance against agreed targets.
- Safeguarding the good name and values of Open Doors UK&I.
- Ensuring the effective and efficient administration of Open Doors UK&I, including having appropriate policies and procedures in place
- Ensuring the financial stability of Open Doors UK&I
- Protecting and managing the property of the charity and ensuring the proper investment of the charity's funds
- Following proper and formal arrangements for the appointment, supervision, support, appraisal, and remuneration of the chief executive.

In addition to the above statutory duties, each trustee should use any specific skills, knowledge or experience they have to help the board of trustees reach sound decisions. This may involve scrutinising board papers, leading discussions, focusing on key issues, providing advice and guidance on new initiatives, or other issues in which the trustee has special expertise.

4. Person specification for trustees

We are looking for trustees who have:

- A commitment to the mission and vision of Open Doors in the UK & Ireland and globally.
- A willingness to devote the necessary time and effort.
- Strategic vision.
- Good, independent judgement.
- An ability to think creatively.
- A willingness to speak their mind.
- An understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship.
- An ability to work effectively as a member of a team.
- A commitment to Open Door's values which are outlined below.