

TRUSTEE RECRUITMENT - THE BAOBAB CENTRE FOR YOUNG SURVIVORS IN EXILE:

Help shape the future of a therapeutic charity supporting young refugees and asylum seekers

Location: Hybrid - London, UK and online.

Standard terms of Office: 3-year rotation, subject to review.

Background: The Baobab Centre, based in north London, supports young asylum seekers and refugees who have experienced severe human rights abuses and arrived in the UK as unaccompanied minors. Our work focuses on rehabilitation and justice, providing long-term, holistic support to help young people heal from trauma and rebuild their lives.

We are at an exciting time of change within the organisation and now seeking new Trustees to join our Board and help guide Baobab through its next phase of development.

We are particularly keen to hear from people with experience in one or more of the following:

- Management at a senior level in the third sector
- Fundraising
- IT & Digital, IT Security
- Clinical practice in psychotherapy

We actively welcome young professionals and first-time trustees who are motivated to learn, bring fresh perspectives, and contribute their skills to an impactful charity. As a human-rights informed organisation, we are equally interested to hear from people with lived experience of the asylum and social care systems in the UK as well as those with experience of working with young asylum seekers and refugees.

About Baobab:

Baobab supports about 70 young refugees and asylum seekers annually from over 29 countries. Young people receive integrated support including individual psychotherapy, group therapy, casework, and therapeutic activities. These are delivered from our London based centre that aims to create a safe, stable and homely environment. We offer a transitional community of exile where young people can develop their already considerable resilience.

Our multidisciplinary team includes psychotherapists, caseworkers and volunteers who remain alongside young people throughout their journey. We also have an advocacy team, who produce high quality research and reports on migration, child refugees and asylum rights.

While non-residential, our work is inspired by the model of therapeutic communities. We are a member of The Consortium for Therapeutic Communities.

Trustee Responsibilities

As a Trustee, you will:

- Contribute to the strategic direction and governance of Baobab.
- Offer insight, challenge and support to the leadership team and provide approval for key decisions.
- Use your skills and experience to support Baobab's development – developing our teams, programmes and policies.
- Act as an ambassador for Baobab and its purposes and aims.
- Help ensure the organisation is well-governed, financially sustainable and delivering high-quality support to young people.
- Be legally responsible, alongside the Board of Trustees, for the organisation.

Trustees work collectively and are supported to understand Baobab's specialist therapeutic model and the complex realities faced by young people seeking asylum in the UK.

Time commitment:

- Presently, the Board meets monthly, plus sub-committee or strategy sessions as required.
- Majority of meetings are currently delivered remotely but with some opportunities to meet in person. You are also welcome to attend community and other meetings at the centre, in person.
- Trustees are appointed for a fixed term of 3 years with possible renewal for a further 3 years.
- All new trustees receive an induction on their role as a trustee, with an opportunity to visit the centre, meet staff and young people.

Why join us?

This is a meaningful opportunity to:

- Make a tangible difference to the lives of young people rebuilding their lives after extreme adversity.
- Gain or develop trustee and governance experience or contribute your specialist skills to an organisation that would value your expertise.
- Be part of a thoughtful, values-led organisation working within the fields of mental health, human rights and social justice.
- Share your experience to help design an effective and safe therapeutic environment for unaccompanied minors seeking asylum in the UK.

For additional guidance on being a trustee, see [Gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) or on the [Charity Commission](https://www.charitycommission.gov.uk).

How to Apply

Please submit a CV and a short covering letter (1 page, outlining your interest and relevant experience).

Closing date for applications is 24th May 2026.

Following shortlisting, successful applicants will be invited to an interview.

If you're passionate about Baobab's mission and want to be part of our Board, we'd love to hear from you. We particularly welcome applicants with lived experience of the asylum and social care systems in the UK.

<https://www.baobabsurvivors.org/>