Chair – Rainmaker Foundation

Remuneration
The role of Trustee is not accompanied by any financial remuneration, although expenses for travel may be claimed.

Location
London

Time commitment:
4-6 Board meetings per year for first term of 3 years
Sub-committee/project meetings as necessary
External representation of Rainmaker Foundation as required

Reporting to
Board of Trustees (Executive Committee)

Role Description

To be a Trustee of an organisation is an exciting and fulfilling role. The most effective Boards are ones which benefit from individuals from a diverse range of backgrounds, experiences and skill sets. The role of a Trustee is to ensure that RAINMAKER FOUNDATION fulfils its duty to its beneficiaries and delivers on our vision, mission and values.

The Rainmaker Foundation exists to accelerate the impact of small charities with great potential. We do this by catalysing the emergence of a start-up style ecosystem around small charities.

We deliver two programmes: 1) The Breakthrough Day pre-accelerator initiative and, 2) our 6-month accelerator programme, by engaging our community of 100+ Rainmakers, Mentors and Partners. The Rainmaker programmes are designed to provide a safe space for small charities to engage with disruptive thinking, access best in class technology tools and innovate their business models in order to amplify their impact and become sustainable.

During the course of 2017 we have worked on transforming our own model and engagement formats, in order to achieve the following objectives: deliver a 100% impact model to our community of Rainmakers (their pledges are now being deployed directly to charities in the form of innovation grants); secure core funding for 3 years, re-structure the board in order, and offer radical transparency to our various groups of stakeholders.

Our values are:

Creative Innovation
We don’t shy away from risks, we aim to try new things, welcome the unknown and seek to learn from our ‘failures’.

Kindness
We value kindness and generosity and work to bring them to life in our culture and relationships.

Radical Collaboration
We strongly believe that together we can achieve more. In everything we do we don’t compete, we collaborate.

Continuous Learning
We know we can be of greater service when we invest in our own development and nurture our curiosity.
The statutory duties of a trustee are:

- To ensure the organisation complies with its governing document - sometimes known as a trust deed, constitution, or articles of association.
- To ensure that the organisation pursues its objectives as defined in its governing document.
- To ensure the organisation applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its objectives - the charity must not spend money on activities which are not included in its own objectives, no matter how 'charitable' and 'worthwhile' those activities are.
- To contribute actively to the Board of Trustees' 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 the organisation.
- To ensure the effective and efficient administration of the organisation.
- To ensure the financial stability of the organisation.
- To protect and manage the property of the organisation and to ensure the proper investment of the organisation's funds.
- If the organisation employs staff, to appoint the Chief Executive Officer and monitor his or her performance.

Together with other trustees to hold the charity “in trust” for current and future beneficiaries by:

- Ensuring that the charity has a clear vision, mission and strategic direction and is focused on achieving these.
- Being responsible for the performance of the charity and for its “corporate” behaviour; ensuring that the charity complies with all legal and regulatory requirements.
- Acting as guardians of the charity’s assets, both tangible and intangible, taking all due care over their security, deployment and proper application.
- Ensuring that the charity’s governance is of the highest possible standard.

As well as the various statutory duties, any trustee 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 Trustee will be expected to perform all such additional duties as are reasonably commensurate with the role.
Chair – Rainmaker Foundation

Person specification

You must be energised by our mission to accelerate the impact of small charities with great potential. Experience, skills, and expertise in creating thriving organisations, building vibrant and high-performing cultures, extensive networks in the business and philanthropy world, as well as an interest in applying best practices and tools from the commercial sphere into the charity sector, combined with an in-depth understanding of our work and ambitions are particularly sought.

The Board of Trustees are jointly and severally responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of the charity, 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 trustees, should also be aware of, and understand, their individual and collective responsibilities, and should not be overly reliant on one or more individual trustees in any particular aspect of the governance of the charity.

Experience:

• Successful experience of leading a board in a charitable, public sector, or commercial organisation
• Demonstrable experience of building and sustaining relationships with key stakeholders and colleagues to achieve organisational objectives
• A proven track record of sound judgement and effective decision making
• A history of impartiality, fairness and the ability to respect confidences
• A track record of commitment to promoting equality and diversity
• Given the nature of the community, this role would be a great fit for a post-exit entrepreneur or senior business leader.

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
• Willingness to be available to staff for advice and enquiries on an ad hoc basis
• Good, independent judgement and strategic vision
• An understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship
• An ability to work effectively as a member of a team
• An understanding of the respective roles of the Chair, Trustees and Chief Executive
How to apply

To apply for this role, please supply the following via the relevant fields on the website via the application link below:

- A comprehensive up-to-date CV, including details of two referees, who will not, of course be contacted without your knowledge or consent;

- A supporting statement, highlighting your motivation for applying and what you feel you could bring to this role

TU5315_Rainmaker Foundation application link

The closing date for applications is Monday 11th September. Candidates should please advise dates during September that are really not convenient for interview, and shortlisted candidates will be invited to informally meet the Rainmaker CEO, Cosmina Popa as part of the selection process.