

## **TRUSTEE INFORMATION PACK**

### **Charity Information**

St Giles & St George Alms Charity is an old parochial charity that aims to relieve poverty in three church parishes in the southern tip of Camden, around Bloomsbury and Covent Garden.

St Giles Almshouses comprises a small community of eight self-contained flats situated around an attractive communal garden – an oasis of calm in busy Covent Garden. The accommodation is available to women over 60 who have lived or worked in the area for at least 10 years. All the residents live independently (potentially with carer assistance) and there is no warden on site.

Our individual grants scheme offers up to £600 for new/replacements household goods for local residents on low income. Individuals can apply directly although we also accept referrals from local agencies. Last year, we awarded 32 grants and spent over £15,000 on cookers, fridge-freezers, washing machines, beds & mattresses and flooring.

Our grants to organisations focuses on supporting isolated older people and tackling homelessness – there is a list of current grants on our website. We have awarded several multi-year grants to local organisations addressing these priority areas. We do not accept unsolicited applications for funding but are happy to discuss proposals.

The Alms charity has investment assets of approximately £2.5m that includes financial investments and a property that is commercially let. There is a sister charity called St Giles & St George Education charity which primarily gives grants to organisations to promote the education of children and young people (this has its own trustee board). A small team of part-time staff supports the activity of both charities.

### **Job Description**

We are looking for someone who can bring their knowledge/experience of supporting older people to our charity to ensure that we are meeting the needs of our almshouse residents, thinking about now and into the future.

Each trustee takes a lead role on a different aspect of the charity's work and we are looking for someone who could become a champion for our Almshouse provision.

All trustees are expected to undertake the statutory duties of trustees and contribute to Trustee discussions on other issues, including operational matters, making decisions on grants applications and the management of investment properties.

## **Person Specification**

Our ideal trustee is someone who has experience of one or more of the following:

- Understanding of benefits available for older people;
- Understanding of adaptations and mobility aids to enable independent living;
- Understanding options for residential/nursing care;
- Helping older people to plan for the future;
- Navigating the social care system, particularly in Camden.

We are particularly interested in hearing from people from minority communities.

## **Governance**

The Trustee board consists of eight trustees – four ex-officio trustees from two local churches and four that are externally recruited. The latter appointments are initially for three years, with the opportunity for re-appointment. Trustees are unpaid but reasonable out-of-pocket expenses can be reimbursed.

The board meets quarterly (every 3 months) for a couple of hours in the evening (currently Tuesday). The majority of our meetings are via Zoom now but we do try and hold one or two face to face, particularly if there is a strategic review session. In addition, Trustees are encouraged to attend the Summer Tea Party and Christmas Lunch with the almshouse residents. Between meetings, you may be asked to participate in a committee or oversee an area of work.

Candidates will need to have or be willing to undertake a basic DBS check.

If you would like to apply then please send your CV and a covering letter outlining why you are interested to the Administrator at [office@stgilesandstgeorge.org.uk](mailto:office@stgilesandstgeorge.org.uk) by **Monday 12 June**.