

WELCOME



Thank you for your interest in becoming a Trustee of Caritas Care.

As a growing charity, Caritas Care wishes to strengthen and diversify its Board through the appointment of committed and enthusiastic Trustees. We are looking for new Trustees who can help to direct Caritas Care towards achieving its Vision and Mission and to ensure the organisation is managed effectively in line with its core values. You will need to make a commitment to the ethos and values of the charity, which are rooted in the traditions of Catholic Social Teaching. You will need to be able to devote the necessary time, have strategic vision and bring independent judgement to the role.

At this time, when we are committed to ensuring our sustainability within a challenging social care landscape, we would particularly welcome applications from people with expertise and professional experience in the field of Children's Social Care, Learning Disabilities and/or who have senior management experience within the public or charitable sector would be of particular interest. Applicants from a diverse ethnic background or as a service beneficiary are particularly welcome. This is not an exclusive list, and we welcome applications from people who have something to offer a charity like ours because of their professional background, values or personal experience.

We understand that becoming a Trustee is a big commitment, and that you will want to learn as much as possible about our charity before making the decision to apply. Our Chief Executive, Susan Swarbrick would welcome the opportunity for you to talk with her about the charity in an informal discussion. Susan can be contacted on 01772 732313.

If you feel that you have the necessary skills and experience, want to be part of an organisation that values people, dignity and choice, and want to make a real difference to people's lives, then we look forward to hearing from you.

Mary Leavy
Chair of the Board of Trustees

Susan Swarbrick
Chief Executive Officer

ABOUT CARITAS CARE

Caritas Care started its life as the social welfare arm of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Lancaster, and later developed into an independent charity. Our work today continues to be informed by Catholic Social teaching, our founding ethos, which values the dignity, freedom, independence and the worth of every person; and where respect and equality promotes the wellbeing of every member of our Caritas Care family. Today these principles and values are alive in all our work, in our services and projects, which have adapted over time to respond to the changing needs of our society.

Caritas Care today employs over 200 staff, and has a number of bases in Lancashire, Cumbria and the Greater Manchester area, with the Head Office in Preston.

OUR VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

Caritas Care entered 2020 with a confident restatement of our **Vision, Mission and Values** and a commitment to ensuring that they drive all our work both now and in the future.

Our Vision

Our vision is that all families and communities have chances, choices and opportunities to live the best lives they can.

Our Mission

Following our founding ethos, to respond positively to the changing needs of our communities with projects and services that give better life chances to people of all ages.

We will work in the best ways possible to:

- Support children and families
- Find families for children in care
- Provide opportunities and support for people with disabilities
- Combat social isolation

Our Values

Friendliness – we believe in welcoming everyone with warmth and kindness. We want people to feel included and to create a sense of belonging.

Fairness – we believe in equality and strive to be respectful in everything we do. We listen to the needs of others and put them at the heart of our work.

Integrity – we believe in being open and honest in all parts of our work. We support people from all walks of life and treat each person with dignity and acceptance. We believe in the value of individuals.

Freedom to choose – we believe in empowering people to reach their full potential and to lead a happy, fulfilled life. We provide opportunities so all families and communities can make their own choices and lead the lives that they want to.

Collaboration – we believe by bringing communities together and by building relationships, we can create a brighter, happier future. Through working with our supporters and other organisations we aim to make our vision a reality.

Caritas Care today offers a diverse range of projects and services to children and adults of all faiths and none across the North West to help people to lead better lives, which include:

- Adoption services as a registered Voluntary Adoption Agency (VAA)
- Fostering services as a registered Independent Fostering Agency (IFA)
- Concurrent Planning services (early permanence for young children)
- Homeless hostel and Emergency Accommodation (Vincent House in Blackpool)
- Community Centre and community self-help projects.
- Day services for people with a learning disability
- Services for adults with profound disabilities
- Supported living for children and adults with disabilities
- Learning & Development Centre for young adults with disabilities
- Volunteering opportunities

Our Adoption, fostering and concurrent planning services are registered with Ofsted.

Our disability services deliver a bespoke person centred service, aimed at achieving better outcomes for health and wellbeing and is registered with the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

Our work in community projects reduces social isolation.

We deliver many services through contract arrangements with Social Care services, through spot purchase contracts, tender awards, block contracts, Framework Contracts and Service Level Agreements. Where we feel the need to deliver services that statutory bodies will not fund, we will try to develop these services where possible by securing funding elsewhere.

Our achievements in the last five years include:

- Innovation within our Adoption Service through grant funding from the Department for Education to develop new services
- Launching and expanding a new Concurrent Planning service (where carers are dually approved as Adopters and Foster Carers).
- Establishment of new projects working with disadvantaged people and communities, including ex-offenders, homeless people, children with disabilities and carers
- Establishment of a new day care service for young adults with learning disabilities and complex needs (Marian House Learning & Development Centre)
- Expansion of Supported Living Services for adults in their own homes, and for young people who have disabilities and complex needs, living with parents or carers.
- A fresh new brand and awareness raising to help us take our work to potential new supporters and sponsors

Caritas Care has significant expertise in the delivery of community services and our experience includes:

- Development of a Community Centre in Preston
- Development and operation of a Community Café
- Development of a food bank facility
- Volunteering and work experience opportunities

OUR KEY STRATEGIC PLAN 2021- 23

Caritas Care is committed to furthering our vision over the next 3 year period, to bring **chances, choices and opportunities** to as many people and communities as possible in the Northern region.

To achieve our ambition to reach more people we recognise that we need to grow and develop our charitable activities; we also know that growing at a time of economic austerity and public sector cuts will be a challenge.

Our Strategic Plan 2021-23 embraces the challenge with **six key principles**, which will underpin our work.

This Strategy builds upon Caritas Care’s previous successes in providing **chances, choices and opportunities** for people to live the best lives that they can. It will contribute to Caritas Care’s sustainability through maintaining high quality support and excellent service delivery to benefit our service users, and commissioners of our services. The Strategy provides a structure within which Caritas Care can deliver its charitable objects, focusing our resources and energies on the activities that will best serve the Caritas Care community and the people we support.

The Strategy prioritises:

- The remodelling of services to ensure sustainability
- Financial stability
- Commitment to our mission, vision and charitable objects
- The provision of high quality care and support
- Effective working relationships with commissioners of our services
- Building our ‘brand’ and raising awareness

In setting out Caritas Care’s Strategic ambitions, they are designed to promote sustainability, prioritise the needs of service users, and increase our visibility, skills and service quality. The ambitions reflect the unique contribution that Caritas Care makes as a social care provider in a volatile, unstable and competitive market, as we work to build a better future for our service users. We aim to strengthen the Caritas Care ‘family’, build trust and collaboration across our stakeholders to enhance our sustainability, build the skill base of our workforce and extend our reach to offer more people the **chances, choices and opportunities** to live the best lives that they can.

Performance Management

Caritas Care is committed to evidencing the positive impact we have on people’s lives through the provision of excellent projects and services. To make sure that we have a robust system in place for monitoring our progress and demonstrating our effectiveness, we operate a performance management system (Balanced Scorecard) which analyses the data we collect and tells us how we are doing.

OUR GOVERNANCE

A Board of Trustees governs Caritas Care. The Board is responsible for the strategic direction of the Charity, for defining policy and approving annual budgets. The officers of the charity are accountable to the Board; strategic and operational management is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, who is supported by a Senior Leadership Team. The Board, made up of volunteers includes people with a range of skills and experiences including Social Work, HR, Safeguarding, Social Housing, IT, Law, Community support and Health and they have many years of knowledge and expertise between them.

The Board has two sub groups; a Finance subcommittee and Health and Safety Group, who make recommendations to the full Board.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Caritas Care became a registered charity in 1934, and in 1981 was incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee

We operate as a voluntary adoption agency, registered with Ofsted and the Inspection Report from 2022 can be found on the following website www.Ofsted.gov.uk

Caritas Care is also an independent fostering agency registered with Ofsted and the Inspection Report from 2018 can be found on the following website www.Ofsted.gov.uk

Caritas Care's annual report and audited accounts can be viewed online at the Charity Commission website entering charity number 326021, or by clicking [here](#)

A DBS check will be required for this role