Trustee Role Description

About us
Family Alliance is a US-based, 501(c)(3)-registered non-profit organization established to support the work of Family for Every Child, a global alliance of national non-profits working together to improve the care of vulnerable children worldwide. We currently have 39 member organisations in 36 countries around the world, and aim to grow this to 40-50 members in the current strategic period. Family Alliance’s mission is to mobilize the power of supporters, donors and partners in the US in support of the work of Family for Every Child (Family).

Across the world, millions of boys and girls are exposed to the risk of exploitation, trafficking, child labour, early marriage and other forms of physical, sexual and emotional abuse. At Family, we believe that, to reach their full potential, every child has the right to grow up in a safe family environment.

What makes our alliance unique is that it brings together grassroots organizations from around the world that have a deep understanding of the local challenges and needs of children and families in their communities, in their countries, in their culture. Together, we have a stronger international, regional and national voice to advocate for change for the children in their countries, we learn from each other, we cooperate in projects together and with external partners, and we carry out context-based research that helps us advance our cause for children.

We have about 10,000 existing supporters in the UK and a new fundraising programme in New Zealand with nearly 5,500 supporters. We are currently looking to grow high value income globally and particularly in the US.

About the role
Family Alliance is currently looking to recruit new trustees for its Board. We are looking for engaged professionals with solid expertise in raising funds from foundations, major donors and donor advised funds, who will, in coordination with the Board’s President and other trustees, be able to inform and support Family Alliance’s fundraising strategy through initiatives such as:

- introduction to relevant contacts and/or identification of relevant opportunities
- hosting of external relations events
- guidance on communication tailored for the US market
- acting as an ambassador for Family Alliance in the US development sector.

Person specification:
We are looking for professionals with the following experience and capability:

- experience in philanthropy (institutional, individuals, major donors, donor-relations etc.) and/or external/public relations or communication in the development sector in the US
- a passion for international development, social justice, child care and the pooling of expertise and knowledge through networks
● prior experience with networks, alliances and coalitions or with child protection and care as well as a portfolio of contacts within the main US grant-making markets would be an asset
● engaging public speaking skills

All trustees are expected to have the following knowledge, expertise and commitment:

● good, independent judgment and the ability to provide strategic guidance
● understanding of and empathy with Family Alliance’s vision, mission, and values
● understanding of and interest for the value of networks and working within a network or decentralized organization
● an interest in understanding the issues Family is seeking to address and the impact we aim to achieve
● understanding or commitment to acquire an understanding of the primary legal duties of non-profits under the New York State Office of the Attorney General

All trustees of Family Alliance are expected to act on the following duties:

● to ensure that Family Alliance complies with all relevant legislation or regulations
● to ensure that Family Alliance pursues its mission and objectives as defined in the organization’s bylaws
● to contribute actively to the Board of Directors in giving firm strategic direction to Family Alliance
● to ensure effective communication and collaboration with the Board of Trustees of Family for Every Child so as to make sure that Family Alliance’s activities support delivery of the Family for Every Child global strategy
● to safeguard the good name and values of Family Alliance and of Family for Every Child
● to work with the executive team to ensure the effective and efficient administration of Family Alliance
● to protect and manage the property of the organization and to ensure proper use of resources
● to represent Family Alliance externally
● to adhere to Family Alliance’s Child Safeguarding Policy

Other duties:
In addition to the above duties, each trustee should use any specific skills, knowledge or experience they have to help the Board reach sound decisions. This includes:

● Scrutinising Board papers
● Leading discussions
● Focusing on key issues
● Providing guidance on new initiatives
● Other issues in which the trustee has special expertise.
Time commitment:

It is anticipated that there will be 4-6 Board meetings a year:
- At least one face to face meeting annually
- 4-5 virtual meetings, lasting about one hour each
- Attendance at relevant networking events
- Trustees may also be requested to provide support and guidance to the CEO and other Secretariat staff between meetings.

Conditions:

This is a volunteer position with no remuneration. All reasonable expenses related to pre-approved travels and activities will be reimbursed.

How to apply

If you are interested and feel that you can contribute to our mission, please email your resume and a letter explaining why you would like to join the Board of Family Alliance and what skills you would bring, to katherine.jacob@familyforeverychild.org

Although our new trustees must be resident in the US, we are looking for individuals with the right capabilities and qualifications without regard to race, color, gender, religion, age, national origin or any other protected characteristic as established by law.