

Open Door Accommodation Project (Livingston)

**Description**

We are currently seeking passionate individuals of all ages to join our Board of Trustees. In particular we are looking for new Directors with skills in Finance or Human Resources.

Application packs are available on request by emailing tony.holloran@odap.org.uk

**Organisation aims and objectives**

Open Door Accommodation Project is a youth charity that has been working for over thirty years with some of West Lothian’s most vulnerable young people at risk of homeless. Many may have been affected by family breakdown, are care leavers, have been physically, emotionally or sexually abused, have poor mental health or well-being, are socially isolated and will struggle to find or sustain employment due to lack of qualifications or experience.

We aim to support the young people who come to us in a number of ways. Our priority is to provide a safe space for young people in crisis and then we work with them to devise a support plan to enable them to manage the transition from homelessness, cope with independent living and progress towards positive outcomes. A support plan is tailored to individual need and can include: welfare advice, budgeting, cookery skills to encourage healthy eating on a budget, education and training, employability skills and volunteering opportunities. We also aim to give each young vulnerable person practical support. This can include furniture, a household pack with basic toiletries and cleaning materials and a food pack. Many of the young people come to us with nothing more than a small bag of clothes so this practical support is essential.

We offer two housing services- hostel accommodation with ten units in the Craigshill area of Livingston, and a supported flats service offering young people accommodation in flats across West Lothian. We also offer a Community Outreach project which encompasses one to one support, an employability service, a volunteering project and health and wellbeing service.

**Restrictions**

Experience required: Previous board experience is not essential but we would consider the following qualities and competencies to be essential

* Understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship (this information will be provided)
* experience with working as part of a team;
* non-judgemental and commitment to the strategic values of Open Door;
* leadership within your field of expertise;
* sound, independent judgement;
* ability to devote sufficient time and effort to Open Door.

Travel details: Meetings are typically held in the evening, remotely at present, every 8 weeks

Age: minimum of 18 years of age

**Support**

Expenses paid: Any relevant out of pocket expenses are re-imbursed

Training details: The successful candidate will receive an information pack. Fellow trustees will be on hand whenever necessary to provide ongoing support.