

Home-Start Greater Manchester is asking people with professional skills to step forward and be volunteer trustees to help guide and oversee its work supporting local families with young children who are struggling to cope.

We need people with a broad range of skills to become members of our Board of Trustees: from managers of small businesses and lawyers, to people with an understanding of information technology, human resources, finance or accounting.

Being a Home-Start trustee is all about governance. The trustees don't run Home-Start on a day-to-day basis – that's the job of paid staff – but they are responsible for the vision and strategy of the charity as well as its finances, staff and property. And whilst this is a serious commitment with legal and financial responsibilities, they have no personal financial liability as Home-Start Greater Manchester is a company limited by guarantee."

In return for volunteering for up to 10 hours a month, trustees will be able to enhance their own skills, knowledge, self-confidence and professional networks and know that they have made a real difference to families in their own community.

Here's what some existing trustees say about Home-Start:

"Home-Start is an organisation that makes you feel valued and allows you to discover skills you didn't know you had."

"Whilst I work with a lot of local organisations, Home-Start is the only one where I am a trustee, because I do believe it provides a vital service locally, and I wanted to get more involved with the project and help to support it."

"I have met a whole range of people that I would otherwise not have met. It has provided me with a whole experience and richness I wouldn't have got if I hadn't done this."

If you have read this and feel inspired to find out more about becoming a trustee of this consortium charity, please visit the website www.gmhomestarts.org.uk or email info@gmhomestarts.org.uk