



emmaus
Gloucestershire
working together to end homelessness

emmaus
Working together to end homelessness
Work is important to us

given me a purpose,
shown me that I have
skills and can make a
contribution."

working together to end homelessness

Accredited
Defibrillator
Location

emmaus

Customer

The following restrictions apply to the following services:

U	Unlimited
PG	PG Pay As You Go
12A	12 Month
12	12 Month
15	15 Month
18	18 Month

Trustee Information Pack



Contents

Thank you for your interest in the role of Trustee at Emmaus Gloucestershire

This pack provides you with useful information about our organisation, the Trustee role and the application process. Please take the time to read this pack and our website to find out more about our charity, community and social enterprise.

emmaus.org.uk/gloucestershire



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How Emmaus works

Emmaus Gloucestershire supports people who have experienced homelessness and social exclusion. We offer:



A home for as long as someone needs it

In our Emmaus community, everyone has their own furnished bedroom. It is their space for as long as they need it. We supply food for all meals, basic clothing and toiletries, and funded training and support within a secure environment. Living and dining areas are shared spaces where people can relax and socialise together.



Meaningful work in a social enterprise

The people we support spend time working in our social enterprises and community. For many, taking part in meaningful work gives them a focus and routine each day. The opportunity to become an active part of society, and make a contribution to it, plays an important role in restoring their self-esteem.



A sense of belonging and community

We offer the companionship, support and sense of belonging that many people who have experienced homelessness may have lost. It's a safe and caring place where people can settle and rebuild their lives. Our community enables people to share their experiences and benefit from peer to peer support.



"Emmaus was like a hand pulling me out of a dark hole. I'm still here, I'm still breathing and I'm happy. Before Emmaus, I spent five years sleeping rough on the streets of Watford, struggling with depression, anxiety and addiction. Emmaus saved my life, and I'm sure it will save many more."



Filipe, companion at Emmaus Gloucestershire



Emmaus overview

Emmaus Gloucestershire is a local charity supporting formerly homeless people by providing a home and an opportunity to progress. The people we support (known as Emmaus companions) live and work together in our community home and social enterprise.

Our residential community is a place where people can make it their home, make new friends, gain confidence, and get access to the support needed to secure their own home. Whilst at Emmaus Gloucestershire, companions have a chance to improve their health and wellbeing, learn new skills and gain qualifications.

In providing companions with the space, stability and support they need, we enable people to take stock of their lives and make positive changes for the future. This approach is proven to produce long-term sustainable results for people who have been stuck in the cycle of homelessness.

Here at Emmaus Gloucestershire, we have a small staff team and accommodation for up to 26 companions. We are also supported by a dedicated team of local volunteers and our board of trustees.

All companions directly contribute to the success of Emmaus Gloucestershire by helping within our community home and social enterprise. This provides people with a focus each day and work experience to enhance their future opportunities.

Becoming a trustee at Emmaus Gloucestershire is an opportunity to apply and develop your skillset for a worthwhile cause. The role offers variety, responsibility and satisfaction, especially seeing people overcome challenges to achieve their goals. We're working together to end homelessness and have exciting plans to further develop our charity, community and the impact we have in Gloucestershire.

Social enterprise

Emmaus Gloucestershire offers a range of social enterprise services to support people, communities and the environment.

Much of our social enterprise activity is focussed on saving good quality items from going to waste but we deliver so much more. Our four charity shops and eBay store sell a wide range of donated furniture, household items, electrical items, clothes, books, entertainment and bric-a-brac. Connected to our charity shops we also offer free furniture collections.

The majority of our income is generated in our social enterprise. Companions help out in every area, directly contributing to our charity whilst gaining skills and valuable work experience.

Solidarity

One of the most important parts of the Emmaus ethos is solidarity. This means working to help someone less fortunate than yourself. Solidarity can be very valuable for companions as it is often key to helping to rebuild self-esteem, proving that everyone has the capacity to make a difference to the lives of others.

As a community, we offer beneficial services to the local community such as partnering with organisations to offer discounted or free furniture to low-income individuals and families in need. We see this as an important part of our solidarity activities, helping other local non-profit organisations and people living locally.



"The pandemic hit me and my business hard. Emmaus has given me the opportunity to get my feet back on the ground."



Kris, former companion of Emmaus Gloucestershire

Our mission

To work together to overcome homelessness and social exclusion while using our voice to achieve social change.

Our values

Respect

Value and respect every person, opposing injustice

Sharing

Be transparent and honest in all our dealings

Openness

Demonstrate solidarity and support for those in need

Solidarity

Create an environment of empowerment

Welcoming

Share and exchange resources, skills and learning



Emmaus movement

Emmaus Gloucestershire is an independent local charity that is governed by a board of trustees from across Gloucestershire and neighbouring counties. Whilst our work is focused locally, we are also part of a much wider Emmaus movement. We are a member of the Emmaus UK federation, Emmaus Europe and Emmaus International.

The history of Emmaus began in Paris in 1949 when the first Emmaus community was founded by Father Henri-Antoine Grouès, better known as Abbé Pierre. He was an MP, Catholic priest and former member of the French Resistance who fought to provide homes for those who lived on the streets of Paris.

After the first Emmaus community opened, many more were established across France. Abbé Pierre became an international figure and travelled the world spreading the word about Emmaus, leading to new communities being set up on four continents. Abbé Pierre continued to campaign until his death, in January 2007, aged 94.

There are currently more than 400 Emmaus groups spread across 41 different countries around the world. Across the globe, all Emmaus groups have the same values whilst operating in very diverse social, economic and political contexts. All share the same goal; acting against the causes of poverty and being vehicles for social transformation through allowing the poorest to become actors in their own lives.

The first Emmaus in the UK opened in 1991 and Emmaus Gloucestershire was founded in 1993. There are now 30 Emmaus communities in the UK with more than 850 companions living at communities stretching from Glasgow to Dover. No two Emmaus communities are the same – each has its own individual personality, providing a set of services that meet the needs of its local area.

Find out more about the roots of Emmaus and how the movement has developed to serve people in need.

emmaus-international.org/en/ 



Trustee Overview

Like all charities, Emmaus Gloucestershire relies on a diverse group of people to become trustees and deliver good governance. Governance is a term used to describe the trustees' role in:

- the long term direction of the charity, including its objectives or purposes
- implementing policies and activities to achieve objectives
- complying with legal requirements
- accountability to those with an interest or 'stake' in the charity.

We aim to maintain a board of trustees which has people with individual expertise in leadership, organisational development, housing, marketing, fundraising, health and safety, legal and finance.

The Emmaus Gloucestershire board of trustees meet every quarter. Meetings are at 6.30pm, allowing those trustees who work during the day to participate and attend meetings. There are also occasional away days and potential opportunities to represent the community on a local, national and international level.

All trustees are encouraged to visit and maintain regular contact with the community, and where possible, spend time working alongside companions and join companions, staff and volunteers for lunch.

Trustee

Role description



Location:	Emmaus Gloucestershire
Role type:	Voluntary (with expenses)
Accountable to:	Chair of Trustees
Responsible for:	Governance, staff, companions and volunteers

Duties & responsibilities

Trustees are responsible for providing appropriate oversight, governance and leadership to Emmaus Gloucestershire to fulfil its charitable aims. Each trustee must:

- attend board and other meetings as appropriate
- read and scrutinise board papers and other communications
- lead discussions and provide guidance and support on new initiatives
- abide by Emmaus Gloucestershire's policies and procedures, ensuring these are effectively implemented throughout the organisation
- participate in activities to promote Emmaus Gloucestershire to existing and new stakeholders
- contribute on other issues or areas of special expertise
- accept ultimate responsibility for directing Emmaus Gloucestershire's affairs, ensuring it is solvent, well-run, and delivering its charitable outcomes.

Statutory responsibilities

Under the Charities Act 2011, a trustee's main duties are to:

- ensure the charity is carrying out its purposes for the public benefit;
- comply with the charity's governing document and the law;
- act in the charity's best interests;
- manage the charity's resources responsibly;
- act with reasonable care and skill; and
- ensure the charity is accountable.

Under the Companies Act 2006, a trustee is referred to as a director in company law and their main duties are to:

- act within the directors' powers
- promote the success of the company and to act in good faith
- exercise independent judgement
- exercise reasonable care, skill and diligence
- avoid conflicts of interest
- not accept benefits from third parties
- declare interest in proposed transactions or arrangements.



Trustee

Application process

To express an interest in becoming a trustee at Emmaus Gloucestershire, send your CV and covering letter via email to:

joanna@emmausglos.org.uk

On receipt, you will be invited to an initial meeting at a mutually convenient time. Where possible, we do prefer trustee applicants to visit our community to meet with one or two trustees, staff and companions in person.

Following the initial meeting, the board will invite you to be an observer at one of the trustee meetings, prior to a decision made and confirmation of your appointment.