



NSRF
National Suicide
Research Foundation

4.28 Western Gateway Building, University College Cork, Ireland
Tel: 353 21 4205551 E-mail: info@nsrf.ie Web: www.nsrf.ie
Promoting research and understanding into suicide and self-harm since 1994

Prof. Ella Arensman, Chief Scientist
Dr. Paul Corcoran, Head of Research
Dr. Margaret Kelleher, Medical Director
Dr. Eve Griffin, Chief Executive Officer

Chairperson of the Board of Directors (Non-Executive)

About the National Suicide Research Foundation

The National Suicide Research Foundation (NSRF) is a leading centre for excellence in the area of suicide prevention. Founded in 1994, the NSRF produces research and evidence for policy development and intervention in the prevention of self-harm, suicide and related mental health and social problems.

The NSRF is a charitable company with a registered office at 4.28 Western Gateway Building, University College Cork. The company's registered number is 224676. The Registered Charity Number (RCN) of the charity is 20030889. The charity has been granted charitable tax status under sections 207 and 208 of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997, Charity number CHY 11351 and is registered with the Charities Regulatory Authority.

The NSRF has been designated as a WHO Collaborating Centre in Surveillance and Research in Suicide Prevention and also has a formal Memorandum of Collaboration with University College Cork. The NSRF employs approximately 50 staff and has an annual turnover of approximately €2m. More information about the organisation can be found here: www.nsrf.ie.

This is an exciting opportunity to support the work of the NSRF as it implements its current strategic plan and to work with a diverse and multidisciplinary team to reduce the incidence of suicide and self-harm in Ireland and globally, through impactful research.



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The role

The NSRF is seeking to appoint a Chairperson to its Board of Directors. The Chairperson will first be appointed as Director and elected by the Board of Directors. The Chairperson will provide leadership to the Board, ensure strong governance, and work closely with the Chief Executive Officer to uphold the organisation's vision, mission and values.

The existing Board of Directors represents wide-ranging skills and long-standing expertise which include, but are not limited to, clinical and research expertise, service provision for marginalised communities, finance and audit and legal/regulatory expertise.

This role is voluntary and non-executive.

We particularly encourage expressions of interest from individuals with lived experience of suicide or self-harm.

General Trustee duties

- Comply with the Charity's governing document
- Ensure Charity is complying with its charitable purpose for the public benefit
- Act in the best interest of the charity
- Act with reasonable care and skill
- Manage the assets of the Charity
- Attend regular meetings of the Board in addition to the Annual General meeting



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- Commit to participating actively in committees and build effective relationships with other Directors and Company Members to ensure the successful operation of the Board

Members of the Board of Directors are required to become Directors of the Company.

Key responsibilities of Chairperson

The Chairperson has a strategic role to play by communicating effectively the vision and purpose of the organisation, to ensure the Board functions well and that there is full participation at meetings.

Key responsibilities include:

- Chair board meetings, ensuring effective running of meetings, participation and decision making
- Bring impartiality and objectivity to meetings and decision making
- Ensure that decisions made at meetings are implemented
- Ensure the Board fulfils its governance, legal, and fiduciary responsibilities
- Support a culture of accountability, integrity, and inclusion
- Promote good governance among fellow charity trustees
- Oversee Board effectiveness, evaluation, and development
- Liaise with CEO and to keep up to date on the affairs of the organisation
- Provide counsel to, and act as a sounding board for, the CEO
- Advocate for and represent the organisation at external meetings and events if required



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Skills and experience

- Previous Board or Chair experience (nonprofit, public, or corporate)
- Excellent understanding of good governance practice, the role and duties of Trustee and governance standards related to charities and compliance with same
- Strong leadership presence
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Ability to facilitate balanced, impartial discussions
- Ability to ensure decisions are taken and followed up
- Understanding of the roles/responsibilities of a governing body
- Alignment with the vision, mission and values of the NSRF

Time commitment

- Approximately six meetings per year
- Strategic planning with CEO and Senior Management Team outside meetings (as needed)

Board meetings and practical information

- Board meetings are held five times per year (maximum 2 hours duration) in addition to an Annual General Meeting. One in-person Board workshop is held annually.
- Meetings are hybrid (mix of in-person and virtual)
- Directors should ideally be based on the Island of Ireland



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How to express interest

Please submit:

- A brief Curriculum Vitae
- A short statement outlining your interest and relevant experience

For informal enquiries please contact Dr Eve Griffin, Chief Executive

Officer: evegriffin@ucc.ie



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