



September 2018

Voluntary Board Members wanted:

Family Routes is a dynamic and growing NI charity. Our core services include:

- Adoption Routes – Adoption assessment and post-adoption support for families and adults
- Fertility Counselling Service NI – Leading provider of specialist fertility counselling
- Next Step – A support and counselling service for birth families
- TESSA – Therapeutic and education support for adopted children and their adoptive parents

Whether it is counselling a couple in the midst of fertility treatment; providing therapeutic support to a child who has been adopted following traumatic early life experiences; counselling a birth mother whose children have been placed for adoption; supporting adoptive parents who are struggling to parent a traumatised child; or counselling an adopted adult as they search for their birth family – we are there to support, encourage and walk with those we work with. We have developed expertise in these complex areas over 30 years of supporting people and we know we make a real difference in people's lives. We are ambitious as an organisation and want to grow our services so that we can support more people.

In order to achieve this, we are seeking to recruit new Directors to the Board

We are looking for individuals with a background in the public, private, voluntary or community sectors who can contribute to the leadership, oversight and governance of Family Routes as it continues to play a key role in the worlds of fertility and adoption. We need people with drive, ambition, commitment and a vision who will strengthen the Board's collective skill set in the following areas:

- Social care experience, particularly children's or mental health services
- Therapeutic practice – we would particularly invite interest from people with experience in trauma informed practice
- Governance systems and processes
- Business development, entrepreneurship, social enterprise or fundraising
- Financial management experience including but not exclusively PQE Accountancy
- Public Relations, Marketing, Communications
- IT systems and processes

As part of our succession planning over the coming period we are keen to hear from people with experience of chairing committees or Boards. We would also welcome interest from people with fertility or adoption experience, either personally or professionally. In addition, if you are drawn to supporting our work but are unsure of how you might contribute to the Board, please get in touch.

As a Board member you will have the opportunity to:

- Help lead the strategic direction of an ambitious and dynamic charity
- Provide support and scrutiny to the Chief Executive
- Make a difference to children, adults and families in need of support
- Avail of personal and professional development opportunities
- Develop further professional networks

Recruitment Process:

Open Evening: If you are interested in finding out more about the work we do and the role of the Board members we warmly invite you to join us for an Open Evening on Wednesday, 17th October, 5-7 p.m. This will be on a drop-in basis so feel free to come at the time that suits you best. You can find a map to our office [here](#). Please print and bring this map with you as google maps will take you elsewhere! Please phone Marie on 02890736080 to confirm your attendance.

Speak to Someone in Confidence: If you would like to speak with someone in confidence before submitting an expression of interest, please contact 02890736080 to arrange a phone call with the Chair.

Expression of Interest: We invite you to submit an expression of interest by email to tina@adoptionroutes.co.uk by 12 midday on Friday, 26th October. Your expression of interest should be no more than one page long. You should focus on the relevant skills and experience you are offering and what, in particular, attracts you to joining the Family Routes Board. In addition, please indicate if you would be willing to be considered for the role of Chair and, if so, what relevant skills and experience you would bring to this role.

Interviews: We will meet with interested people between 5th-12th November to discuss your expression of interest in more detail, and recommendations will be considered at the December Board meeting. We anticipate that new members would attend their first Board meeting in January, 2019.

You can find out more information on our websites:

www.adoptionroutes.co.uk

www.fertilitycounsellingserviceni.co.uk

www.nextstepni.org

www.tessani.org