



# JOB PACK

**Trustee**



**#WeAreFoodCycle**

**[www.foodcycle.org.uk](http://www.foodcycle.org.uk)**

**FoodCycle is an equal opportunities employer.**

# ABOUT FOODCYCLE

Week in, week out we nourish the hungry and lonely in our communities with delicious meals and great conversation, using food that would otherwise go to waste. Our Projects are run by thousands of skilled, trained and dedicated volunteers who create tasty meals to be shared by the local community. We believe that everyone has a right to good food and company without probing questions and FoodCycle welcomes people from all backgrounds and walks of life.

## WE AIM TO:

- Connect communities
- Support mental health and wellbeing
- Nourish the hungry
- Promote sustainability
- Inspire change

## WHY WE'RE NEEDED

### UK families continue to go hungry...

Marcus Rashford's End Child Food Poverty Campaign states that 4.2 million UK children are in food poverty, with two in five not eligible for free school meals. Figures from the Social Market Foundation suggest that almost two million children in the UK went short of food this year, with some 16% of surveyed parents saying their children had to make do with smaller portions, skip meals or go a day without eating between March and September. A similar study from The Food Foundation focusing on four million adults living with children, reported 12% of parents skipped meals because they could not afford or access food. On that note, 80% of FoodCycle guests who attended with children told us they skip meals.

### Destitution

A study on destitution in the UK from Joseph Rowntree Foundation found that more than a million UK households experienced destitution at some point in 2019, with one third (32%) of those households reported having no immediate source of income in the last month. While 78% of the population of destitute service users had incomes below the 'extremely low income' threshold – with at least 32% with no income at all and 74% with incomes of less than £70 a week.

### Loneliness

An Office of National Statistics study revealed that 30.9% (7.4 million adults) said their wellbeing had been affected through feeling lonely in the past seven days, and one in twelve respondents surveyed between 28 October and 1 November described themselves as always or often lonely. Young people are particularly at risk - with 16 to 29-year-olds twice as likely as the over-70s to be experiencing loneliness in the pandemic. Before the pandemic, 75% of FoodCycle guests told us they were lonely.

### Food waste is on the rise...

WRAP carried out two studies during lockdown: in April consumers reported a reduction in wasted food but in June surplus levels began to increase from 14% to 18% on bread, milk, potatoes and chicken. The most recent official figures covering pre-lockdown, published in January 2020, show that UK households waste 4.5m tonnes of usable food a year – enough food to easily fill 30 Royal Albert Halls and worth a total of £14bn.

# 2020 IN NUMBERS



**775,644 MEALS\*  
HANDED OUT**



**1.2 M MINUTES SPENT  
NATTERING**

**359 TONNES OF SURPLUS  
FOOD SAVED**



**5,900 NEW VOLUNTEERS  
SIGNED UP**



**83% OF RECIPIENTS SAID THEY  
ATE MORE FRUIT AND VEG**

**63% SAID THEY RELIED ON FOODCYCLE  
AS THEY COULD NOT AFFORD FOOD**

\*equivalent meals, based on the assumption of an average meal weighing 420g (FSA 2008)

FoodCycle is a company limited by guarantee (number 7101349) and a registered charity in England and Wales (number 1134423).



# FoodCycle Trustee

## About FoodCycle

FoodCycle is an award winning national charity delivering volunteer powered community dining Projects across England. We build communities in our Projects by combining surplus food, volunteers and spare kitchen spaces to create nutritious, three-course meals for the community. During Covid we developed three new services – FoodCycle Delivers: Cook and Collect and Check-in- and-Chat. We are currently developing policies, procedures and training to return to community dining as soon as it is safe to do so. We will continue to run Check-in-and Chat as this is a great way to continue conversations with our guests during the week.

### Mission

Week in, week out we nourish the hungry and lonely in our communities with delicious meals and great conversation, using food which would otherwise go to waste.

### Aims

#### **Connect communities**

Help strengthen and build resilient communities by bringing people together to share healthy, delicious meals.

#### **Support mental health and wellbeing**

Enhance the health and mental wellbeing of all by creating welcoming spaces for people from all backgrounds and walks of life to have conversations together.

#### **Nourish the hungry**

Improve nutrition and reduce hunger by cooking healthy meals for those in need, leading to improved food knowledge and changes in behaviour.

#### **Promote sustainability**

Change attitudes to food and society's impact on the environment by cooking with surplus ingredients.

#### **Inspire change**

Share the virtues of our community dining model and the voices of our guests to gain greater support and speed our expansion, enabling us to help more people and more communities.

Our head office is in London. We have ambitious growth plans for the next three years as we intend to expand to 100 Projects across England, Scotland and Wales. Over 4,500 people actively volunteer with us each year to deliver our services. Our income for 2020 was £1.6M having doubled in 2 years. For further information, please visit our website [www.foodcycle.org.uk](http://www.foodcycle.org.uk)

## Role of Trustee

- To ensure that FoodCycle complies with our governing document, charity law, company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations and that we pursue our Objects as defined in our governing document
- To ensure that we apply our resources exclusively in pursuance of FoodCycle's Objects and that we are efficiently and effectively managed
- To safeguard the good name and values of FoodCycle
- To ensure the financial stability of FoodCycle
- To appoint the Chief Executive Officer and monitor his/her performance.
- To sit on safeguarding, remuneration and other panels as required

In addition to the above statutory duties, we ask our trustees to use any specific skills, knowledge or experience they have to help the Board of Trustees reach sound decisions. Ideally you will be committed, astute, community minded, can think flexibly and be willing to speak your mind.

It is also important that you have the time to commit to the role. As a trustee you will need to spend time reviewing FoodCycle's papers prior to the Board Meetings, and attend additional meetings either to support the Senior Leadership Team or develop strategy. We will invest in training and mentoring for you as necessary in accordance with your experience as a trustee.

The Board and Committee meetings are normally held in central London/online. Trustees meet 4-5 times a year, and attend the FoodCycle annual conference held on a weekend in October. Trustees serve three years on the FoodCycle Board with an option to extend if necessary. We will re-imburse expenses and welcome applications from across the country.

**This is not a remunerated position.**

## Skills and experience you may have

We are hoping a wide range of people with differing skill sets and experience apply for our trustee positions. It would be helpful if you have skills and experience of one or more of the following – however it is not essential.

- Lived experience – have you ever used a service or been in need of a service such as FoodCycle's? This is an ideal way share your expertise with our Board and SMT and help shape what we do
- Volunteers – responsibility for recruitment/training/policies/procedures and developing skills
- Hospitality – running chains of cafes/restaurants and replicating high standards across venues that differ
- Social Prescribing/guest outreach – you understand the needs of our guests and can help reach out to charities/health organisations across UK
- Policy – you have developed policy and campaigns in organisations/politics/charity
- Governance – possible experience at a board of a company or other charity

## Applying for this role

**If you are interested:** Why not call the CEO for a chat – you can email her on [mary@foodcycle.org.uk](mailto:mary@foodcycle.org.uk) and she will set up a time for an informal chat. Following that we may ask for a covering note and a CV.

**Start:** July 2021

FoodCycle is an equal opportunity employer and values diversity. The role advertised is 'Regulated Activity' and as such is not exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and that all potential applicants will be subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure check

## Safeguarding statement

Safeguarding is Everyone's business – FoodCycle is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare / wellbeing of children, young people and adults at risk. It expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment".

