



Vacancies:

Passionate volunteers to join the KeshetUK Board of Trustees

KeshetUK is recruiting up to three new trustees to its board.

KeshetUK is the Jewish community organisation that promotes the full inclusion of LGBT people in all aspects of Jewish life. Our vision is of a world where no one has to choose between their Jewish and LGBT identity.

The organisation was founded in 2011, and became a registered charity in September 2015. In January 2016 KeshetUK took up a three-year residency at JHub – an organisation supporting emerging organisations that are committed to creating social change in the British Jewish community. This summer, we employed a part-time Director of Programmes, our first paid staff member. Our income has grown from £7,700 in 2014-15 to nearly £25,000 in 2015-16.

Our current work has two broad aspects:

- *Delivering training* to staff and leadership of schools, synagogues, university societies, youth movements and community organisations that equip participants to make their organisations more inclusive of LGBT people.
- *Developing and supporting networks* of LGBT people and allies who run or participate in educational sessions in schools, youth movements, synagogues, university campuses or other Jewish community forums, such as Limmud.

Main achievements in 2015/16

Over the last two years, we have rapidly expanded our activities and reach, with highlights in 2015-16 including:

- Working with primary and secondary Jewish Day Schools including:
 - LGBT diversity training for staff;
 - providing CPD-accredited anti-bullying training to teachers in partnership with Stonewall;
 - delivering programming for students.
- Running LGBT diversity training to cross-communal Jewish organisations including the Union of Jewish Students, Jewish Care and Raphael (the Jewish counselling service).
- Publishing a set of Jewish LGBT educational resources¹ for LGBT History Month², including:
 - Denominational perspectives on LGT inclusion
 - Transgender Jewish voices
 - Life for LGBT people in Israel

¹ <http://www.keshetuk.org/free-resources>

² <http://www.lgbthistorymonth.org.uk/>



- Hosted annual Jewish community LGBT inclusion event in Parliament hosted by Mike Freer, MP, attended by 80 communal leaders and KeshetUK supporters, featuring Baroness Featherstone as guest speaker³.
- Developed and nurtured relationships with the British LGBT community, with KeshetUK volunteers representing Jewish voices at two different Stonewall events.

Board of Trustees

The board of trustees currently comprises three founder trustees Alma Reisel, Benjamin Ellis and Dave Shaw, who intend to remain on the board. We now wish to bring in a further three passionate, committed trustees who will oversee and support KeshetUK on its journey towards increased impact and full sustainability. Trustees are appointed to a two-year term, which can be renewed twice.

The board will meet every six to eight weeks, though this is expected to reduce to quarterly over the next two years, as the organisation develops. Currently, meetings are planned for early weekly evenings, at our offices in West Hampstead.

The first board meeting to include the newly-appointed Trustees is planned for Tuesday 22 November, 6-8pm.

For more information on our founding trustees, volunteers and director of programmes, please visit <http://www.keshetuk.org/the-team>

Trustee roles

KeshetUK is committed to create a diverse board. We are open to appointing people with a range of experiences and backgrounds, who will support us with their passion for LGBT inclusion, knowledge, expertise, skills, and contacts.

There are many reasons why you might want to become a KeshetUK trustee. They may be practical skills that you can bring, or perhaps you are really passionate about LGBT inclusion in the Jewish community; either way, we are looking for people who want to actively help create real change and will support you to enable that.

For example, it could be that you:

- Have previously worked with LGBT people and communities;
- Have strong connections within, and a deep understanding of, UK Jewish communities;
- Have been a trustee before and have an understanding of organisational development, governance and strategy;
- Enjoy developing, supporting and managing networks of volunteers;
- Are enthusiastic about, and have experience of, successful fundraising;

³ <http://www.pinknews.co.uk/2015/12/10/lgbt-jewish-group-keshet-holds-annual-chanukah-celebration-in-parliament/>



- Have the skills to support organisational publicity, social media and brand development.

We expect that our Trustees will commit around 4 hours each month to KeshetUK and will support fundraising.

We hope that many of our Trustees will take on additional volunteering roles in coordinating, and delivering different aspects of our activities, including supporting organisational and volunteer development.

Newly-appointed Trustees need to attend a KeshetUK volunteer induction within six months of their appointment. *These inductions are held from time to time, the next being held on Sunday 6 November, 2016.*

Application process

If you are interested in helping shape the future of KeshetUK, please send us a one-side cover letter setting out why you would like to be involved in KeshetUK and what skills, experience and commitment you would like to bring to the organisation. Please submit using the form below by 9am on Wednesday 14th September 2016.

When we receive this, one of the founding trustees will be in touch with you to discuss your application.

Further reading

For more information about KeshetUK's approach and our activities please see:

- www.keshetuk.org
- KeshetUK Annual Review 2014/15:
<http://www.keshetuk.org/2015-annual-review.html>
- Benjamin Ellis, KeshetUK Trustee article:
<http://jewishnews.timesofisrael.com/opinion-need-jewish-approach-address-lgbt-issues/>
- Benjamin Ellis, KeshetUK Trustee article:
<http://www.haaretz.com/jewish/jewish-world-opinions/.premium-1.716713>
- Alma Reisel, KeshetUK Trustee Jdov talk:
www.jhub.org.uk/jdov/portfolio/pride-and-privilege
- KeshetUK "Jewish and LGBT" factsheets:
<http://www.keshetuk.org/free-resources.html>