



Include.org: Professional Advisor Network (PAN)

Include is a Surrey-based charity working towards a world where people with communication needs are truly included.

80% of our Board of Trustees are people with lived experience of understanding and speaking difficulties. This means they have unrivalled insights into Include's work, but they don't have a lot of the professional experience of traditional Trustees.

[Include.org](https://include.org) is at a point of exciting growth and opportunity and the Trustees have agreed that we need a Professional Advisor Network (PAN for short!) to help them understand and explore the complex decisions involved in running a Charity.

So if you have professional expertise which could help our Trustees make wise and informed decisions, please do consider becoming an 'Includer' and joining our professional network.

Time Commitment

- 3 x 2 hour online meetings per year (March, June, September)
- Potential to attend 1 Board Meeting per year (in-person or online, dependent on topic of discussion)
- 1 x optional in-person social (December)

If there is a project that particularly aligns with the Advisors area of expertise / interest, the Professional Advisors will be asked to liaise with relevant staff members, volunteers and Trustees as their availability allows.



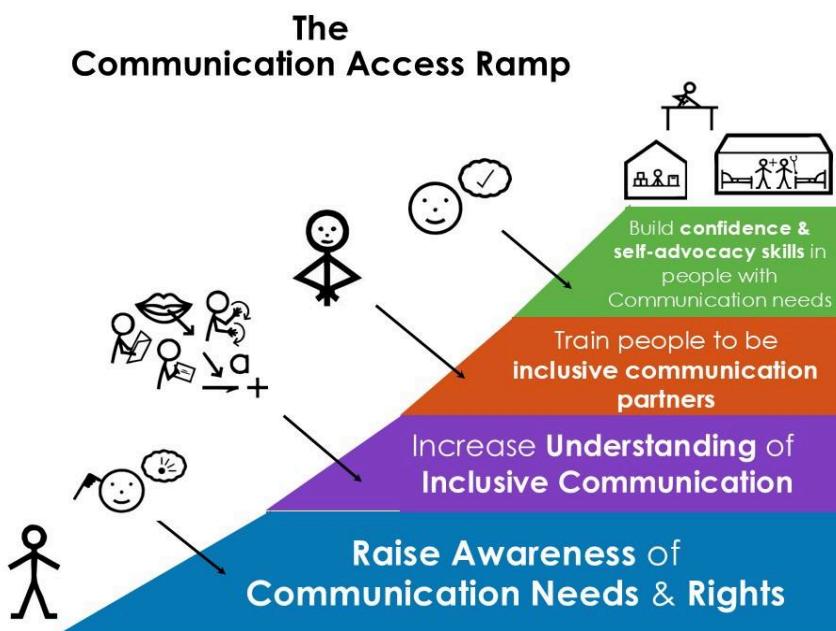
We are particularly keen to hear from people with expertise in **Fundraising, Business Development, Health, Social Care, Training, Finance Communications, Events and Risk Management**.

Why does Include's work matter?

Around **1 in 5 people in the UK** will be affected by a significant communication difficulty at some stage in their life (through an acquired condition like stroke or dementia, or a developmental condition like learning disabilities or autism).

People with Communication Difficulties are at greatly increased risk of **isolation, mental health difficulties** and **health and social inequalities**, because of a lack of awareness, understanding and confident communication partners.

In the same way that people with physical disabilities need a ramp to access their community, people with communication needs require support to access what we take for granted. The ramp isn't made of bricks and mortar - it's made of people!



Next steps

To express your interest, or for more information about becoming a Professional Adviser, please contact Alix.Lewer@include.org or phone 07446 897835. We ask for a brief summary of relevant professional experience (this can be via CV or Linked-In Profile, if preferred).

Thank you for being an Includer - and helping us build a better world for people with communication needs.