



Press Release

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For Immediate Release

Hartlepool Healthcare Worker Scoops Award For 'Can-Do' Attitude

A manager from a Hartlepool service which supports disabled adults spoke of her pride after winning an award at a leading healthcare company's inaugural achievement awards for her 'can do' attitude and the work she does to empower colleagues to fulfil their potential.

This year, Cygnet Health Care launched the first ever Cygnet Staff Achievement Awards, open to all staff across Healthcare, Social Care and Support Services, to celebrate its caring, dedicated and hard-working colleagues. Cygnet Health Care supports individuals with mental health needs, learning disabilities and autism and employs nearly 11,000 staff across the UK.

Held at the Botanical Gardens in Birmingham, the inaugural awards recognised the individuals and teams who made outstanding contributions towards ensuring service users receive the highest standard of care. The Empower award was for a team or individual that has helped to empower others by inspiring, motivating and making things happen. Judges looked for evidence of adopting a 'can do' attitude that is breaking through barriers and sharing knowledge through mentoring or coaching to help colleagues pursue their potential and progress in the workplace.

Jamie Speight is the service manager at Hope House in Hartlepool which supports adults living with a learning disability, including individuals who have additional mental and physical ill-health and behaviours that may challenge. She was presented with the award by BBC Presenter JJ Chalmers, who was guest of honour at the event.

Jenny Gibson, Director of HR said: *"Jamie has been great at encouraging the Hope House team to share their expertise in Learning Disability care, bringing more knowledge and personal development across the entire service.*

"She really focuses on the strengths of her team and supports them to pursue their career goals. She encourages staff to broaden their experiences at different Cygnet services and challenges colleagues by promoting a sense of ambition."

Upon receiving the award, Jamie said: *"I feel shocked, I didn't expect it at all. Every day is different in my job, you never know what you will walk into and that is what I love about it.*

"Supporting people whether it be staff or service users is very rewarding. These awards have been brilliant, it has felt like a really special occasion to celebrate each other's successes and I am proud to be a part of it."

Colleagues were able to nominate one another and there was almost 1,000 nominations across 12 categories, all judged by different, independent panels recognising the range of skills across the

Cygnnet Health Care workforce – including support workers, clinicians, chefs, IT, nursing and all the other vital roles.

Dr Tony Romero, CEO of Cygnnet Health Care, said: *“The most important part of any organisation is its’ people. They are the engine, the magic ingredient behind all of what makes Cygnnet Health Care the special organisation that it is. The hard work, commitment and dedication that they pour into their roles every day means we are able to change lives for the better. These awards recognise the achievements and difference that our motivated, compassionate and value-driven staff make for our services users and colleagues.*

“Through the nominations process we saw so many wonderful examples of how our staff go above and beyond and step up to work outside of their role, sacrificing their time and dedication for the benefit of the individuals in their care. Jamie is the embodiment of this and I congratulate her for all she has achieved. Her passion helps to embed the positive culture at Cygnnet Health Care and she constantly goes above and beyond, putting service users and colleagues at the heart of all she does.”

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Notes to Editors:

For more information, please contact Gemma Attew, External Communications Manager, on gemmaattew@cygnethealth.co.uk or 07718 244811.

About Cygnnet Health Care

Cygnnet Health Care has been providing a national network of high-quality, specialised mental health services for the NHS and local authorities for the past 30 years.

Cygnnet Health Care’s pioneering services support people with complex and acute mental health needs across the UK.

As one of the best quality providers in mental health services in the country, Cygnnet Health Care’s focus is always on the best outcomes for those who use or commission its services. 85% of Cygnnet’s facilities are rated as good or outstanding, which is above the national average.

www.cygnethealth.co.uk