



Press Release

For Immediate Release

Dundee Social Care Staff Benefit from Government Wellbeing Fund

Staff from a Dundee-based service which supports individuals with learning disabilities and complex needs have benefitted from a £1 million fund established to support Scottish projects which look after the wellbeing of staff working in social care.

The Workforce Wellbeing Fund for Adult Social Work and Social Care was introduced by the Scottish Government in January 2022 to improve staff wellbeing across the Adult Social Work and Social Care sectors.

The £1 million fund was for ideas that staff themselves have said will help to improve their wellbeing. Applications were welcome to support social care staff working across the public, private and voluntary sectors. Managed by Inspiring Scotland, companies could apply for grants up to £10,000.

In July 2022, Ellen Mhor's deputy manager Lori Sutherland made an application and the team were awarded a grant of £5,000 to spend on wellbeing activities.

Ellen Mhor, on Ellen Street, is a specialist residential service run by Cygnet Health Care and supports up to 12 adults living with learning disabilities and complex needs, including autism. The team also supports individuals who have behaviours that may challenge and associated mental or physical health needs.

Since receiving the funds, all staff have been given the opportunity to attend a variety of activities including relaxation and therapeutic sessions, sports days and team building events.

Lori explained: *"Workforce wellbeing is a key priority for Cygnet Health Care. Staff across our social care services have shown an invaluable commitment to a high-quality service during some very challenging times. We really wanted to find a way to celebrate the dedication and compassionate care provided by staff."*

"This fund is about giving staff anything which makes them feel better and supports their resilience. It's been really nice to have funds available to be able to show the whole team just how thankful we are for all of the hard work they have put in to support every individual in our care."

"A lot of staff gave up spending time with their family in order to try and keep everyone as safe as possible. I hope that everyone knows just how appreciated they are and that their efforts don't go unnoticed."

"We would also like to say a huge thank you to the Scottish Government for accepting our application and providing us with the funds to give staff a chance to relax and have fun."

All applications were screened by a multi-agency panel comprising of Inspiring Scotland, the Scottish Government and a member of the Oversight Social Work/ Social Care Workforce Wellbeing sub group.

Ends

Notes to Editors:

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

About Cygnet Health Care

Cygnet 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.

Cygnet 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, Cygnet Health Care's focus is always on the best outcomes for those who use or commission its services. 85% of Cygnet's facilities are rated as good or outstanding, which is above the national average.

www.cygnethealth.co.uk