



Press Release

Immediate Release

22 October 2024

Nottingham Social Worker Wins National Award for Going 'Above and Beyond'

A Social worker from Nottingham has won a national award for her support to men hospitalised with mental health needs after colleagues praised her for 'always putting a smile on people's faces'.

Claire Lomas, Lead Social Worker and Safeguarding Lead at Cygnet Hospital Clifton, won the Social Worker of the year award at the Cygnet Social Work Awards for her exceptional skills in caring for men with mental health needs.

Judges deemed that her actions that have created real impact and change and that she goes above and beyond the expectations of her job role. They said she had evidence a sustained committed to, and positive impact on, the men being cared for.

On receiving her award, Claire said: "It was an honour to be a part of the awards, to recognise, appreciate and value all the positive work that Social Workers do.

"The favourite part of my job is the ability to make a difference and a positive change to our service users and their carers by reframing their experience with Social Workers and Social Care."

Nominating her for the award, her colleagues said: "Claire leads by example in every way. She is positive, enthusiastic and has the service users at the forefront of all that she does.

"Claire is supportive of the staff team and has recently empowered support workers to become carers' leads and supported others to take the next steps in their career.

"Claire is hardworking and dedicated to her work. Her values are reflected in her work through the hospital. She aspires to ensure that our patients have the best care provided with them, even with the difficulties she faces.

"She takes a lead role and goes above and beyond to the service users at Cygnet Hospital Clifton to provide them and their families with care and respect to ensure the service users are receiving the best support she can give them. She also takes the lead on the family and carers aspect of the unit and organises family days and

supports service users to rebuild and maintain relationships with their friends and families.

"Claire always comes into work with a smile on her face and brightens up the whole office."

Jo-Ann McAuliffe, Cygnet's Deputy Director of Nursing, said: "We recognise the difference that our highly talented and passionate social workers and social work assistants make for our services users every single day. We wanted to celebrate the exceptional work they do.

"It was an enormous pleasure to recognise those who make outstanding contributions to the care that our service users and residents receive."

Cygnet Hospital Clifton, on Clifton Lane, is a 25 bed specialist low secure service for men with a personality disorder, who also present with complex mental health needs and challenging behaviours.

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