



Press Release

Immediate Release

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### **Cygnet Bostall House Hospital Manager Named Finalist in National Awards**

A much-loved hospital manager from Abbey Wood has been recognised on the national stage for her outstanding leadership and dedication to supporting people with learning disabilities.

Elizabeth Ughu, who manages Cygnet Bostall House on Knee Hill Road, has been named a finalist in the Learning Disability Nurse Award category at the Learning Disabilities and Autism Awards 2025. The awards honour individuals making a real difference in the lives of those with learning disabilities or autism.

Described by her team as "an inspiring, passionate leader who lives and breathes our values," Elizabeth has earned admiration for her compassionate care, tireless work ethic, and the inclusive culture she fosters at Cygnet Bostall House, a six-bed high-dependency complex care service in Abbey Wood, supporting men with learning disabilities and associated complex needs.

Elizabeth said: "I'm incredibly honoured and deeply moved to be shortlisted as a finalist for the Learning Disability and Autism Award. Working as a hospital manager, every day brings new challenges and opportunities to make a difference and being recognised in this way feels truly special.

"This nomination isn't just about me; it reflects the dedication of my entire team and the people we support. Their strength, resilience, and trust continue to inspire me. I'm proud to be part of a team that's committed to creating a more inclusive and compassionate healthcare environment."

As part of their nomination, Elizabeth's colleagues spoke passionately about her impact.

Joanna Gosnell, Occupational Therapy Assistant, described her as "hard working and dedicated to improving, listening and enriching the lives of others".

She added: "Elizabeth is passionate about making a difference. She is an inspiring, passionate leader who lives and breathes our values: Care, Respect, Empower, Trust and Integrity.

"She goes out of her way to help everyone, residents, families and colleagues. She always has a smile on her face and shows such enthusiasm for her role. Elizabeth is a positive role model who goes above and beyond continually, to ensure our service users have the best quality of life."

Ikponmwosa Agbonavbare, a Support Worker, said: "Elizabeth makes time to get to know each service user's likes and dislikes. She is a quiet and humble manager who works tirelessly to ensure that diversity is celebrated and that all staff feel included.

"She has a sense of humour that would encourage a smile, even when someone is having a bad day. She is an asset to the team at Cygnet Bostall House.

"As one person said, 'I have never had a manager who is so supportive, empowering and genuinely caring about her staff'."

Franca Ekregbesi, Nursing Associate, praised Elizabeth's leadership: "Her confidence is awe-inspiring, and her support and leadership are remarkable.

"Elizabeth's approach to team management is rooted in empowering individuals to attain their peak performance. She consistently prioritises the wellbeing of colleagues and creates a comfortable, inclusive work environment. Her positive impact is undeniable, and she is an inspiring manager who leads with strong integrity and a unique and limitless ability to see every individual's potential

"She insists everyone understands that service users are at the forefront of our ethos, and makes a positive difference."

Winners will be announced at the awards ceremony on Friday 4 July 2025, at the ICC Birmingham.