



Press Release

Immediate Release

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Nottinghamshire Care Service Celebrates Africa Day

A Retford residential service, which provides specialist care for adults with autism and learning disabilities, hosted a day of games and learning to celebrate its diverse staff network.

Located on Retford Road in South Leverton, Beeches is a 12-bed specialist residential service for adults with autism and learning disabilities who may also present with behaviours that challenge, run by Cygnet Social Care in Nottinghamshire.

The fun-filled event took place on 25 May to mark Africa Day.

Ridwan Ayangbayi, a Support Worker and the Multicultural Network Lead at Beeches, said: "Africa Day is an important event for Africans as it commemorates the founding of the Organisation of African Unity. Here at Beeches, we have lots of staff who come from various African countries.

"We wanted to celebrate the diversity of our staff at Beeches. It was lovely to see everyone adorned in beautiful and coloured fabrics, which signified their ethnicity."

With more than 13,000 staff in total, Cygnet has many staff networks, one of which is a Multicultural Network, a vibrant forum that plays an instrumental role in providing a credible and unified voice for Minority Ethnic staff. With more than 100 multicultural ambassadors at Cygnet services around the UK, the Network helps to promote inclusion and raise awareness of issues affecting ethnic minority staff and service users.

"As part of the Multicultural Network at Cygnet Group, it's really important to me that we celebrate our diversity and traditions," added Ridwan.

The event saw both staff and service users learn interesting facts about the African continent, play games like naming animals native to Africa, enjoy homemade food and colour in African flags.

The Cygnet Social Care worker said: "It was a great day enjoyed by both residents and staff. We were lucky enough to enjoy some dishes prepared by the staff, like

puff-puff and Jolloff rice. Lots of our residents learnt something new about Africa and it was lovely that everyone could be involved.

"We ended the day with a party and played African music. It is so important to celebrate different traditions and the celebrations were truly special and a huge success."

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