



Press Release

Immediate Release

9 September 2025

Stevenage Social Work Assistant Wins National Award for Dedication to Patients

A Stevenage social work assistant has been recognised for her outstanding contribution to supporting people with mental health needs, after winning Social Work Assistant of the Year at a national awards ceremony.

Jacquie Devon, Social Work Assistant on Tiffany Ward at Cygnet Hospital Stevenage, received the award at the Cygnet Group annual Social Work Conference and Awards, held on Monday 8th September.

Tiffany Ward is a 14-bed mental health acute service for women at the Graveley Road hospital, and Jacquie plays a vital role in supporting patients throughout their recovery.

Jacquie was nominated by colleagues who praised her compassion, reliability and commitment to going above and beyond for service users. She was described as "helpful and dutiful," with the ability to build trust quickly and advocate strongly for those in her care.

One example of Jacquie's dedication came when a patient became distressed about their car being lost during admission. Recognising how important the car was for the patient's wellbeing, Jacquie worked with local police, community services and the council to locate and safely return it, even preventing it from being crushed as an abandoned vehicle. This practical support helped put the individual being supported in a better position for their recovery and discharge.

Her colleagues also highlighted her involvement in ward rounds, care planning and family liaison, describing her as "personable, empathetic and proactive."

Her nomination read: "Jacquie goes above and beyond to support the service users on her ward. She is always advocating on their behalf, contributing to care planning and risk assessments, and showing high levels of respect and patience. She recognises that the smallest act of kindness can have a huge impact."

Speaking after her win, Jacquie said: "I was very surprised to win! I love my job and always feel like I am 'just doing my job', so it was lovely to be recognised for the role

I have. I am thankful to anyone who nominated me and grateful to be working in such a wonderful team of social workers and social work assistants."

Cygnnet is a leading independent provider of health and social care services for adults and young people with mental health needs, learning disabilities, autism and eating disorders.

The Cygnnet Social Work Conference and Awards celebrate the contributions of social workers and social work assistants across the organisation.