



▶ **Edition 17**

Summer 2024

PLEASE NOTE: Consent has been given for all news items, names and photographs used in this edition of Horizon News

What you can find in this edition of our newsletter

| | |
|--|-------|
| Update from Russ Leese and Training & Development News | 1 |
| Investors in People celebrations | 2 |
| Summer Sports Day | 3 |
| News from Around the homes | 4 & 5 |
| Staff News | 6 |



Hello and welcome to the summer edition of our Newsletter.

At last the sun is shining and thankfully the sun shone on our fun sports day which involved all of the homes. The day was a great success and everyone seemed to really enjoy being involved or watching the events. We have captured some of the action in pictures in this newsletter, as well as lots of other achievements and stories from around the company.

Some time ago, we let everyone know that we were introducing our Digital Social Care Recording system, otherwise known as electronic care planning system. We have made tremendous progress with this and now have all care plan documentation stored and operating effectively. I am aware that there have been some comments made by people visiting the homes that staff appear to be using their own mobile phones whilst working with people supported. I can assure you that where you see staff typing into a mobile phone device, this will be them inputting data into the electronic care planning system, which was previously completed on paper and staff were commonly seen making entries into daily journals. The use of these mobile devices is effectively no different to what happened previously, other than it makes it much easier for us to be able to retrieve data to use as evidence in all types of reviews, for audits, and inspections. It continues to be our policy that the use of personal mobile phones whilst working directly with people supported is strictly not permitted. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns about this?

I hope you enjoy looking through and reading this newsletter.

Just in case If you enjoy reading this edition of our newsletter and would like to find out more please visit our Twitter page or You Tube channel so you can see what is happening in all of the homes. Both can be accessed through our website www.horizoncareservices.co.uk We are now on Facebook under Horizon Care Services



Learning and Development

It's been another busy few months (as is standard) and all of our services have been working hard to ensure that their training compliance is over and above target. Mandatory training ensures that our staff have the knowledge, skills and competence to consistently deliver excellence in everything they do. Well the hard work has paid off and all services are continuing to show significant increases month after month which is fabulous. Well done to all of our staff for showing such a commitment to their training which of course not only benefits them, but ultimately has a direct impact on the people we support across all of our homes. In July we celebrated the end of another development programme for staff in leadership roles as well as those aspiring to take on these roles in the future. The programme gives these staff an opportunity to develop not only their operational skills, but also to learn about and adopt compassionate and effective approaches to performance management. Huge congratulations to all of those completing the programme; Liz Brearley, Lorna Bent, Sharon Moore, Kirsty McEvoy, Sharon Ackroyd and Ryan Wellwaite, I wish you every success in the future. We are now in the process of interviewing for the next cohort which will begin in October. The Department for Health and Social Care have now introduced the first phase of the new Care Workforce Pathways and so the next 12 months we will be busy refining what we do to ensure this aligns with the new guidance. Although we are already confident in what we do to look after our staff due to our commitment to their welfare, engagement and development (and our recent IIP platinum award recognised this), we are always looking to continuously improve and so this may well lead to further exciting opportunities in the future!

Kath Howitt, Learning and Development Manager



Investors in People Celebrations

As reported in the previous newsletter Investors in People have awarded Horizon Healthcare Homes Limited with the 'Platinum Award' which is the highest accolade that can be given to an organisation. We are super proud of this achievement and to celebrate and thank the dedication and hard work of all staff which is evident every day of the year, each service held an "IIP Party". At Cranmer Court they celebrated the diversity of the staff team with staff dressing up in national or traditional outfits to showcase their culture where appropriate. What a wonderful way to celebrate the staff, their outfits show an amazing vibrance of colour to match the personality of the team at Cranmer Court. Windsor Court held a party for staff and People Supported to celebrate the achievement with each member of staff being awarded a small gift to show how much they are appreciated.



The Management Team had a celebration meal with Roger and Russell presenting each manager with the Investors in People Platinum Plaque to be displayed in the individual services.



Langley Lodge organized an Investors in People party which was a colour wheel theme, with staff and People Supported dressing up in different colours to celebrate; the food being sorted into boxes so that the packaging matched the coloured outfits.



Fixby Lodge celebrated Horizons award from Investors in People with a party. Each of the People Supported received an award of their very own for achieving their individual Can Do Goals.



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE®
We invest in people Platinum

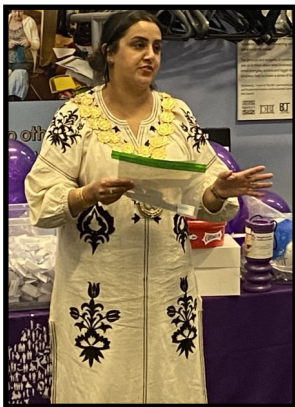
Summer Sports Day

On Friday 5th July Horizon held our second Summer Event. All of the homes and the majority of the People we Support attended and enjoyed participating in some Sports Day activities including an Egg and Spoon Race, Bean Bag balance, Three-legged race, Wheelchair relay and a running race. Gold, Silver and Bronze medals were awarded to the individual person supported who came First, Second and Third respectively in each race with points awarded to each home. At the end of the events the points were totalled up and the overall winning home and runner up were awarded a Winners and Runners up Trophy. Becksidge Lodge were the winners and Fixby Lodge the Runners up. Well done everyone.



Staff teams, many of whom were in fancy dress participated in an inter-home Tug of War event. Teams gave their all with many laughs along the way but in the end, after a closely fought final Cranmer Court triumphed over the Office Team to win the trophy, which was the second year running there were crowned champions in the staff event!

In attendance on the day was the Mayor of Kirklees, Councillor Nosheen Dad, who selected the winning raffle tickets, all the prizes being donated by local retailers or suppliers who work with Horizon. The mayor also presented Kelly Dungworth from Forget me Not Children's Hospice the grand sum of £1190 which had been raised by the sale of the raffle tickets. People Supported and staff also enjoyed ice creams and interacting with Huddersfield Fire Service, White Watch, as well as a local police van, the police being great sports by joining in the running race and the Tug of War. The weather was good to us and everyone had a great afternoon, it was such a special time; both relaxed and very enjoyable.



News from around the homes

All the services have had a busy time since the last edition of the newsletter. **Beckside Lodge** have had a visit from Diggi's Den who bought small



pets, rabbits and guinea pigs into the service for the People Supported to enjoy. They have had trips out to Scarborough, Bridlington, Shibden Park and the National Space Centre, have celebrated Ellie's 21st Birthday and have made homemade pizza for a "Fake Away" tea. **Cranmer Court** attended the Leeds Learning Disabilities week pride march through the city centre, Ben went shopping for himself and used the self-check out independently, Jeanette has been keep herself occupied looking after her new pet fish and learning

to bake new recipes, the service has had a visit from Zoo-land who bought snakes, frogs and spiders for the People Supported to see. They have also had fun in the garden with water, been dancing during music therapy, going to the library, shopping and have visited a local pub to enjoy the sunny weather.



Some of the activities the People

Supported from **Fixby Lodge** have been participating in include, going to the Coronation Street set, visiting Beaumont Park, Hebden Bridge, Rochdale Borough, Greenhead Park, New Miller dam, a visit to Ilkley Fire Station for their fun day, shopping at Meadowhall and locally, to the cinema and out to various pubs and cafes to enjoy drinks and meals. They have also been baking and playing games at home. **Ferndale Lodge** all enjoyed themselves honoring the memory of a much loved Person Supported who passed away last year; they held a party at a local club, with lots of dancing and laughter to remember their friend. The team also recognised Mental Health Awareness week by encouraging all the People Supported to participate in physical activities. They have also been enjoying themselves shopping, washing cars with staff support, having pedicures, baking, visiting Oakwell Hall on Yorkshire Day, going to the theatre, swimming, day trips on a train to York and the staff have supported Tracy and David to enjoy a holiday in Blackpool.



Hampton House took advantage of the summer weather and had a BBQ for everyone, People Supported have been shopping, enjoying music therapy, dancing, taking part in chair Zumba and they had a lovely tea party with Boobie Bear (the Breast Cancer awareness bear going around all the homes) which produced lots of smile and laughter and some songs. **Langley Lodge** have celebrated National Biscuit day with baking, and Earth Day with lots of activities; they have also visited Greenhead Park, been shopping and out for lunches. Some of the People Supported participated in a "Knit and Natter" group held locally whilst others have been bowling.





Roxburgh Lodge enjoyed supporting the England football team progress in the Euro's 2024, decorating the home, as other services did and watching the games. They have been on trips to Scarborough, to Billy Bobs, going out for walks, drives, bowling, train rides, singing and baking. They have also enjoyed having People Supported from other services visit for tea and some of the People Supported completed the Emergency First Aid Course whilst others have participated in a local Line Dancing group.

Sandhurst Court have also been out and about with visits to Pugneys, the coast where they enjoyed exploring and ice creams, Sensory World and Batley Park, and the Yorkshire Owl Experience visited the service much to

everyone's delight. The team have also been busy arranging for Jason to achieve one of his hopes and dreams of a High speed car

experience— Jason was whizzed around the Elvington race track in York

at full speed like a true Racer. Jason enjoyed 2 laps in an Aston Martin and a Porsche. He had a fun time although he did wish he was the one driving! The service has also re decorated their sensory room and have installed a new ball pool for the People Supported to enjoy.

Windsor Court have had fun both at home with Karaoke, dancing and making an underwater themed window scene, and out and about visiting Robert Park, Yeadon Tarn, Southport and Centenary Square where they enjoyed a fish and chip lunch washed down with a shandy.

As part of the Craft Starz Enterprise **Windsor Court** have been growing their own flowers and fruit and vegetable produce again this year. Da-

vid, the Driver/Maintenance person has instigated the activity with the People supported getting involved as much as possible. As seen below they seem to have had bumper crops and an abundance of beautiful flowers. They have also sold hanging baskets, tomato and strawberry plants to visitors, staff and the local community. The Crafty Starz team at **Beckside Lodge** were also busy creating and completing a commissioned plaque as well as some of the services participating in different sales events.



STAFF NEWS

At Horizon Healthcare Homes Ltd we like to show our appreciation to the staff, each service nominates Employee of the Month and Employee of the Quarter. At Beckside Lodge, Phil was chosen as the well deserved Employee of the Quarter, his reaction was amazing. Ferndale Lodge nominated Gary, one of their Drivers / Maintenance people for their Employee of the Quarter. At Hampton House Brigita Bullock was nominated by the majority of the team for Employee of the Quarter. 'Brigit is the heart of the home, all the People Supported and staff think very highly of her'. Employee of the quarter for Sandhurst Court is Aliyah Hussain for being a positive role model, for stepping into the shift lead role, being organized, helpful and fair with the team as well as being fun, caring and passionate about leading the shift well. The Employee of the Quarter at Roxburgh Lodge was Tracey Smith which was awarded due to her dedication to the People Supported and the motivation she displays on every shift. At Windsor Court the Employee of the Quarter is Julie Craven, she has been amazing by always being so caring and loving to all people supported, picking up shifts to help the service, Julie is also administering medication and she is a great mentor for new staff members and will help anybody if she can. Julie is a very well liked, respected member of the Windsor team. The team member at Cranmer Court who was awarded the Employee of the Quarter was Leslie Aryee for always going above and beyond for the PWS and having a positive presence in the home. The successful member of staff at Fixby Lodge was Davina Bywater and some of the comments regarding why she was awarded the Employee of the Quarter include: "that she always goes above and beyond for the PWS; made me feel really welcome when I started at Fixby; Davina takes me everywhere even when she isn't supposed to be on shift; she makes me laugh and smile every shift; beautiful inside and out."

Each staff member achieving this accolade is awarded a certificate and a small gift to say thank you for all their hard work.

