

**NEWS RELEASE**  
**7 December 2015**

**Promoting Independence Awards highlight growth of collaboration and innovation in Welsh third sector.**

The results of a national awards ceremony, announced on Friday in Cardiff, indicate a growing movement towards more collaborative and innovative ways of working within the Welsh third sector.

A joint initiative between Welsh local authorities and charity Cymorth Cymru, the Promoting Independence Awards (PIAs) recognise and celebrate the work being carried out within the homelessness, housing and social care sectors to support vulnerable people to overcome barriers and fulfil their potential.

This year the awards attracted more than 70 nominations from right across Wales. Over a third of these were in the 'Working in Partnership' or 'Service Innovation' categories, highlighting a growing appetite in Wales for more collaboration and innovation.

This year's winners are:

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| <b>1. Working in Partnership</b><br>Denbighshire County Council: Tŷ Golau   | <b>6. Service Innovation</b><br>Gwalia: Cyrenians Horse & Pony Scheme     |
| <b>2. Commissioning Excellence</b><br>Gwent Regional Supporting People Team | <b>7. Employment, Training and Skills</b><br>Salvation Army: Tŷ Gobaith   |
| <b>3. Homelessness Prevention</b><br>Llamau Family Mediation                | <b>8. Top Team</b><br>Cartrefi Cymru                                      |
| <b>4. Involvement and Engagement</b><br>Digartref Ynys Môn                  | <b>9. Personal Achievement</b><br>McCaully Clarke, supported by Gwalia    |
| <b>5. Supported Living and Care</b><br>Antur Waunfawr                       | <b>10. Inspirational Colleague</b><br>Jess Jallow, Cardiff County Council |

Cymorth Director, Auriol Miller said *'The Promoting Independence Awards are a fantastic opportunity to celebrate all that has been achieved by the sector over the past year.'*

*Despite many and considerable challenges, Cymorth's members and partners have continued to develop new and better ways to deliver quality services that make a real difference to the lives of some of the most marginalised and vulnerable people in our society - and this is reflected in the number and quality of this year's entries.*

*It was a privilege to host the ceremony and reward the passion and dedication demonstrated by all the nominees and winners.'*

Cymorth Cymru and Welsh local authorities would like to congratulate all of the winners, and the many nominees.

## ENDS

### Notes to editor

1. Cymorth Cymru is the representative body for homelessness, housing-related support and social care services in Wales. Our members support people to live safely and independently, managing their own lives in their own homes. Types of services include sheltered accommodation for older people; refuges for families fleeing domestic abuse; supported housing; hostel accommodation; floating support delivered to people living in the community; and extra care schemes.  
[www.cymorthcymru.org.uk](http://www.cymorthcymru.org.uk)
2. No public money has been used for the planning or staging of this event, with all costs being met by private sponsorship and attendance fees.
3. Event sponsors include Carrick Creative, Crisis, Gwalia, Reach Support, Salvation Army, Cardiff Metropolitan University, Gofal, Practice Solutions, Solas, Dimensions Cymru, Pro-Copy and Geldards LLP.
4. For media enquiries, case studies and photographs from the PIAs please contact  
Jodi Cox  
Communications & Marketing Manager  
Cymorth Cymru  
e. [jodilloyd@cymorthcymru.org.uk](mailto:jodilloyd@cymorthcymru.org.uk)  
t. 029 2055 3687  
m: 07788 314733