

NEWS RELEASE

2 December 2014

Support services for vulnerable people in Wales to be celebrated at national awards ceremony

On Friday 5 December, around 200 people from the homelessness, housing-related support and supported living sector will attend a special event where the winners of the 8th annual Promoting Independence Awards, a joint initiative between Cymorth Cymru and Welsh Local Authorities, will be announced.

The Promoting Independence Awards celebrate the fantastic work that is being done to support some of the most vulnerable people in our communities to live as independently as they possibly can, and build a brighter future after a crisis or stressful period in their lives.

Awards are presented in twelve categories and recognise individual excellence as well as organisational achievements.

Awards will be presented in the following categories

- Working in Partnership
- Investing in Staff
- Homelessness Prevention
- Involvement & Engagement
- Supported Living & Care
- Innovation in Technology
- Employment, Training and Skills
- Trailblazer
- Empowering Survivors
- Top Team
- Personal Achievement
- Inspirational Colleague

Auriol Miller, Cymorth Cymru Director, said

'The Promoting Independence Awards are a great 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 work to develop new and better ways to help some of the most disadvantaged people in our communities to overcome barriers and fulfil their potential – and this is reflected in the quality of this year's entries from over 40 organisations.

I wish all of this year's nominees the very best of luck and look forward to hosting an event which recognises the passion and dedication demonstrated by those supporting vulnerable people in Wales.'

ENDS

Notes to editor

1. Cymorth Cymru is the umbrella body for organisations working with marginalised and at risk people in Wales. Our members assist people to find and keep a home, working with people who are at risk or already experiencing housing crisis. Types of services include sheltered accommodation for older people; refuges for women and men fleeing domestic abuse; supported housing; hostel accommodation; floating support delivered to people living in the community; and extra care schemes.
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 Merthyr Valleys Homes, United Welsh, Rhondda Housing Association, Digartref Ynys Môn, Practice Solutions, Gwalia, Carers Trust Wales, The Open University in Wales, Creo, Welsh Women's Aid, Clwyd Alyn Housing Association, Gofal, North Wales Housing and Carrick.
4. Case studies of the individual winning projects and photographs will be available after the event. Please contact Jodi Cox on the details below.
5. The awards ceremony will take place on 5 December from 7pm at the Radisson Blu in Cardiff. For information on attending the PIAs, please contact Jodi Cox on the details below
6. For more information on the PIAs please visit www.promotingindependenceawards.org.uk
7. For media enquiries please contact
Jodi Cox
Communications & Marketing Manager
Cymorth Cymru
e. jodilloyd@cymorthcymru.org.uk
t. 029 2055 3687
m. 07788 314733