

Sanctuary Supported Living showcases top talent with nine shortlists for national awards

April 2023

Colleagues from Sanctuary Supported Living are being recognised for excellence in their field, having been named as finalists for Care Talk's inaugural Housing with Care Awards.



The awards celebrate exceptional work in housing with care, and the impact it has on residents' lives.

Alongside eight nominations for individual team members, the not-for-profit organisation, which helps people to live as independently as possible through supported housing, retirement communities and technology in the home, has also been shortlisted for the Housing with Care Employer Award 2023.

Staff at Sussex Avenue in Canterbury are doubly delighted with the shortlist; they're up for the Care Team Award for their shared vision and commitment to providing an exceptional service to residents with profound and multiple learning disabilities, physical disabilities, and mental health, whilst Local Service Manager, Alex Mepham, is up for the Housing Manager Award.

Also a finalist for the Housing Manager Award is Jane Prior, who manages Weston Foyer in Weston-Super-Mare, which provides support for vulnerable and homeless young people.

Charmayne Russell, a Support Assistant at Ashfield Court in Darlington, is through to the final for the Care and Support Worker Award, in recognition of her person-centred approach to creating positive experiences for people with learning disabilities and making a huge difference to their lives.

Local Service Manager for Thurrock Teenage Parents Supported Housing, Keira Harrison, is in the running for the Frontline Leader Award. Always willing to lend a hand and get stuck in, Keira works tirelessly to improve outcomes for young parents and parents-to-be who are in need of housing and support.

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“Domestic Goddess” Barbara Lowe has been shortlisted for her dedication to housekeeping at Brighton and Hove Foyer young people’s service, where she is highly-regarded and fondly known as “Babs”. She is a worthy contender for the Housekeeper Award, for displaying exceptional professionalism and customer service whilst working hard to defeat dust and manage mess – and always with a smile.

As a shining example of hard work and personal development, first-time manager, Granit Rudaj, has been shortlisted to battle it out for the Team Leader Award for his exceptional work in leading the team at Sidegate Lane in Ipswich, a residential care home for adults with mental health needs.

Finally, the team at Cambridge Mental Health services are finalists for the Outreach Community Service Award, which recognises their commitment to fostering genuine relationships with the local community and unlocking better outcomes for people with mental health support needs.

In addition, two of Sanctuary Supported Living’s partners – Norfolk County Council and Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board – have also been named as finalists for the Care Commissioner Award, in honour of their joint working approach.

David Shaw, Operations Director for Sanctuary Supported Living, said: “I’m thrilled – as ever! The Housing with Care Awards offers a real opportunity to celebrate the excellent work that goes on in our retirement communities, and care, housing, and supported living services for people with learning disabilities, people with mental health needs, and people experiencing homelessness.

“I’m particularly delighted that we’ve been shortlisted for the Employer Award - this is an especially gratifying category to be named as a finalist, as it comes so soon after our recent gold accreditation by Investors in People, as well as being named as ‘Care Employer Award’ winner in the West Midlands region of the Great British Care Awards 2022.

“I’m so pleased on behalf of all of our shortlisted staff, who come to work every day to be their best. Their nominations are very well-deserved, and I look forward to celebrating with them all at the awards evening!”

The virtual judging of The Housing with Care Awards is due the second week in May, with the overall winners being announced at a celebratory gala event in London on Friday 9 June.