## Breaking Barriers

## The Westminster Society Update 2019



# Our year so far ....

## 5 Boroughs

We work in Westminster, Camden, Kensington & Chelsea, Islington and Harrow

## 150

Adults with learning disabilities are living in our supported Housing options

## 100

People attended our 4th Annual LDN Living Festival this year

## 561

Adults with learning disabilities supported across all of our different services

## 60

Supported living flats for people with learning disabilities

## 104,676

Total outreach support hours provided by LDN 4U and Short Breaks Respite this year

1863

Weekly support hours provided by LDN 4U Outreach 423

Families supported by our Family Services Team

11,074

Outreach support hours provided by KCA in Harrow

## 1296

Days of Holiday Schemes provided by KCA in Harrow

332

Children & young people supported across all our children's services

3678

Volunteer hours throughout the year 150

People with learning disabilities attended LDN Connect Groups

## Winners of Best Employer

We are delighted to announce that we won the Skills for Care Accolade for 'Best Employer of over 250 staff' at this year's awards. Skills for care Accolades celebrate adult social care employers committed to delivering high quality care.





#### Judges Comments

"The judges were pleased to see that the Westminster Society is explicit about their values, and that these values are inherent to the systems and processes employed to recruit and develop their staff. The organisation provided a very person-centered response with evidence to back up their description of their approach and the impact it had. The judges liked the holistic approach the organisation take to staff development, and they could visualise the pathway that people would as they developed take through the organisation."

#### #EveryDayIsDifferent

"I started as a support worker, after studying health and social care at university. It's really nice working with service users, completely different – in a good way – from studying. You get to know everyone. The team push you too – they encourage you. It's really good – just go for it and do all you can."



# Relaunch

Take a tour around our Rainbows Nursery which relaunched on 29th April 2019 after an extensive refurbishment project.



#### Meet our new Nursery Manager Anna



My journey in early years begun over 12 years ago.

I hold NVQ Level 3 in Children's Care, Learning and Development and I am currently working towards my NVQ Level 5 Diploma in Management.

I believe that it is a privilege to teach and inspire children from a young age. I love to see children grow and develop their uniqueness and inquiring minds.

I'm very proud of becoming part of the Rainbows Team; our nursery is truly unique as the talented and caring staff make the learning experience exciting. Our nursery is one of the first services we ran back in 1962 when the Westminster Society was started by a group of parents.

Although it has moved a few times and changed its name Rainbows Nursery remains one of our key services for families of children with learning disabilities.



Rainbows is unique in that it offers an inclusive nursery setting for both mainstream children and children with disabilities. It is a kind, caring and nurturing setting which aims to give all the children attending the best possible start in life.









#### Rainbows Nursery parent

"This is the best nursery in the area because the staff are the best I have ever seen. Patient, very friendly. My son is in good hands. Thanks to them, they try hard and be like another family to our kids."





On Saturday 22nd June we held our annual LDN Festival - the sun was shining and it was an amazing day celebrating Learning Disability Week and Learning Disability Pride 2019!





City Lit Percussion Band performed with amazing live music



We held a Sports Day including football relay races and a giant tug of war



Photo Booth with fancy dress from the Stone Age through to the 80's





## #Volunteers

Thank you to all the corporate volunteering teams we have had supporting us over the past few months.

A big thank you to: Emily at The Paddington Partnership; Groundworks for creating our LDN sensory garden; Vodafone and M&S Queens Park for painting the dropin; British Land and M&S Head Office for sprucing up the outside area at Rainbows Nursery and Visa and M&S International team for re-vamping the gardens at two of our supported living flats.

We also want to say a big Thank You to 4C Hotel Group for all their support throughout the year.



M&S Head Office at Rainbows Nursery



Vodafone painting at our Drop-in



M&S Queens Park painting at our Drop-in



Groundworks creating our sensory garden

#### Thank You Seb!

We want to say a massive Thank You to Sebastian Rennie who ran the London Marathon for us raising over £3000 for our LDN Olympians Group.







British Lands Volunteers at Rainbows Nursery





M&S International team at Harrow Road Flats





Visa at our Shirland Road Flats

#### Thank you to The Worshipful Company of Marketors

Grand Master Andrew Cross has chosen us as his charity of the year and gave a £1000 donation as well as hosting a fantastic Wine Tasting evening at New Zealand House. Yhum Yhums, our social enterprise catering team, provided delicious canapés for the event.



# Welcome to our new Islington Services

Our Learning Disability Network for London is growing and we would like to welcome our new Islington teams at Cutbush House, Queensland Road, Paxton Court and LDN 4U Islington.



"We are really pleased that you are here working with us in Islington, we are very happy to have you" Feedback from LDN 4U Islington customer at recent partnership board

#### Annual Summer Picnic in Highbury Fields

In August people we support in Islington got together for a picnic organised by Paxton Court; it was a lovely afternoon and everyone got the chance to catch up and enjoy lunch al-fresco.



### START YOUR JOURNEY WITH US

## We hold monthly Support Worker Recruitment Open Days

For dates of upcoming events and to find outmore contact: recruitment@wspld.org 020 8968 7376 16a Croxley Road London W9 3HL

SUPPORT WORKER RECRUITMENT OPEN DAYS COME ALONG TO FIND OUT MORE







- No experience necessary
- You should be passionate about supporting others
- If you are looking for a new challenge we would like to hear from you

Thank you to Eleanor and Victor who ran the London 10k in July raising over £620

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#### Fundraise for the Westminster Society

There are many ways you can get involved from taking part in a challenge event, attending one of our fundraising events or getting involved in our fundraising committee

For further information visit **wspld.org.uk/get involved** 

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