

## Milton Keynes community health workers recognised at awards ceremony

Community health workers in Milton Keynes were recognised at a special awards ceremony to recognise best practice.

The annual Milton Keynes Community Health Services staff awards ceremony took place at Heron's Lodge on Wednesday 12 October 2011. The event was attended by approximately 150 staff and there were 10 winners out of a potential 74 nominations.

Cathy Walker, Managing Director of Milton Keynes Community Health Services, said: "This was our fourth annual staff awards ceremony. We are extremely proud of our workforce who are committed to providing safe, quality care for the people who use our services. The awards are an excellent way of recognising the hard work and contribution our staff make to our organisation's success. The award winners were chosen for special achievements, including transforming the way we deliver services, patient safety and leadership.

"We are also very grateful to the public for nominating in the People's Choice categories – it is fantastic that local people have taken the time to nominate staff who have provided them with care. We received a number of heartfelt nominations, demonstrating what a difference a health worker can make to an individual's experience."

The winners and categories were as follows:

People's Choice Award (Dignity in Care) – Team: Adult Hearing Service Milton Keynes (Collette Crook, Melanie Campbell, Pippa Tierney and Peggy Pain) People's Choice Award (Dignity in Care) – Individual: Paddy King Esalo Esalo – Mental Health Worker Transforming Services Award: Community Occupational Therapy Team Patient Safety Award: Redhouse District Nurse Team Leadership for Improvement Award: Hannah Pugliese – Transformation Manager Individual Contribution – Best Team Member Award (Clinical): Rosemary Kalunga – Mental Health Assertive Outreach Worker Individual Contribution – Best Team Member Award (Non Clinical): Sheila Beckwith – Domestic at Windsor Intermediate Care Unit Achiever of the Year Award: Rajan Korla – Healthcare Assistant, Learning Disability Service Mentor of the Year Award: Elaine Liburd – Team Manager, Older Peoples Mental Health Special Award: RIO team – A project team implementing a new Clinical Record System across the organisation.

Collette Crook, who along with the rest of her colleagues in the Adult Hearing Service, won the People's Choice Award (Team) category, said: "We are absolutely delighted to have won this award and it means even more to us to know that we were nominated by members of the public.

"We are very touched that people have taken the time out to thank us for our work."

The team are based at Eaglestone Health Centre but provide outreach clinics at sites across Milton Keynes. They provide hearing assessments for adults and where necessary provide hearing aids for patients. The service has also been recognised by Department of Health as a preferred model for service delivery.