
Press release

4th April 2014

**ANOTHER AWARD FOR ESH WORKS
CLOSER TO A RECOVERY COMMUNITY**

Leamington Spa based social enterprise ESH Works Ltd founded four years ago by three recovering addicts have been awarded a £155,000 capital grant from Public Health England (PHE) to establish a recovery community property in Warwickshire supporting people with drugs and alcohol problems.

Over 200 drugs and alcohol community support organisations put in bids for a share of the £10 million central funding made available by Public Health England (PHE) to help establish recovery communities around the UK. The funding was specifically targeted towards organisations that provide peer led support.

The grant award recognises the contribution and the impact that ESH Works have already made in the community providing peer led support to people with substance misuse issues including the families and friends of those individuals.

Pictured at the ESH Works location in Leamington Spa, Will Johnston (Commissioning Manager Substance Misuse in Warwickshire) and ESH Works Chief Executive Paul Urmston.



The award from PHE will be used to assist in the purchase of a 'clean house' property for people in their early days of 'recovery' helping with their reintegration into the community. The drug and alcohol free clean house will operate a zero tolerance principle for anyone found using or bringing drugs or alcohol onto the premises.



Paul Urmston, Chief Executive of ESH Works said “This award has followed on very quickly from the previous Santander Enterprise Development Award that we received in January. This PHE award moves ESH Works another step closer to making the first peer supported clean house in Warwickshire a reality. It’s fantastic to see that the government are actively supporting recovery communities and endorsing the philosophy that the power of one addict helping another is without parallel in a person’s recovery.”

Will Johnston, (Commissioning Manager Substance Misuse in Warwickshire) said “This award from PHE supports Warwickshire’s focus on establishing Recovery Communities and recognises the importance of peer led activity and the support ESH Works provide. We took an initiative to commission the ESH Works peer led service two years ago and it’s proved to be incredibly successful”

ESH Works has a team of volunteers who are able to pass on their own personal experience of addiction to other people who are currently in the same position as they once were.

ESH Works were one of the 67 successful organisations who received a grant in the UK.

This latest capital grant and the previous award from Santander along with the local funding support from the Warwickshire Drugs and Alcohol Action Team will make a significant difference to the ‘Building Recovery Communities’ initiative in Warwickshire.

- Ends -

For further information please contact ESH Works

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Notes to editors:

ESH Works is an independent non profit making organisation providing mutual support for those addicted to or affected by alcohol, drugs or other dependencies. We offer involvement and volunteering opportunities for people with personal experience of addiction who want to help us make a difference.

The fundamental principles and ethos of the organisation are reflected in the prefix of the name 'ESH Works'. The letters ESH represent the Experience, Strength and Hope which alcoholics, addicts and their families who have lived through the issues and found a solution can give to support people who are still experiencing addiction problems.

We believe the principle of 'ESH' works because the knowledge, understanding and skills required to face addictive behaviour can be best communicated by people who have direct, first hand experience of these issues.

Our focus as an organisation is on 'recovery' from addiction and we believe that the necessary support is most effective when it is led by people who themselves have experienced the problems and found a solution.

About the Public Health England capital funding to support drug and alcohol recovery

New government investment of £10 million has been awarded to services that are supporting drug and alcohol recovery across England.

The capital funding is being distributed by Public Health England (PHE) via local authorities to service providers that support projects which contribute towards helping their clients to overcome dependency from drugs and alcohol.

All recovery-focused adult drug and alcohol treatment and support services across England were entitled to bid for a share of the funding, provided that funding proposals were recovery-orientated and committed towards improving recovery outcomes.

Rosanna O'Connor, Director of Alcohol and Drugs at PHE said:

The quality and range of applications submitted was impressive, and shows the passion and creativity the drug and alcohol treatment sector consistently puts into supporting recovery.

The successful projects range from smaller schemes such as those providing training opportunities to people in recovery, to large-scale schemes such as building new recovery centers. Each of them will make a real contribution to the delivery of recovery-orientated treatment and support.

This is the fourth wave of government capital investment funding to support drug and alcohol recovery, and follows Department of Health capital funding in 2007, 2009 and 2010 managed by the former National Treatment Agency.

Sixty-seven awards have been made countrywide , with the amounts ranging from £3,500 to £873,000.