

Shamrock House

69 Hook Road, Goole, East Yorkshire, DN14 5JN

Tel / Fax 01405 766217 e-mail shamrockhouse@hotmail.co.uk

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To Whom This May Concern

I would like to start by apologising for my inability to attend today's AGM. It was my intention to speak at this meeting but I am afraid illness will prevent me.

Cheryl asked me to come along and offer input on how I thought GreenTeam benefits our service users and the community in general and I have been glad to do so.

I have a service user who attends Greenteam 5 times a week. This young man sees this as a full time job and gives him a strong sense of worth. Just putting on overalls and work boots and taking a pack up gives him the feeling that he is doing something worthwhile and allows him to feel like a man rather than a condition or illness. It allows him to work as part of a team giving him confidence that he would otherwise lack.

It gives him a structure to his day and an occupation that he is proud of. It benefits the people whose gardens he does and the community as a whole.

Greenteam has also visited our home and got all of our service users involved in planning plants that they would like to see in their environment and in the planting up of planters.

Some of our service users have attended Greenteam finding it flexible and accommodating their attention span and needs. They know that they can commit as much or as little time as they wish. The staff there take a close interest in the welfare of our service users and we do not have to be worried whenever they are out with the team.

Greenteam also offers a social life outside of the home with various interests and outings. Clive feels as though he has a life outside of residential care. I know Clive's mum, Nora is especially happy with Greenteam and how her son is looked after. She appreciates the social outlets it offers and the fact it helps him to feel like a contributing member of society.

As we have new service users joining us we offer them the opportunity to join in the team, I currently have a service user who is awaiting cataract surgery and then he would like to join. I cannot praise Greenteam highly enough for the service they offer; there are no other schemes that I am aware of quite like Greenteam and I would recommend them to anyone who has any free time or has service users who need an occupation.

Nothing that I can write can fully demonstrate the esteem that we hold The Greenteam in; but I hope this has gone some way in trying.

My undying gratitude to Dave, Cheryl, David and the team.
Thank you all.

Marie Humphries
Manager – Shamrock House