



Social Work Awards 2020







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PRIZES

Winner

. £50 Love2Shop voucher . Certificate of achievement

Special Mention

. £25 Love2Shop voucher . Certificate of achievement

Shortlisted

. £10 Love2Shop voucher . Certificate of achievement

ASYE Assessor of the Year



Shortlisted	Role	Employer/HEI
Andrea Bryant	Team Manager - Blue Locality	LB Sutton
Dijana Derakovic-Hodzic	ASYE Assessor/Manager	LB Richmond & Wandsworth
Sue Connell	Professional Practice Development Assessor	LB Wandsworth

Dijana Derakovic-Hodzic

"At the beginning of the pandemic Dijana immediately made the move to support on the frontline and grasped it as a learning opportunity. Dijana was able to integrate her learning and reflect on how this opportunity had deepened her understanding both of the NQSW experience and how she could support NQSWs better in their role"

"Dijana has gone above and beyond her duties - demonstrated by the huge improvement in retention rates for NQSWs in our organisation. Retention rates have increased from 25% for the year prior to Dijana joining the workforce to 100% for the most recent cohort"

Andrea Bryant

"Andrea is key to the borough having some exceptional social workers who have been under her wing during their ASYE" "She oozes commitment to and passion for children and young people, holding children central to all that she does regardless of the impact this may have for her professional or social life"

"Andrea is one of the 'Safest pair of hands' that I have ever worked with, being proficient in process, sound in knowledge and robust in decision making and delegation - these qualities ultimately lead to safe practice and good outcomes for children"

Sue Connell

"We regularly receive feedback from NQSWs and social work managers as to the effectiveness of support from Sue in helping social workers to feel safe enough to explore their own learning"

"Sue is undoubtedly passionate about what she does, is a true professional and if she says she will do something, she will do it! It's always good to see her smile and positivity she brings to everything she does"

"Sue practises and promotes anti-oppressive practice, helping social workers reflect and analyse both the dilemmas facing their families and their own journeys to being the best practitioners that they can be"

Outstanding Contribution to Supporting Equality & Diversity



Shortlisted	Role	Employer/HEI
Melody Chiramba	Fostering Panel Advisor	Achieving for Children
Sherifa Adenmonsun	Independent Reviewing Officer	LB Sutton

Sherifa Adenmonsun

"Sherifa has been integral in the implementation of a new approach to Looked After Reviews. She has had a positive impact on the participation of children in their reviews as well as on the practice of others in how they communicate with children"

"Sherifa took on a significant role in BHM, presenting to 100+ staff (on her study day). Her initiative for children to be sent books that will encourage them to 'Dream Big, Try Hard and Shine Bright' was actualised, with Children Looked After being sent a range of books."

"Sherifa was the first IRO in the team to visit children and hold reviews face to face as soon as this was possible after lockdown. She has also met face to face with birth parents to enable them to participate in a virtual meeting when this would have been difficult due to their own needs"

Melody Chiramba

"Melody provided a great deal of BLM learning resources to the team which opened this up for discussion in foster carer supervision sessions, raising their awareness and positively impacting on the care they provide to children and young people"

"She ensures carers have appreciation of the heritage, culture and identity of their children, and that this is positively promoted. She looks at the way carers support children to gain respect for themselves and encourages them to challenge non inclusive and discriminatory attitudes"

"She recently requested that she attend the training sessions for prospective foster carers in order to lead this session. This is something outside of Melody's role, but something that she volunteered to take on in order to support and teach new foster carers the importance of this key area"

Practice Educator of the Year



Shortlisted	Role	Employer/HEI
Roshilla Pillay	Practice Assessment Manager	LB Merton
Sarah Abbott	Out of Hours Team Manager	LB Wandsworth
Sue Connell	Professional Practice Development Assessor	LB Wandsworth

Sue Connell

"Sue has really embraced the development of a Practice Education community across the TP. Not only has she attended all of the PE workshops that have been developed by the TP, she has put herself forward to co-facilitate workshops"

"Sue's joy at seeing the learning and progress that students make is evident and she never misses an opportunity to amplify good practice"

"Sue has gone above and beyond the individual support of students to the co-production of learning materials with KU and the TP. She has contributed to several live workshops including one on how difference, in particular dyslexia, does not need to hold anyone back from being an excellent social worker and from making a valuable contribution"

Sarah Abbott

"Due to the type of work and the unsocial working hours it is not possible for students to be placed within Sarah's team but she always puts herself forward to act as a long arm assessor alongside a placement supervisor"

"Over the past three years that I have been in my role in workforce development and responsible for the allocation of student placements across the service Sarah has remained the most dedicated and consistent practice educator throughout"

"Sarah is direct and expects a lot of her students which encourages them to step up and evidence high quality work. Sarah links with colleagues across the service to provide a thorough induction and varied experiences outside of the allocated team"

Roshilla Pillay

"Roshilla succeeded in her application to be the Practice Assessment Manager in Merton at the start of the Covid crisis and first lockdown. She worked with me to manage extremely uncharted waters to support students to continue on their placements, to arrange equipment to enable remote working and to find replacement practice educators when needed"

"I admire the way she advocates for student social workers so they are supported in their learning as social workers. Because of this, diverse groups are brought together to ensure that vulnerable groups are empowered"

Teaching Consultant of the Year



Shortlisted	Role	Employer/HEI
Anna Holland	Consultant Social Worker	NSPCC
Richard Sammut	Team Manager - Court Team	LB Sutton
Sue Connell	Professional Practice Development Assessor	LB Wandsworth

Anna Holland

"Anna has very kindly provided 1-1 sessions with students who have not been able to continue with their placements due to CV19...she has shared so many resources that NSPCC use to support children and young people who are at risk of abuse and exploitation"

"While she has been volunteering within the Teaching Partnership, I have simultaneously asked Anna to lead a challenging project alongside her usual role. Her work ethic is remarkable"

"Anna has also identified multiple opportunities to involve other members of the NSPCC team in teaching opportunities, contributing to the confidence and learning of others on yet another level"

Richard Sammut

"As part of the TP, Richard has been selfless in the time that he has given to the university, being involved in a number of tasks including the development of course material and delivery of lectures to students regarding social work and the Law. I have no doubt that the students would have benefited from Richard's experience and how the law is applied in to practice"

"Nothing is too much trouble for him and he will frequently cover and support his colleagues at a detriment to his own workload and time pressures. Richard works well beyond his contracted hours including evenings and weekends and has to be reminded to take leave. Richard's team hold him in high regard and his fair approach to staff management means he gets the best out of staff"

Social Work Student in Practice



Shortlisted	Role	Employer/HEI
Ivenna (Ven) Finn	Student Social Worker	LB Wandsworth
Stacey Butler-Charles	NQSW	Achieving for Children
Verity Marklew	Student Social Worker	LB Wandsworth

Ivenna (Ven) Finn

"Ven has been working with a family in which there are two teenage girls – one of which has complex mental health issues and there is a complex divided family structure. Ven made time to visit the teenagers twice the week before a Family Group Conference to discuss and help prepare them"

"Ven has been able to recently engage with a care leaver and her twin babies and help to challenge potentially oppressive practice and advocate for this young people whilst holding the babies safeguarding in mind"

Stacey Butler-Charles

"Stacey demonstrated through her placement her belief in a strength based and person centred approach to social work" "I believe that her strength of belief in supporting children and families in the best way possible for them benefitted the families she worked with as a student, and will continue to benefit families as she goes through her career"

"Not only did her own work reflect her own beliefs and values about understanding individuals and supporting them in the best way for them (and not giving up), but she was also able to challenge others when she felt their practice may not be demonstrating this"

Verity Marklew

"Verity took on a volunteer role within the 0-25 Disability team during the height of the global pandemic, providing support to a service user group that were deemed as 'at risk' and vulnerable"

"Social Work in the current climate is about having the capacity to develop your own emotional resilience while simultaneously supporting service users to also develop emotional resilience to manage their own barriers/challenges.

Verity has demonstrated the capacity do this"

Social Work Student -Outstanding Academic Achievement



Winners		
Charlotte Byrne	Student Social Worker	
Emma Harrison	Student Social Worker	
Kim Holloway	Student Social Worker	
Mark Hickman	Student Social Worker	
Sally Rice	Student Social Worker	

Congratulations To...

Mark Hickman

"Mark has a gentle and understated way of profoundly connecting with others. He is perceptive and has huge compassion. These qualities enable him to build positive relationships with everyone he works with. This also makes him a great networker with a rich store of resources. I am delighted that he has won this award"

Kim Holloway

"I am so pleased for Kim. She is warm hearted and has a wonderful sense of humour, but at the same time has a superb eye for detail. She will accept nothing short of excellence, and will always go the extra mile for everyone she has contact with"

Congratulations To...

Emma Harrison

"Emma gained a Distinction and was an exemplary MSW student. She demonstrated great resilience and did not let her circumstances affect her learning"

Charlotte Byrne

"Charlotte is commended for her progress on the fast-track PG Diploma course. She demonstrated professionalism and dedication, and gained a Distinction whilst continuing to work"

Sally Rice

"Sally did so well academically and was truly tenacious in her approach to the course. I'm so glad she is being recognised"

Social Worker of the Year (Children)



Shortlisted	Role	Employer/HEI
Alex Mercer	Children's Social Worker	Surrey County Council
Chelsie Hannam	Children's Social Worker	LB Sutton
Claire Hunt	Senior Social Worker in the Fostering Service	Achieving for Children
Louise Drammeh	Social Worker	Achieving for Children
Natalie Annor	Social Worker	LB Sutton
Natalie Gibbs	Social Worker	Achieving for Children
Paul Barrett	Social Worker	Achieving for Children
Sherifa Adenmonsun	Independent Reviewing Officer	LB Sutton

Louise Drammeh

"Internationally, Lou has undertaken unpaid work through the Council of Europe, actively participating in a committee on unaccompanied minors, writing a pan-European handbook for professionals and attending and presenting at conferences"

"During the summer, she devised fun but educational online activities targeted at each young person's interests, motivating them to complete this extra work which contributed to some even re-entering classes in September at a higher level than expected"

"Many of Lou's young people have gone to achieve great things. Former service users include the head of a university department and a highly successful doctor who wrote a detailed testimony for Lou's nomination which included the following statement 'I honestly believe that without her, I do not think I would be pursuing my dream of being a doctor today'. In all examples, Lou was their first and last social worker starting from when they became looked after to leaving the service as adults"

Natalie Gibbs

"Natalie had an allocated child who died due to covid and she offered the parents significant support, visiting them face to face even though it had to be from the distance of the garden due to lockdown. She managed her own emotions well and sought appropriate support for herself. It is difficult to manage any bereavement but this was her first child death and was certainly unexpected"

"Natalie is currently working with a child whose grandmother is receiving end of life care and has had ongoing health issues. As well as supporting the child, she has supported the grandmother who was not wanting to engage with a social worker of her own, arranging food deliveries, liaising with companies who were going to cut off her amenities as she had not paid her bills, offering support, advice and encouragement, along with reassurance about her grandson. She is now working with her to ensure that her grandson will still be part of the family when she dies"

NQSW of the Year (Children & Adults)

Shortlisted	Role	Employer/HEI
Ella Rollins	NQSW	LB Wandsworth
Esther Owen	NQSW	LB Wandsworth
Naomi Smart	NQSW	LB Wandsworth
Sarah Gill	NQSW	LB Wandsworth
Sheri Adelakun	NQSW	LB Wandsworth
Calvin Burton	Social Worker	LB Richmond & Wandsworth

Sheri Adelakun

"When a student joined her team, Sheri supported her by offering shadowing and joint work opportunities. This was early on and beyond what would have been expected of her, but Sheri showed her supportive nature and showed what a team player she is"

"Sheri is very creative and engaging. She worked with 3 teenagers who have been difficult to engage and who felt listened to and safe enough to share information and have conversations that they have not wanted to have with previous social workers"

"Sheri has worked with two sisters who were placed for adoption. This was early in her ASYE Programme, so Sheri had a steep learning curve, which she embraced. She used consultation with others and virtual training to enhance her Life Story Work skills - in doing so was able to support these children to have a much more thorough understanding of their journey"

Sarah Gill

"One mother fedback that she was lost in grief before she started to work with Sarah. However, since their work together, she said that she has finally started to see how life can get better for the whole family"

"Sarah has great skills and confidence in working with fathers. She has supported around contact matters and support networks"

"In her work with a young person, she was able to explore the child's real sense of abandonment when her granny moved to another country. Sarah was able to work with the family to help them move to using technology so that the young person could still connect with this very important person in her life. A small shift but with rich rewards for that individual"

Calvin Burton

"Calvin always volunteers for projects to support the development of the team and to ensure best outcomes for the residents of Wandsworth. He has volunteered within community events and contacted specialist organisations (e.g. the Stroke Association) to determine how they can support people leaving hospital and in the community"

"Calvin works with everyone in a way that makes people feel at ease and wanting to tell their story. He was allocated a gentleman who had a long history of not wanting to engage with ASC and was able to work with this gentleman to facilitate a deep clean of his property and implement a small care package on hospital discharge. This is a tribute to Calvin's interpersonal and Social Work skills and it is my professional opinion that Calvin was the difference between this man accepting support and him continuing to reject all support"

Naomi Smart

"In her final observation, Naomi completed a piece of work with a brother and sister and their Mum. There were issues around domestic abuse and the brother had significant disabilities. One factor for the family was a fear to set limits for this little boy who had a lot of needs. Naomi was able to model gentle boundary setting and distraction techniques which, in turn, gave Mum some increased confidence and helped the child to feel 'held'."

"For this same family, Naomi was able to explore challenging areas, for example when dad had been in the home despite there being an agreement he would not visit (and a non-molestation order was in place). Naomi explored this with Mum and supported her in understanding the work that was being carried out and reasons for decision. In this way, Naomi was able to act as an agent of change"

Social Worker of the Year (Adults)



Shortlisted	Role	Employer/HEI
Felicity Shapland	Health & Wellbeing Assessor	LB Croydon
Lessane Haughton	Social Worker, AMHP, Care Coordinator	LB Croydon
Vandrea Daniel	Social Worker	LBs Richmond & Wandsworth

Vandrea Daniel

"The team has undergone several changes and we need to regroup and consolidate our duty response. Vandrea has volunteered to lead a pilot project as the consistent duty worker. This will greatly enhance the service we are able to provide and the experience of the other workers in the team"

"Vandrea is a very strong team player who is always willing to help and support her colleagues and new members of staff. We have several less experienced social workers in the team and she has undertaken the role of buddy and mentor to such staff. She is happy to share her experience through shadowing experiences"

"I am so proud of Vandrea and her passion. She joined the team in April 2019 and in a very short space of time has transferred her knowledge and skills from a children's setting to adults. This has required her to gain a thorough knowledge of new legislation and the ability to apply it with confidence and sensitivity. As the manager of the team Vandrea is a dream to employ"

Lessane Haughton

"During the Covid crisis she has more or less held the team together single handedly with unrelenting hard work and support for everyone"

"Lessane has been recognized in our team as going above and beyond duty to support both her patients and colleagues. This has become particularly apparent during the current pandemic, where she has often volunteered to complete home visits on behalf of employees who may for example be shielding, and agree to follow up and ensure that patients are seen face to face. In such situations Lessane has also volunteered to complete home visits out of hours to meet the needs of our patients"

Felicity Shapland

"Felicity has gone beyond her means in the pandemic. She has been working in hospital 11 years and adapted to a new role in the life team overnight, she is so selfless! She did not hesitate and went on buses to clients' houses and completed assessments sometimes twice a day. Bearing in mind she is an older person and could be at risk herself"

"She has shown remarkable courage to the community - she has gone above and beyond. She has supported me with various tasks that would have not been achieved without her input. If I can do half of what she has achieved in this pandemic I would be very proud. I think she deserves an award for her tremendous effort in being a team player in such unprecedented times"

Team Leader of the Year (Children & Adults)

Shortlisted	Role	Employer/HEI
Caroline Borlase	Team Leader - Safeguarding	Achieving for Children
Jenny Burton	Team Leader - Leaving Care/UASC Service	Achieving for Children
Amanda Connolly	Team Manager	RB Kingston
Roshilla Pillay	Practice Assessment Manager	LB Merton
Shelley Leo	Team Manager - Red Locality Team	LB Sutton

Amanda Connolly

"Amanda is having an impact shaping the future of our Discharge to Assess agenda. She brings real life, practical experiences, learning from the residents her team have been supporting. She is a solution focused manager that not just the department respects, but partner organisations too"

"Working alongside Amanda to support the acute hospital has been an enriching experience for me due to her ability to get on with tasks ahead, motivate staff to work in the manner needed and provide feedback, insight, challenge and advice to me as a senior"

"We have consistently had a year on year improvement in our delayed discharge performance whilst Amanda has led the team. Last year we were one of the top DTOC performers at London and national level"

Jenny Burton

"Jenny works relentlessly on behalf of our young people and is not afraid to challenge decisions...! admire her tenacity and enthusiasm"

"Jenny has been my main role model within my supervisor role...many aspects of my practice and the support I wish to provide my supervisees comes from my observations of Jenny and my experience being supervised by her" "Jenny is a very supportive team leader, no question or task is too big. I recently felt a case was too much for me but she spent the time talking it through, allowing me to reflect and giving me the reassurance I needed"

"Despite the fast paced nature, Jenny always makes time to laugh and ease the tension, which is invaluable on a day to day basis"

Caroline Borlase

"I feel compelled to nominate Caroline because I don't think I have ever come across anyone who is so dedicated, driven, and devoted to their work and role. Her reputation preceded her; so many people told me how fortunate I was to have her as my manager, and yet she has still exceeded all expectations"

"I have no idea how she is able to provide the level of support, care and advice that she does. It's as though she has duplicated herself several times as it feels as though she gives all of herself to each of us. I have also observed families to instantly connect and feel rapport with her"

"She is so keen to understand each of the families we are working with so that she can be well-informed to offer us the most effective supervision and reflective space in order to give our best selves to families"







Congratulations to our winners and everyone who was nominated for an award.

Thank you to those who put forward nominations and our fabulous shortlisting team.

And Thank You to all of you for all your hard work this year!