

Press Release

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Healthwatch Shropshire Research Grants Awarded

Is it appropriate to teach young people about death? This is one of a number of questions to be examined by a Shropshire-based company that has been awarded a £3600 grant by Healthwatch Shropshire. Community Education in Death Awareness and Resources CIC (CEDAR Education) is an educational organisation that teaches people how to understand, accept and respond to death appropriately. It will use the grant to explore whether death education works and how people can become less fearful of talking about death.

Healthwatch Shropshire has also awarded a grant of £3946 to the Shropshire Parent and Carer Council (PACC). The money will be used to explore the experiences of parents and carers of disabled children in their role as multiple service users, including any barriers they face and the impact that being multiple services users has on the health and emotional wellbeing of the family.

This is the second year that Healthwatch Shropshire has awarded research grants to be used to examine whether health and social care services are meeting the needs of local people. A grant panel, which included external representatives from partner organisations, reviewed and assessed all the submitted applications.

Carole Hall, Chair of Healthwatch Shropshire, said:

“There was an excellent response from organisations around the county, with some very interesting proposals put forward. We are delighted to fund two proposals that we believe will produce important findings about the extent to which local services are meeting the needs of people in Shropshire.”

Following the successful response, Healthwatch Shropshire intends to hold another round of the Research Grant fund during 2015-16.

Anybody wishing to discuss the awards or the Research Grant fund is welcome to contact Healthwatch Shropshire for more information.

Healthwatch Shropshire is the independent consumer champion for health and social care in Shropshire. It gathers the views and experiences of patients, service users, carers, and the general public about services including hospitals, GPs, mental health services, community health services, pharmacists, opticians, residential care and children’s services. It also has statutory powers that it can use to influence service provision by encouraging improvements.

Ends

Notes for Editors:

Healthwatch Shropshire is one of a network of 148 local Healthwatch in England. It is supported by a national organisation, Healthwatch England.

It has a team working in community engagement, plus a volunteer programme and an associate membership scheme to involve the public in its works. It also has a signposting service to help people access services and support in the area of health and social care.

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