



Press Release

1 May 2007

Charitable donations help homeless charity provide new activities in Rugby

Residents at Mayday Trust's Supported Housing Schemes will be enjoying a host of new activities this year thanks to a series of generous donations.

Warwickshire County Council's Rugby Area Team awarded a Community Development Fund grant of £3,838 to set up 'In the Frame', a yearlong art group. In partnership with Rugby Art Gallery and Museum, Mayday residents are taking part in 12 sessions (one a month), covering a variety of mediums. The group has already had a session about Digital Photography with future activities including textiles, woodwork and dance. The aim of these workshops is to increase practical art and craft skills and widen horizons for some of Rugby's most marginalised residents. The workshops will culminate in a two-week exhibition, to be displayed in the Floor One exhibition space, early next year.

In addition, residents at Mayday House (Lower Hillmorton Road) will be embarking on a 'Healthier way of Life'. Thanks to donations from Rugby Borough Council, The Percy Bilton Charity, Rugby Rokeby Lions and the local community, residents have begun a gardening and fitness project. Funding will allow the group to makeover the garden and purchase a modest selection of sports and recreation equipment. As well as brightening up a drab space, and encouraging residents to be healthier, the "Healthier way of Life" group will allow residents to develop their social skills, take responsibility for a communal space and discover new interests.

Mayday Trust is a regional registered charity, which provides temporary supported accommodation and life-skills training for homeless people and those with special support needs. The Trust was established as a Charity in 1979 and now runs nine Projects across Northamptonshire, Warwickshire and Bedfordshire. Last year Mayday supported over 500 people to achieve greater independence.

The Trust operates two Schemes in Rugby: The Rugby Project opened in 1984, supporting anyone who finds it difficult to manage with day-to-day living. Future tracks, opened in 1986, and supports adults with learning difficulties and epilepsy towards independence.

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