

BDA Support Workforce Case Study

Syd Dawson

Dietetic Assistant Practitioner
Bradford Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Tell us about your NHS role and the difference it makes to patient care:

My job role is with adults with Type 2 Diabetes. I deliver patient education within the Bradford community. I have been talking to people in supermarkets, Asian stores, religious settings, GP Practices, shopping centres and community centres in an attempt to increase numbers in our group education sessions.

I took the responsibility of developing a radio advertising campaign to run alongside bus hoarding advertisements to further promote the local offer across Bradford, Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven.

“ **Your role is so varied and there are plenty of opportunities to take on new projects independently and work alongside dietitians. You will gain so many transferrable skills that you will be able to use in any team within dietetics.** ”

Tell us the reason you were nominated for the Supporting Our People Award, and who were you nominated by

This is an extract from my award nomination:

“This dietetic assistant was appointed with funds secured by NHS England as part of the Covid restart programme. During Covid, people with diabetes who were clinically vulnerable were not able to access routine diabetes care. Much of diabetes care is around self-management and in Bradford we have various self-management, group education programmes available for people with diabetes which had to stop due to social distancing. We developed an online version of the Diabetes Getting Started programme and have now restarted our face-to-face



Presented by Health Education England at the Celebrating Inspirational AHP Support Workforce Webinar in December 2022.

sessions. Syd has increased numbers joining the session by 45%. The services they developed, and their ways of working are great examples of the Act as One principle of working with local communities to design services and address health inequalities.”

What would you say to others to encourage more people to join the NHS Dietetic Support Workforce

Your role is so varied and there are plenty of opportunities to take on new projects independently and work alongside dietitians. You will gain so many transferrable skills that you will be able to use in any team within dietetics.