



all about people

## **News from BILD**

26 September 2011

### **BILD helps Christies Care to workforce development success - in the UK, and Canada**

Christies Care is a nationwide provider of 24hr live-in support for people wishing to live full and independent lives in their own home. Around 10% of people using Christies Care have a learning disability and, with this figure increasing, the company recognised the importance of investing in training and development of support staff to meet the individual needs of this client group.

Following the appointment of a learning disabilities coordinator, steps were taken to develop a suitable training programme for support staff working with individuals with a learning disability. A key part of this was a successful application to become a BILD Satellite Centre, enabling us to not only offer specialist learning disability courses but also provide learners with the opportunity to achieve nationally recognised qualifications.

Our affiliation with BILD - a nationally recognised organisation - gave credibility to our training programme and raised our company profile with other professional organisations, this in turn increased business opportunities and interest in the service.

In 2010, our investment in and development of the learning disability training programme was recognised when Christies Care became a regional winner in the National Training Awards for our Learning Disability and LDQ programmes.

And earlier this year, the Conference Board of Canada for organizational learning and effectiveness, having read about our National Training Award win, conducted a 'best practise case study' on Christies Care. Done in partnership with the Canadian Centre for Workplace Skills, this looked into innovative workplace learning practises and highlighted how development of the training programme and affiliation with a high profile organisation, BILD, had improved the skills and knowledge of the workforce, leading to better outcomes for individuals with a learning disability and also increased opportunities for company growth.

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To view the Christies Care case study at the Canadian Centre for Workplace Skills website go to: <http://bit.ly/paewkw>

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For more information please contact BILD's Communications Manager, Peter Salisbury on 01562 723010 or email [p.salisbury@bild.org.uk](mailto:p.salisbury@bild.org.uk)

Notes:

BILD (The British Institute of Learning Disabilities) is based in Kidderminster, Worcestershire and was founded in 1971.

BILD's vision is a society where people with learning disabilities are equal citizens and have access to the support and services they need. We work to make this happen in partnership with people with a learning disability and family carers. They are the real 'experts', knowing what support is needed, and what needs to change to improve the quality of their lives.

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