



# HCC Branch Info

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## CARE WORKERS - £200 Reward



Don't forget if you have a friend with NVQ 2 qualifications and they are successful you could receive £200 once they complete their probationary period.



Registered and Regulated by the  
Commission for Social Care Inspectorate  
Home Choice Care is an Equal Opportunities Employer



home choice  
supporting your freedom

# Open Door

**Cambridge Issue 5, July 2007**

Two important things are happening right now for all Care Workers in the country let alone Home Choice care.

**Firstly**, the No Smoking ban came into effect on the 1 July. Quite rightly Service users have a right to smoke in their own home but it is a place of work for us. Please let us know if you feel that any particular visit worries you in regard to a smoking environment.



From 1 July businesses must have removed any existing indoor smoking rooms, and must display no-smoking signs. They must also take reasonable steps to ensure that staff, customers and visitors are aware that the premises is required to be smoke free, and that no-one smokes in those premises. Company vehicles or those used for work (including voluntary work) should be smoke free if more than one person is using them and regardless of whether those persons are in the vehicle at the same time. Please take time to look at the dedicated website : [www.smokefreeengland.co.uk](http://www.smokefreeengland.co.uk)

**Make sure you have your sign displayed clearly. Smokefree premises sign must be at least A5 in area (210mm x 148mm). You can obtain your Free Sign from the web-site above.**

**Secondly**, its the school holidays coming up. We know that many care workers want to enjoy some of the holidays with their family. Let's make sure that holidays have been booked well in advance. Our Service Users need us 7 days a week and often 52 weeks a year so we must make sure all your calls are covered.

Don't forget to benefit from "**Recommending a Friend**", you can get up to **£200** for introducing an experienced, level 2 NVQ trained Care Worker. Let your branch know of any friends as soon as possible.

## Shares in Home Choice

**Finally**, make sure you get your shares in Home Choice care this year. Cambridge branch Care workers will get their **FREE** shares during July, Essex, Kent, Oxford and Huntingdonshire will all get theirs in October/November. You will be offered 1 **FREE** share option for every 250 hours worked (average over the past 6 months), its our way of saying we want you to benefit by owning part of the company you work for.

Details will be sent to each branch as the shares become available.



**Professor Justin Jewitt**

Home Choice Care helps people live independently in their own homes by providing care workers to assist with their daily needs

## Message from James Hussey, Finance Director

It is a great pleasure to be writing this as the new Home Choice Care Finance Director. Although having been in the Company for only a few weeks it is clear that I have joined a fast paced, growing business, which is passionate about the provision of high quality care. This passion and enthusiasm will play an important part in the continued success of Home Choice, which I am excited to be a part of.

What is evident to me, after visiting 4 of the branches, is the need to standardise all procedures across the Company, to make day to day operations easier and in turn enhance the quality of our service.

A crucial element of this is the globalisation of the Care Worker database in all branches, that is planned for implementation over the next few months. I am certain this will assist with the administrative burden currently experienced in the branches. I will be lending my full support to Trish Lewis Smith in the implementation of the system.

I would like to thank Sue Halsall for all the assistance she has given to me during this handover period and I wish her well in her move to Cumbria.

I look forward to working with each and every one of you in the very near future and thank you for the warm welcome I have been given.

*James Hussey, Finance Director, Home Choice Care*

## Jonathan Ludd, Care Director

A big thank you to all staff who have worked real hard during the start of the 'holiday season'. Both City and South Localities have had an increase in workload due to holidays and sickness and, as always, you have all been supportive in covering additional duties and shifts.

# Thank You!

## Cambridge Branch

We further saw our Cambridge Branch, your branch, increase in workload on a weekly basis with new Service Users joining our Company from both Primary Care Trust and Private referrals.

You will see an increase in our Private Service User customers over the coming months as we have successfully secured five key referral points at GP Surgeries in the City to date, and a further 10 referral points that go online at the end of this month. As you all know, the more work we can manage (safely), the more varied your work will be, providing opportunities for all of you. We further commence our 'leaflet drop' programme in Mid-July, where staff will be placing recruitment adverts in shop windows and delivering recruitment adverts in and around surrounding villages.



Additionally, it is with pleasure that I can formally announce a partnership now signed and sealed with Cambridge Regional College for Health and Social Care NVQ Level 2. This will enhance your knowledge and more importantly, recognise you as qualified staff upon successful completion of the course. We further have Medication training underway where you will learn how to administer medications within each service user's home, again good recognition to be had by obtaining a Cambridgeshire County Council Certificate.

We at Home Choice care pride ourselves in empowering you to grow, as we grow. By facilitating only 'recognised' training courses within the Health and Social Care Sector, enables us all to pursue continuing professional development. Remember, if there is a course that you feel would be of benefit to you, your service user's, and your colleagues, call Claire Bedford at your Cambridge Branch.

A very successful month and a positive future ahead. We care about you. We care enough to grow.

*Reverend Jonathan Ludd, Care Director*

