

Individual employer funding: how others have used the fund

Claire Steeples

Jenny Steeples acts on behalf of her daughter, Claire (35 years old) who has severe learning disability/ communication difficulties and requires round the clock care to meet her complex needs. She applied for the funding and told us 'we are delighted that this funding has become available. We have been struggling for the past five and half years to get the training Claire's personal assistants (PAs) need'.

Just some of the training that Skills for Care's money will be supporting is an autism awareness course and will enable a PA to be trained as a communication co-ordinator.

Claire also employs a manager personal assistant to support her and her four PAs. This funding means they will complete an Introduction to Management Skills for Adult Social Care training course. The manager will also train to be an Instructor in PROACT-SCIPr-UKR; this is a whole approach to supporting individuals who may have behaviour that challenges. It focuses on positive approaches and person-centred support which encourages the use of least restrictive interventions and enables PAs to have the confidence to support the individual to lead a fulfilling life.

For more information about Claire visit www.cpstrust.co.uk.

Philip Barton

Philip employs a team of PAs and used the individual employer fund to pay for them to do a Passenger Transport Assistants Training Scheme (PATs).

Philip says, 'the training would help my PA with their career development by giving them relevant transferable skills backed up by a nationally recognised and certified course.'

Philip has three personal assistants and by two of them attending this training it means that when his primary driver is not available, 'it would allow me to continue with my activities instead of potentially suspending them at times when my primary driver is unavailable'.

Daniel McAlveay

Daniel McAlveay employs three personal assistants. He used the individual employer fund to pay for his PAs to do a Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care.

He said this will mean 'my personal assistants work for me will be significantly enhanced by the skills and knowledge he will gain when on the course which will contribute to a better level of care for me.'