

## Skills for Care's funding makes a real difference to Nadia and her team of PAs

Skills for Care recently funded a team of personal assistants (or carers) to attend first aid and manual handling training, so that they could better meet the needs of their employer, Nadia, who has cerebral palsy.

Nadia uses an electric wheelchair to get around, and is also deaf and uses British sign language or her communication aid, Dynavox, to communicate. She employs a team of nine personal assistants to support her to live independently at home.



Nadia won the [2015-16 Accolade](#) for 'Best individual who employs their own care and support staff', which really highlighted her commitment to the learning and development of her PAs.

By applying for Skills for Care's [individual employer funding](#), Nadia was able to arrange bespoke training for her team on manual handling and first aid that was specific to her needs and abilities. She was also able to choose who delivered the training to ensure it was specific to her needs. She has also received funding to support her team on an Augmentative Alternative Communication course.

Nadia says she has really benefited from the bespoke training:

'If the training had been with the local council, it would not have been of as much benefit'.

Since attending the course that was funded by Skills for Care, Nadia says both hers and her PAs confidence has improved:

'I know that the PAs that have had the bespoke training are safe to help me and this also makes me feel safer... this gives me and my team piece of mind'.

If you employ your own personal assistants, you can apply for funding for training for you and your staff. Apply now [www.skillsforcare.org.uk/iefunding](http://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/iefunding)