### LILAC NEWS

**News for tenants** living in LiLAC homes

LiLAC
Leeds Independent Living Accommodation Company

# Celebrating Disability Pride

The tenant chat group came together to celebrate Disability Pride with Customer Voice Officer, Natalie.

Sandra, Fiona, Carl, and John talked about why Disability Pride is important and what it means to them, and everyone shared something they were proud of. They enjoyed making sun catchers in the colours of the Disability Pride flag.

#### **Disability Pride flag colours**

Red: Physical disabilities

Gold: Neurodiversity

White: Non-visible disabilities

Blue: Disabilities like mental illness,

depression and anxiety

Green: Sensory disabilities, like blindness, deafness, lack of taste, lack of smell, audio processing disorder

Charcoal: The charcoal background is to represent people with a disability who have experienced unfair treatment, and to stand up against this

#### Celebrating achievements

Carl is proud of his gardening work and qualifications. He looks

after the garden at SLATE where he volunteers. "I am proud of all the courses I have completed with the Hollybush Conservation Centre like woodwork and gardening," says Carl.

John is proud of the time he spent living abroad in Israel where he experienced communal living, and he was responsible for looking after the cows and milking them.

Sandra is proud of her volunteering work at a medical museum. She said: "I work at the Thackray Medical Museum and look after the medical leeches!"

Fiona shared that she is proud of the work she is doing with RWP and on the RWP Tenant Committee. She is also proud of everything she worked on with the group at Artlink. She said: "I love working with everyone here and I am thankful for the opportunities."





## Learning Disability Week



Tenants Sandra, Fiona, and Carl came together recently for a session to celebrate Learning Disability Week with the tenant chat group. They talked about why it is important for a person with a learning disability to feel listened to and to have your say.

Sandra says that it is important for everyone with a learning disability to be listened to and have a voice. "It's important to be listened to because it's respectful."

Sandra talked about why it is important to have your say. "There might be people out there who do not have a voice. People like us who have a disability and who have a voice can engage with people and tell them, this is me."

Carl also agreed that it is important for everyone with a learning disability to be listened to. He says: "People who listen to me can then know what I am like. I like to listen to people and the support staff, so I know what I am doing."

Carl talked about why it is important to have your say. "I listen to other people, and I think of other people and what they say to me. I think it is better to just come out with what you think as well."

Fiona talked to the group about the importance of being listened to properly.

"My voice needs to be heard. I want them to listen to what I have to say because it helps if they listen to what I am saying. It feels good when people have answered you. I like that," says Fiona.

Fiona talked about why it is important to have your say. She says: "You have got a voice, and you want to be heard. I think that if you are going to talk, you need to have a clear voice. And it should be heard by the person who is listening to you."



