Green Impact Case Study

Pharmacy Green Cross team gets Silver

Background

Institution: Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch NHS Foundation Trust

Team Name: Pharmacy Green Cross

No. of years participating in Green Impact: Two

2013-14 Award Level (if applicable): Silver

Highlights

* Learning how we can increase the recycling we do already
* Recognition for the work already done to reduce environmental impact
* Work as a team to achieve Silver award

Description

Pharmacy at Royal Bournemouth has around 100 staff and produces a huge amount of potential waste ranging from medication to bubblewrap. As a department we have always recycled plastic milk bottles, tops, newspapers, glass etc. but these were mostly taken home by individual people who were environmentally minded. By taking on Green Impact it gave everyone a focus on where we could set up proper recycling methods, discover what we could recycle in the department, where our biggest problem areas were and do something about them. So now we recycle all cardboard/paper, plastic (including all wrapping/bubblewrap from deliveries), medication (where appropriate), batteries, temperature monitors to name but a few and every office and work/staff area has mixed recycling bins. The Green Impact team produce a newsletter every quarter to highlight a specific topic (e.g. Waste/Travel/Water usage) which is circulated to all staff via email and staff noticeboard. Also, one of our students completed a travel survey about how people got to work and how many miles they saved by using public transport/cycling/walking. Amazingly 54% of staff were in these categories reducing car use by 6136 miles a year! We now have a Waste team who ensures we maximize our recycling and have strived this year to achieve the Silver award and find new ways to reduce our environmental impact. It has been so interesting finding new ways to recycle, reduce our impact by buying ethically sourced furniture, eco-refrigeration and even eco-printing for our medication charts used throughout the hospital.

It has been inspiring to see how virtually every member of staff has and continues to do their bit as part of Green Impact and receiving recognition for everyone’s hard work.

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