## Linda Cole – TLC and Enabling (Trelawnyd Living Care and Enabling)

I had been working in a job that I was not enjoying anymore, and this had been a similar situation for the last few years. There was no personal reward and was looking for a career that was going to give me some fulfilment in my day-to-day life. On reflection I knew that helping others and working to support the local community would give me self-worth and to say I was doing a job I was proud of. By chance when looking on the Flintshire website, we saw a notice about Micro-Carers and on reading the details I sent an email to the project team for further information.

I had an immediate response to my request and had a phone call with the project team a couple of days later. On speaking initially to Marianne, I was told about the Micro-carer project and what it was trying to achieve and how it was going help people live safely in the own homes with dignity and respect for as long as possible, and would also be supporting the local community. In addition to this, Marianne also explained about the help you receive from Flintshire CC in achieving this new role.

Given this is a new career for me in caring and working for myself, it has been a completely new learning experience. There was a lot of mandatory training that needed to be completed and I have been supported every step of the way in getting this arranged, along with all the documentation that I need to complete to support the business being set up and started. Initially, I was working at my old job alongside trying to complete the training, but given how unhappy I was, and I did not think I could give this new role a hundred percent dedication, I decided to leave and concentrate fully on this new Micro -carer role.

I am now coming to the end of my training and I am excited and looking forward to the future. The Micro-Carer Project Team have given me a fantastic opportunity and I am really looking forward to working with the other Micro-carers and alongside Flintshire County Council.

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