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Phoenix young adults group receives 4 new laptops to help with Job skills!

Care Vending, a company in Gunnels Wood, Stevenage providing drinks and snack vending machines across the South East region recently generously provided laptops for the job skills club for deaf young adults. They were keen to support a local charity as part of their corporate social responsibility programme, and selected The Phoenix Group for deaf children and young adults because of its good reputation for the work they do with deaf children and young people. The two organisations have been working closely together regarding Care Vending's generous donation with a family event planned for families and deaf children as their first event in the holidays. For those using the new laptops their first impressions were: 'This is brilliant! - now we can improve our skills more easily which will help us find jobs.'

To show their thanks, Phoenix are providing Deaf Awareness training to Care Vending key staff, teaching deaf-friendly communication tactics and British Sign Language. In addition, video clips will be created for a short-clip display on their vending machines, in order to promote deaf awareness to a wider audience via their extensive customer base.

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Editorial Notes

1. Care Vending is a family run business with over 25 years operating and in excess of 40 years of experience in the vending industry. We have a proud reputation for providing reliable vending products and services. It's emphasis is on supplying a quality, reliable service with known brands and healthier products that has seen Care Vending build up an enviable client base of internationally known businesses including WPP, University of Hertfordshire and many more.

Their operators and technical staff work closely together to ensure that their clients get a seamless vending service. Frequent training sessions take place in-house which keep our staff up to date on the latest machines and products. Our technicians also take part in manufacturer based training, ensuring that they have the know-how to deal with any issue that may occur with a vending machine in a timely and efficient manner. Their staff are fully trained in line with current Regulations and they strive for excellence in their customer service delivery and H&S standards. To find out more about Care Vending, their website is www.carevending.co.uk

1. At the Phoenix Group for Deaf Children and Young Adults we support deaf young people and their families throughout Hertfordshire by providing support, workshops and activities within peer groups which develops their confidence, understanding about their condition, and also the essential support that's needed for their families and siblings through greater understanding of deafness and Deaf culture.

Often deaf young people can face isolation, and mental health issues and we also provide support for the whole family in order to address those issues.

Less than 4% of the population of under 18s in the UK are deaf and we aim to support as many of that demographic in our area as we can, by working with deaf and SEN organisations and by also providing practical support. We have made a huge difference to many deaf lives within the county, supporting not only deaf young people, but also their siblings who can often get overlooked within the family dynamic, and their parents/carers and grandparents so that they can access the support they also need when there is a deaf young person in the family.

We offer deaf awareness through communication tactics, and sign language education through workshops and courses. As well as empowering deaf young people, we aim to increase independence, share learning and develop confidence through fun group activities.

To find out more information about The Phoenix Group for Deaf Children and Young Adults visit their website at www.phoenixgroup.org.uk.