

# LLOYDS BANK FOUNDATION

for the Channel Islands



## Press Release

8<sup>th</sup> July 2016

### Choices charity receive over £20k from Foundation

The Lloyds Bank Foundation for the Channel Islands has granted £22,474 to sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing charity Choices LBG to cover much needed administration costs.

Choices LBG is an established sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing charity based in Guernsey that offers an array of services to people of all ages which includes contraception, emergency contraception, pregnancy testing, counselling, cervical smear, and STI testing for sexually transmitted infections (STI). The clinic hosts a comprehensive website which collates necessary and accurate information with regards to their services and common sexual health issues.

Over the last couple of years, the clinic has undertaken a significant amount of outreach work including taking services out to the community where young people go. Outreach staff have also trained more than 50 frontline workers from youth services such as the HUB, Action for Children, and the youth commission. Most recently, they were present at the Wellbeing Fayre organised by a group from the Grammar School and Sixth Form Centre Year 12 Prefects. The event took place at the Grammar School and Sixth Form main hall and hosted 25 charities, initiatives, commissions, and businesses who covered all aspects of wellbeing in the forms of discussions, activities and demos. Choices LBG hosted a stand there where they spread their messages of the importance of education on all aspects of sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing.

The Foundation has provided Choices LBG with a grant that will ensure that their reception can provide a smooth, reassuring and comprehensive service to those requiring the services of the charity. Administration costs are necessary expenses involved in running charity organisations and the Foundation is one of the few local charitable trusts able to grant money which will cover these essential services.

Wilma Edwards, Manager, Choices LBG, commented:

“We’re so thankful for the grant that the Foundation was able to support us with. Having a dedicated receptionist manning our front line and maintaining a confident and reassuring first point of contact for those using or enquiring about our services is absolutely integral to the successful

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function of our organisation. Filling this position will allow us to place more focus on other aspects of the charity, such as the integration of a new IT system which will modernise our methods and our practice.”

Jo Le Poidevin, Executive Director, Lloyds Bank Foundation for the Channel Islands, commented:

“Education, health and wellbeing are of the utmost importance in the pursuit of happier, healthier and more inclusive communities. It’s pleasing to see that the support we’ve provided to Choices LBG will ultimately benefit their mission to bring sexual health education to the forefront of islanders minds which in turn helps individuals within the community make more informed decisions.”

**[ENDS]**

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## **Notes to Editors:**

The Lloyds Bank Foundation for the Channel Islands is an independently-run charitable trust with its own Board of Trustees. There are three branches to the Lloyds Bank Foundations which spread across England and Wales, Northern Ireland, and the Channel Islands. The Foundations are funded by the profits of Lloyds Banking Group and operate a range of grant programmes to provide funding for registered charities that focus on improving quality of life, creating equality of opportunity and tackling the disadvantage of those who are marginalised in society.

2015 marked the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Foundations, which have distributed over £575m to charities in communities across the UK, more than £15 million specifically in the Channel Islands, which has helped to tackle disadvantage since 1985.