

Sheffield Mental Health Charity Named as one the UK's Top 100 Digital Leaders HELP HOME-GROWN SHEFFIELD FLOURISH BECOME DIGITAL CHARITY OF THE YEAR!

- **The top 100 Digital Leaders highlights the leading digital pioneers across the country**
- **Sheffield Flourish is a ground breaking mental health charity which helps people living with mental health conditions to grow their skills, confidence and connections through a digital well-being community hub**
- **The public can vote for Sheffield Flourish to become Digital Charity of the Year at digileaders100.com by 12 noon on 9 June 2017**

The **Digital Leaders 100** Awards honour the highest achievements from the past year, celebrating teams and individuals from across sectors and industries who are blazing a trail within the digital space.

Lord Francis Maude of Horsham, Chair of Digital Leaders, commented;

"The Digital Leaders 100 list 2017 is once again highlighting the progress that has been made in digitally transforming the UK across all sectors. Our Digital Leaders community have pulled out all the stops to let us know about the hidden heroes, quietly getting on with the UK's digital transformation without themselves seeking recognition."

Sheffield Flourish is a home-grown ground-breaking mental health charity helps people living with mental health conditions to grow their skills, confidence and connections through a digital well-being community hub. In less than a year over 8,000 people have used the hub and there are over 40 volunteers producing, editing and moderating content and going out into communities to help other people learn how to go online and use Sheffield Flourish as part of their mental health recovery. Collaborating with people who have experienced difficulties and distress, Sheffield Flourish has created a website and peer support movement defined by solidarity, friendship and hope. From creative story-telling on the site to getting involved in projects like the Oasis gardening project, Sheffield Flourish has something for everyone!

Roz Davies, Managing Director, Sheffield Flourish, said;

"We are delighted to be included in the prestigious Digital Leaders 100 List and flying the flag for mental health and Sheffield on a national platform. Mental health touches all our lives and can be extremely distressing but we are all more than our health conditions. At Sheffield Flourish we have learnt that when people are truly valued for their talents, ideas and kindness, amazing things happen!"

James, Sheffield Flourish Volunteer added

"Once people have fallen off the grid - like with my situation, I couldn't work, I couldn't contribute to society - it's very easy to say well let's just get rid of this person. But they're not doing that. They're saying all these people have got value, let's bring them back and nurture them and help them contribute to society once more. It's like being a plant in the desert, and you're just withering away, and then someone comes and puts a drop of water on you."

Sheffield Flourish is one 10 charities in the top 100 list that are competing to become Digital Charity of the Year.

They are competing against large national charities, and are hoping that everyone in Sheffield gets behind them and takes a couple of minutes to vote for them at www.digileaders100.com before 12 noon on Friday 9 June 2017!

SHEFFIELD FLOURISH

More Information About Digital Leaders 100

Digital Leaders is a global initiative that has created a shared professional space for senior leadership from different sectors promoting effective, long-term digital transformation. The community of 100,000 senior leaders are involved in leveraging technology to promote economic growth, increase social well-being and narrow social gaps.

Every year a list is created from nominations submitted by the digital leader community before being shortlisted by the Digital Leader 100 Judges.

This year the judges were Lord Maude of Horsham, Chirs Yiu, Director of Uber, Emma McGuigan, Global CTO of Accenture, Felicity Singleton of GDS, Jacqueline de Rojas, President of TechUK, Lesley Seary, CEO of LB Islington, Maggie Philbin, CEO of TeenTech, Miguel Rodriguez-Solas, Independent, Nick Williams, MD of Consumer Digital LBG, Oliver Moreley, CEO of DVLA, Rachel Neaman, CEO of Corsham Institute and Theo Blackwell of LB Camden.

To find out more visit www.digileaders.com or follow on twitter @digileaders

More Information About Sheffield Flourish

Sheffield Flourish is a community hub supports people living with mental health conditions in using their skills, ideas and talents to build the lives they wish to lead. Collaborating with people experiencing difficulties and distress, we've created a website and peer support movement defined by solidarity, friendship and hope. On the site people can read real life stories, find out about local events and activities, chat online and share their own story and opinions. We deliver a range of blended real life and digital activities including gardening, creative arts, football, enterprise development workshops, peer support groups and digital inclusion support sessions. By the site launch in July 2016 over 180 people had got involved in shaping the site and since then over 8,000 people have used the site with around 40 volunteers involved in creating, editing and moderating content and delivering digital inclusion support sessions anywhere from care homes to sporting venues.

To find out more visit www.sheffieldflourish.co.uk or follow on twitter @shefflourish

For Further Information please contact Roz Davies

E: info@sheffieldflourish.co.uk T: @roz_davies