

**Christmas Party Spreads Festive Cheer for Learning Disability Services Across Bromley**

**A group of people singing in a room with santa hats

Description automatically generated**

***The Voices of the Makers Choir provided the musical entertainment at the Christmas party ©Ambient Support***

***(December 2023*) Widmore Road, a Learning Disability and Short Breaks (LD) service run by national charity, Ambient Support, opened its doors this week to LD services across Bromley for a Christmas Party – bringing festive joy to the people they support, their families, and employees.**

Widmore Road provides a range of services for people with learning disabilities and complex needs living in the Bromley area, offering fun and fulfilling person-centred activities and experiences, whilst providing respite for families.

The service’s living space was transformed into a winter wonderland with hand-made Christmas decorations, staff dressed up as Elves, and party food including mince pies, hot chocolate and mulled wine, was served. Widmore Road’s sensory room became Santa’s Grotto where everyone received a small gift from the Big Man himself.

A special performance of Christmas carols and festive pop songs by Theatre Box’s ‘Voices of the Makers Choir’ provided the entertainment- all partygoers were encouraged to join in with the singing and musical instruments including bells and chimes were shared out.

**Luke Potgieter, Service Lead at Ambient Support, who is also a member of the Choir, said:**

“I’m in a choir so when I heard about the Christmas party, I thought it would be brilliant to provide the musical entertainment. We know that the people we support love music and singing, it’s like a form of therapy for them, so we shared a set-list of carols and songs so everyone could listen and practise beforehand. The party itself was fantastic, we had a great sing-along together and it felt very heart-warming indeed.”

**Sara Barton, Scheme Manager at Widmore Road, says:**

“The people we support don’t have as many opportunities as they’d like to attend parties so we thought it would be nice to host our own at Widmore Road where individuals could feel safe and included. Ambient services from across Bromley came along including Knowle Avenue and Lower Station Road and it was a good experience for the people we support to meet their peers and make new friends.

“Events like this are also fantastic for our staff and help to drive an uplifting, supportive and positive culture amongst the teams – it was a chance to meet colleagues and talk about things that only people in social care can relate to. Ultimately, we wanted to support people to enjoy Christmas and to get into the festive spirit!”

For more details on Ambient services at Widmore Road click [HERE](https://www.ambient.org.uk/services/bromley-short-breaks-respite/) and see the virtual tour of the service [HERE](https://youtu.be/P5K4BmGWybo).

***~ENDS~***

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**Notes to Editors:**

**About Ambient Support:**[www.ambient.org.uk](http://www.ambient.org.uk/)  @ambientsupport

* Ambient Support is one of the Top 20 generic Not-For-Profit Health & Social Care Providers in the UK
* They deliver services that meet the needs of some of the most vulnerable adults in society
* Operating in 110+ locations, they provide over 30 thousand hours of care to people on a weekly basis to support a range of needs due to the ageing process, learning disability or mental illness
* **Ambient is certified as a Great Place to Work**following an in-depth survey of staff in October 2022. Survey findings showed that**84%** said they felt they made a difference and were proud of what they accomplished. Whilst almost **90%** said they are treated fairly, regardless of age, race, or sexual orientation. Similarly, **83%** of employees said that when they joined Ambient, they were made to feel welcome
* Ambient’s range of quality specialist services are delivered by dedicated, professional, and passionate staff and their success is built on supporting people to live a full and meaningful life
* Latest results from Ambient Support’s 2023- People We Support Satisfaction Survey show:  
  **84% say they are happy with the care Ambient provide, 82% feel that their lives have improved since Ambient started supporting them and 93% agree that they would recommend Ambient Support**
* Ambient currently supports around 950+ people across the UK in a number of care settings
* Ambient can also help young adults who are transitioning from Children’s to Adult Learning Disability Services
* Ambient Support partners with EasyFundraising which allows people to turn their everyday online shopping purchases into donation funds for the charity, without costing extra money. Find out more [HERE](https://www.ambient.org.uk/ambient-on-easyfundraising/) and visit Ambient’s EasyFundraising link [HERE](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ambient-support/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=clipboard&utm_content=rm-cpl)