



Jeremy Keeley (South Hill Centre) Adam Painter (V12 Tech Ltd) and Will Davis (Herts Vision Loss) at the South Hill Centre.

Local company V12 Tech Ltd have answered a recent call for help from the Herts Vision Loss and have funded some specialist computer-based access technology worth over £1,000 to help visually impaired job seekers. On Friday 16th June V12Tech, Herts Vision Loss and South Hill Centre came together for the launch of the equipment at the Strive, drop in hub, which helps local people to build confidence, overcome barriers, personal development and job search.

Herts Vision Loss are working with the South Hill Centre to provide visually impaired job seekers with services, advice, and assistance in looking for work in the Hemel Hempstead area and to enable them to demonstrate to visually impaired service users technology that would allow them to overcome barriers they face. South Hill Centre is a Christian community charity based in the heart of Hemel Hempstead. It runs, amongst other things, a number of regular drop-ins, courses and support for unemployed / under-employed / self-employed people in the local area which are open to all. For more information or help people can contact us on 01442 234728

They identified the Dolphin SuperNova Magnifier and Speech as the ideal solution to their requirement and the cost for this would be around £1,000. The South Hill Centre put in a request for funding to Connect Dacorum who has a network of great companies who like to help their community. Connect Dacorum regularly produces an Opportunities List of things that charities need – whether it is funding, equipment, promotion of activities, etc.

Once the request went out Adam Painter from V12 Tech got in contact with Cindy Withey at Connect Dacorum and the connection to Herts Vision Loss was made.

V12 Tech specialise in providing IT support to small and medium sized businesses in the Dacorum area and beyond. Adam Painter, Managing Director from V12 Tech Ltd said “when

the request came up on Connect Dacorum's Opportunity List we were happy to help as I am aware of the effect that this has on individuals and how the use of technology can help people affected live a more enjoyable life. As a small local company we have limited ability to help within the local community but do like to help where we can."

Will Davis from, Herts Vision Loss said "It's great to have this support from V12 Tech. Accessible technology opens up doors for visually impaired people in the world of work; and facilitates finding work as so much of the job market is now on line. I know the equipment will be put to great use at the South Hill Centre."

ENDS

About Connect Dacorum

Connect Dacorum is a partnership between the business, public and voluntary sectors that actively participates in creating a better quality of life for all in the Dacorum and surrounding area.

We provide information and expertise on community involvement opportunities for organisations of all sizes and support our members in the delivery of their Corporate Social Responsibility objectives.

We are a project of Community Action Dacorum

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About Community Action Dacorum

Community Action Dacorum is a charity that provides a circle of support to the local community. As a council for voluntary service, we believe in bringing people together to achieve more in their communities and improve quality of life

We:

- Support voluntary organisations and community groups at the early stages of their development
- Provide funding advice, representation and a payroll service to help them grow and flourish
- Deliver services and projects that support local individuals, businesses and community groups

About Herts Vision Loss:

Herts Vision Loss (formerly the Hertfordshire Society for the Blind) has been supporting visually- impaired and blind people for over 100 years. Our mission is to empower the people of Hertfordshire with a visual impairment; to increase independence and reduce social isolation. We are Hertfordshire's leading independent charity supporting visually-impaired people. We offer outreach support, advocacy, employment and counselling support. As well as opportunities for social interaction and links to the wider community. We are registered charity number 1047148.

Find out more online at hertsvisionloss.org.uk or call our Sightline on 01707 324680.