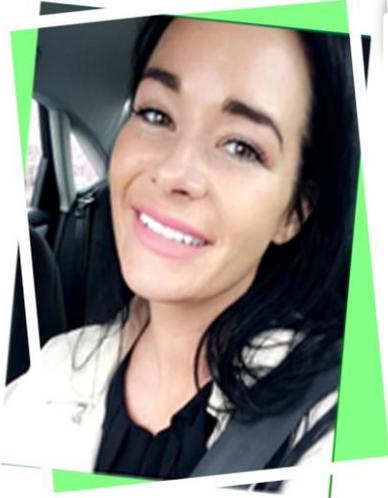




CONNECT WEEKLY

HEART TO HEART with the EDITOR



Name: Laura Whelan

Position: Site Manager - the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital Dublin

When did you commence work with Momentum Support?

I started with Momentum Support back in 2007 as an Account Manager.

How has COVID 19 impacted your role?

COVID-19 impacted my role dramatically in the past few months. I found my responsibilities grew even more as a Site Manager as we're dealing with a new phenomenon that nobody had experienced before. We had to face new cleaning challenges and staff needed reassurance that I was doing my very best to make sure staff were safe in their working environment. We were landed with this virus that had limited information and no vaccination available. As you can

imagine everyone was living with this fear of the unknown. We worked closely with IPC as numerous guidelines and policies were introduced and quickly changed. The team had the hard task of having to adapt to constant change in guidelines whilst reassuring our cleaning operatives that they will be safe once they follow the correct PPE guidelines.

What achievement are you most proud of?

I am most proud of leading my team through the COVID-19 pandemic.

My heart is full of pride during this very difficult, challenging and demanding time here in the Mater hospital. The Mater Hospital Momentum Support team, including all management, supervisors and operatives have been nothing short of miracle workers during this pandemic, they risked their lives to save lives. I am blessed to have such a strong and supportive team around me. Nothing I ask of them is ever too much. They are all so dedicated in this fight to help prevent further spread of COVID-19. I am stopped daily and complimented on how such a great job the cleaning team are doing throughout the hospital.

Everyone worked together as a team even though there was fear amongst staff in the beginning, they all got on with the task at hand as they knew that their role played an integral part in fighting COVID-19. They are our frontline heroes and must be recognised for their amazing work to help keeping the staff and patients safe.

The perfect employee must have?

Dedication

What are you most grateful for in the world today?

My family - not been able to see them for 5 months was very difficult but our weekly Friday night quiz with a glass or two of gin was eventful to say the least!!

Name one thing about you that may surprise others?

Not only will it surprise others it still surprises me! - I have recently taken up swimming at the VICO in Dalkey it's great to destress although I did get a shock the first time I went when I saw a few bare bums out at sea!!

A quote from a Hero?

My Mum who is obviously my hero recently sent me a quote which gives food for thought!

The Theory of Happiness by Albert Einstein "A calm and modest life brings more happiness than the constant pursuit of success combined with constant restlessness"

One last remark Laura Whelan?

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Michelle, Elaine, Noeleen, Cosmin, Ana, Catalin, Gabby, Dana, Maria and all the Cleaning Operatives for their tremendous work throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. I am very grateful to have such a dedicated team and I am thankful for their continued support in helping provide a clean and safe environment for all the patients, staff and visitors here in the Mater Hospital.

