

For immediate release

Christians Against Poverty scoops debt counselling award

Fast-growing charity Christians Against Poverty (CAP) has secured the title of Debt Counsellor of the Year at a national awards ceremony.

One of the Bradford head office team, Helen Baines, accepted the award in recognition for her dedication in helping some of the most vulnerable people and encouraging them to persevere with their debt repayment.

The Credit Today awards, which took place on Thursday night (May 12), are widely recognised in the credit industry within which Christians Against Poverty operates as one of the few free, charitable organisations, helping some of the UK's very poorest.

CAP's CEO Matt Barlow said: "Our service is uniquely in-depth. We look after people face-to-face and stay with them, supporting them and their household until the day they are debt free.

"To have this officially recognised within the wider industry is a fantastic thing and we are really delighted both for Helen and for all our supporters whose donations allow us to handle each case so carefully and respectfully."

It is the latest success for CAP which has twice won the Sunday Times 100 Best Small Companies and was described on Friday by Money Saving Expert Martin Lewis as "An amazing organisation" during an interview on BBC Radio 2's Jeremy Vine programme.

The award comes in a special year for CAP which celebrates 15 years since it began. During that time the charity has grown from one man with a ten pound donation working in his spare room to a UK network of 160 church-based churches with branches in New Zealand and Australia too.

CAP will be marking the anniversary with a series of sponsored runs with founder and international director John Kirkby leading the way with 15 marathons in 15 days in November.

- For more about CAP's 15th anniversary see www.cap15.org
- For help with spiralling debts see www.capuk.org or call 0800 328 0006

Ends

About Christians Against Poverty:

Christians Against Poverty is a home-grown debt counselling charity which is determined to reduce poverty in the UK caused by debt. It partners its financial expertise with the care of the local church to offer free debt help and a solution to people through 160 centres. The fast-growing charity intends to

have a debt-counselling CAP centre in 500 towns and cities across the UK by 2015. For more about CAP see www.capuk.org

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