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North mentor charity wins awards for youth

work. Accolades for staff who help teenagers find way. Published: 20/03/201

Award-winning mentor Zoe Ross



A Highland charity has scooped two top awards from the national agency for youth work, YouthLink Scotland.

Day1 offers a year-long, one-to-one mentoring service for troubled teenagers and advises them on their options in education, employment and training.

Volunteer Zoe Ross won an inaugural award for Scottish role model/mentor of the year. Miss Ross, 29, of Conon Bridge Close, Conon Bridge, who has been a mentor for almost four years, said: "I've worked with five young people through Day1 so far and it is one of the most rewarding things I have ever done."

Ed Ley Wilson, who co-founded Day1 with Robert Murray, said: "Zoe is without a doubt one of the most talented mentors in the Day1 team. Her straight talking and natural warmth resonates with young people and she has the ability to match this with a clear understanding of the values required to get on in life."

Each mentor encourages their young person to consider what type of job they might want, and take steps to achieving their goal.

Day1 co-ordinator Corrin Henderson also picked up a runners-up medal in the category for youth manager of the year.

Mr Henderson, of Island Bank Road, Inverness, said: "A growing number of young are leaving school with no certification or training or employment ahead. The resulting social disadvantages are shocking."