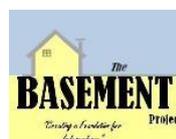


## Daniels Story

Daniel self-referred to the AXIS Youth Hub in January. when we met Daniel he was living with his friend's family, at this time his living arrangements were fine and there were no issues. He had recently left his job due to suffering badly with his mental health, the hours were quite intense, and he found it was all getting a little too much so made the decision to leave. He needed finding a job or sorting some kind of income at least until he found himself another job. We got Daniel booked in straight away to see a colleague from the Job Centre and a colleague from The Point as he had shown some interest in completing an apprenticeship. In the meantime, we worked with him to update and improve his CV, he used this to apply for a couple of potential positions which he was interested in. Unfortunately, these did not work out for him. After working more with Daniel it became apparent that he is interested in joining the Army Reserves so we facilitated contact and a meeting here for him to meet with them and find out more about this potential career. Daniel started attending the training sessions for the Army Reserves and seemed to have found something that he wanted to pursue.

Daniel started having a few problems at the place he was staying, this seemed to escalate quite quickly, and it came to the point that he felt he couldn't return to the property. We referred him to Nightstop for some support, as there were no host families available, a b&b was paid for him to stay at. It was at this point that the focus of our support changed as Daniel was now a homeless young person. Unfortunately, this was not the first time he had been homeless as there was a history of family breakdowns and issues throughout his childhood and he had been here before. However, this time was different, Daniel was engaging with us and accepting our support. This isn't to say that he had always trusted what we suggested and there were times when Daniel refused the suggestions being offered to try and help him. However, the more he worked with us, the more he built up trusting relationships with the partner agencies. Daniel had grown up in the youth clubs run by KDYT, and now he was back to being involved with KDYT. He would attend the evening sessions and volunteer where possible. There was a noticeable shift in Daniel's engagement and attitude and he seemed more responsive and willing to listen and follow our lead. With his engagement improving we were able to provide him with the tools to progress forward and deal with things that he may have to overcome.



We initially assisted Daniel in going to the Hub to complete a Home Choice Plus application, in order to be placed on the bidding system to start looking and bidding on potential properties. We also went with him to his homeless assessment appointment and it was following this that referrals were completed and sent to potential supporting organisations and services in the area. Daniel was informed about a vacancy in a shared house owned by Wyre Forest Community Housing and support provided by St Basil's. It was with support from ourselves, St Basil's and Community Housing that he was then offered a room in this shared house, this came with support through St Basil's and meant that he would receive help with independent living. For Daniel to be offered this property and maintain the rent, it was important that he had some income in place. For a while Daniel did not want to access benefits, however this seemed the only option, considering everything else that was going on for him; He agreed so we supported him in getting his income sorted. Daniel signed the tenancy and moved in shortly after.

After setting him up with some income, we then looked at his debts and explored these more to find out how much was owed and helped him set up repayment plans to help him get back on track financially. Daniel again engaged well and accepted the financial advice and support that we offered. With areas of Daniel's life starting to settle and improve, we saw small but vital improvements with his mental health, engagement, and stability. Daniel was by this time engaging more with KDYT, a charity that had supported him a lot when he was growing up.

In a short period of time, a lot had changed for Daniel and he was at a stage in his life where everything really seemed to be falling into place. He was now suitably housed and was being supported by St Basils to manage his tenancy, giving him every chance of sustaining it. Daniel had also been offered a fantastic opportunity with KDYT, which all seemed to be going in the right direction and it was at this point that we felt it necessary to take a step back. We ended our support with Daniel; within 5 months we had supported him with a range of various challenges and he had come a long way in terms of his attitude, understanding and approach to tackling issues that he may be facing. With support, Daniel has been set up and is on the right tracks and we hope this continues.

