

**END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS X
SHOOSMITHS FOUNDATION**

ONE YEAR ON...



END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

End Youth Homelessness (EYH) is a national movement of 11 charities from across the UK.

Our purpose is to drive research, collaboration and funding to identify and scale interventions that transform the lives of the most vulnerable 16-25 year olds in the UK.

These include:



Helping young people overcome their traumatic past with specialist mental and physical health support.



Funding intensive 1:1 support so that young people can find jobs or gain a qualification.



Ensuring that young people move into their own homes and don't become homeless again.



YOUTH HOMELESSNESS IN THE UK

Last year, 122,000 young people (aged 16-25) asked for help with homelessness[1]. Young people ask for help because they experience violence, abuse, family breakdown and problems with mental health. They become homeless because it's safer to leave home than to stay. With limited support networks, many are unable to get a job or find a safe place to live. Without the right help, at the right time, this downward spiral lasts into adulthood. But EYH and our Member Charities know that it's possible for young people to turn their lives around.

EMPLOYABILITY FUND

The disruption caused by unstable home lives and temporary living conditions can mean that young people drop out of school or college and attain far fewer qualifications than the average young person. With few qualifications and often little work experience, securing paid employment can be out of reach for homeless young people.

[1] <https://centrepoin.org.uk/databank/>

Yet we know that each young person has their own talents, dreams and aspirations. EYH charities provide a wide range of services to enable young people to work towards their goals. We believe that supporting homeless young people into training and employment is as important as helping them to find a place to call home.

To address the gaps in education, employment and training, EYH launched its Employability Fund, which provides homeless young people with specialist coaches who help them become job-ready and to ultimately secure long-term employment, so they can live independent, happy lives. The Employability Fund is underpinned by an Employability Bursary that helps young people overcome the costs associated with getting into work and education - whether it's course fees or the bus fare to a job interview.

EYH X SHOOSMITHS FOUNDATION

In October 2021, EYH was delighted to receive the news that we had been awarded £50,000 from The Shoosmiths Foundation towards the Employability Fund.

The Employability Fund is more important now than ever. Young people were most likely to have lost their jobs during the pandemic, and now, with the cost-of-living crisis making it harder for young people to cope, it is vital that we are working with them to secure good quality jobs that will help them manage the price increases we're all seeing. The Employability Fund provides dedicated one to one support to some of the most disadvantaged young people in the UK, aiming to help them build the skills and confidence they need to achieve great things.

£50K

donated to the employability fund by the Shoosmith Foundation.

46

Young people directly supported into Employability, Education of Training.

During your funding period, we guaranteed that for every £1,200 donated to The Employability Fund, at least one young person would be supported back into employability, education and training. Between October 2021 and July 2022, across the whole programme, 213 young people made this progression. With your donation, we had a target to support 41 young people, but we are delighted to report that, thanks to the Shoosmiths Foundation, 46 young people were directly able to receive this support and transitioned into education, employment or training. 46 lives have been transformed.

Included in those 46 young people were 13 young people who have since sustained full time employment. This includes a young person in Wales who had disengaged in education due to substance misuse. Thanks to the Employability Fund, she now has a full-time role in a tattoo shop. In Scotland, a young person started office work, and another sustained their role working for a charity. Other industries entered include healthcare, retail and labouring. 14 young people sustained part time employment in industries such as retail, hospitality and catering. In Norfolk, a young person gained their security qualifications and entered the industry.

13

young people sustained full time employment.

14

young people sustained part time employment.

11 young people sustained further education, studying qualifications such as health and social care, journalism and music production. After working with the Job Coach in Norfolk, a young person who had previously disengaged with education, returned to college, achieved their A Levels and now has a place at university. Three young people sustained traineeships including two young people in Wales who completed the employability programme offered by Llamau and gained trainee scaffolder positions. Three young people sustained volunteering in charity shops and as a Lead Ambassador for our Bristol Member Charity, 1625 Independent People.

11

young people sustained further education.

3

young people sustained traineeships

Indirectly, funding from The Shoosmiths Foundation also helped us extend the reach of the Employability Fund. Where previously it was delivered by seven Member Charities, it is now available to young people in ten of our Member Charities. Our hope is that by next year, all eleven Member Charities will be able to run the programme.

TOM'S STORY

Tom was referred to The Benjamin Foundation by his sister when he started living independently. She felt he might need help living alone.

Tom was assigned a Support Worker who helped him access tenancy support to set up his new flat. He was also introduced to Joe, the Job Coach at his EYH Member Charity. Joe met with Tom multiple times to work on a CV together and look at the job application process.

At this point, Tom expressed he had been struggling with anxiety and confidence issues especially around work, interviewing and new environments. Together Joe and Tom decided that the next best step would be to find work experience to build up Tom's confidence.

Joe arranged for Tom to complete one week's work experience at a local supermarket. Thanks to the EYH Employability Bursary, Tom was able to purchase work clothes so that he could be smartly dressed. This made a huge difference to his confidence and helped Tom "feel like a real employee". Tom can use these clothes for future interviews.

After completing work experience, Tom was eager to continue building his skills, so Joe signed him up to a Prince's Trust programme. Tom's confidence has started to improve, and he has made friends who he has met up with outside of the programme, "it has made me feel more outgoing around new people". Once he has completed the Prince's Trust programme, Tom is keen to find work and will keep working with Joe until he has achieved this goal. He no longer feels nervous about the prospect of new environments or interviewing for a role, which held him back in the past, and is excited for what the future holds.

[*] Tom is not one of the 46 young people listed above.



THANK YOU

As well as the direct impact for the young people we work with, engagement with Shoosmiths allowed us to run a Social Mobility webinar in partnership with Deliveroo. The webinar set the tone for the next stage of our Employability Fund and our plans to launch a pro-bono recruitment service with leading recruitment firm, Hays, designed to get young people into sustainable careers.

Finally, we were delighted to be offered the chance to speak at an upcoming Business in the Community meeting, again thanks to an introduction from Shoosmiths. We are looking forward to speaking to a group of leading businesses about our Employability Programme, in the hope of opening up more opportunities for the most disadvantaged young people in the UK.



It has been a pleasure to work with Shoosmiths and we hope to continue to build the relationship started through the funding we received. Thank you to everyone who has been involved. To see more about us and our work, you can visit our [website](#) or watch the [video](#). Nick Connolly, EYH's MD recorded for The Shoosmiths Foundation

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