



“I have been through a complete transformation. I really enjoy eating now and love walking places.”

Stephanie

One evening, Stephanie decided she'd have a bottle of wine. Her Mum had just died suddenly in the flat where she lived and she was bringing up her son as a single parent. A bottle of wine might just block out some of the pain. It helped. Gradually, Stephanie's drinking increased - slowly, over a period of years - until she was drinking 6 litres of cider a day. She got arrested for drink driving, having pranged a lamp post and another car. Because she was not eating, Stephanie's health deteriorated to the point where she was too weak to walk.

“What happened to me could happen to anyone. But if I can find a way out of the trap, so can you.”

Stephanie ended up living in a hostel - an environment which didn't help her recovery and where she owed money which prevented her from moving into other council properties. WY-FI used their Personalisation Fund to help settle her debts and allow Stephanie to bid for a more suitable place to live. Stephanie puts her recovery down to her own self-determination and the support of good friends and her WY-FI Navigator. She now enjoys shopping for food, eating nice meals and going for walks. When she's ready, she wants to return to work and know that she's earned her living fair and square.

About the WY-FI Project

Our vision

By 2020 adults with multiple needs in West Yorkshire should have the opportunity of:

- a settled home
- positive health and wellbeing
- access to education and employment, and
- trust in a positive future

Ethos

Individuals with multiple needs:

- are supported by Navigators who build trusting relationships over time and who are service neutral
- receive person-centred support to achieve their hopes and aspirations, and
- inform future delivery models and innovation

What we do

WY-FI supports people who are not engaging effectively with services and are experiencing entrenched needs in **at least three** of the following four HARM areas:

- Homelessness
- Addiction to drugs and/or alcohol
- Reoffending
- Mental ill-health

Working together

WY-FI does not deliver services but works with existing local services to co-ordinate and work together effectively to fully meet individual needs in a person-centred and co-ordinated way via a Multi-Agency Review Board (MARB)



LOTTERY FUNDED



West Yorkshire - Finding Independence
Delivering Fulfilling Lives:
Supporting People with Multiple Needs Programme



Stephanie

Before WY-FI

Stephanie started to drink following the sudden death of her Mum. Her drinking increased to the point where she was not eating and was too weak to walk so she could not attend her appointments.



Homelessness

Stephanie was isolated and at risk of being evicted from a hostel because she was not engaging with staff



Addiction

She was drinking 6 litres of cider a day, wasn't eating and was too weak to walk



Re-offending

Stephanie was convicted of drink driving. As she was too weak to walk, she missed one court appearance



Mental ill health

She was diagnosed with depression and anxiety but was not taking her medication

Joining WY-FI
May 2016



Jamie, WY-FI Navigator at Wakefield, supported Stephanie to:

- clear her debts
- engage with hostel staff
- find a suitable home
- engage with Wakefield Inspiring Recovery
- attend her court appearances
- complete her Community Order
- attend GP appointments and start taking medication
- attend counselling



January 2017



Homelessness

Stephanie lives in a flat which she is re-decorating herself



Addiction

Apart from one or two Christmas drinks, Stephanie has been alcohol free for 11 weeks



Re-offending

Stephanie's Community Order is complete



Mental ill health

She takes medication for her depression and anxiety and attends counselling



Chaos Index Score (also known as NDTA score) is an assessment undertaken by a navigator to establish whether an individual will benefit from WY-FI support against a series of need criteria. This is repeated regularly to measure progress.

Outcome Star Score is a self-assessment tool for beneficiaries to measure their distance travelled.

After WY-FI

Stephanie wants to inspire other people in similar circumstances to begin their own recovery. She's looking forward to working and earning a living again.

Developing Initiatives for Support in the Community (DISC) is a company registered in England, Registered Company No. 182 0492 and a Registered Charity No. 515 755 Published January 2017