

# CHANGING LIVES

We have a proven track record of turning the lives of young people around. Our youth work activities enable young people to thrive and achieve. Through 1-2-1 mentoring young people are supported in a reflective process, helping them to recognise their starting point, journey taken and celebrate achievement. We monitor and review progress and support young people to apply their learning towards future action and change.



## Luke's story

Luke was at a critical moment in his life but he was able reach out to Linx for support. His efforts have put him on different pathway and he now looks forward to better things.

### Deprived neighborhood

Luke grew up in a deprived neighborhood in Middlesbrough. His life has been tough, making difficult decisions, not always the right ones. He was NEET and seeking an apprenticeship in construction when he initially accessed Linx services. He has been involved with the police, including several charges on possession of drugs and intent to supply. Luke was also having difficulties with his accommodation and told youth work staff he was desperate to move out of his family home due to troubling issues with parents and siblings.

### Accommodation needs

Linx supported Luke to address his housing needs. With support he was able to look for alternative suitable accommodation. Youth work staff assisted Luke to complete housing applications, and made a referral to Community Campus young person's accommodation.

Eventually, we managed to secure a residency with the Community Campus and helped him move in.

### Next steps

Luke continues to do well and we will be there for as long as our support is needed. He said **"I can't believe the path I was on was only creating problems for me and my family and was taking me to the prison. I am happy to have my own space now and seeing my parents every week without putting them under undue pressure. My youth worker at Linx helped me to realize and saved me"**.

### Intensive support at Linx

Through regular contact and mentoring Luke has been able to deal with these issues. The negotiation work undertaken by Linx staff, including liaison with his social worker and the police meant that the charges were dropped on the understanding he was receiving effective support and guidance. The condition from the police was that Luke had to continue working with relevant services and attend all appointments.

### Career aspirations

Luke was keen to do an apprenticeship in construction and through 1-2-1 work with Luke, we established relevant pathway options for him. He was given information on relevant training providers to discuss choices. He was provided with ongoing support and guidance from his youth worker. He's shown resilience and determination to succeed, attended all 1-2-1 appointments. He was eventually successful in obtaining a placement on YEI 16-29 programme with Choosing Pathways, doing the Construction course he wanted and is now working towards his math's and english qualifications.

Hemlington Detached Youth Work Project The Bungalow, Recreation Centre, Cass House Road, Middlesbrough. TS8 9QW - 01642 591 955  
[www.hemlingtonlinx.org](http://www.hemlingtonlinx.org)

