



Elevating Barriers

An Employability Case Study

Finding employment with a criminal record can be difficult but not impossible. When you instil belief in people, they then start to believe in themselves.

AC was referred to the Elevate Salford project at Salford Foundation for employment support. She has a criminal record for common assault and a history of mental health challenges. AC has previously worked, but never held down a job.

AC has very little trust in people. She was embarrassed and bitter about her conviction and could see no way forward which affected her mental health wellbeing. With some persistent encouragement, AC engaged in a 1-1 CV workshop and suggestions were put forward to her about taking some courses to learn new skills and improve her social interaction with people.

AC, with support, attended an interview at Inspiring Communities for an 8-week admin work placement and was offered a place on the course. She was encouraged to deliver herself in a professional manner, to listen, and give herself and others a chance.

Making a Difference

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Outcomes

AC has excelled on her admin course and Joanne, the manager, at Inspiring Communities, has given feedback that AC is amazing. As part of her work placement, one of AC's projects is to find activities for the over 50's in the Eccles area. Joanne will be putting AC forward for some apprenticeships once her work placement has been completed. AC is thriving and wants to eventually inspire others with criminal records who face employability difficulties.

“I needed help with my CV. Alison helped me which led to her also getting me on a course with Inspiring Communities which I will then be able to pursue a career that I will love. Alison has been excellent and great to work and talk with and has given me lots of support and encouragement”.
