

CASE STUDY | YOUNG PERSON

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Adam Yasir, Pathways to Independence Young Person



POSITIVE PATHWAYS

Friendly, smiley faces

Adam Yasir arrived in the UK in November 2007 as a refugee, seeking asylum from war torn Darfur, Sudan. Arriving in the Pathways to Independence (Pathways) Croydon office Adam remembers his first experience of Pathways like it was yesterday.

"On the first day I arrived at Pathways' offices, I was met with friendly, smiley faces," says Adam. "It was Friday 2nd November at 5.00pm. I remember it so well because the welcome I was given had such a great impact. I was just amazed at how welcoming everybody was. They opened their hearts to me".

Since this date Pathways has worked with Adam to support him on his Pathway. After providing Adam with accommodation, access to services and support with his asylum application the organisation worked to help him plan his education and a Pathway to independent living and achieving his ambitions.

Huge potential and energy

With the support of Pathways Adam was able to quickly develop his English language skills and then go on to complete a BTEC in Business and

Information Technology. After completing these courses Adam is now in the process of applying for University to study International Relations and continue his education.

Throughout his studies, with support and encouragement from Pathways, Adam has been an active volunteer in the Croydon Community. Pathways helped Adam to undertake voluntary work to give back to the community and support causes that he believed in.

Abi Webb, Keyworker and Manager at Croydon for Pathways explains, "On meeting Adam you could see he had huge potential and energy. We worked to help him direct this energy into his education and his participation in the local community."

So much more

While at Croydon College Adam founded a campaign called 'Green Hope' raising awareness of environmental issues and practices and worked with the college to implement environmental policies. He then went on to achieve a VFifty award for completing 50 hours of volunteering. He is also part of the Youth Action Team working on projects such as bringing old and young people together and educating young people on the

environment.

Pathways works hard to play a positive role in caring for and guiding young people along their individual Pathway. This often means going above and beyond the basics of service delivery and providing real emotional support and encouragement.

"When I had finished 50 hours of voluntary work Croydon Voluntary Action nominated me for an award. I told my Pathways carer about it, and she came to support me and watch me receive my award. It was then that I realised the people at Pathways aren't there because they are getting paid for their jobs. It means so much more to them than that".

Pathways has worked with Adam to help him move into private sector rented accommodation and he continues to do voluntary work, and one day hopes to become a human rights lawyer. Adam is thankful for everything Pathways has done for him: "Thank God Pathways were there for me. They offered me all sorts of help and support. Their encouragement and inspiration has helped me believe in myself, and makes me want to be a better person." Adam feels much more independent now, and he is confident about his future.

Please visit www.pathwaystoindependence.org.uk
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