



“Seeing progress, feeling more positive and hopeful.”

A GMIRS Wellbeing Case Study

After ‘A’ had finished serving his 8 weeks in custody he found that he didn’t really have anywhere to turn, to get on with his life. He was blocked from working, getting any housing, claiming any benefits and he was unable to see his child. He was spending each day just surviving.

‘A’ was referred into the wellbeing service by his Probation Officer. Homeless & ‘sofa surfing’, he had no recourse to public funds due to an unsettled immigration status and he had been using various charities in the area to provide food, clothing & shelter. His existence was very much ‘day-to-day’ and this was affecting his mental health, exacerbated by the absence of any local family or close friends.

There were lots of challenges working with ‘A’, he could not access certain charities for support due to the nature of his offence which included places to stay. This has led ‘A’ to finding places outside the local area to sleep which in turn makes attending appointments difficult.

We supported him with weekly bus tickets, food vouchers and access to a warm hub. We also provided him with internet access, helped develop his digital skills, provided advocacy with other agencies, as well a space he can discuss and overcome issues, while researching any charities or public bodies that could help.

This is where the biggest change came, after extensive research, we found the Migrant Destitution Fund that ‘A’ could apply for and with our support, ‘A’ has had his first payment of £80 that he can apply for monthly. This will provide with him with dignity and the ability to get things vouchers cannot. It has eased a financial burden and opened a door for support. A has also started working with RESS, an organisation that will support with getting his immigration status settled so he can get on with his life.

‘A’ continues to feel supported and engages well with activities. He is also receiving family support and employability support and is feeling positive about the future.

“I’m so grateful for the support, I know I can come in for help and a financial weight has been lifted, I’m feeling more hopeful about the future’
