



# Success Story

## TINA'S STORY

“We met a lone parent Tina who came to our open day and openly told us of how her personal life had been so deeply affected by the tragic, sudden death of her young brother. Tina told us how she has struggled to overcome the deep emotional impact that losing her brother has had on her life and what the future may hold for her. She explained that the stigma attached to the family as a result of his death had been a big factor in how she felt about herself.

“She lacked self-esteem, confidence and her own feeling of self worth. She was withdrawn and quiet when she came to us. Her Tutor Marilyn worked with her on a 121 basis and encouraged her each day whilst she attended the programme. This was also supported by specialist agencies who worked with Tina and day by day her confidence grew and she began to engage more with A4e.

“Tina then became interested in experiencing work again after 4 weeks on our programme. A supportive employer was the key in this first step that Tina was to take to re-enter the labour market. Tina currently attends work placement 4 days per week and 1 day per week A4e work with her to build her confidence and help her improve her work skills.

“Today we have learned that the employer Tina is placed with is so impressed by how she has grown in confidence and her attitude to work that they have offered her a permanent supervisory role within their organisation.

“Tina will take up employment on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2007 and she has already identified her next goal is to access a training course in counselling and is also exploring options as a volunteer counsellor with specialist agencies such as Samaritans or HURT.”

**Charlene Lingenfelter**

**A4e**

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