

Working with vulnerable **young people**

bcha
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John's Story

John presents himself as someone who is resourceful - he has had to be to cope with the impact of childhood trauma, which continued as a theme throughout his life.

After he had used up all his housing options, including sofa surfing, staying with friends, and moving from one parental home to the next, and back again. He then turned to rough sleeping and would often wake up in the morning drenched and frozen from the rain and frost. This caused him to repeatedly reach for alcohol and drugs to try and blot out the pain of his life. This is when BCHA stepped in. Now John has somewhere he calls home.

"Since coming to BCHA, I have made some good friends and I now have a sense of stability and routine. BCHA is now helping me to find suitable accommodation to allow me to move on. They don't want to just put me anywhere.

I have my own input and they try as much as possible to take me along with them to look around potential accommodation. I have never really been that good with money and they are helping me with budgeting and money management.

"I know my tenancy with BCHA is temporary, but it is the place I call home. And it is a long time since I have been able to call anywhere home.

"I know that people tend to see me as a confident and cheeky chap, but BCHA staff have seen through my facade and have offered me a referral for counselling, which until now, I never thought I would need. Although, it is clear that the need was always there.

"Thank you BCHA."