

Nottingham Youth Employment Initiative case study: Sam

Sam was struggling to get a job as a single parent with little work experience. She's now an Employment Adviser at the Bridges Community Trust in the Meadows, Nottingham.

She approached Nottingham Works for help and was referred to The Bridges Community Trust for support.

Nottingham Works

Nottingham City Council has designed a range of activities to support young people who are not in education, employment or training and young, unemployed city residents to help them into education, training and employment. Called Nottingham Works, this support is funded by the European Social Fund (ESF) and the Youth Employment Initiative, through the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership's ESF allocation.

Nottingham Works is delivered by a number of partner organisations throughout the city, including the Bridges Community Trust. Sam was supported through the Step into Work programme which aims to support 18 to 29 year olds who are actively looking for work but who need additional support to find suitable job vacancies, complete job applications and prepare for interviews.



Sam says: "My Employment Adviser at the Bridges Community Trust suggested I volunteered in order to gain the experience I needed so I volunteered at the Bridges Community Trust as a receptionist. I made the twenty-minute bus journey nearly every day to better myself, but I also enjoyed the fact I was helping staff and clients too."

"I gained confidence and overcame barriers I didn't even realise I had. Four months later the manager offered me a paid part time role as an Administrator. I accepted, I

loved the support and confidence she had in me, more faith in me than I did in myself."

Whilst working as an Administrator the Bridges Community Trust asked Sam to support the Employment Advisers where clients attend to get help with CVs and job application forms, some of whom rarely had any basic computer skills.

This led to Sam being offered a full-time paid role as an Employment Adviser helping people over 30 into work and giving basic support.

"I feel so proud and I wouldn't be where I am today if it wasn't for my family or the support from everyone at the Bridges Community Trust.

If I have learnt anything over the last few years, it's that you can be anything you set your mind to."

For more information about Nottingham Works, [visit the website](#).

The Bridges Community Trust has helped hundreds of local people get back into work to realise their potential in all aspects of their life. For more information about the Bridges Community Trust, [visit their website](#).

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