



Case Study - Sadie

Sadie moved to Wakefield in 2020 but was quickly struck with a number of issues that affected both her finances and her confidence. Having limited funds was a major barrier she knew needed fixing, but when the pandemic struck Sadie's opportunities were vastly restricted and consequently, it became an extremely challenging time for her. Not only this, but Sadie's house also flooded twice in a short space of time and without the funds to replace lost items and redecorate, her feelings of isolation and despair grew.

Hopeful Families helped Sadie by securing a grant that meant she could buy some new carpets for her home. There was also a lot of community support and many items such as furniture and kitchen equipment, as well as weather appropriate clothes for her and her son, were donated by a local charity. With her Family Mentor, Sadie was able to prepare a full list of her income and outgoings for another grant applications to the Buttle Trust and Glasspool.

Devastatingly, during this time Sadie's brother ended his own life. The whole family were in a crisis and this had a severe impact on Sadie's wellbeing and finances. Hopeful Families issued welfare calls as well as information, advice and guidance on funeral arrangements and to help out with costings, as Sadie's debts began to spiral out of control.

Sadie's housing situation didn't help matters, as she was at risk of eviction if her garden was not cleared and her rent arrears were not resolved. Hopeful Families were able to negotiate with Wakefield



Hopeful Families offers opportunities to build hope, confidence and skills for people who are not in work. It is funded by the European Social Fund and the National Lottery Community Fund.



District Housing that they did not proceed with the eviction, as Hopeful Families were able to pay for a swift clearance of all garden items, and Sadie's rent arrears were lifted as long as she continued to work with the Cash Wise and Debt Team.

In addition to this support, Hopeful Families brought in a fuel debt worker from the Groundwork Green Doctors team to look at Sadie's debts and options for short term energy vouchers, alongside Yorkshire Water grants. Also, local community links are issuing regular food parcels to Sadie, and because of grants we received, Hopeful Families were able to help with Christmas gifts for her young son.

Money management has been a key issue for Sadie and in order to prevent external exploitation, the Hopeful Families team have worked endlessly to ensure she can access and feels comfortable with numerous services. A full health screen and registration with her local GP surgery was completed to ensure Sadie could access necessary support. Sadie recently added an employability confidence course which she completed, and has since been issued with a free laptop to help her employment applications!



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