



Preventing Homelessness



Your Own Place is an award-winning social enterprise delivering Money, Housing, Tenancy and Cost of Living workshops to prevent homelessness

**A word from the CEO & Founder of
Your Own Place
Rebecca White**



Having worked in supported accommodation, prisons, the community, teaching and the commissioning of young people's homelessness accommodation, I unashamedly wanted to create an organisation that did different

To create an organisation that lives and breathes its values, relationships, quality, impact and trust. An organisation that focusses on doing the one missing piece of the homelessness puzzle, really really well

By developing our own group & 1-2-1 workshop model, being faithful to our mission, evidencing the difference we make and putting people first,
Your Own Place brings value to all we work with



Case study

Beau, 17 months later

Beau is still sustaining his tenancy and told us the following:

'I think I lucked out with Your Own Place (YOP) when joining a training session for my first place. YOP is more than just a delicious yoghurt drink!'

If you're newly in accommodation and are lost for what to do, help is available in the form of tenancy & independent living skills workshops. Inside these workshops are a plethora of tips and information, including where to go for financial support, ideas to help reduce energy consumption and taking the steps to secure long term tenancy. This is done in a helpful atmosphere, in a judge free zone with likeminded people.

taught others and others I learnt in the process. The activities were highly engaging, I took away a fair amount that I will use for my tenancy for many years'

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About Your Own Place

Your Own Place CIC is a multi-award winning social enterprise creating social impact, putting lived experience at its heart and providing the vital and often missing skills for life through workshops and 1-2-1 support.

Support that enables people to navigate the worlds of finance, tenancies and housing. This helps people to access as well as sustain their tenancy, keep and thrive in their home and to get help.

Much, much more than this, our trainees are enabled through our facilitation to name and discover their strengths as a means to future problem solving. These aren't life skills - these are skills for life.

Partner Quote
Thank you so much for your time and effort in supporting our clients. It's been amazing!

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Your Own Place is an award-winning social enterprise delivering Money, Housing, Tenancy and Cost of Living workshops to prevent homelessness

Everything Your Own Place does starts with values, relationships, quality, impact and trust

From a place of equity, empathy, empowerment and always informed by lived experience, Your Own Place listens and delivers the flexible services that people themselves say they need

We enable people to successfully navigate their money, housing and futures, sustain as well as access a home - and then keep & thrive in their home

Trainee Quote

I've definitely got more knowledge and awareness on things. I know that some things need to be paid and what happens if it doesn't get paid

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Mission

to prevent homelessness

Vision

everyone has a safe and secure home

Values

Restorative

Equality

Asset based

High Quality

Empathic

Innovative, engaging & fun

Informed by lived experience

YOPAB

your own place advisory board

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The problem

Without high quality engaging Money, Housing & Cost of Living support, people who have been homeless, are in supported accommodation, custody, leaving care, experiencing poverty and/or mental/physical health challenges or seeking asylum are more vulnerable to homelessness

Our solution



Pre-tenancy

Pre-tenancy Money Skills, Tenancy & Cost of Living workshops

What?

Bite-size or longer modular group workshops covering up to 24 modules - optional accreditation

Why?

People in supported accommodation, care experienced or coming out of custody are more at risk of homelessness

Where?

In supported and temporary accommodation as well as in people's homes, custody or the community

How?

In small groups or 1-2-1

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The problem A fast-paced increase in the cost of living means that many more people are using foodbanks for the first time and struggling with bills and rent. Organisations are stretched in their communities. Creating engaging evidenced prevention Money, Housing & Cost of Living workshops that reach people takes time and expertise

Our solution



Community & Foodbanks

Community-based Money Skills, Housing & Cost of Living workshops

What?

Bite-size modular workshops covering Money Skills as well as networks of help

Why?

People accessing their local foodbank have self-identified a need and are engaging already

Where?

In foodbanks and hubs as well as local community centres

How?

In small groups or 1-2-1

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The problem

A lack of funding and support for tenants after leaving supported and temporary accommodation, including prisons, refuges, hospitals and children's homes, means they are at increased risk of tenancy failure and homelessness

Our solution



Move-On

Move-on Money Skills, Tenancy & Cost of Living 1-2-1 workshops

What?

Bespoke creative and practical workshops focussing on the steps to sustaining a tenancy

Why?

People who have been previously vulnerably housed or homeless are more likely to be at risk again

Where?

In people's homes just before and/or following move-on

How?

1-2-1



The problem

Engagement and relationships! Good, honest and trusting relationships with tenants and residents are vital to bringing about change and ensuring people are safe, heard and thrive in their homes

Our solution

Train the Trainer



Train the Trainer facilitation

What?

Workshops to embed values, provide practical tools and an outcomes-focused offer

Why?

A unique opportunity to deliver your own high quality 1-2-1 bespoke support with a set of practical tools and approaches

Where?

Bespoke workshops in your service with your team to design your own values-led engaging 1-2-1 offer

How?

In small staff groups

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The problem

Finding the time to design and deliver high quality, impactful group workshops to people facing the most barriers to learning new skills, being heard and engaging with your service

Our solution

Other Services



What?

Using our creative & interactive approaches to facilitating workshops & change

Why?

Because people aren't 'hard to reach' when the approaches are inclusive, fun and engaging - and their voices heard

Where?

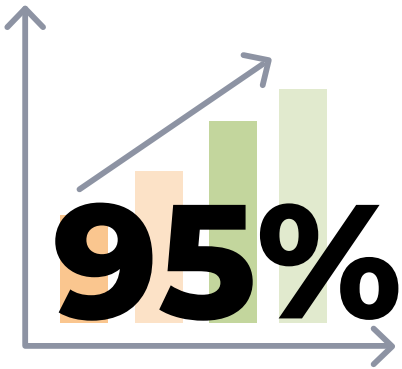
In housing settings, in schools, with partners and in the community

How?

In small groups or 1-2-1

Tenant Voice, Employability & Schools workshops

Impact



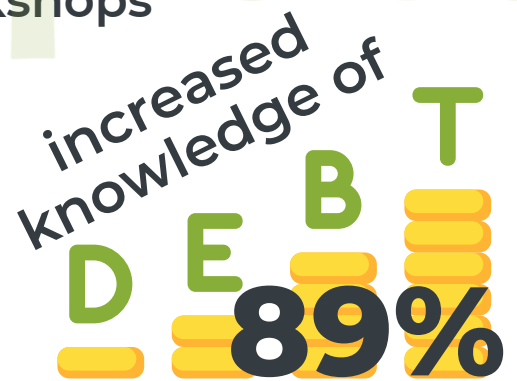
95% of trainees report an increased confidence keeping their home



100% of trainees recommend our workshops



84% feel more confident getting help



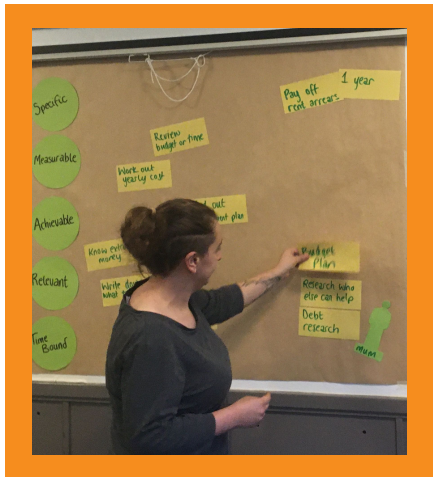
Trainee Quote

Just to update you about one of my goals I am pleased to inform I achieved and I paid off my rent arrears, thank you for all your help. I am so proud of myself, next goal is council tax



Click to view!





Belle

From organising her budgeting methods to starting repayments on her various debts, Belle* shared the steps she has taken in the six months after attending a Your Own Place tenancy and money skills workshop

'In the workshop Belle shared she had avoided contacting the council about her previous property's rent and council tax arrears due to feeling 'uncertain what I'm supposed to do'. After going through activities on budgeting, managing debts, skills, and support networks, Belle was able to compose a set of goals to help her take back control of her managing her debts. These included:

- Doing further research into the payment plans after discussing them on the workshop.
- Reviewing her budget more in depth
- Using techniques to build her confidence to make' phone calls'

(the workshop) has really give me more confidence to know how to deal with things without getting so stressed out and overwhelmed

Case Studies

Miles

Miles attended three group Your Own Place workshops at The Feed's Social Supermarket and got to tell us how he had been burying his head in the sand about his debts and rent arrears.

Following a facilitated and asset-based conversation with another trainee about her experiences, Miles returned to his next workshop and shared how he had spoken to his landlord.

His landlord had supported him to create a repayment plan for his rent arrears, access the Discretionary Housing Payment fund and to get a food voucher. He felt more motivated to seek support, and had even approached both Citizens Advice and a local charity for help with other debts and furnishing his home.



You make people feel welcome, and make it clear there's no right or wrong with what you want to say, and getting to hear other views and opinions really makes you think

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Partner Feedback

'Working with Your Own Place helps to reduce rent arrears'

'Since working with Your Own Place, Saffron Housing Trust can report, that as part of a number of measures, they have seen rent arrears decrease from 3.8% to 2.5%'



'A bit of feedback from a tenant that attended one of the workshops: 'I want to thank everyone who organised the course because it has made a significant difference to me.' As we have often said, we will never know fully the impact that these sessions will have on individuals – but this demonstrates their value'

Broadland Housing Group member of staff



'Thank you so much for your time and effort in supporting our clients. It's been amazing!'

Supported Housing Manager – Orwell Housing



'One of my residents has just attended their first day at a workshop and could not speak highly enough of the staff and the programme... he wished it could go on forever'.

Broadland Housing Group member of staff



'Well done to your team for keeping my clients engaged – I am incredibly proud of them for attending each day, for sharing their experiences with me and investing in their self development. It is a tribute to your course for having held their interest I can assure you as most were highly complex clients and the others have a tendency to isolate'

North Norfolk District Council member of staff

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safe and secure home