

Venture Trust Chance for Change UK Outcomes

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The majority of referrers report that the young people they support make positive changes after returning from the Chance for Change UK course. Some young people take steps to build their future by applying for a college course, others make attempts at repairing difficult relationships with their family and significant others in their life. Some young people create opportunities for themselves by finding employment, both paid and voluntary and some find better homes for themselves and move to better accommodation. Young people, in general, leave with a new understanding of themselves and as a consequence begin to live their lives differently, most often with positive developments.

Since the Chance for Change UK course was established eight years ago over 1,900 young people have participated in the Venture Trust programme and have experienced similar positive outcomes to those listed below. This evaluation is ongoing.

Chance for Change UK (10-day):

- Referral organizations include: NCH, Foyer, The Prince's Trust, Barnardo's, Challenge for Youth (Belfast), Fairbridge, Weston Spirit, Calman Housing, Alabare Christian Trust, Impact, Careers Scotland, YMCA, INCLUDEM, Extra Mile, Next Step.
- Maximum no. of participants on a course is 24 young people.
- 162 hours of support provided.
- 82% of young people who attend Chance for Change UK (10-day) complete the course.

After taking part in a Chance for Change UK course, it is reported that:

- 78% demonstrate a positive change in attitude;
- 78% demonstrate an increase in self-confidence;
- 70% demonstrate a positive change in motivation;

Six months post-course it is reported that:

- 53% of referrers report that the positive change in attitude they noted after the young person returned from the course has been sustained;
- 53% of referrers report that the positive change in motivation they noted after the young person returned from the course has been sustained;
- 53% of referrers report that the increase in confidence they noted after the young person returned from the course has been sustained;
- 50% had made a positive change in employment, education or training;
- 31% had taken up paid employment;
- 19% have returned to education;
- 15% have moved into better accommodation;
- 17% experienced improved relations with family or peers;
- 8%* decreased their use of drugs;
- 8%* noticeably reduced their consumption of alcohol.

(*The caveat to these statistics is that young people often reflected post-course that they may have been less than honest on their reported consumption of alcohol and use of drugs pre-course.)