

## **Integrated Autism Services - How we have made a difference**

### Example (a):

Parent/carer called IAS 'drop-in' at Jobcentre seeking advice regarding her adult son. Team member gave information on housing and Keyring (voluntary agency) details. Keyring have now agreed to support this young man. Housing being pursued and NEWCIS supporting carer.

The young man wants to work in a paid job. Parents support him.

Went to volunteer course at FLVC and was provided with support to attend placements to gain work experience. They then held a meeting with Job Centre staff who have had ASD training (Can You See Me campaign). They discussed tools available on ASD website to help in employment.

The young man and his mum helped IAS team on a community day as volunteer. Lots of communicating with the public. Very positive day.

Job secured at Morrison's. Young person thrilled. Success factory is the training Job Centre and employers have had in ASD. Training certificates on walls of Job Centre and workplace show people with ASD that this is a 'safe environment'.

### Example (b):

Staff Member received the following thanks: "It has meant that because of the support and service that IAS has given that as a partnership we have been able to give genuine person centred approach". "I want to thank you for all your invaluable knowledge and how comforting and reassuring it has been to be able to refer participants to your service". "I have been very grateful for all the advice from yourself, but mostly I have found the assessment process by yourselves most helpful."

### Example (c):

Gentleman with ASD threatened with having his driving licence removed and this is particularly worrying as he cares for his elderly parents.

Because he had a diagnosis of Autism, the District Nurse had reported him to DVLA querying his suitability to drive. The process is that the person is obliged to contact DVLA but in this case, the man wasn't given the chance.

The IAS support worker accompanied the gentleman to DVLA meeting and was able to explain about ASD and that the gentleman had no reduced or impaired functioning that would prevent him driving.

The judgement which could have had such a negative impact on his life, was made to retain his licence.

The gentleman said "Couldn't have done it without you. Thanks for being there with me".

Examples (d):

The service has recently received some very positive feedback from one of the volunteers via the Facebook page:

*"There is some very valuable work being done with this service in terms of helping those who have fallen through the gaps in services in the past. Diagnosis is being speeded up, sign posting to support, awareness raising and so on. I have become a volunteer with them and I find the service does all it can to listen to those on the spectrum. They are a lovely approachable group of people."*