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1800 825 955



Reconnecting with help from Foyer

May 2017

After a family tragedy early in life, Patrick has the tools he needs to succeed, thanks to the Education First Youth Foyer.

“After my parents died when I was in my final years of primary school, I lived at a place called Lead Tenant through Berry St. My worker suggested that the Youth Foyer would be a good opportunity for me.

The Youth Foyer has been great for getting me ready for the outside world and improves my chances of getting a job and better education when I leave.

If I didn't have the Youth Foyer I would be still anti-social and lonely and I wouldn't be getting out in the community and helping out.



“Since living in the Foyer, I have been encouraged to get back in touch with my grandfather and our relationship has improved.

I don't think this would have happened without the support from the staff at the Foyer.”

Since living at the Foyer for six months, I have joined in lots of community activities including the Mad Cow Run and Clean up Australia Day, which I enjoyed heaps.

The Youth Foyer has motivated and encouraged me to continue at school and they have helped me with my homework and given me advice on what's best for me and my future. The staff at the Foyer have also helped me write my resume and have explained how to write covering letters and what to expect at interviews.

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My social skills have improved and living with other residents has helped me relieve my anxiety that I have about myself. I go to dinners and activities which I enjoy and I have made good friends in here and I like all the workers at the Foyer.

The Foyer has encouraged me to be healthy; I have joined the gym, I take self-defence classes, I joined the Foyer basketball team and I have played ten pin bowling. These were all organised by the Foyer and I was encouraged to run an activity myself to give back something to the Foyer

Since living at the Foyer I have been encouraged to get back in contact with my grandfather and our relationship has improved. I don't think this would have happened without the support from the staff at the Foyer.

I like the Foyer; it's communal, where everyone knows everyone and you feel safe. You can make friends and it's like having a family. The building is a masterpiece and it's helped me going through some tough times and it's important for me to have a roof over my head. I love it!

The Education First Youth Foyer is a Victorian Government funded initiative, managed in partnership with Rural Housing Network Limited, Berry Street Victoria and GOTAFE.