



CASE STUDY

<p>1. Title: Somerset Rural Youth Project (SRYP) is a voluntary organisation providing a range of services to young people living in isolated rural communities. SRYP works closely with the Statutory Youth Service and other agencies to support the provision of an integrated youth provision across a rural county.</p>
<p>2. Area: Somerset</p>
<p>3. What was the issue? T was referred to the project from a young people's advocacy service. She was suffering from being bullied in school and within her remote rural community. The effect this was having on her was that she chose not to socialise with others, both within and outside of school. She was lacking any motivation or aspirations. Her family are under considerable pressures with low income and debt forcing the sale of their family home. T did not feel able to communicate with or gain support from her family members. The bullying was causing extreme isolation for T.</p>
<p>4. What action was taken? SRYP supported T to access a variety of social opportunities with small groups of young people and to offer one to one support around her emotional literacy and communication skills. T joined our health based Young Leaders Programme and over 8 weeks developed her understanding of her self, her ability to communicate with others and how to respond to negative behaviours. During July she also attended a consultation weekend to help shape the delivery and services we provide as an organisation, her confidence grew and so did her ability to meet new people and make positive friendships.</p>
<p>5. What impact has this had (so far)? T is now registered as a volunteer with SRYP to work with other young people. She is able to communicate better with her family and peers. Her ability to work with her own emotions is now stronger, this is evident through discussions and the fact that she does not rely fully on her youth work support during times of crisis, but reflects on her herself and comes to the sessions readily to talk through her own development.</p>
<p>6. How did the above action help to embed anti-bullying work in your area? We are able to offer a holistic support approach to young people living in remote rural areas which is responsive to their need and accessible to all.</p>
<p>7. Additional information (OPTIONAL):</p> <p>Do you have any images/ documents/ websites (including LA/school websites if relevant) to help illustrate this case study? <i>If yes, please attach document or paste website address.</i></p> <p>Contact details of author (OPTIONAL): Annie Diffey contact on anniediffey@sryp.org.uk or telephone 01278 722300</p>

