

Tools for change

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parents
forum



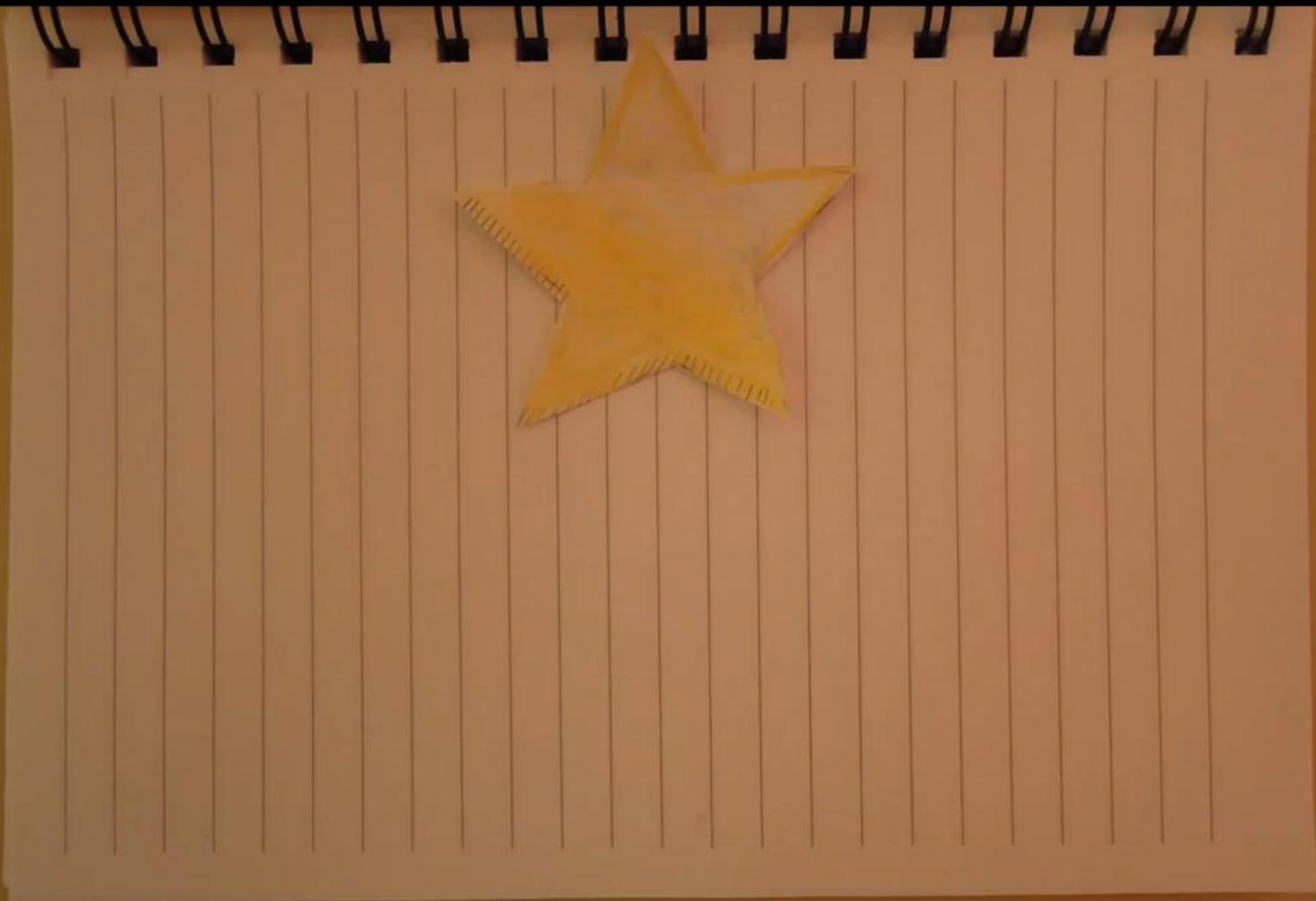


Before;
positive
confident
always had young
people in my life
autism aware
inclusive
very social
team player
solution focused

AFTER;
LOST CONFIDENCE
INSECURE
STAYED IN MORE
FOCUSED ON WHAT WASN'T
WORKING
LEARNED TO FIGHT, A LOT
BECAME FOCUSED....TOO MUCH!
BECAME A CHALLENGE
HAD NUMEROUS MEETINGS A
WEEK
NEEDED HELP
NEEDED A PEER GROUP THAT GOT
IT
HAD GOOD PROFESSIONALS BUT
A SYSTEM THAT WAS FLAWED
SON BECAME MY IDENTITY

Tom didn't need a map I did







Services were never designed to give us a life so why do we presume they can?

Support should enable, scaffold and develop so that it fits around the person it is for.

Impact for Tom.....

- ▶ He has a life
- ▶ He has a ball
- ▶ We don't focus on the negatives all the time
- ▶ He has friends and a peer group
- ▶ He doesn't have to spend all his time with us
- ▶ He has a range of people to support him
- ▶ He is safer
- ▶ He is happier
- ▶ He has choice and control
- ▶ He has dreams
- ▶ He got qualifications

Impact for us as mum and dad.....

- ▶ It's changed our lives-----end of!
- ▶ We have to talk together - eeeeek!
- ▶ We have a life, friends and interests
- ▶ We feel happier about the future
- ▶ We have had a will and trust done
- ▶ We've learnt from others-we are braver
- ▶ We get sleep and don't look as old as we did
- ▶ I don't have a social worker(I don't need one)
- ▶ We can now see so many more positives and that Tom brings something to the table
- ▶ We can trust others and not be in control all the time(well I try not to be)
- ▶ I don't have as many 3am moments!



Impact Anna, Joe and Maddie.....

- ▶ They get time out
- ▶ They see the positives
- ▶ They are part of the community more
- ▶ It's not all about Tom anymore
- ▶ They miss him when he's not there
- ▶ The future doesn't burden them
- ▶ They get to be siblings
- ▶ Mum and dad are happier

Impact for our community.....

- ▶ People like being with Tom
- ▶ We like being with Tom
- ▶ He brings something to their lives
- ▶ People learn from him
- ▶ He makes people laugh
- ▶ We are all 'in' the community more
- ▶ He's missed when he's not there

Impact for services.....

- ▶ Toms projected costs are reducing significantly
- ▶ Its nice for his 'professionals' (mostly)
- ▶ Staff are learning from his experience
- ▶ A budget is cheaper than traditional 'respite'
- ▶ I don't need to ring them anymore.....ever
- ▶ Being in crisis doesn't mean a bolt on
- ▶ As a family our mental well-being is so much better
- ▶ He's safer in his community



"Here is Edward Bear, coming downstairs now, bump, bump, bump on the back of his head, behind Christopher Robin. It is, as far as he knows, the only way of coming downstairs, but sometimes he feels that there is another way, if only he could stop bumping for a moment and think of it."

- Winnie-the-Pooh

My hopes are bigger than
my fears



HE HAS A RIGHT TO SCRAPE HIS KNEES....



We only know, what we know

.....



So to the future.....

- ▶ Will it be perfect.....no
- ▶ Will I be perfect.....no
- ▶ Will things get messy at times....yes
- ▶ Does that scare me...yes
- ▶ But we'll do it anyway because he has a right to belong
- ▶ Our community is better for his presence...honest!

“

*I should be so lucky,
lucky, lucky,
lucky.....*

”

Nope not really!