

Strategic Direction 3.

Connect

An example of how we connect participants, places, services and partners

Guiding towards Independence

Alex's* journey from Congo, Africa, to Australia was marked by significant upheaval. Separated from their family, they experienced multiple changes in living arrangements before finally finding a place to call home. Initially placed in foster care, Alex transitioned to a property managed by a community service provider at the age of 18. However, it wasn't until they turned 20 that they found true independence in a private rental property in Footscray, thanks to WCIG.

The connection between Alex and WCIG began while they were still studying VCE. Recognising their need for support, they were referred to WCIG, where Alex was introduced their dedicated consultant. Together, they embarked on a journey to organise Alex's new living arrangements and work towards achieving their education, employment, health, and wellbeing goals.

Alex's consultant played a crucial role in their successful transition to independent living. The consultant guided Alex through the challenges of living independently, such as managing a budget and paying rent on time, while also encouraging Alex to actively participate in various meetings and express their preferences regarding their living situation.

Through WCIG, Alex received vital support. Four weeks' rent was paid in advance to secure their new home, the cost of the removalist was covered, and Alex was able to purchase all the necessities they needed to settle in comfortably.

With the stability of Alex's new home secured, Alex shifted their focus towards improving her employability skills. With Alex's consultant's assistance, they enrolled in various short courses, including a barista and coffee-making masterclass. Once the course was completed, WCIG continued to support Alex by connecting them with their employers within the hospitality industry, opening opportunities for Alex to pursue their career goals.

Thanks to the guidance and support provided by Alex's-consultant, Alex has not only found stability and independence but is also actively working towards a brighter future. Alex's story highlights the power of connection and the positive outcomes that can be achieved when individuals are provided with the support from, they need to thrive from multiple services.

