

Community Hub member story – ‘Anne’

Anne* is a single mum, has a child in grade 3 and is expecting her second child in July. A Community Hub leader met her in the school yard one day and invited her to attend some casual Hub events such as the Community Breakfast and Tuesday Art group. At the first Art session, Anne participated in the art activity and enjoyed it so much she invited her neighbour to attend with her. Now Anne attends many Hub activities including crafts and choir (even though she doesn't sing). Anne rarely talks about her traumatic childhood, but her appearance and demeanour indicate depression and isolation. She says that attending Hub activities keeps her busy and keeps her mind off 'bad things'.

Anne is much more outgoing now and is beginning to establish relationships with the other women who attend the Hub. It's lovely to hear her chatting and to see her feeling safe enough to openly smile. Her son, too, is more outgoing and engaged, he has joined the choir and pops into the Hub both with and without Mum. Anne is now keen to participate in the mother & baby sessions when her baby arrives.

The highlight of the term has been Anne's participation in the 'Guiding Circles' session, in which she explored her strengths and their relationship to vocation. By the end of the session she could re-vision herself as a creative person with agency - something she has not experienced before.



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*Name changed for privacy

