



Skills Support for the Unemployed

Lisa Stubbs
TCHC

“Thanks to the course, I have become more motivated and have received lots of encouragement in setting up my own business.”

Lisa Stubbs
Greenlight FM Ltd



Project: Skills Support for the Unemployed

Location: Cambridgeshire

Job Outcome: Self-employed

The Skills Support for the Unemployed project is designed to equip jobseekers with the skills and knowledge to get back into work, through Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) sessions, CV workshops and interview techniques. The project is managed by TCHC and financed by the European Social Fund.

Lisa Stubbs lost her job and signed on to jobseekers allowance. She heard about the project through her jobcentre adviser and was attracted to it by the possibility of improving her job prospects. She was referred to the project where she had an IAG with a TCHC adviser and attended CV writing workshops to boost her confidence and develop an awareness of the job market.

She was considering setting up a business but was unsure of how to do this. She had an idea for a Facilities Management company but did not know whether her idea would work or how to make it a reality.

During her IAG she discussed the possibility of setting up a business with her TCHC adviser. Subsequently she was enrolled in TCHC's Practical Skills for Business course. This course was perfect for her, as it provided an introduction to business and helped her decide whether self-employment was for her.

The course covered a range of topics, including awareness and knowledge of the market, marketing, customer service and care, business management and operations, costing and pricing, financial management and administration. Then she completed a business plan in order to receive a nationally accredited qualification. The trainer's professionalism was inspiring and she received the support she needed to build her business.

The knowledge and information she received from the Practical Skills for Business course and the SSU project were essential in building her confidence and getting her off benefits. She now has her own company called Greenlight FM Ltd which secured its first contract in December 2012.

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