

**Examples of recent work with families in Bradford****Family One**

An early help worker started to work with a family where there were problems with the behaviour of a 14 year old in the household which was having an adverse effect on the family. There were lots of verbal and physical incidents between mum and the young person, violence and bullying of siblings and behaviour at school had deteriorated to the stage of the school wanting a managed move. There had also been a number of Police call outs. The worker built up trust with the 14 year old through 1 to 1 support, mentoring services and counselling services were brought in to address anger and behavioural issues and parenting support was given to mum around structures and boundaries. Mum had not worked and became nervous when work was mentioned to her in discussions. The school were involved in work with the family and provided with regular updates. As a result of the intervention and co-ordination of services, the family are now more settled. The young person and mum are now communicating rather than resorting to violent outbursts and school are much happier with the young person's behaviour and attendance. Mum has also started working with a Work Coach and has started some voluntary work and is currently undertaking a course to improve her skills.

**Family Two**

This is a family with mum and a 9 year old who had moved into the District after fleeing domestic violence elsewhere. The family were struggling to access services and support as new to the area and mum had recently lost her job and was struggling to financially support herself and her child. Her child was also displaying challenging behaviour as a result of home circumstances. An early help worker supported the family to register with the local health centre and dentist and mum was offered emotional support around her anxiety/low mood as a result of the domestic violence. The worker arranged for both mum and the 9 year old to attend an 'Enough is Enough' course to address behavioural issues and also got mum onto a self-confidence course through a local church. This then allowed mum to access employment support and she has now gone into part time employment which has made the family unit more financially secure. The family are now happier and have settled into a new community.

**Family Three**

This is a family with dad and two children. Dad had recently split from his partner and was a full time carer as his youngest child has autism. The family lived in a flat which was unsuitable for his autistic child's needs. Dad was suffering with depression and struggled to take his children to school on time, attend health appointments and there were no routines in place. An early help worker supported dad through direct one to one parenting work to build up his

confidence which enabled him to put routines in place. The worker also worked with the school to monitor attendance and support improvements. A referral was also made to a housing provider to support dad in getting suitable accommodation and as a result he is now in a 3 bedroomed house with a garden which is suitable for the family and the children. Occupational Health were contacted to make sure that an assessment was carried out and specialist equipment installed in the home. As a result, dad is now managing the health appointments and engaging with other support services and attends a support group at school which has allowed him to make some friends. Both children's attendance at school has improved and the family have moved forward and are more self-sufficient and functioning better.

### **Family Four**

An early help worker started to work with a family where there were a number of children in the household, poor support systems in place and the parent being dependant on the older children looking after the younger children. School attendance was an issue. As the worker started to discuss help and gather information, one of the older siblings disclosed sexual abuse within the family unit, so a referral to social care was made and this resulted in child protection arrangements being put in place. The early help worker supported work with this family alongside other professionals including supporting the young person with counselling and attendance at a girls group to build confidence as well as making sure they were supported through the court process. The older siblings were also referred to the Young Carers programme for support. Parenting and emotional support was given to mum to build up her confidence and skills as a parent. A debt advisor also helped mum with housing cost debt that had built up and support was given for mum to claim a single parent's benefit. As a result although there have been big changes within the family, they are progressing in the right direction and everyone including all the professionals involved are happy with the progress the family are making.