

# LIFT project

20 years  
In operation

## Do you need assistance with

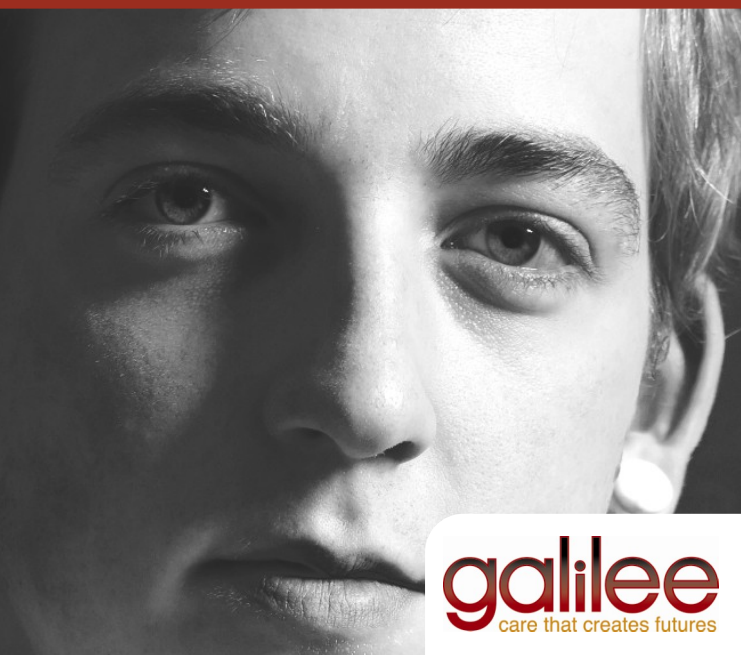
- Homelessness
- Obtaining accommodation
- Employment
- Drug or alcohol issues
- Pregnancy support
- Family or relationship breakdown
- Legal and court issues
- Advocacy
- Living skills

The Galilee LIFT project focuses on life skills, coordinating, mentoring, assisting and supporting personal development and pre-vocational training for young people aged 15-21 years.

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**galilee**  
care that creates futures

## LIFT success story

Ellie (not her real name) is an ex-Galilee School student contacted by LIFT in the 'after care' support procedures. Ellie had been unemployed for some time. She had been receiving Centrelink benefits, but when she failed to attend a scheduled meeting, her payment was cut off. Not having the skills to face the situation head on, Ellie decided to try to ignore it.

At the time, Ellie was living in an ACT Community Housing property. Her rent was set up to be debited from her bank account. Unfortunately, no work meant no money, and her bank account soon went into arrears. The day-to-day bills piled up, and after five months, her electricity disconnected. Ellie began to 'couch surf', relying on friends and acquaintances to help her with basic needs, such as food and showers.

When Ellie was contacted by the LIFT Project, her self esteem was very low and she was disconnected from her life in general, having no motivation to pursue any support networks. LIFT worked intensively with Ellie by providing encouragement, transport, advocacy and supported links with Centrelink, Essential Services, Housing ACT and Care Financial Services. Ellie's electricity supply was re-connected and her Centrelink payment restored. Agreements were made between Ellie and both ACTEW and Housing ACT to support and assist her in repaying her debt.

Twelve months on, Ellie has continued to maintain her commitments. Her confidence and self esteem have increased dramatically, where she is now able to cope with any obstacle that confronts her. She has gained a real sense of purpose and self worth.

Ellie is currently in the process of enrolling in a Media Studies Course with Charles Darwin University, which will give her the opportunity to travel to remote aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory. "I couldn't have done this without LIFT," says Ellie. "I was just too far off track to help myself. I can't say thank you enough."

Ellie is a true Galilee LIFT Project success story, and we wish her all the best for the bright future ahead.