**Lee was introduced to IPS by his Recovery Coordinator, who was helping him with his alcohol use. Having worked in the pub trade most of his working life Lee didn’t realise how deep the dependency was until he fell out of work and his drinking increased.**

**When employment was first mentioned he did not feel ready to go back to work, especially in the same role. He’d tried night shift at a supermarket, but his drinking increased so the thought of work made him nervous.**

**Lee felt stuck in a rut, he knew the benefits of working but did not know what else he could do. This is when Jen stepped in, she was an Employment Specialist for IPS and began exploring different options with Lee.**

**During his appointments Lee spoke about how he would really like to use his experiences to help others. Jen got to know his like and dislikes in relation to employments and supported him to recognise all the transferrable skills he had from previous roles. Jen said “I could see Lee had a real passion to help others, I also believed he had the right qualities needed to succeed in this type of role”**

**Lee stated” it was the belief of my worker that I was capable of becoming a support worker that gave me the confidence to start looking. Jen encouraged me to start to research what skills and qualities I needed.”**

**Since working with IPS Lee has been supported to update his CV, prepare for more formal interviews than he was used to, and even pointed him to reading material that could be of use.**

**Lee has successfully gained a role as a Lived Experience Peer Support Worker within a Drug and Alcohol Service and is excited to start his role. He is grateful for the ongoing support he will get from Jen as he accepts the role could be challenging, his new manager is also fully aware of Lee’ story and is fully supportive.**

**Lee’ advice to those thinking about work, “speak to the team, they are great at helping you to find the right job for you” “This is the first job I’ve had where I can hold my head up and say I’m proud of what I do”**