



Become

**The Charity for Children in Care
and Care Leavers.**

BECOME.

THE CHARITY FOR CHILDREN IN CARE
AND YOUNG CARE LEAVERS

At Become

' We believe that care-experienced people should have the same chances as everyone else to live happy, fulfilled lives and to become who they want to be. Unfortunately, at present, for too many this is not the case'



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The Care Advice Line at Become

The Care Advice Line is a free national helpline open Monday to Friday – between 10am–5pm

Care Experienced Children and Young People get in touch – to request support

- If they have any questions about their rights and entitlements (be it gaining advice and/or guidance regarding their current financial situation.
- We assist and support care leavers to access their full rights and entitlements be it, housing, education and their current ongoing financial concerns.
- We support CEYP in communicate with key professionals to highlight priority concerns and requests for additional support.
- Signposting those contacting the Care Advice Line onto the most relevant local services or agencies for more detailed personalised support.

Freephone 0800 023 2033 or emailadvice@becomechairty.org.uk

Complex Financial Challenges

What we hear on The Care Advice Line

- We frequently hear from you people experiencing (acute) financial crisis.
- This is particularly due to a lack of savings and/or not being provided with the essential money management skills during their care journey.
- Young people speak about not having the same financial support or safety nets as those who have grown up in stable family environments.
- This frequently puts young people in difficult situations, such as being unable to advance and secure higher – level career prospects or attend university.
- As well as securing appropriate and long lasting employment opportunities

Financial Concerns for Care Leavers

Employment – Regular Income

- Finding stable employment and a source of a regular income can be a top concern for CEYP.

Food and Basic Necessities

- Without financial stability care leavers can struggle to afford to purchase a healthy food options and other basic necessities.

Debt and Credit

- Care leavers have contacted CAL, talking about accumulating debt and the struggles they are also experiencing managing existing debt.

Housing Costs

- Securing and maintaining safe and affordable housing can be a significant financial challenge and where young people can struggle to pay rent, utility bills and other housing related expenses.

Educational Costs

- If Care Leavers are continuing their educational journey, they have expressed they struggle to finance travel costs, course costs, textbooks and other educational expenses.

Emergency Expenses

- Unexpected financial emergencies can put a strain on the financial resources of care leavers who often have limited savings and safety nets of support.

Financial Literacy

- A huge barrier for care leavers is not having being provided with the skills and understanding of budgeting, managing finances decisions lack of financial literacy can lead to critical financial instability.

Travel Costs

- Affording and maintaining access to transportation for work, college and essential services.....

The importance of long-term saving for CEYP

Long term savings play a crucial role in ensuring CEYP have long term financial and personal stability

Financial Security

- Savings contribute to peace of mind and the overall positive wellbeing of CEYP- knowing that they have financial resources to fall back on.

Education and Career Advancement

- Long term savings provide a financial safety net, offering security in times of unexpected expenses, emergencies and/or loss of employment.

Peace of Mind

- Savings can be used to invest in education and training.
- Helping CEYP acquire new skills and advance in their professional and personal life.
- Providing a safety net and further peace of mind knowing they are able financially support themselves long-term.

Q&A



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