



Video: Chloe – What We Need From Corporate Parents

Title: Chloe's Story – Who Cares? Scotland

Chloe: I'm Chloe, I'm nineteen, and I've been in care for five years, and for four years of that I was in a residential unit in Glasgow.

Title: Beginning in foster care, Chloe has now experienced almost every type of care placement. Each time she moved placement, she felt confused and uncertain about her future. The move from foster care to residential felt particularly disruptive.

Chloe: After living in the foster placement for nine months, I got the news that I was moving to another placement. I didn't know at the time when I was going to be moved, or where I was going to be moved to, I just knew that I wasn't staying there anymore, and it was just a matter of time before I had to go. But the way it happened was really abrupt to me, I was in school and my social worker came in and took me out of class and took me into this little room by the library, and kind of sat me down and quite plainly said, "We've got good news and bad news. The good news is that we've found you another placement, the bad news is it's a residential unit." And for some reason they didn't want me in a residential unit, they wanted to take me to another foster placement. And then my social worker told me, "You're moving out tomorrow, so you have to go and pack all your stuff tonight and be ready to move in tomorrow morning."

Title: Throughout her care journey, Chloe engaged with a number of health professionals. She felt that the services offered were not tailored to her needs as an individual.

Chloe: The unit got referred a person called a LAAC nurse who would come out and do routine check ups on whoever was living in the house. Because having the nurse was a bit random, it did feel like it was happening to me not for me. I think when it comes to care experienced young people and health, it's a very touchy subject for a lot of us, especially mental health, and I think if you do need to talk to a young person about mental health – don't be up in their face about it – don't poke and prod them and force them to say something.

Title: Chloe has some reflections on how good corporate parenting can have a hugely positive impact on the lives of care experienced young people.

Chloe: As corporate parents, you have to be there for care experienced young people because they need structure in their lives and if everyone has gone out of their life, maybe it's their family or their friends, but if they can't rely on a doctor or a teacher or a social worker, then everything kind of just seems to be pointless. If they can't even, you know, go to a doctor's appointment and have them listen to them, then they feel like there's no help out there, they feel like there's no way to get better, they feel like they're just stuck in that horrible place forever, so, if, whatever kind of corporate parent you are just be there, listen, show them that you care, show them that you're not there because of a pay cheque, show them that you're there because you want to be there, because you want to help, you want to make their life better and other people like them better. Because that's all they really want, we just want the structure and we just want someone to show us that we're not worthless and we're not useless and we're not pointless. We just want to feel loved I guess, in a way, like everyone else does.





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And because of all the stigma and everything attached to it we tend to forget that, and we tend to forget that when we're blaming ourselves. So if you're just there and just listen and make us feel wanted, then that would be, that would be brilliant.

Title: As an employee within the Glasgow City HSCP, you are Chloe's corporate parent.

