

Dusan's Story **Wakefield**

Sometimes living in the wrong kind of accommodation – even if you do have your own space – can be more damaging than remaining at home with your family. That was Dusan's experience when he found himself in a noisy flat which was far from suitable for his needs.



“Back then life was hard, difficult, stressful and emotional for me. I didn't want to live like I was living. I really needed to get away from there and move somewhere a lot safer where I would be happy, such as where I am now.”

“You became very ill didn't you” recalls his mum Dawn “you were sleeping in the daytime, you were awake all night because it was so noisy. It made you very ill didn't it?” In fact the inappropriate living conditions led Dusan to have a complete breakdown, forcing him to move back with his mum home to recuperate. Fortunately Dusan's Social Worker gave them a leaflet about a conference in Leeds that included a section on home ownership. This was to change both their lives. “We went along to see David at MySafeHome” explains Dawn “Yes, and everything developed from there” adds Dusan

Dawn takes up the story “When we heard of the system we could use and how it could allow Dusan to get his own mortgage and that MySafeHome would guide us through it all we decided to go ahead”. After visiting the apartment where Dusan now lives they were both delighted. But, as Dawn notes “We could've had any property that we wanted, there was an amount of money which at the time was £100,000 (this is now up to £200,000) so Dusan could have a look and choose the property where he'd like to live”. The deciding factor about his new home was that there were other people living there who had either learning disabilities or mental health problems.

Dusan now lives in his own apartment that's also part of a complex which is fully manned 24/7 and features a communal area where everyone can socialise, play music and board games and access a computer. "It's really good. It opens a lot of doors for us to socialise" says Dusan.

"I've got peace of mind and it's something I never had before and I think that Dusan, as well as many other people who have problems, they have a right to live a safe life and that's what you want for your children even when they grow up.

"It's given me a new route to explore and reinvent my life, get my life totally back on track. I can do everything and anything now, because I've got somewhere safe to live and that's one of the key things in your life. I've got a lot of thanks for David at MySafeHome. What he's done for me is dramatic, it's changed my life" Dusan pauses for a moment before adding perhaps one of the most convincing endorsements of home ownership that we've ever heard "it's saved my life".

For more information about MySafeHome and home ownership for people with a disability call us on 08000 121333, email enquiries@mysafehome.info or visit www.mysafehome.info