LEADING CHANGE

VOYPIC is the charity for children and young people with lived experience of care in Northern Ireland. Created in 1993 by a group of young people in care and the professionals that supported them, VOYPIC has over 30 years of experience promoting the rights and voice of children in care and care leavers.

We want every child to have a safe, stable and positive experience of care, and to be involved in the decisions about their life.

Leading Change is our new regional programme, supported by The National Lottery Community Fund. There are three elements to the programme:

- **Youth Leadership Programme**
- **Coaching and Mentoring for Care Leavers**
- **Independent Advocacy Support up to 30 Years Old**

For all the information about the Leading Change programme, visit www.voypic.org/leadingchange

For more Information visit
www.voypic.org/leadingchange

Get in touch

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COMMUNITY FUND

VOYPIC VOICE OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN CARE

LEADING CHANGE



COMMUNITY FUND

YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

The VOYPIC Youth Leadership Programme- part of Leading Change- is for care-experienced young people, aged 14 years old and over, from across Northern Ireland.

Young people on the project will get specially designed leadership training, leading to an OCN accredited qualification. This training will help develop leadership skills, improve self-awareness, and build confidence and self-esteem.

Once trained, the new Young Leaders will take on leading roles within VOYPIC and in their local communities. They will help deliver our peer-led training programme, raising awareness of their experiences, and the issues facing care experienced young people.

They will be at the forefront of influencing decisions in their local area, engaging with policy makers to highlight issues impacting on those with lived experience of care, and working together to build better solutions.

If you are supporting a young person in care who would be interested in becoming a VOYPIC Young Leader, visit www.voypic.org/youthleadership to find out how to get involved.



COACHING & MENTORING FOR CARE LEAVERS

VOYPIC offers coaching, mentoring and peer support for care-experienced young people aged 18 years old and over, primarily in the Belfast and Derry-Londonderry areas.

We understand the challenges young people face leaving care, and the continued support they need as they set out to live independently. Our experienced staff and volunteers provide tailored mentoring and coaching to support care leavers transiting into adulthood.

VOYPIC's coaching and mentoring encourages and motivates care leavers to set and achieve personal, social and educational goals e.g. learning a new skill, pursuing their chosen career path and building their social networks. Care leavers are supported to better understand their own personal development needs and how to communicate these to others. Developing confidence and self-esteem is an important part of this process. These supports provide young people with opportunities to build their social networks and become active citizens in their communities.

Our coaching support is short term and usually lasts between 6 – 8 weeks. Mentoring supports are longer and can last up to 12 months, depending on the needs of the individual.

If you are supporting a young care leaver who would benefit from coaching and mentoring support, visit www.voypic.org/coachingmentoringcl.

INDEPENDENT ADVOCACY SUPPORT UP TO AGE OF 30

We understand that young people leaving care continue to need support as they transition into adulthood. Through our Leading Change Independent Advocacy Programme, we can now offer advocacy support for young care leavers up to the age of 30.

We will support them to make informed choices about their lives, with our professionally qualified advocates providing advice and support in a wide range of areas, including:

- **living independently**
- **managing finances**
- **housing support**
- **education/ training support**
- **building community networks and much more!**



If you are supporting a young person, aged up to 30 years old, who is leaving care and would benefit from our independent advocacy support, visit www.voypic.org/advocacyto30 to get all the info.