

ALI'S STORY

When she was just a little girl, Ali* was sexually abused by a trusted neighbour. This trauma followed her through to adolescence, when at 15 years of age, mental health took control of her life, and she dropped out of high school.

At 16 her family broke down, leaving her feeling even angrier than ever, so she left home and started couch surfing with friends and relatives. She was always a creative girl, and loved to design and make things, although she never saw this as being anything more than a wasted hobby. Ali came to Junction Australia after a few months of couch surfing. She was alone, angry and was suffering from severe mental illness. Junction Australia supported Ali by providing her with a safe space to live in a Youth Transitional Property and encouraged Ali her to re-engage with her education and seek support for her mental health.

In late 2016, Ali sat the STAT test to get into a university. To her surprise, she was successful, and in 2017 Ali began her first year studying a Bachelor of Design and Technology at Flinders University.

Ali is still supported by Junction Australia and continues to live in one of our community homes and is supported for her mental health and childhood trauma. She is excelling at university and looks forward to a career where she can use her talents, create beautiful things and support herself.

There are many more talented girls out there just like Ali. Help us help them.



*"I can't forget what happened,
but I can keep going."*

*Clients name has been changed to protect their privacy.