

## **European Social Fund Outstanding Learner of the Year Award Winner**

### **Frank Harris, London**

Frank Harris – I grew from juvenile crime to adult crime and in and out of prison. My whole life was just destroyed by drugs. The change came when I decided, in prison, to educate myself.

Lucy Robson (City Lit) – He's got his literacy certificates and things, and he was quite keen to get into support work.

Frank Harris – My desire is a cliché but it's to give something back. I can help people through my experiences of drug addiction, homelessness and being vulnerable.

Lucy Robson (City Lit) – He volunteers every Saturday in this charity that he himself and his sister set up for young black boys. He was keen to get some theoretical knowledge before he went straight back into work.

Frank Harris – I went to college straight out of prison, I got some qualifications for counselling, it gave me so much self worth that was a defining moment when they said to me: "Right, we're going to actually pay you to work". Because I've never had a paid job.

Lucy Robson (City Lit) – He's still coming up against obstacles but he's just completely single minded about helping other people.

Frank Harris – Education has given me a key to freedom, literally it's freed me from bondage of prison. At the moment I'm really happy and it's all down to the education I've got.