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## In focus — Godfried Dapaah

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**Three years ago Godfried was admitted to Lambeth Hospital. “I was taken to hospital suffering from schizophrenia. I was living with my partner and working really long hours. I started smoking cannabis to relax and things began to get out of control. I was in hospital for about a month and when I came out, I’d lost the passion I had for life.”**

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— Godfried Dapaah

**“I feel like I’m finally on the right road. My main goal is to open a restaurant of my own one day.”**

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Godfried tried his hand at many things “As I began to feel a bit better I tried a course in interior design and another in health and social care. Neither of them were for me, but then I thought, ‘I want to cook’. My key worker helped me find a placement at Abbevilles Restaurant in Clapham.”

Abbevilles is operated by First Step Trust (FST) in partnership with SLaM. FST provide work placements where people can build up their work experience, gain skills and qualifications and get support in finding a job.

The restaurant is open to the public at lunchtimes serving modern European food as well as take-away sandwiches and has a catering service for conferences and events.

“Since I’ve started working at Abbevilles I’ve also been going to College to do a catering course. I’m enjoying every bit about it.”

Godfried continues to receive support from his clinical team. “SLaM has been very good to me, I’ve no complaints. Every time I need help I talk to my key worker and she gives me great advice. I feel like I’m finally on the right road. My main goal is to open a restaurant of my own one day.”

“I look forward to coming to work. When I’m at home, I’m thinking about being at work and cooking. When my friends come over I cook for them. I’m getting a bit of a reputation.”

