As a child Michael suffered bullying at school, resulting in institutional trauma. He left school as soon as he was able. As an adult he decided he wanted to learn more about IT, but lacked confidence in his ability to learn and was quite afraid of being in a classroom again.

A partnership between Far North Coast Ability Links and Murwillumbah Community College has given Michael the opportunity to overcome his fears and achieve his goals.

Michael's Disability Linker and the College Trainer designed a program of 1:1 tuition in non-accredited IT skills which allowed him to build the confidence he needed to transition to the classroom environment and complete a Certificate I in Information, Digital Media and Technology.

Michael thrived in this small class environment. Throughout the course, Michael’s Linker continued to support and encourage him along the way.

Michael’s trainer reports that he did so well in the classroom environment that he was soon helping other students with their work. He plans to continue training in Certificate II in IT and maybe do a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment so as to be able to support others wanting to learn IT skills.

Michael now looks back at what he calls a pretty dark place in his life and is happy with the increased confidence he feels...

“Michael now looks back at what he calls a pretty dark place in his life and is happy with the increased confidence he feels...”

The success of the program can be attributed to a number of factors including:

- Strong partnership between the Disability Linker and the College covering referral, enrolment and ongoing support
- Trainer’s ability to identify Michael’s needs and pitch the training to suit
- Individualised one on one support made possible with CSO funding

Provider Name
Murwillumbah Community College

Contact
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Program
Non-accredited 1:1 followed by full qualification

Target Group
Disability

Details
4 x 1:1, followed by 18 weeks x 1 day/week

Key points of difference
Partnership with Disability Linker, Skilled trainer, Individualised approach

This training is subsidised by the NSW Government.