A woman with dark hair, wearing a bright red blazer over a black top, stands in a clothing store. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. In the background, there are racks of black clothing and a display of wooden sticks. A blue square with white text is overlaid in the top left corner.

SMART
WORKS

When Bibi came to Smart Works, she had been unemployed for over five years.

THIS IS BIBI'S STORY.

Bibi

“When I first came to Smart Works, I was homeless and had been struggling with depression. I had been unemployed for over five years and it had been a long road to even get an interview.

I was referred to Smart Works by my local council before my interview at a law firm in Mayfair. At first I was unsure about coming as I didn't know what to expect. I hadn't thought much about what I would wear to my interview and I didn't want to be a charity case.

My Smart Works appointment exceeded my expectations. I felt nervous, shy and low in spirits when I first arrived, but I was immediately touched by the care, respect and kindness of those who greeted me.

In my dressing session the volunteer stylists helped me to pick out a beautiful outfit that made me feel interview ready. I

felt like the clothes I took away became like a friend to me, helping to carry me through.

The interview skills coaching session was also very informative. I felt so comfortable and could ask any question, no matter how silly or small. Before leaving I was given an interview preparation booklet to take away with me which I read over again the morning before my interview.

I feel my appointment at Smart Works made a big difference to how I was perceived at my interview. A burden was lifted from my shoulders and I left with all the tools I needed to handle any interview situation.

I got the job, and am now looking to start my new career in law. I was so humbled by my experience and I'm already working with my team to see how we can give back in the future.”





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through.**
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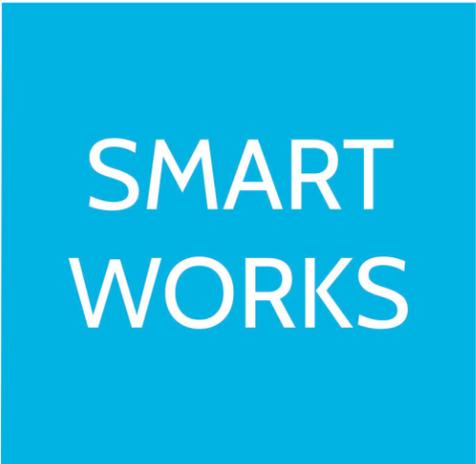
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I felt so comfortable and could ask any question, no matter how silly or small.

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I now believe in what I have to offer and that I can get the job.
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