

Background: Ville is a 20-year-old young man. He is interested in art, baking and outdoor activities. Various films and TV shows also interest him. After elementary school Ville studied to be an artisan. He lives in a supported housing unit, where he has his own apartment. Ville is very independent and does not need much help in everyday life. After graduation Ville's supervisors were interested to know what he would want to do after graduating. The answer was always mosaic art.

Shortly after graduation, Ville heard about the possibility of self-directed support and Ville's supervisor of the work rehabilitation got to know the subject more closely with him.

Self-directed support in practice: For Ville, self-directed support is executed in a way that he attends a daytime activity once a week and does mosaic art at an art centre for three days of the week. At the art centre Ville's working hours are usually from three to four hours. Ville has two supervisors: a supervisor of work rehabilitation who is responsible for the practical matters of self-directed support, as well as a wood sculptor working at the art centre, who helps and supports Ville in taking care of different things.

For Ville, self-directed support brings significant savings to the city, as one month's work in the workshop costs as much as daytime activities for a week. Through the self-directed support, Ville gets the free bus trips to the Art Centre as well as the rental costs for his own workshop. Ville gets the materials he needs to make his art from the local hardware store, where everyone already knows him. If tiles break or there are any extra tiles left, Ville gets to use them for his art. Ville has supplied himself with tools, but otherwise the artwork will be made using recycled materials.

Ville's recent life update: Ville's well-being has remained unchanged because he can do work that is meaningful to him. He is a very confident young man who enjoys making art. The supervisor of work rehabilitation describes Ville's commute to the art centre: first he has to walk two kilometres to the bus station, sit on the bus for almost an hour, and walk another two kilometres to the art centre, repeating the same commute in the afternoon. If Ville didn't enjoy attending the art centre, he probably wouldn't go through the long commute twice a day.

A little while ago Ville had his first art exhibition at the local library. Other artists working at the art centre also held their exhibitions in the same place. Ville's mosaic works are on sale at the local craft store, and he works on extra customised projects. For the first time next summer, Ville will have open doors to his own workshop. Meaning anyone can go there and see Ville's work, and he can tell more specifics about his projects. Ville is also able to give introductions to his work in English.

Ville got to execute his dreams of making art right after graduation - through the self-directed support he received. After achieving his dream, he still hasn't stopped dreaming of more: in the future, Ville wants to be a teacher for young people studying mosaic art. He believes that he could inspire others and would also get a chance to share his knowledge. However, that dream can still wait, because now Ville wants to focus on making his art.