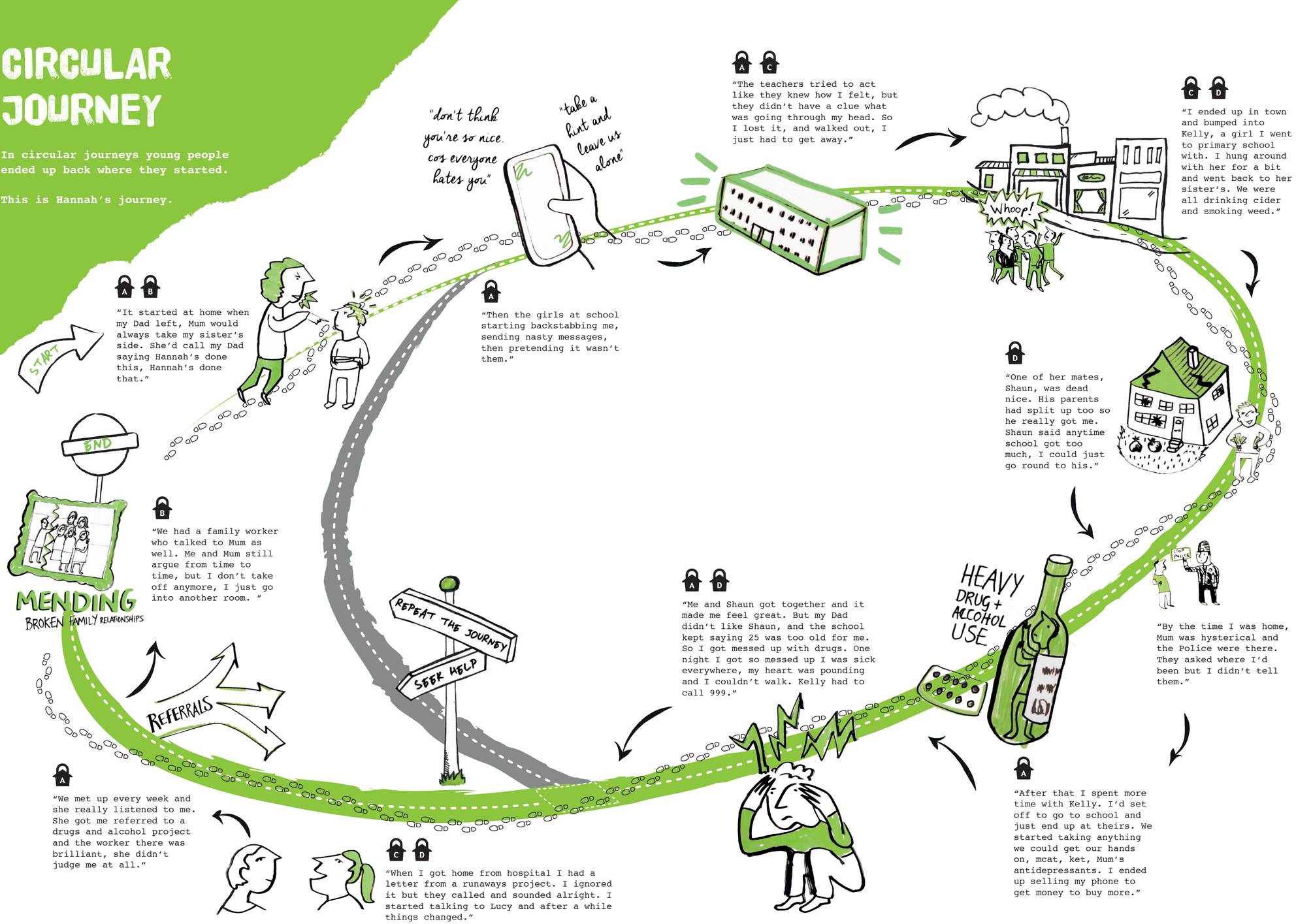
CIRCULAR JOURNEY

In circular journeys young people ended up back where they started.

This is Hannah's journey.



SAFE PLACES

We found that these things could prevent the journey or make it safer. The points at which they could help are shown on the map.

- **A** Having the right people around you, either socially or within services.
- **B** Being able to access family support or mediation.
- **C** Knowing about services that can help.
- **D** Having good life skills and awareness of risk.

WE RECOMMEND:

01. A national programme of youth work should be developed and funded to provide safe spaces for all young people, but especially those who are disengaged from school and statutory services.

02. The role of pastoral workers and PSHE classes in school should be valued and protected.

03. Information about runaway services should be displayed in public transport hubs and shopping centres, alongside phone charging points so that young people can ring helplines and other people who may help them.

04. Local authorities should make sure that young people get a chance to talk to an independent person about why they ran away. Young people (and parents, if appropriate) should be offered follow up support that meets their needs.

05. Commissioners should ensure that services are funded for long enough to enable young people to develop positive relationships with workers, and that young people have a say in shaping services.

Journey illustrations provided by **Sandra Howgate**