

Hello, my name is Sherri Denise Morales Begulia, I am 47 years old, with 5 kids. I have 3 stepsons: Vincent, Anthony and Nicholas, all from my husband Roy, who I have been married to for 15 years. We have a daughter named Hannah and she is 14. I also have a handicap son that is 25 and his name is Jesse. I grew up in a pretty well to do family, we were not rich by any means but we never did without. I did have an older brother named Johnny, but he passed away at 39 years old from a massive heart attack right in front of me. The only family I have left is my dad. My mom died from complications from a liver transplant when I was 24.

I dabbled and dabbled in drugs since I was 16, and like they say it started out with alcohol and marijuana and progressed into cocaine and other drugs. I really liked downers so my drug of choice became Benzos and pain killers. I started using pain killers when I hurt my back falling on the ice and was prescribed Hydrocodone for the pain. Pretty soon I built a high tolerance for Hydrocodone and started taking Percocet. I became very dependent on Percocet and couldn't get out of bed without taking 2 or 3 pills.

On January 4, 2008 my husband suffered from a brain aneurism and never came back mentally from it. That tore my whole world apart. I would take pain killers, muscle relaxers, and anxiety medication all at once to hide the pain I was feeling at having to do this thing called life by myself. It was too much for me. The same year my husband got sick our home was robbed on Christmas Eve by a family member and her boyfriend. I was devastated. I felt like the world was out to get me and that God was not there for me. Eventually my kids talked me into going into treatment, which I did very reluctantly. I lasted about 8 days and left. I did meet one of the techs there and she talked me into staying one more night. The next day, on her day off, I left. I did return to treatment as an outpatient in the same program but only lasted 2 months.

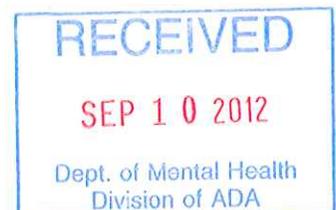
On January 30, 2010 I tried to commit suicide by jumping off a building. I was in the hospital for a little over a month with 6 fractured ribs and a punctured lung. I was in a doctor induced coma for 2 weeks. When I left the hospital I was sent to Truman Behavioral Health for a week. That still didn't stop me from using when I got out.

My son Jesse and my daughter Hannah and I lived in and out of hotels for about a year. When I tried to kill myself Hannah was taken away from me, but do you think that stopped me from using? Hell no, I used even more. I was living with my dad when I realized I couldn't do this to myself or my kids anymore, so I called Ren-West for inpatient treatment. As I was there I still thought I could do my time and go back to using when I got out. It didn't work out like I wanted. The counselors told me to go into transitional living and I fussed, cussed, argued, and got angry about it, but I did it anyway.

When I had my interview at Angels of Mercy I didn't expect to be accepted but I was, so I decided to try it. When I walked into the doors I recognized one lady that ran the house, her name is Miss Willa and she is the tech at Rediscover that talked me into staying one more night when I was in patient. I thought to myself that there was a reason why God put us together.



I finished my program at Ren-West in January of 2012 and graduated at Angels of Mercy in March of that same year. In April of 2012 the staff at Angels of Mercy asked me to become part of their program as a residential assistant. I was honored and blessed with this opportunity to give back what I learned from these wonderful women who helped me grow as a person in recovery. Never in a million years did I imagine that I would be working in the substance abuse field, but I am, and I am so proud to be a part of it. That is my success story, and I hope it will help someone else in their recovery.



ACCESS TO RECOVERY CLIENT SUCCESS STORY

ACCESS TO RECOVERY -- CLIENT SUCCESS STORY

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