

# In Her Own Words

A Providence House graduate reflects on her experience in our program.



I came to Providence House after leaving my abusive marriage behind because I wanted to make a better life for my daughter and me. It was the answer to my prayers because I was asking God to give me a sign and he did. What an awesome God I serve. He may not answer how you want him to but he is right on time. I was not sure if I could make it on my own because I never had the opportunity to try. I kept hearing those negative messages that I could not do it on my own. My parents were praying and reassured me it was going to be okay and they would support me every step of the way – and they kept true to their word.

I have to admit that the first six months at Providence House were hard, but I hung in there. It was difficult to get used to the new set of rules that I had to set for myself. I had to learn to be responsible for my own actions and that I am not living only for myself, but for my daughter as well. I learned that my decisions affect her too. It was not easy, but I am glad I took a step in the right direction.

While at Providence House, I continued and maintained a great relationship with my counselor who put everything in perspective for me. I was able to talk to her about everything, which was very helpful to me. She even attended my family court hearings along with my Providence House mentor, Barbara. They kept me calm and were a great support – I am grateful to them both for coming whenever they could.

From January to December 2013, I attended Lorenzo Walker Institute of Technology to get my certificate as a Medical Administrative Specialist. It was not easy going to class during the day and working through the night but I was determined to reach my goals. I am volunteering at a hospital in administration now and seeking employment in a medical office setting.

I really enjoyed the life skills classes offered at Providence House and my daughter enjoyed eating with the other families before class and playing with the other children. When she sees a lot of cars in front of the office area she asks me "Mom, are we going to have a meeting today?" After I said yes she would jump for joy. She has come a long way as well, especially with her behavior. She attends counselling where she can talk about the divorce and other things on her mind.

We will miss Providence House because we have made it our home for the last two years and now we are continuing our journey. I am grateful to Providence House, my parents, friends, Barbara, my counselor, and coworkers for all the support they have shown me and my daughter. I am well on my way to more success with peace, happiness, confidence, health, and well-being.

*~Jennie -July 2014 Graduate*



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