

L.O.F.T. – Living Opportunities for Families in Transition

Jennifer's Story

My name is Jennifer Perry and I would like to share with you an experience in my life that has touched my heart in so many ways.

It is 2004, the season doesn't matter because everyday is the same, hurt, pain, shame, guilt, no self esteem and drugs to numb myself to make it through another day. My childhood was not the best, but it could have been worse. I hung around with people who were a bad influence, but I had a choice and choose that path for myself. I utilized drugs as a way to deal with life and found myself alone, homeless, helpless, and no longer wanted to live another day.

Nov. 17, 2005 was the day I was saved. I was put in jail, where I was happy to have three meals, a bed, and a roof over my head. From there came a residential treatment center, where I began to learn the tool on how to live without using drugs, one day at a time.

I got pregnant June 4, 2006, by a man who didn't love me; which now makes sense, because then I was still trying to learn how to love myself. Although the pregnancy was never planned, it was about to put me on a journey beyond my wildest dreams.

I applied to the L.O.F.T. program in September of 2006 and had an apartment through the L.O.F.T. on February 25, 2007. When I began at the L.O.F.T. program I had no job, no driver's license, no vehicle, single mom, no family in the area, on welfare living on \$300.00 cash and \$300.00 in food stamps each month. The L.O.F.T. program helped me through every single one of these problems; and beyond this, they helped me with the stress of it all. Helping me to believe that the impossible is possible.

I went back to school and became a certified substance abuse counselor and started to work at the same residential treatment center I had gone to previously. I now have a career. They taught me how to budget, take care of debt, and before I knew it I had a drivers license and could afford a vehicle. The L.O.F.T. had me apply for permanent housing, and by December 26, 2008 I moved out of the L.O.F.T. into my own apartment.

Today I am still free of all drugs and alcohol. I utilize all the tools and knowledge that was given to me through the L.O.F.T. program. I am now devoted to helping other women with similar issues. The reward that comes along with it is priceless and I have the L.O.F.T. and others along this journey to be forever grateful for.

As I write this letter to you my eyes still fill up with tears of joy. I have been so blessed to have been given a second chance in life. If I could pick one song that describes how I feel it would be Amazing Grace.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Perry

Amazing Grace

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.

I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind, but now I see.