

## **Gina's Story**

Gina: I grew up in a house full of addiction from alcohol to drugs my entire life. Things in your past some -- sometimes catch up with you. I began to use drugs at the age of 26. During this time, I had gone to jail for two years straight. I even missed my son's second birthday.

One day, while I was in jail, my case worker called me into her office, and said that she has a message from my son's day care. That a few members wanted to come visit me and try to make a way to bring my son, as well. You know, I was just like, "Wow!" It was that moment that I realized that there were still people in this world that care not only about me, the messed-up addict, but the welfare of my child and my family.

It was all from the heart, like I felt it. I came home from jail and I went straight to the day care to thank all those staff members. Those women believed in me and saw more in me each day. They gave me brochures for job openings and getting me to and from appointments to guide me in a positive and stable path in my life.

And so, the goal is to be a better mom, to be a better person. And I'm sober. So.

[Laughing]

Can you imagine? So, yeah.