

Jayleen V.



I am a Forty-Nine year old woman in Recovery, and I do not use that term lightly. In all my years of battle against the disease of addiction I have learned that there is a big difference between being sober and being in recovery. Last March I found myself living in a woman's sober home, after yet another relapse; this one being the most devastating. This time my addiction ripped me from my home, my 6 year old son, and everything I love. The sober house was run by a Business- man, who in my opinion was just out to make as much money as he could on the backs of vulnerable women struggling with addiction. The house was crammed with 22 other females and there were few other women who wanted to change the direction of their lives and really recover. To point out all the problems would be futile at this point, because I am no longer there. After witnessing a series of events that went against my morals and values, I knew I needed to find alternate housing that would

support and foster my growth. That house was no longer conducive to my recovery. I am grateful that despite the problems I was having, I had dove into my treatment program, self-help groups, relationship with God, and had a support network that I was able to rely on to help me find a new house. After a lot of prayer and discussion I was connected to "Sallie's house". A real recovery home run by a non-for profit organization, Connecting For Purpose.

Within two days of meeting with the house manager I was moving in to Sallie's House. The house environment is structured with support, direction and guidance to help each individual woman thrive in their recovery process. The women in the house are empowered in a safe place where they can be supported in identifying their individual purpose. We are taught that God has a plan for all of us, and we are urged to listen for His voice and pay attention to His signs and to expect the unexpected. I am encouraged to learn from my past, but not stay stuck in the blame game. I want to use my experiences to help others know that barriers can be broken, and I can live the life God intended for me; to be transparent and live right when no one else is looking. I am expected to lead by example, to be compassionate but to expect my sisters in the house to forge forward in their journey as well, and if we struggle we uplift each other with honesty not judgement.

My experience thus far at Sallie's House has been nothing but uplifting and empowering. I lay my head down every night with peace in my soul, knowing I am in a safe place, where I can be me, encouraged to find my way on the path of my purpose in life. To live in the moment and rely on God, and most important learn how to Recover. For this I am truly grateful. THANK YOU.