

Tracey H.



My name is Tracey. I was arrested on November 26, 2016 for the ninth time in a few short months. I was so sick of my addiction that when I walked into the Riverhead Inn ( correctional facility), I gave my life to God because I was not doing a very good job at living. I asked the judge to put me in the DWI Program. That is where I met Michelle Raysor. When it as time for my release, one of the Connecting For Purpose volunteers picked me up and took me to a sober house. Ms. Raysor helped me with housing and brought me a basket filled with toiletries, towels, lotion, tooth brushes, tooth paste, and more. Michelle had me set up for an appointment at Bellport Outreach, where I attended outpatient treatment.

The Connecting For Purpose volunteers were there for me always. They took me to CFP functions and introduced me to wonderful people that I am still in contact with today; all are in one way or another a part of CFP. Ms. Raysor asked me if I was interested in becoming a Certified Recovery Peer Advocate she would be teaching. I decided to give it a try. Connecting For Purpose put me in touch with an organization that gave me a scholarship to pay for the 46 hour required training. I completed the training and I have been awarded a “Certified Addiction Peer Advocate Provisional” certificate. I am working on my 500 required volunteer hours so that I will be able to sit for the test to become certified as a Certified Addiction Recovery Peer Advocate for full. Shortly after the training Sallie’s House was opened and Ms. Raysor asked me to move into the house as a resident and her assistant. So on August 1, 2017 I moved into Sallie’s House; I have been here for approximately 16 months. I completed my first year of sobriety on November 26, 2017, and I completed outpatient treatment on February 14, 2018.

Today I am celebrating 2 years of recovery. Ms. Raysor encouraged me to start Suffolk Community College September 4, 2018. I am studying to get my Associates Degree in Chemical Dependence. I complete my first semester at Suffolk Community College December 26, 2018. I am grateful today for Connecting For Purpose and living at Sallie’s House, and the support I have been provided through my journey.