Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

# When You Hit Rock Bottom

Stacia T. - Cottonwood, Arizona

***That's Medicaid*** *shares stories of people covered by Medicaid at critical points in their lives, underscoring the importance of stable health insurance coverage in building a Culture of Health.*

**Stacia T.** suffered from substance use disorder and coinciding mental health symptoms for many years, which eventually caused her to lose her home, custody of her children, and almost her life. After hitting rock bottom, Stacia checked herself into a facility that treats substance abuse and mental health issues holistically. Medicaid covered Stacia's stay as she worked to recover from years of addiction.

Stacia graduated and has stayed sober. Two years later, she was hired by the facility that helped save her life. Now the lead behavioral health worker, she helps patients through the same challenges that she overcame.

"Whenever someone walks in and surrenders themselves to getting help and making their lives better, I get emotional because I remember walking in myself," Stacia said. "When I tell new clients that I graduated from the program myself, their eyes light up with hope."

Stacia believes recovery is never finished, but she is grateful for how far she has come. Now privately insured, Stacia lives with her husband and children. She dedicates her free time to serving her family, church and recovery community.

She is thankful Medicaid opened the door to recovery for her and is determined to make the most of her second chance. "Medicaid gave me the opportunity to get the recovery care I so desperately needed," Stacia said. "Without it, I honestly don't know how I would have gotten sober."

***www.ThatsMedicaid.org***

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