Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

When You Become a Voice for Others Like You

Tania M. - Douglas, Wyoming

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.*

Tania will soon earn her bachelor's degree in social work. This single mother of two boys credits Medicaid for her journey into this new profession.

She began to experience symptoms of an autoimmune disorder years ago and had to leave a full-time job with benefits in order to take care of herself. She lost her health insurance as a result of her unemployment and enrolled in Medicaid.

Through Medicaid she not only receives mental health care but is also approved to visit specialists who care for her condition, something that would be unaffordable otherwise.

Tania hopes to use her social work degree to help single mothers like her who she says are often forgotten and left without support.

"If it weren't for the doctors I'd be suffering in pain, and I don't even know what would happen with my kids if it wasn't for Medicaid," she says. "It's the only reason I've been able to battle these health issues that I've had."