



My name is Ashley Hatfield, I'm an addict in long term recovery. My clean date is August 3, 2017. When I came into recovery I was broken, lost, and scared. Unable to live life without the use of drugs. I was desperate for a new way of life. A life that didn't revolve around passing out and coming to, a life worth living, and all of which seemed impossible.

For a long time, I prayed to die instead of to live. However, that isn't the case today. God had greater plans for my life. Through finding help in a 12-step fellowship, I found people just like me that had quit using drugs and found a new way to live. By watching these people, I learned to live. Through working steps, I had an awakening of my spirit. That's where I found a true relationship with God. A deep personal relationship, that I draw power from every day.

Today I'm happy, joyous, and free. Today I'm able to be a wife to my wonderful husband, a mother to my son. I'm able to be a productive, responsible member of society. The same society that once counted me out. Today, I have a beautiful life. A life I didn't know even existed. If you are reading this and are struggling with addiction don't give up. I know the way out.

If you are reading this and know someone who is struggling with addiction, please don't count them out. There is help and I'm willing to help anyone that suffers from this illness. The stigma that once an addict always an addict will not be tolerated by society or the recovering addict any longer. **WE DO RECOVER!!**

Resources:

<https://odcp.ky.gov/Resources/Pages/Treatment-and-Recovery-Resources.aspx>

<https://findtreatment.gov/>

<http://gethelp.org/>



