



RecoveryWerks!

Changing the world through recovery one **underserved** community at a time

Our Mission:

RecoveryWerks! provides proven recovery support services in a safe and nurturing environment for teens and families in rural communities affected by substance use. We educate, partner with local agencies, and advocate for strong community support systems to reduce the stigma of addiction and increase recovery success.



Our Beliefs:

Recovery works when there is a belief in a Higher Power.

Recovery works when physical, mental and spiritual issues are addressed as a whole.

Recovery works when clients are empowered to break the cycle of addiction and dependency through the 12 steps.

Recovery works in fellowship when clients feel safe and have access to education, counseling, sponsorship, and support groups.

A donation to RecoveryWerks! has a huge impact towards bringing recovery to teens and families in our community.

Please click on or enter the link below to donate. Thank you!

<http://www.recoverywerks.org/donate-now.html>

Staff Highlight - Roy's Story

My name is Roy Perez, I am a person in recovery, which means I have not put a mind-altering substance in my body since February 28th of 2018. Being able to make it this far is beyond me; I just listened to some suggestions from other people that have been through similar situations as me. Being raised in a close and somewhat happy family, my addiction didn't stem from childhood trauma or abuse. My addiction didn't even start from any kind of sadness or depression. I took my first drink when I was 14 and I immediately loved it, I smoked my first joint when I was 13 and loved it, but I didn't just become addicted right there and then at a young age. I didn't start smoking weed regularly until I was 16 years old. My addiction and story is a problem of connection.

High school was fun and I was a good student who tried sports but was too tiny to ever get play time. I became the school mascot which gave me a lot of attention from all directions. I didn't know that then but I know it now - I loved and love attention. The next few years after high school were full of partying and trying new drugs. But even though I was being arrested a few times a year I was still having fun. I didn't view myself as an alcoholic or drug addict until some years to come. I spent most of my time with people I called friends for years. When I was 22, in 2014 I started hanging out with Allie, the mother of my child, and that was the time the loss and consequences started to take a toll on me. Within months I lost the 2 jobs I had and stopped going to school. The next 2 years were rough, living off couches, sleeping on the floors of others' homes, riding the bus to find dope, consistently being abusive to one another, stealing from our loved ones, just lost in the toxic relationship we had with drugs and one another.

In 2016 Allie got pregnant; at that moment I really wanted to stop living my life this way. Allie stopped doing drugs, but not me, not me for a while. I went to jail a few more times, got fired a bunch more times, lost some more cars, and hurt my family a lot more before I decided to seek help. I couldn't just go to an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, I needed to be locked away and be fed some food, see a counselor... You know, all that rehab stuff before I even thought about staying sober. In rehab they took us to AA meetings every day where I heard the solution, the only thing was that they wanted me practice abstinence from all substances. I only went to rehab to stop drinking, and maybe stop doing meth, BUT not to stop popping pills and smoking weed! These people wanted me to stop everything? Well, my own way of doing things got me here, homeless, broke with no wallet, phone, ID, or even clothes, maybe their way of doing things might be a better way. I just stayed around waiting for the miracle, doing some step work with a sponsor (who I still work with today), and working the steps in my daily life, and BOOM the miracle of starting to love my life started to happen. Little by little I worked to get back the material things people need like an ID, a roof (sober living), a bike then a car, a job, you know the things normal people already have. But the relationships I gained back and built in recovery are what really matters. Earlier I said that my addiction was a connection problem. I felt empty if I wasn't high or drunk, I needed something else to fill that emptiness in my heart. God did that for me, God gave me things that he knew I needed, God let me go through things He knew I needed to go through, God wrote my story for me before I was born.

For me, recovery is about recovering my life back, it's about staying connected, it's about giving back what was so freely given to us. Today I just try my best to help people build a life that they are willing to stay sober for.