

Victor L's Story



In my senior year of high school, I started smoking marijuana. A few years later, I was using cocaine. When I started smoking cocaine, I knew I needed to seek help immediately. My demise was imminent.

I couldn't find a program that would provide care for low income individuals where I was residing, so my mother brought me back home to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania to access treatment at Gaudenzia Common Ground. It was the best thing that ever happened to me.

Treatment was tough, but the staff helped me get through it. I actually gave up once by leaving treatment on my own and I quickly returned to my bad habits. Thank goodness Gaudenzia welcomed me back, otherwise I can only imagine what might have become of me.

Following treatment, I worked in real estate finance. Today, I use the tools I learned at Gaudenzia to help others in recovery. I especially enjoy sharing my experience with young people, warning them about the ravages of drug and alcohol addiction. I'm also furthering my own education to work in the field of substance abuse counseling.

I am a single parent, with 2 daughters, 1 son and 4 grandchildren. My family has kept me focused on my recovery which has given me an appreciation for life and everyone around me. I am proud to be an Alumni member of Gaudenzia with 26 years clean. Thank you will never be enough. Treatment saved my life.