

After Treatment - April Fallis - OSEU 2

When I was in treatment, they told us that when you go home, everything is going to be different. You are going to be the one that made the change. So everything is going to be the same. So when I went home, I was like "Oh my gosh." And you realize... you realize... I realized now I know what they were talking about, what they meant. When I was using, that didn't mean nothing to me. So when I went away and I got ahold of myself...and I got a second chance...the grandfather's gave me another chance to come back and to show my kids, who were still little, that I wanted to be a better parent... a better mother. And so, I started doing that...and I seen...that you can get tested...still to this day, ya know. I always told my kids... when I got out of treatment... I always told them... my life... and I told them that I cannot change them... I cannot tell what to do... them how to run their lives when they got older. I can be there for you...like when they were...before they were 18...and you want to help them...and this and that. But after they turned 18, I always told them that you...now it's up to you. I can be support for you, but I can't help you in that way. So, if you go about your business and do what you do, then there's nothing I can do with the consequences...you need to remember there are consequences. And I was praying for them when they would go out...and get mad when they wouldn't call to let me know where they were at. So...just bouncing back and forth like that...but...I'm like...that was back in what '86 or '87...how many years ago was that? And through all that time to today...especially when I started working here at St. Joe's...and how the kids looked up to me as a grandma.