

# *A story of hope and recovery...*

I was born and raised in Wood County. I really was a typical child. Through middle school and most of high school, I was very athletic and a member of the student council. I was also an active member of my church. At age fifteen I got a job at McDonald's. I became a manager there in my senior year of high school. Shortly thereafter my life made a turn for the worse.

At age seventeen I tried heroin for the first time. Because I struggled with self-image and fitting in, I had experimented with other drugs before that time. In my senior year, I went into rehab for the first time because I had started using IV heroin. I managed to graduate with my class but at the end of that summer I got into trouble with the law. It's been a downhill battle till just recently.

In January, 2016, after my release from a lock-down treatment facility, I chose Behavioral Connections for my after-care treatment. I completed the program before I relapsed. This time I overdosed; something I had never experienced in ten years of using off and on. I'm grateful for it because it makes me appreciate life and my children. I am alive today because the ambulance that responded carried Narcan. I pursue my recovery by attending Narcotics Anonymous meetings; I am a member of the hospital and intervention committee. In addition to attending group and one-on-one counseling sessions at Behavioral Connections, I'm also taking a Getting Ahead class. In my full-time job I currently have the position of team leader. I never thought it was possible but with willingness, honesty, and openness to change, I have been clean since August 3, 2016.



**WOOD  
COUNTY**

Alcohol, Drug  
Addiction  
and Mental Health  
Services Board

**For information or referral to mental  
health/substance abuse services, call:  
Recovery Helpline (Dial 211)**

**If in crisis, call:  
The Link (1-800-472-9411)**

*Treatment works... People recover.*