

Leandra's Story

May, 2009

Ms. G graduated from options for change Prop. 36 in March, 2006. She continues to this date to be clean and sober and she is an active participant in society and the recovery community.

Ms. G was referred to our agency through Sutter County prop 36 Probation Dept.

Ms. G has had a long criminal history that began with a charge for transportation and possession for sales. She was on felony probation for two years with that case. Two weeks prior to completing probation, Ms. G tested positive and was sent to prison. At this time she had a six month-old baby that she had to leave with a friend. Her addiction had destroyed any connection with her own family. Ms. G had one parole term with ten violations. After a four-year period of being on parole Ms. G maxed out her parole time and was discharged from parole.

After completing parole, Ms. G became involved with Child Protective Services. A case was opened for her son and her. CPS is where she was given the opportunity to receive substance abuse treatment. Through this episode, Ms. G had entered residential treatment followed by longer-term residential treatment. She then entered the Sutter Yuba Mental Health First Steps Perinatal Program. Ms. G began attending college and gained employment. She was able to stay clean for approximately two years before she relapsed.

Ms. G's relapse lasted about four years. In this time period of time, Ms. G ended up in the hospital from an infection caused by IV use. She came close to losing her life. They were able to stabilize her, but there was fear that she may lose her leg. She was hospitalized for over a week. When she was released from the hospital she went back to using drugs.

Ms. G was then arrested for being under the influence. She was granted Prop 36. Due to the intensity of her addiction and past attempts at recovery, she was assessed for a residential level of care. Ms. G entered a 60-day stay at a nearby residential treatment facility where she was stabilized and began her recovery. After leaving that treatment, she entered a local long-term residential treatment

program. During this time period Ms. G stayed connected to Sutter Yuba Mental Health Options for Change Program and worked on relapse prevention and solid exit plans. Ms. G had decided that she wanted to go back to college to obtain her associates degree in chemical dependency.

Since Ms. G's graduation from Prop 36, she has graduated from college, obtained her CAADAC certification and has obtained full-time employment with Sutter County. Ms. G continues to stay connected with the recovering community and volunteers her time at the Depot program where she received her long-term residential care. Ms. G has also reconnected with her family and today has a strong, healthy family connection.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Brown, CADC II, Intervention Counselor II
Sutter Yuba Mental Health Options for Change Prop. 36 Program