I could have gone back to El Paso and transferred my probation, but I knew I would fall back into my old patterns. I was ashamed of how I acted before I was locked up. I would wake up every morning and buy Four Lokos and Hurricanes. Then I would get my buzz on and think about buying cocaine/crack later in the day. I would fall asleep and wake up the next day depressed and do it all over again.

I went from grossing $10,000 to $15,00 0 a month selling my products on Amazon and eBay all the way down to $1000 a month in a six-month period. Profit-wise I wasn’t making much money. I was selfish because I just cared about my addiction, and I wasn’t supporting my daughter like a man should.

My time in the halfway house was nearing and I saw Kevin at the men’s clover house meetings. I asked my counselor to get me in and she applied for me. I felt hopeless before I was locked up and my addiction got a strong grasp on me.

After 9 months in Straightline, I’m now able to consistently make my car payment, pay rent, and I’m proud that I can pay the mother of my daughter child support for these past 9 months.

Go to your meetings newcomers, make friends, and take advantage of the opportunities that are out there.