

William

I've been at Brooklyn Treatment Court (BTC) since August of 06, and I've been through a lot of things here. The first thing I had to do was go to MRT, which is moral recognition training. That's where you tell the truth. You tell how you've changed, what you could have done to change in the past and where you are going now.

I also have my outpatient treatment program, New Directions, which helped me out a lot. At New Directions, I had a lot of meetings but the things I went through helped me change a lot.

The first day that I was clean was October 10, and that was a big thing for me to stop smoking weed and doing other things. There were some new experiences. I went to the library with BTC. That was cool. I got my library card and I found out that a library card is even a debit card. That tells you how crazy technology in society has gotten; that the library card is a debit card. But that was cool.

I also enrolled in the GED program through Medgar Evers' College and I was the youngest person in my class. It was an all-male class and I used to help all the older guys. You're talking about people who are fifty years old. I took my GED test in February; got my GED in March. I had some really high scores. It kind of surprised me to see that I could still do things like that, and I enrolled in college. I attend Medgar Evers also, and that's a good thing. I'm trying to become a teacher. I want to be the young teacher in the class and relay to them the things I went through.

My case manager was Leroy, man he helped me out a lot. Leroy helped me through a lot of things. I call him on days I wasn't scheduled to be here and let him know a few things. He'd let me know how to handle it, rather than going back to the what I was doing. But BTC was a cool thing, and if you're coming in I advise you to stay clean, handle your business, go to school or work. Handle your business!

Staying clean is the easiest thing to go through, and it will change your life.