



JP
PHOENIX
ALUMNI

MEET JP: "I CAN SEE THE LIFE IN YOUR EYES"

"I was one hundred twenty-five pounds, scabs spotted my face, my arms bruised with track-marks"— although JP's story is a familiar one relative to addiction, the experience is very personal — "no hope, no trust, no anything left inside me, I knew if I didn't get help, I was going to die."

It was at the beginning of July 2016, when JP walked into the Phoenix Centre, and was placed onto the third floor. Shared with 12 men, JP's recovery program began.

It didn't take long for JP's leadership qualities to be noticed, and after two months he was asked to be a Team Leader on the floor (a position designed to enhance one's confidence and communication skills). "Even my mother said, 'I can see life in your eyes again,'" recalls JP.

However, JP's rooted anxiety lead him back to the Downtown East Side and out of Phoenix.

"You can imagine how disappointed I was in myself, but I didn't give up," remembers JP.

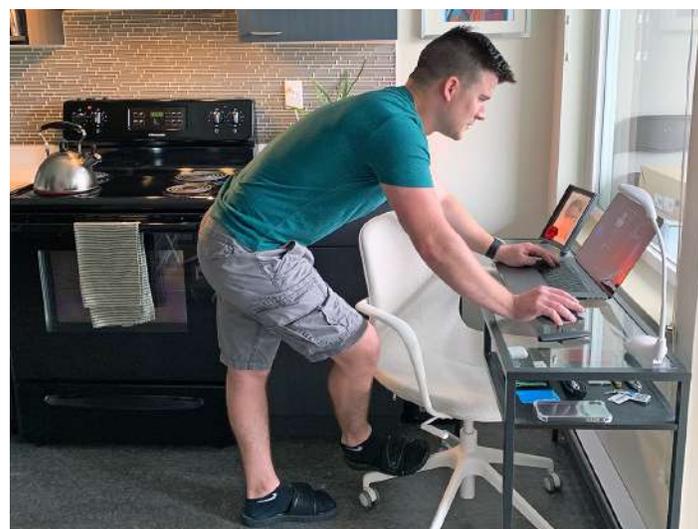
JP reapplied to Phoenix, and after 30 days he returned to the third floor. This time, after six months, JP earned a place in the Transitional Housing program (second stage housing). But again, he relapsed.

Given the option to leave Phoenix or go to the treatment floor, JP chose the latter. Embracing Phoenix, its counselling and supports, he went 'deep' into his recovery efforts. He progressed off the treatment floor, back into Transitional Housing, then into the Rising Sun Home Ownership Program, and finally JP became an employee of Phoenix.

Nothing of his physicality represents his former self. Having gone

through the Phoenix experience, not only is there life in JP's eyes, but also gratitude—for life.

Today JP is studying Psychology, is employed with Phoenix, owns his home, and remains in recovery.



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- JP