

UNITE TO FACE ADDICTON

Washington DC

October 4th 2015

We Made History

October 3rd, 2014

- My Husband was being sentenced to 14 years mandatory of a 20 year sentence; committed crimes under the influence of methamphetamines
- I walked into work high, scared, and hopeless about what our family future would be; the fear crippled me (Leonard Family)
- Ready to surrender- with the help of trusted co-workers and superiors; they walked me into a hospital.
- DHS Involvement



October 3rd, 2015

- This October 3rd- with the help of trusted co-workers, superiors, and family support- I boarded a plane, “by myself” for the first time, to attend the Unite to Face Addiction Rally in Washington DC
- Part of my year long journey has been about facing fear and truly becoming independent.
- Not only working recovery; but also learning how to be a single parent of 3 boys, and the spouse of an inmate



(At the airport with my son and niece)

These pictures share my amazing trip





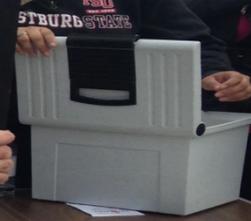


STOP
JAILING
addiction

12 Steps.
No Elevator.

Incarceration
IS NOT 
Treatment!

Jimmy

















One Year Later

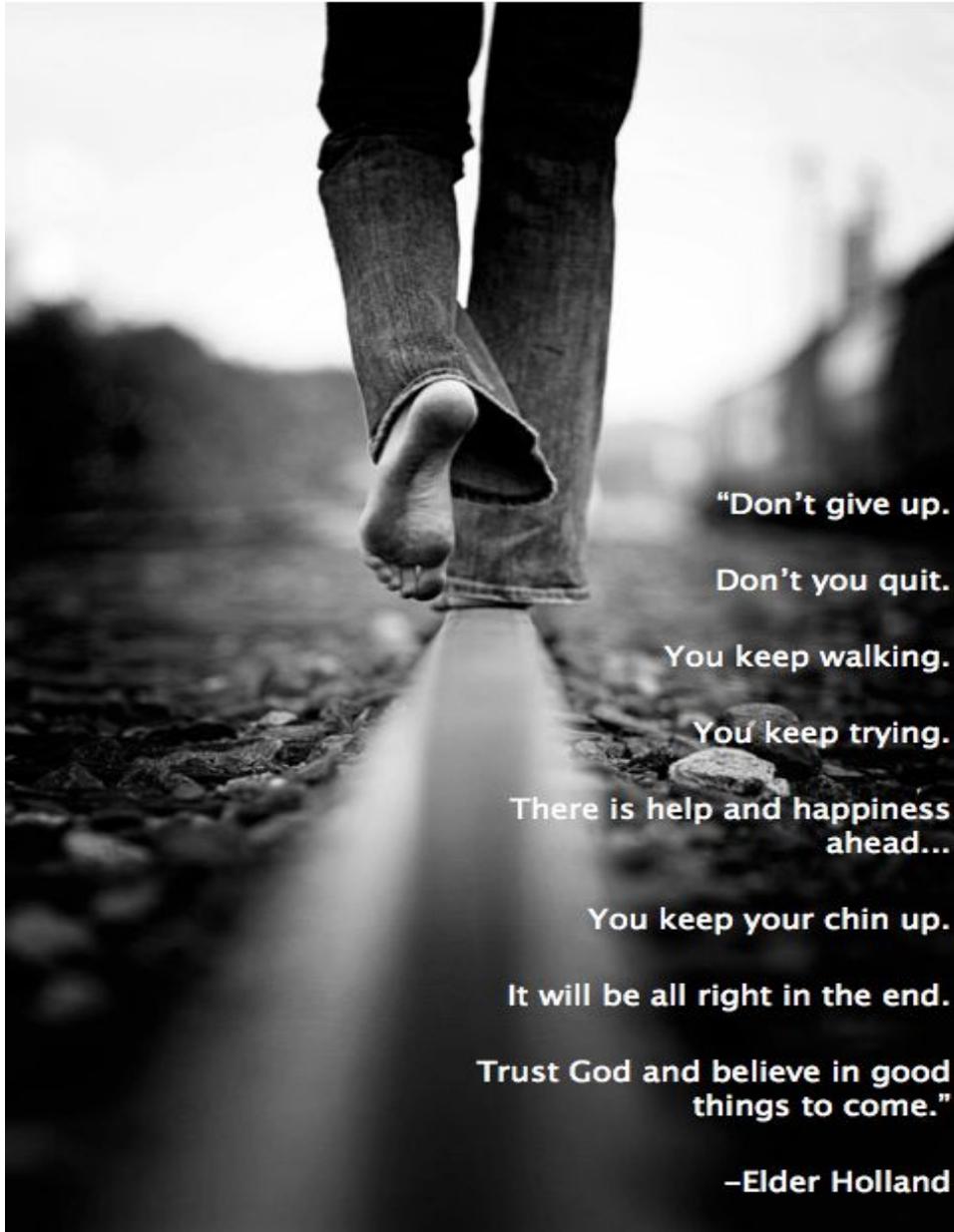
For the first time in my life, I have accomplished: (not without the support of my co-workers, family & friends)

- Continued employment with EFR (with added responsibilities)
- Regained custody of my boys
- Maintained our home
- Learning to cook
- Paying my own bills
- Bought my own car
- Established my own Independence



Maybe one day soon-We become us
again





"Don't give up.

Don't you quit.

You keep walking.

You keep trying.

**There is help and happiness
ahead...**

You keep your chin up.

It will be all right in the end.

**Trust God and believe in good
things to come."**

-Elder Holland

Thank You

I would like to send a huge thank you to:

Iowa Department of Public Health, SAMHSA
and Employee & Family Resources

Thank you for supporting me and my family.

Thank you for believing that people CAN change
and someone like me is worth it!!!!

I AM!!

THANK YOU!!