

Angela Samperi
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Hello everyone,

My name is Angela Samperi. I am a Maine resident, a mother of two, a college student, and someone who works three community-based jobs. I'm proud to say this because of the incredible support I received from Fedcap over the past eight years.

I first came to Fedcap after leaving an abusive relationship. At that time, I was living in a tent with two babies, jobless, struggling financially, and grappling with my mental health. My life lacked direction—I was stuck in survival mode and desperately longing to breathe. Fedcap stepped in and helped me prepare for employment through their trainings and meetings. They made it possible for me to attend appointments with my children, which was critical because I didn't have a support system or "village."

Over time, I managed to secure several jobs and began attending college, though my early attempts didn't work out. Through all of it, the team at Fedcap stood by me. They made me feel heard and supported during moments of poor mental health or intense anxiety. They encouraged me when I doubted myself as a mom or felt overwhelmed by financial challenges like unpaid phone bills. Each step I took was met with guidance and support from Fedcap.

I tried and failed many times, but I never faced those failures alone—there was always someone to turn to. Even when I wasn't sure what I wanted to become, I knew I wanted to help others. The POP trainings, and especially the relationships I built through regular meetings, became the foundation for my journey to becoming a recovery coach and now a parent advisor helping other parents return to school.

I truly believe I wouldn't be where I am today without the Farmington Fedcap team. They saw a light in me when I couldn't see it in myself. They showed me countless avenues I could take and guided me with compassion and care when I felt unsure.

While I think DHHS could attempt to run a similar program, I don't believe they would have enough resources to provide the same level of time and personalized support needed by individuals who are navigating fear and uncertainty. You may ultimately decide what you believe is best, but I am living proof that Fedcap's work—especially the Farmington office—has transformed survival mode into living mode for me.

Thank you.