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Hello, my name is Joshua. I am disabled and had a long history of drug use after being raised with my entire family having drug problems. My dad died when I was 9. I also acted as a caretaker for my disabled mother. Starting at the age of 18 I became addicted and did the best I could to make sure my mom and I both could maintain our habits. I had a severe accident in 2021, breaking 26 bones from head to toe including a brain injury. After recovering well enough I continued the only lifestyle I knew. In 2022 at the age of 28 I was charged with class B trafficking, not long after that my mom passed away. It was a relief honestly because I didn't have to focus on her anymore and could live for myself. I made several failed attempts to get clean and get off the streets. When I finally wrapped up my court proceedings from the 2022 incident I plead guilty and accepted drug court. I am so glad I did because it held me accountable long enough for me to learn a new way of life. I completed drug court without any sanctions or failed u/as. Now that I have put that life, drug court and probation behind me I've moved on to new challenges. I am physically disabled and unfortunately with my felony I have had no luck getting anybody to hire me for a desk position. I tried working a house keeping job last year for the people who also run access direct, I loved it but I couldn't handle it

After a 6 hour shift on my feet I would be in bed for the next day and a half recovering. I know this is my own fault for the lifestyle I lived but I also feel I am a victim of circumstance, I only lived by the only examples I had presented to me and as soon as I had no obligation to take care of my mother and could focus on myself I did everything required of me, everything I had to do to get out and become a law abiding citizen. I don't want to feel like a bum and be on assistance for the rest of my life. I have no other crime history besides a misdemeanor theft and some traffic violations. I'm not writing this to look for sympathy, just wanted to share my story in hopes that it will help shed some light on the matter. Thank you so much for listening and considering what I have to say.