

Elesia R.

Nursing
St. Louis Community College



On January 14, 2011, Elesia entered the BASIC (Black Alcohol/Drug Service Information Center) treatment facility and changed her life. After a lifetime of abusing drugs, she found a way to move forward into recovery. The program provided the structure she needed to get to know herself, how to change her destructive behaviors, and why she needed to make changes to live a full and healthy life.

During treatment, she learned about Narcotics Anonymous, which has helped her live life on life's terms without the use of drugs. "In recovery, they say old dreams awake, and new possibilities arise. I love that statement because I'm living and experiencing just that!" says Elesia. She is proud to be a productive member of society and strives to give back to others through service work and volunteering.

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I'm taking my education
one step at a time.*
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It is no surprise that such a giving, caring person would decide to pursue nursing as a career. After earning her GED, Elesia began attending St. Louis Community College to get her Associate's degree in General Studies. She graduated in May and could not be more proud of her educational journey, which is just the beginning. Elesia is continuing at St. Louis Community College in their Nursing program, with the end goal of getting a Bachelor's degree in Nursing and becoming a registered nurse.

"It hasn't been an easy journey, but I believe in myself. Just like the program, I'm taking my education one step at a time. Without this scholarship, I would have no way to pay for my education. Every penny helps. I am so grateful to the people who support The Next Step."