

TIMES were HARD...but I made it through!

By Rein Kukk

I'm Rein and I came to Allies in May 2000.

I originally lived in Jackson, N.J. All my life, the reason I wanted to live on my own was that I wanted to be independent, to have a job and live my own life.

I moved to Waterside Gardens Apartments in Brick, N.J., and held a job and later on that didn't work out. In October 2000 I was immediately moved into Kells Group Home. It was not easy. What I learned was to get a cell phone. From that moment, I had many phone company plans until I got the right one.

I had some temporary odd jobs with Allies and two other jobs, one which was Target and the other was Lone Star Restaurant. They didn't work out either.

In May 2002, I moved to Crane Group Home in a mother/daughter house which had an apartment -- living room, kitchen combined into one big room, one big bedroom and bathroom with a shower stall. A few months later, I got hired at Drum Point Wawa in Brick, N.J.

Eight years later, I got an award for holding a job at Wawa for the longest time. Ten years later, I am still working there; thank you Wawa.

If it wasn't for Allies, Inc. and staff, helping me get a cell phone, use a computer and have me being in the community making positive choices and getting rides to the doctor's office and other places, all this would not be possible.

Allies, I just wanted to say thank you for what you have done for me over the years and a lot of times it was hard but I made it through.

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