

The 6th district is represented by Senator Jeff Holy, Representative Mike Volz, and Representative Jenny Graham, and is located in west Spokane County. Data below are for Spokane County and the Central Valley School District.



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## MEGAN'S STORY

Megan spent the first months of 2014 in hospitals and a nursing home recovering from two heart surgeries. She had struggled with addiction, PTSD, and homelessness for eight years, and her destructive ways had taken a toll. She wanted desperately to stop hurting the people she loved, and when she entered Miryam's House - transitional living for homeless women - she feared this too would be another failed attempt at change, at sobriety, and at life.

To her surprise, having access to a safe and healthy place to live provided Megan with the foundation she needed, and she graduated from Miryam's House on December 9, 2014. One of the lessons she learned at Miryam's was not to run from her problems. To her, "This was a true place of transformation where things really began to change for me."

With a newfound purpose, and a commitment to pay-it-forward, Megan was placed in an apartment on her own that she can afford, and is thriving. She is engaged in her community, a member of the Program Committee of Transitions, and completed Leadership Spokane. She works at a recovery center, helping others walk through their addiction and make it to the other side.

Her advice to future Miryam's House residents comes reluctantly and humbly, "Take advantage of the services and supports that are offered freely. Take your time to rest, but there is a lot of work to be done. Make the most of the time that you are here. Your full time job when you get here is to focus on yourself and it is the hardest job that I have ever had."

Megan believes in second chances and is grateful that she got one. A safe and healthy place to live has made all the difference. "To be where I am now, where I am rock-climbing, I don't really have limitations like I used to. I would never have believed it if you'd told me."

