



HELPING FAMILIES IN NEED STAY TOGETHER

FREE treatment and recovery services for alcohol and other drug use disorders may be available through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.

It's no secret that parents want the best for their children. But for some moms and dads, their struggles with alcohol and other drugs are putting their families at risk of being pulled apart. Treatment and recovery services to help families stay together may be available for FREE through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.

Whether you and your loved ones have received TANF benefits before or this is your first time looking for assistance, you may be eligible if you:

- Are a Milwaukee County resident
- Are compliant with child support
- Are currently pregnant
- Have a child(ren) under the age of 18 who lives in Milwaukee County
- Are involved in multiple systems, such as W2, Child Welfare, Food Share, Probation/Parole, etc.
- Have an annual household income level of 200% below poverty

For more information about TANF benefits and to schedule an assessment, contact one of our community-based Access Point locations:

Justice Point: 414-278-2140 | Please call first
205 W. Highland Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53203

IMPACT: 414-649-4380 or 2-1-1
6737 W. Washington St., Suite 2225
West Allis, WI 53214

M&S Clinical: 414-263-6000
2821 N. 4th St., Suite 516
Milwaukee, WI 53212

Wisconsin Community Services: 414-343-3569 | Please call first
3732 W. Wisconsin Ave., Suite 340
Milwaukee, WI 53208

A better tomorrow for you and your loved ones can start today with help through TANF.





TIFFANY'S JOURNEY TOWARD BEING A BETTER MOM

After putting her children to bed for the night, Tiffany enjoyed unwinding with some “me time” and alcohol. “I felt like I didn’t have a problem because all I did was drink. I would wait until they would go to sleep and have my ‘me time.’ But my ‘me time’ turned into every time,” Tiffany recalls.

In December 2008, Tiffany asked a trusted friend to watch her two kids, Janae and Janiah, while she celebrated her birthday. Instead of her kids coming home after Tiffany’s four days of “me time,” the sheriff arrived to serve her papers saying the children would not be returning.

“I went into a depression,” Tiffany recalls. “I felt like they took the wrong kids because I felt like I didn’t neglect my kids. They always ate. They were never left home alone. They were never abandoned. I thought I was doing it right. I felt that I was a stable mom.” But being stable didn’t look like what Tiffany thought, and as a result, Janae and Janiah were not returned to Tiffany.

A few years later, Tiffany became a mom two more times with the births of Jacob and Jasmin. Once again, she was faced with having her two youngest children removed due to her instability and struggles with addiction. Tiffany needed help getting sober and getting Jacob and Jasmin back.

Tiffany discovered that she was eligible for the TANF program, and through it, she took advantage of the treatment and recovery services provided by the Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division’s (BHD) Community Access to Recovery Services (CARS). BHD CARS connected her with programs and people who worked to educate her about addiction, explain what neglect means in the state of Wisconsin and understand why her kids were taken away. One of the most powerful connections Tiffany made was with Sa Aire Salton, MS, CSAS, LPC-IT, CFS, a program coordinator and clinician with the Milwaukee Women’s Center.

“With Tiffany, 80 percent of my approach has been education,” Sa Aire explains. “Educating her on all of the aspects of what’s going on in her life, including addressing her mental health, is what helps Tiffany. It’s important to make sure Tiffany understands and is armed with the tools so she can accept what is happening.”

Through all of her hard work, education, being connected to the right team with help from BHD CARS and funding through the TANF program, Tiffany once again has Jasmin back home and expects Jacob to join them very soon.

“I’m grateful to have someone believe in me when I thought everyone was against me.”

~Tiffany.

