

## Rosaivette

Current Position:
Undergraduate Student in Criminology at Quincy College

Current Programs at Project Place: Betty's Place (2017-2018)

Alumni of Project Place Programs:
Work-Ready Class (2017)
ServSafe Certification (2017)
Allergen Certification (2017)
Working Opportunities for Women (WOW) (2017-2018)
P90 – Customer Service Training (2018)



I suffered, I learned, and I changed.

I suffered because of the relationship I was in with my ex-husband. I was in a very dark place, and then I went to prison for over five years. James, my probation officer, said "I want you to go to Project Place." I came here and haven't looked back ever since.

I learned how to adjust coming back into the community with the help of Project Place. Work-Ready prepared me to know and understand the new software I had missed while incarcerated. I was grateful that Project Place had a new computer center. The instructors gave me the necessary paperwork to go and study.

The WOW [Working Opportunities for Women] program touched my heart, because Chef June did not judge me. She showed me how to create different plates and how to be creative and think outside the box. Cooking is something I've always loved to do, especially with my mother. WOW is a big benefit to women because you learn on the job. You can also get your ServSafe and your allergen certifications for the state of Massachusetts. Companies in the food industry will pay you more money if you have those certifications.

I live at Betty's Place, and I'm on the waiting list for GateHouse [permanent housing at Project Place]. I want to go into criminology because I want to be a voice for women who are incarcerated. After school, I want to work in a non-profit to help ladies who are coming out of prison or have suffered domestic violence and make sure they are aware of their options. I want to help women get back on their feet.

I have changed. Project Place has given me the tools to believe in myself and know that I am worth it. Project Place has given me the chance to see myself in a different light, and I have taken my life in a different path. I have rehabilitated myself because I have taken control of my life. Having these people in place has shown me how to do things the right way and follow through on my goals.

