



LEROY

Originally from Cincinnati, Leroy grew up with his dad and stepmom, along with his father's mother. But at age 15, he discovered marijuana and alcohol, stealing from his dad to fund his new habit. After years of struggling in school, he dropped out at 17 years old, and was reunited with his mother. He started working with his mom in real estate, but still used. It was also during this time that he was diagnosed with schizophrenia.

In 2006, Leroy was arrested for robbery and spent three years in jail. Looking for a fresh start upon his 2009 release, he moved to Detroit. Initially homeless, he connected with a nonprofit program that helped him get an apartment along with other support services. He became a deacon at a local church, and stopped drinking. But he still struggled with weed, and had trouble paying his bills.

Looking to make another change, Leroy caught a Greyhound bus to California in 2017. On his first night, he slept in a Santa Monica park, and had his possessions stolen. For the next year or so, he was in and out of jail and placed on various psychiatric holds. Then, in 2019, he was introduced to Action Alliance, where he was placed after his most recent incarceration.

Leroy is planning to move back to Detroit once he is off parole. He has family there, and he also looks forward to becoming a deacon at his church once again, all while continuing to maintain his sobriety through regular participation in AA.

"Action Alliance was key in helping me break the cycle of my addiction," explains Leroy, who is nearing his five-year sobriety anniversary. "I finally got off weed – it's OVER!"