Hello & welcome to my story, my name is Evy & I would like to share with you how Counties Manukau consumer AOD Network has helped my Recovery on so many levels.

I am in recovery from drug abuse, you name it, I did it. The most soul destroying was Crystal Meth. In 2007 I had enough, it was time to get my life back. I walked away from an unhealthy abusive relationship & the drugs. I booked into rehab, the best thing I ever did. During my stay in rehab, Mike Hamblin Project Manager of Counties Manukau consumer AOD network came in to invite people to become Network members. I became a network member, resulting in positive doors opening for me.

The Network at that time had one Peer Support group going on Fridays at Nathan homestead. Mike Hamblin approached me & asked me if I would like to co facilitate this group with Him. This truly helped in my recovery as I had great support & was able to support others.

Through the network I was given training opportunities. I graduated a wrap course & Peer employment training. My recovery journey was not easy but certainly worth it. Having the support of the Network got me through some tough times. Shortly after completing the Peer employment training, myself & one other were asked if we would like to facilitate a woman's support group out at Pukekohe. This is a great source of support as is the Friday Nathan Homestead group.

Three months after graduating Peer employment training, I applied for a job as a Peer Support Specialist for CMDHB. After 11 years of drug abuse, being unemployed & lost, I was now working for the DHB. I have now been employed for 16 months. I am so thankful for the Network & it's members, each & every one of them.

Remember it works when you work at it.