

THIS IS MY STORY.

One day I'm home and the next day I'm numb.

Gone from home and sent to a shelter.

The feeling that I cannot explain, I've had so much to work on and gain an experience.

The place where I thought I wouldn't go to.

The place where I found myself, but every other day gets frustrated because I can't do certain things.

I get so stressed to the point I can't function. So let me tell you where this all started. I was 16 when I got taken away because of neglect.

I am facing a disease called cancer and my father did not seem to see that it was a big deal.

I cried every night because of the pain I've been feeling. I tried killing myself and cutting too.

I had mental health too.

The day I wanted to end my life was the day where I saw that miracle happens because God sent my cousin to tell me it isn't worth it.

When I was holding that rope and ready to hang myself she called me and told me to stop.

That night was the night I can't forget.

The next day was the day where I had to open up and tell my counselor what's been happening.

Cps took me away and put me in a shelter called Alee shelter.

I stayed there for about 4 months with kids not even my age. I was the oldest one. As days passed I had to leave alee shelter.

Cps then moved me to Sanctuary.

At first I didn't really like the place I wanted to go back to alee because I got so use to having little kids surrounding me but sanctuary was different I had people my age.

I stayed at coed for a while met new people and had a great case manager.

Days then again passed.

My team worked on the things they needed work on so that I could get the treatment I needed.

By June 2016 I got chemo again lost my hair, my appetite, I had so much mood swings, fatigue and many more.

Chemo every single week wasn't really a big deal. As well as blood infusion, I had to go to chemo for about 2 years.

I did have my ups and downs too because doing chemo with other people who I did consider as a family was a good thing, but I wanted my blood relatives to be there for me.

Then again I just recently found out that I'm in remission this March of 2019.

The thought of giving up was there too but look at me now. As a cancer survivor, living in a shelter I never gave up on my dreams. Even though I had chemo the other day I will still go to school the next day because I wouldn't let cancer interfere with my study. If I can do this so can other people who thinks there's no way that they could do it.

January of 2018 I had my dreams come true I went to Disney world? Saw all the things I wanted to see and rode all the rides I wanted to experience. I saw my favorite Disney characters mostly mickey and Minnie.

After accomplishing my goal to Disney, June of 2018 I got my first job which is AmeriCorps.

I learned how to manage my time and feel like an adult. July of 2018 they transferred me to TLP (TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM) this was the shelter where I saw the mature me. They had rules that I didn't agree with. But I'm guessing that's just how it is.

Lived with people I didn't liked but I had to focus on the purpose why I ended up here anyway.

I worked on myself and the things I needed to work on.

I am now a senior and ready to graduate this school year.

With a GPA of 3.7 I am proud to say that I DID IT and I've come a long way.

And also I will be getting my own place with the help of my team. I had so much thought of giving up .the thought of just leaving everything

behind. But I didn't because of the people that supported me and pushed me through my hardest days.

Let us now go back to the beginning!

My name is Jezreel Nicole Lavarro

I am 18 years old.

I have a broken family, my mom and dad has their own family so basically I'm the black sheep of the family as people call.

I am a survivor of cancer.

I will be graduating this school year from high school. And will take nursing for college.

I will someday make a change to our community and our world.

I will be an inspiration to other people by telling them no to give up on their dreams.

I am a person who saw positive in all the negatives. And I am a person who's just young and wants to let the world hear my story.

I am Jezreel