

# NEW LEASH ON LIFE USA

Restore Lives.  
Reduce Recidivism.  
Rescue Dogs.

## MEET STEVEN



Many people who participate in the New Leash on Life USA program come from a hard life on the streets. Not Steven. Steven had a family, but he had lost his job and began to make bad choices.

"I first learned about New Leash while I was in prison, and I thought it was a joke," says Steven. He admits he didn't really believe everything he had heard about how life can change from living with the dogs and learning how to train them. "A lot of us would comment that we didn't come here to scoop poop," says Steven, "but I found I liked studying the dogs and their behavior."

Steven admits he was hesitant to start his internship. "I didn't really want to be there, but I did want to follow through, because I had built the relationship with people from New Leash," he says. He pushed through his resistance, and by the time his internship was complete, Steven wanted to stay on as a full-time employee. "I had to apply three different times until I got through the chain of seniority. That frustrated me." Steven laughs. "But in the long run, it

made me appreciate it more because I had to work for it."

Steven says he was affected not only by the dogs in the program, but also the people. "I was blown away by how far they go to help you. At the same time, they're showing you about the animals, they are building you up. They keep building you up," he says with emphasis. "The New Leash program is a good experience. You meet really good people, genuine people who aren't working angles to get one over on you."

## *Update*

***Steven was promoted to Lead Animal Protection Officer  
November 2018***