



# Santrell Green

*She Never Thought She Would Have to Ask For Help ...*

## She Had It All.

Santrell had a beautiful house, a car, the perfect husband, children and friends. She also enjoyed a wonderful career at Delta Airlines and the American Cancer Society!

## Life Was Good!

Having worked for someone else since age 14, Santrell was ready to branch out on her own. She started a contract position in training & development, *“an area of true passion,”* she shares! A few months went by; her world changed overnight. The economic downturn of 2008 eliminated most contract positions, and she was now unemployed. Suddenly Santrell became very uncertain, a feeling she had not experienced before. In spite of executing a job search process which had always worked for her in the past, nothing came to fruition, and she found herself out of work. *“Times were really hard,”* Santrell recalls, *“The loss of income put such a tremendous burden on my family of 5.”* It was not supposed to be that way!

## Suddenly Everything Had Changed ...

Determined not to be beaten down, Santrell made a trip to a local government agency seeking assistance. She was given a piece of paper which would change her life. That paper contained a list of all the social services available to her in Fayette County. The Real Life Center was on it! *“At that time it didn’t matter what other people thought,”* Santrell recalls, *“I wanted to do whatever it took to take care of my family.”* She made her first appointment. *“Everyone was so welcoming when I arrived. I was told that it was not my fault, and I would be okay again soon!”*

## A Safe Place ...

For the first time in quite some time, she felt hope, respect and dignity. Her heart was warmed by the care, advice and resources she received during her appointment.

Over the course of the next few months, Santrell received financial assistance and participated in all food programs which meant great savings to her family. She also learned about financial budgeting, planning for the future, and getting back to a stable place.

Since then Santrell’s future has been shining brighter and brighter with each passing day. Today she owns her own business, *The Eliam Group Training and Consulting*, teaching individuals and businesses to move their purpose forward one plan at a time.

*“I am so grateful for the life experiences which have taught me to persevere,”* Santrell concludes. *“I love impacting the lives of others and being a facilitator of change.”*

Santrell’s story is one of many we hear at the Real Life Center. The names and faces change, but the circumstances are similar. *We serve real people experiencing real life.* With each other’s help, we have an opportunity to make a difference in the life of a neighbor!

