

Amy: My name's Amy Biony. I'm 32 years old. I was a heroin addict for 17 years, and I just recently had a baby, Mikayla Ray, and I have an almost two-year-old at home, Easton. Easton's father was the love of my life, and he passed away when I was seven months pregnant, and then I had Easton. So when Easton's dad died, I started using while pregnant. So when Easton was born, he was born addicted to opiates.

I met my boyfriend, Paul, Mikayla's father, and I got pregnant, and it was so non-ideal. Her father, my boyfriend, was on his way into jail for seven months. I was a single mom. I was not even a year clean and no job, no home, no money. So I went through a denial phase for a long time, and I hid my pregnancy for six months. I was hiding it from my family, but mostly from myself because I was so sure I was going to abort this baby. So I needed proof of pregnancy, and that's when I started Googling, and I came across First Choice. I told them that I needed proof of pregnancy from my OB to start my prenatal care, and I thought maybe I wasn't going to get what I needed from them if I was honest and said, "I really just need proof of pregnancy to proceed with an abortion." I was greeted by Cindy. And when I tell you this woman, I felt like I knew her for 20 years. She spoke to me like she would speak to a daughter or a niece.

She had that aura about her. She just instantly made me feel like no judgment was being placed, no questions were being asked. I think she knew. I had said a few things that gave her the inclination that abortion was what I was set on, and she so gently and kindly gave me information without forcing it on me. By month four, I went back. I still had the baby. I went back and I was like, "Can I just see the baby and make sure everything's okay?" And I knew if I saw her and put some realness to her by seeing her and hearing her, that that would solidify her existence. Anna pulled up my daughter on the screen, and she basically just kept saying, "You have a healthy, beautiful baby, and your baby's growing beautifully, and your baby's heart sounds great."

For the first time, a connection to my daughter is what I felt, and I felt that I was a mom of two, and that's all I needed. I made up my mind. Mikayla is like our little ball of sunshine. And to be honest, she just feels like she was the missing piece. And like I said, it's our circus, but I love it, and I love her to death, and I wouldn't change anything about my non-conventional, twisted, backwards story. I really wouldn't because it's me, and it's us, and she's perfect. I thank God for First Choice often. I think about that experience often. They saved my daughter's life, and that's huge. It's just a special place. It really is. I don't think Mikayla would be here, sad to say, and I don't think she would be if I hadn't have gone there. And I wanted to thank the people who are hugely responsible for keeping First Choice running because obviously without you there would be no First Choice. And without a First Choice, there would be no Mikayla and she's pretty cool.