When Veteran John Moore of Santa Fe came into the One-Stop in August, 2004, he was homeless, very depressed, ill with severe dental problems and other physical ailments, living in a truck that was not licensed or registered and working at a part-time job that his physical disability couldn't handle—in short, he was in trouble.

In spite of these dire circumstances and years spent battling the alcohol and drug abuse that accompanied his health problems (he’s been drug and alcohol free for a year now!), John was nonetheless anxious to do whatever he could to get back on track with his health, his job situation, his family and his life in general.

John’s determination, coupled with the coordinated services he received from the Navigator and the Sr. One-stop Career Specialist, has yielded enormous benefit to his life. John’s dental problems are being resolved and he sports a brand new healthy smile. He’s now receiving benefits for his physical disabilities through the VA, has his truck registered and licensed, is on the verge of buying a mobile home and has been made eligible, through WIA funding, to get CDL (Commercial Drivers’ License) training in Farmington where he will be provided with room and board.

Consequently, John reports that he is sleeping well, his depression is relieved and he feels hopeful for his future. In addition, his relationship with his son has improved not only because of his sobriety, but also...
because of his newfound stability and feeling of self-worth. John has been able to help his son out financially which he mentioned is very important to him.

John Moore, in just six short months, went from being destitute to a life that is offering stability and self-sufficiency. He gives credit to the One-Stop and Navigator services for their collaborative efforts in procuring these supports for him and describes his re-entry into a more “normal” life by saying, “I actually bought a new set of clothes and attempted to go to see The Aviator recently, but it was sold out!” John added that he’s now in a position to help others out and remarked with a satisfied smile that, “People owe me money now!”

Story Submitted by: Fanny Pearce, Navigator, Santa Fe One-Stop