# Statement from Chris Damron, a 36-year-old Columbus resident, who was able to reinstate his driver’s license during the Amnesty Initiative:

When I arrived at the Driver’s License Clinic in Franklin County in April, I hadn’t had a driver’s license for 10 years. I owed about $1,700. Taking care of that was the final piece to my puzzle. I had already cleaned myself up, hadn’t gotten in trouble in years, but issues with my license were still in the way. I’m so grateful to the lawyers who helped me and the BMV.

That day, I got to meet with the BMV, child support and went before the judge. A legal aid attorney walked me around and helped me out. It was great. It was the best experience I’ve ever had at a courthouse. Everyone was wanting to help you. They waived everything but about $300, which I knew I could pay. I left that day with my temps. I’ve got my license now.

It gave me a second chance at life, it really did. I am so grateful for the program, it helped me so much and I know it can help others like me get our lives back on track. Getting my license back changed my life. It feels so good to be finally on the right side of the law again, doing what I’m supposed to, and being able to take on more responsibility at work and with taking care of my family.