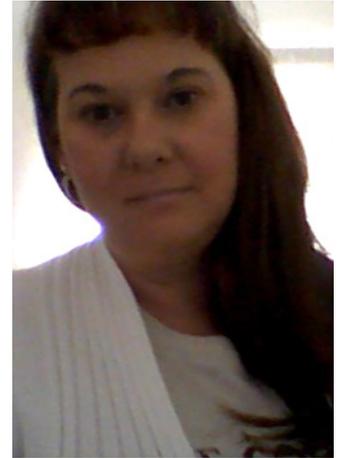




Christine L. Alexander



Christine Alexander is a professional speaker on the dangers drugs and alcohol, her goal being to help people avoid the trauma she has experienced. In June 2004, Alexander was the drunk driver at the wheel when she crashed into a friend on his motorcycle. The friend was killed, and Alexander was convicted of involuntary manslaughter. After serving 120 days in a women's correctional facility, and 5 years probation, Alexander made it her goal in life to share her story in order to show people the harsh reality of drunk driving.

Alexander graduated from East Central College in Washington, Missouri, as a Certified Nursing Assistant, and received her Medical Assistant certification from Metro Business College. She currently works for Pathways Community Health in Rolla, Missouri.

Alexander has one son and resides in Rolla with her husband. She also has two stepsons and six grandchildren.

Christine's Story

On June 17, 2004, I made a horrible choice to drink and drive, and it cost a dear friend's life and my own. I was driving with a BAC twice the legal limit; I had no business driving. He was on his motorcycle, I was in my car. We left a bar, he pulled out and I pulled out behind him. He sped up and I went faster to catch up with him. I was going 50 mph. My phone rang, and I reached in my purse and I dropped it, I bent down to pick it up and when I looked up he was stopped at a red light. I didn't have time to slow down or stop. I hit him from behind.

He flew 65 feet into the air, bounced off my windshield and landed in the intersection. My car came to a stop. I ran out of my car screaming and crying his name. I got up to him and I grabbed behind his head and that is when I noticed all the blood coming out of his head. There was a man that witnessed the accident, and he told me not to touch him or move him. The police and paramedics arrived and took us to the hospital. Shortly after we got to the hospital, he died of a heart attack due to the head trauma.

I was in shock, I couldn't believe this had happened to me. His family and friends were there. The medical staff put me in a room by myself because I was hysterical. They called my Mom to have her come and get me. My life was never going to be the same, nor was his family's. I have since suffered from Major Depressive Disorder and PTSD. I have tried killing myself several times and I have been in and out of hospitals.

I was charged with involuntary manslaughter, sentenced to 120 days shock treatment in a women's correctional center, and 5 years strict probation. I will not drive for the rest of my life. I have punished myself, my husband, and my family for the last 12 years. The families I hurt will never get over this, and neither will I. I want to give people a much needed reality check, to open their eyes to the importance of the choices they make, especially if alcohol is involved. The choices that we make have an impact on the lives around us.

My story is not just about drinking and driving, it's about choices that we make, what we can lose, and how painful those consequences are. People need to remember that one bad choice can result in lifelong regret and pain. I know, because I have it. We need to join together to stop drinking and driving and show people the true impact it has on families' lives and their own. Please help me today in doing that.