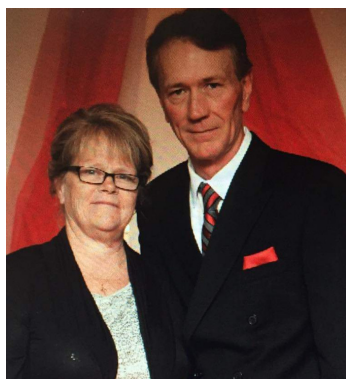


Nicki Johnston: MO HealthNet - Realized and In Action



Nicki Johnston of Moberly, Missouri, was diagnosed with Stage 4 kidney cancer at the end of Nov. 2021.

She was working at a Senior Living facility in Moberly at the time of her diagnosis and had been working there for about a year and a half.

She had insurance through her job at the time of her diagnosis, but once she started her cancer treatments, she soon realized that she would not be physically able to continue working and had to leave her job on Feb. 1, 2022.

If not for the availability to apply for expanded Medicaid, Nicki would be without insurance and would not have the financial means to get the cancer treatments she needs to help save her life.



With the loss of her job, she no longer had insurance, so she reached out to a friend, Patty Hendren, who worked at Randolph County Caring Communities. Patty helped Nicki begin the process of applying for Medicaid, but they soon realized that the process was very cumbersome.

On Feb. 4, Patty reached out for legal assistance in getting Nicki enrolled because she could not afford to have a delay in her treatments. Within several days, Nicki's application for expanded Medicaid coverage was approved.

Nicki recently finished her 12th immunotherapy treatment and is talking with her doctors to determine the effectiveness of the treatments so far, and what the next steps in her treatment will be.



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