

My name is Zohra Sulaimany. In late 90s because of the war and Taliban in Afghanistan, my family and I moved to Pakistan. I was a teen when I got married to a stranger (Afghan American) in Pakistan. He Brought me to the united states. We were together for two years. After a lot of abuse, he took me back to Pakistan and left me there without my immigration documents. That time I was seven months pregnant.

When I find out that my Ex-husband came back to the US without me, I break apart. I got worried about my child's feature. And didn't wanted to become a burden to my family.

I went back to US embassy and asked them to send me back so I can ask for my right. It was a dream come true when the Embassy called me and asked, "when you want to go back". I got so happy and hopeful for my future. But at the same time, it was very difficult for me to leave Pakistan alone. And being eight months pregnant, I was scared that what will happen to me.

I chose to come to Utah because I had some friends here. After getting my high school diploma I started going to Salt Lake Community College. And there I got my associate degree in general studies. During my college years I was confused and didn't know what to study. I did change my major a couple of times. Because of that I run out of Pell grants.

One day I became very serious about my life. I started thinking about my future, wanted to work full time and make more money. Wanted to stand on my feet as soon as possible. Then I thought about getting a certification in IT since I already work with IT department for many years and I like it.

But as a single mom and working part time, I was not able to pay for my tuition, for A+ certification. Also taking the industry exam for IT certificate through CompTIA was very expensive. I started having anxiety.

I'm so glad that a caseworker told me about Woman of the World. And then I meet with Samira Harnish. She seemed very welcoming and kind. They helped me right away with my study materials, my CompTIA exams and retake bundle, which was a lot for me.

And I'm so glad, so happy that I was able to prepare and take those exams and that now I got my A+ certificate. I feel relieved and more hopeful for my future to find a better job. WOW made a difference in my life. I will always be thankful of WOW for their support and generosity.

Zohra

