

Derek: Hey, Michela. How's it going? Thanks for meeting with me today.

Michela: No problem. Doing okay.

Derek: I'm glad we were able to get this meeting today. I know that you've had to cancel the last meeting at the last minute. I hope everything was okay with that.

Michela: Yeah. I've just been really busy. I've had a lot going on. It's no problem, though, right?

Derek: No. No, it's no problem. You haven't missed any meetings up until now. So it's just kinda out-of-the-blue. So, no big deal. I did wanna hear about you signing up for a class, though. That was really some good news to hear. You had left me that message last week.

Michela: Thanks. Yeah, I'm really excited about school. I mean, it's been something that I've wanted to get back to for a while. So I've been trying to get everything together. And I'm just taking one class, but you gotta start somewhere.

Derek: Yeah, definitely. Do you know ... You gonna pick up the nursing program? Is that what you're going back for?

Michela: Well that's what I eventually wanna get back into, but I couldn't take one of those classes this semester so I'm just doing a Gen Ed.

Derek: Okay. All right, cool. So I know we can figure out things like financial aid if you need any help with that, or getting linked to any kind of resources that might be in the community to help you. You got a couple of months until the semester starts anyway, but definitely let me know if you have any trouble with that kinda stuff or you need any help.

Michela: Okay. Yeah, I'm definitely gonna have to figure out some money stuff and getting books and things like that.

Derek: Yeah. I know fortunately for a lot of people that have kinda low-income situations, with you having the Welfare, and not much else while we wait for the Social Security to go through, hopefully it will cost you very little. But we still ... You know how it is. I know you've been to college before. You have to fill out all the financial aid paperwork anyway. So we can figure out some time to do that in the future if you do need my help.

Michela: Cool.

Derek: I did wanna ask you, so it's been kinda something I've brought up a few times. It hasn't really gained any traction, but I wanted to see if you've given any more thought to what you're planning to do about moving with your mom getting out of the house and ...

Michela: I mean all of the options just really suck and you keep harping on this. And I just wanna focus on school and something I enjoy and trying to be happy for once, and you just keep bringing this up.

Derek: Well I can understand how it's a stressful situation. But I did hear from your mom again last week shortly after, actually, you had canceled that appointment, your mom had reached out to me. And I'm coming out of a place of concern because she's concerned because I guess she's brought it up to you a few times and it doesn't seem like you really have a plan, and that's got her a little worried.

Michela: And I just can't deal with that right now. I can't think about it. I don't want my mom on my back, I don't want you on my back about this, I just wanna think about other things.

Derek: So you don't really have any desire to address the housing issue right now is kinda what I'm hearing from you.

Michela: No, I don't wanna talk about it. I can't go to a shelter. I just wanna focus on school.

Derek: Okay. So I can totally respect that. I you do not wanna push the housing issue ... if you don't want me to push it on you anymore, it's up to you. I'm here to work on the goals that you wanna work on. I am happy to support you with your educational goal, Michela.

Michela: Good.

Derek: I really think it's great. I do just feel like ... The last thing I'll bring up about it is the fact that I just wanna reference back to you coming into the program, and the primary reason that you were referred here, was because of a housing need. And I do ... It's been my intention to help you through that. I know you've gotten the options that I've been able to find for you and they're not satisfactory to you, and I can understand that. But it just ... It's a little ... I don't know the difference ... What's changed between the feeling that you had that first meeting that day when you had your intake to come in, and you talked about wanting to get a place of your own or wanting to get a place ... back then it was with Max. I know you have a new boyfriend, I wanna hear about that too. But-

Michela: Wait, how do you even know about him?

Derek: Your new boyfriend?

Michela: Yeah.

Derek: You had left me another voicemail about him last week. It was a really short one. But you had said ... You didn't give me his name, but you just said that you had wanted him to sign a release for me to talk with him.

Michela: No way. I'm sure I didn't do that.

Derek: Oh. Well, okay. It was pretty clear that it was you. But if you don't want him to sign- If you don't want any kinda release. I never actually ... I was waiting to today. I actually

have the release here but it was blank 'cause I didn't has his name. But if you don't wanna sign anything for him to talk to me, that's totally fine.

Michela: No, I definitely don't want you talking to John.

Derek: Okay. No problem. So ... All right. So we will focus on the school thing from now on. You do not want to address the housing issue, it seems. And as far as your new boyfriend goes, I will not speak with him and, obviously, whatever we talk about is confidential between us. Is there anything else that I can help you with related to how things are going with sobriety or ...?

Michela: You know what? I really can't ... I can't do this today. I can't get into this with you. I'm gonna head out.

Derek: Okay. You sure there isn't anything else I could help you with or ...?

Michela: Yeah. No, I'm good. I just need to go.

Derek: Okay. All right, Michela. Let me know if there's anything I can help you with. Bye- Whoa, okay. She's gone. So yeah, group, I'm not really sure what precipitated that abrupt ending, but I will be following up with my supervisor and with my colleagues just to see if there's anything else I could do for Michela moving forward. But stay tuned. We will be back with an update in next week.