

Martin Comes Full Circle

When Martin came to Seattle he was ill, alone, and tired. He joined a church that matched him with a faith-based group of individuals who welcomed Martin as their care partner, supplying him with weekly dinners, occasional movie and popcorn nights, and a lot of listening. Over several months, Martin came to trust this group of new-found friends. He came out of his shell enough to confide in them. He was surprised when they became closer, rather than draw away or try to change him.

Martin's health began to improve as he settled into a more stable life, took his medications regularly, ate, and began to have the energy to exercise a little. He began to express his gratitude to his team for their generosity. Then, one week he surprised his care-share team members by cooking dinner for them.

A while later, Martin surprised everyone again when he joined a team that would support someone else who

needed a safety net. He said this was his opportunity to pay forward all the goodness he had received. Martin had come full circle.