

Cathy moved to New Hampshire last September from Alabama. She has one daughter, who is 22 and married back in Alabama. Cathy was married for 23 years and spent most of those years as a homemaker, supported by her husband who was happy with her at home and knew they could get by. They had health insurance through Blue Cross Blue Shield.

Unfortunately, Cathy divorced under difficult circumstances, and she welcomed the chance to leave the area when she met a nice man who lived up here. She was settling into living in New Hampshire and looking for a job. She had just received her license and was starting to learn about the area when she began to have concerns about her vision. Cathy's health was good overall, but she had "floaters" in her eyes. When a few "floaters" turned into many, and she began to see flashes of light, she knew there was a problem with her vision.

Cathy can't recall whether she learned about Goodwin Community Health through someone, or whether she found us online, but she came to Goodwin and Megan Atkins, one of the Outreach & Enrollment Specialists, "was wonderful and helped me so much" Cathy gushed. With Megan's help, Cathy was enrolled into Wellsense, an expanded Medicaid plan. In less than two weeks she was able to see an eye specialist. This was a very frightening experience for Cathy, who told me "when something happens, you just need help! Especially when you're new here and have no one to help you. It's hard to trust people". It was also scary because she had always had medical insurance in Alabama.

Thanks to Wellsense and the enrollment specialists at Goodwin, Cathy was able to see a specialist in the area and ended up having two surgeries for tears in her retina. If it wasn't for the application assistance she received for health insurance, she wouldn't have received the care that she needed and believes that her retina could have detached completely, requiring much more advanced surgery.

Cathy is now happily building a new life in New Hampshire and hoping to find a job in retail. She has worked at Family Dollar in Alabama and recently completed an application for Family Dollar here. She really likes the area and said it reminds her of Tennessee, where she used to travel often with her husband. Although she's been through challenges in recent years, she's strong and optimistic stating: "You've gotta get up and get on with it". Cathy is grateful for this insurance and the huge difference it has made in her life!