

I dream of starting life anew



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On photo: Talabsho, the client of the project, who faced many difficulties in his life ...

41-year-old Sharipov Talabsho had to experience many difficulties in life. As he was the eldest and the only bread earning in the family, he started working since he was 15. He was 20 when he left for St. Petersburg to earn money. For 2 years Talabsho was engaged in auxiliary works. During this period, he contacted a group of people who were involved in theft, and began to try marijuana. A year later he was deported to homeland. Here in Tajikistan he continued to use drugs, then switched to heroin and began to inject it intravenously. To get a dose, he began to steal. Day by day, life worsened; he got troubles with the district police officer, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and his own family. Health problems appeared. The groin area where he injected drugs began to fester, he could no longer walk. Withdrawal attacks from heroin started to appear.

“Poor mom could not stand my pain and started looking for heroin for me. She asked drug users for filters and syringes”- tells Talabsho.

His mother met a familiar person by chance among migrants, whom his son often used to take heroin together. He told his mother about the organization, that helps drug users and about the OST program.

“The same day my mother went to the organization, found out about all the services provided for clients, and without asking me, forcibly brought me there by car. The organization hosted me well, when I met with a doctor, I learned about services that help drug addicts in solving problems of a social, domestic and legal nature. For the first time in many years I met kind and understanding people. I felt cared for, supported and worried for me, and the same day social worker Shodi accompanied me to get tested for OST. In the course of diagnostics, I turned out to have hepatitis C and pulmonary tuberculosis SS (-)”- continues Talabsho. During the next visits to the organization, Talabsho continued to receive medical advice.

With the support of AFEW-Tajikistan, Talabsho became a participant in the OST program, underwent a number of medical examinations, and receives preventive materials (condoms, lubricants, IECM).

“The organization pays my travel expenses to participate in the OST program. I took part in info sessions on the protection of drug users' rights; I realized that I still have a lot to come. Currently I take DOTS and OST pills. I dream to start life anew and help people like me”- Talabsho concludes his story.



Medical consultation process

On photo: Norkulov T.T., medical specialist of the organization, advises Talabsho to participate in OST program