

MY LIFE Speakers - June 24, 2021



Mike Veny is a world class keynote speaker and professional drummer who delivers unforgettable presentations to schools, organizations and Fortune 500 companies. As a child, he was expelled from three schools, attempted suicide, and was medicated in efforts to reduce his emotional instability and behavioral outbursts. He has spent many years working as a motivational speaker and facilitating recovery focused drum workshops that help participants succeed through teamwork.



Riley Gibson is a United States Army Veteran and a founding member of MY LIFE. He spent most of his childhood living in foster care group homes where he experienced many challenges. In his teen years he became very passionate about using his experience to help others. He became a national MY LIFE youth leader and travelled to numerous states helping to establish new MY LIFE groups and speaking at national conferences. He served as an engineer in US Army and afterwards he started his business, AZ Vending Kings.



Hope Kirkland is a recovery support navigator at Magellan Healthcare in Pennsylvania, where she helps individuals living with mental health challenges reach their recovery goals. After many years working to overcome her own struggles with mental health, drug addiction and teen pregnancy, Hope decided she wanted to use her lived experience to help others. She completed Certified Peer Specialist training and worked at Horizon House for 5 years. In 2015, she achieved her lifelong dream of becoming a college graduate.