

## ***PAUL'S STORY***

I'm 30 years old and I have a bulging disk pinching nerves to my left leg. When I hurt my back I was working in construction with the Amish. I had no health insurance with that job. At first I was unable to get any kind of medical care. After my son was born, for some reason, because I was a single parent I guess, I was able to get on Medicaid. I had surgery, but now I'm told I need another surgery. For some reason, now I'm not eligible for Medicaid, so I just live with the pain. I tried to get SSDI but I was denied for that too. I try to do as much work as I can. My boss tries to find light work for me to do so that I have some income, but it's not enough to pay all our bills. I used to play basketball with my girlfriend's boys. Now my one year old son walks faster than I do.

Paul Freeland