



High Country

A Trans Experience

For the majority of my life up until February 12th 2006 I had lived a lie and suffered terrible depression as a result. I wasn't being true to my feelings or myself, even though I knew at a very early age that I was different and that something wasn't quite right. I had been born with the anatomical features of a male although in my heart and soul I felt female. In fact in one of my earliest memories I can recall that someone was changing my diaper and I happened to look down and see my penis and thought in whatever language babies think in..."what the heck is this?"

And that was only the start, as I was growing up and in my teens the feelings of alienation and self-denial only grew worse. Even though I was very effeminate and was always hanging out with the girls at an age that most other "boys" shunned girls. The other boys my age would often question me about why I would want to spend time with the girls. It was like ugh! Girls! I also was often mistaken as being gay however I wasn't attracted to boys or men. Even more questions for my own already troubled psyche. If I was female on the inside wasn't I supposed to be attracted to boys too; but I wasn't. I guess I figured out later that Gender Identity Disorder in no way dictates sexual orientation in any way shape or form, in fact most transsexual women are attracted to women also. However, I later

experimented with bi-sexuality but found that I couldn't really connect emotionally with men.

So I decided that from here on out I was a Trans lesbian woman.

So suddenly on February 12th 2006 I finally had the courage to change my life for the better. I went to a thrift store and bought women's clothing and make-up from a Dollar General store; and almost immediately my "Clinical Depression" lifted because I was finally being myself. It hasn't been an easy road by any means. My own daughter disowned me, my mother thinks it was all medication induced and still refuses to accept it for what it is to this day. However, I have been much more content since my faithful decision that day and have no regrets and have new hope now.



Gabrielle Crow is a trans woman who lives in Boone NC, a Blues Guitarist/singer songwriter with an album out on iTunes and Amazon Music titled "titled Hollow Victory" and is also a presenter in NAMI's "In Our Own Voice."

NAMI FLAPJACK FUNDRAISER
(formerly known as Pancake Breakfast)
Saturday, November 15th
7:00am - 10:00am
Applebees of Boone



Tickets are \$7 (there is a processing fee if you buy online). This is a fundraiser and awareness event for NAMI High Country organized by our interns Victoria and Katherine. We will also have a raffle. So far we have gift certificates to Anna Banana, Stick Boy Bread Company, and Melanie's Restaurant.

Our goal is to sell at least 100 tickets in advance so please buy now! You can purchase tickets online or at our 7pm meeting on Monday, November 3rd. (You can buy at the door too, but we'd appreciate it if you would consider buying in advance).

There will be comprehensive brochures on mental illness at the **breakfast** and you will have the chance to become a member of NAMI.

Also, we need help serving, so if you can take an hour to serve please let us know.

Next Meeting
Monday, November 3, 2014
7pm
Victoria Casey
Anorexia from the Inside

Our meetings are in the Watauga County Public Library conference room. Watauga County Public Library in downtown Boone is located at 140 Queen Street, behind Mast General Store. If you get there before 7pm you will be able to go in the main door. After that we will enter and exit through the side door.

