

Nurse Family Partnership



Crystal with daughter, Christiana

I was terrified to become a mother because I didn't have the social support of a family and I knew that I wasn't ready economically. I was removed from my family at the age of 15 because of abuse. I also experienced homelessness and food insecurity. I didn't want to perpetuate that cycle. I'm a Christian, so I prayed. I felt like it wouldn't be easy, but God would provide for us every step of the way.

It has been so amazing to have a nurse visit with me because I don't have a mother or an aunt to turn to when I have concerns. She supplements the void in my life and I really appreciate it. She is so encouraging, she educates me about milestones, and helps me with my coping skills because I am able to talk things out with her.

Now I work at the Office of the Public Defender in the drug court unit. I draft expungements for the entire state. I do advocacy work and I will be speaking at the 2019 annual Congressional Reception about the foundation I am starting to fund childcare for single parents who live at the ALICE level of poverty.

Before the Nurse Family Partnership I thought I was incapable of being a good mother. Now I have all the education I need along with the affirmation that I am a really good, loving and caring mother. The Nurse Family Partnership program brought me from being a risk factor in my daughter's life to being a protective factor, because I have so much support now.

I have made something good out of everything that has happened to me. It was hard to go through all that, but if it had to happen in order for me to help single parents, then it was worth it.



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