

YOUR GIFT DOES SO MUCH



2018



Stephanie's Story

Stephanie's mom couldn't take care of her and was in and out of the picture as she grew up. When Stephanie had babies of her own she wanted to do better for them so she enrolled in United Way's Healthy Families program. She knew the program would give her the tools to be a great mom, unlike her own. What she didn't expect was how her Family Support Worker (FSW) would help her transform her whole life.

Stephanie worked for a local manufacturer doing soldering but for low wages and no benefits. She struggled to pay all of the bills for herself and her two kids, though she lived in affordable Section 8 housing, she feared for her kids' safety in her neighborhood that was plagued by crime and frequent shootings. With her FSW's encouragement, she started applying for better work and was hired by Harris Corporation, for better pay and full benefits. She moved into slightly better housing but still wanted to improve her situation. She has always been motivated to "do more", an idea she wants to instill in her children as well. Again, with her FSW's support, she applied to Habitat for Humanity, went through their approval process and is now a proud homeowner.

With the support of Healthy Families, Stephanie moved out of Section 8 housing, got a new job with benefits, became a homeowner, and is motivated to live her best life and is confident she can do better for her family. She says, "It's important to believe in yourself and Healthy Families helps you believe in yourself."

ANOTHER LIFE CHANGED, THANKS TO YOU!

YOUR GIFT DOES SO MUCH



2018



Martha and Andrew

Martha knows the face and the personality and the story of each regular volunteer who delivers a hot meal to her house every workday. She describes them as angels on earth and the service they (and the Meals on Wheels program) provide has indescribably improved the quality of her life.

Martha began receiving Meals on Wheels with her husband three years ago, after a shoulder injury left her unable to cook and prepare meals. The variety and nutrition of the meals were a godsend for two seniors trying to eat healthy on a small budget. The meals are delicious and always arrive piping hot. Martha looks forward to them every day.

It's about more than nutrition, though. Martha's husband passed away two years ago and after that happened, she would sometimes go days without seeing another person besides her Meals on Wheels volunteer. Now Martha's daughter and grandson live with her. Her grandson, Andrew, is severely disabled and is also a recipient of Meals on Wheels. Both Martha and her daughter credit the regular meals and volunteers for keeping the family in their home, well-fed, and stable.

Martha sometimes struggles to get to the door, but the volunteers who come to her house are unfailingly patient and always inquire after her well-being. She describes one volunteer who won't leave without checking on her, even if someone else answers the door. She says "it's nice to know there are people in the world with compassion, who care about me."

ANOTHER LIFE CHANGED, THANKS TO YOU!