

Mother and Daughter Find a Better Future with the Help of HPRP

Positive Stories / Lessons Learned from HPRP: *Individual Success Story*

HPRP Grantee:	Corpus Christi TX
CoC Name and Number:	TX-501 – Corpus Christi/Nueces County CoC

Latest CoC Point-in-Time Count:

Total persons in ES:	378	Total persons in TH:	90
Total persons in Safe Haven:	0	Total unsheltered persons:	0
Total persons, sheltered and unsheltered:	468		

Carla* moved to Corpus Christi with high hopes for a fresh start. She had an infant daughter, an old car, and no work experience beyond her teenage years. She was leaving a physically abusive partner.

Carla's father offered her his spare bedroom, and for the first few weeks, their relationship seemed better than during her childhood. She spent most of her time at home with her baby and was intent on creating a safer, calmer environment than into which she was born. She was happy to take care of the housekeeping tasks her father left for her, although she knew she was growing isolated by staying in the apartment. He, on the other hand, slowly lost his hospitality, and began seeing her as lazy and unappreciative. Someone to be controlled. A target.

On her daughter's birthday, Carla realized that her father would never hit her, but his verbal abuse was going to be just as destructive. She left for the Rainbow House Shelter for women and children.

Metro Ministries staff at Rainbow House identified Carla as a potential HPRP rapid re-housing participant, and her case manager worked with her for three months before any HPRP financial assistance was provided. Much of their work focused on helping Carla appreciate her own skills, both as a mother and domestic violence survivor, and create strategies to increase her income. Carla identified her lack of education as a large barrier in her success, as it had led to a sparse job history and prompted her to financially rely on people even after recognizing the toxicity of a relationship.

Carla is now enrolled in a GED course at the local community college while concurrently working full-time in an administrative position. HPRP provided her with the security deposit she needed to move into a subsidized apartment, and connected her to furniture and food donations to make her apartment feel more like a home. One day soon, Carla hopes her daughter will begin creating memories of her proudly self-sufficient mother.

**Names have been changed for confidentiality.*

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