

UNITED WAY OF THE OHIO VALLEY

HANCOCK COUNTY

PARTNER AGENCY: HANCOCK COUNTY FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

There is a family that Family Resource Center has worked closely with for a number of years. Unfortunately, the beginning years were not so great. Mom was involved in drugs and at her lowest point lost custody of her children temporarily. The children moved back and forth between schools and the oldest went to stay with his biological father. The Family Resource Center offered support and assistance with basic needs, such as school supplies, food baskets and Christmas assistance. We made sure to continue communication during these dark times. Mom eventually got her children back but continued to struggle with her addiction. The Family Resource Center and Youth Services Center would make sure to keep their eyes on the children and talk with mom on the occasion they would see her. Three years ago, the mom made a bold decision to get clean from her addiction. The longer she remained clean, the more often she would stop by the FRC office just to chat. With each passing day, you could see her confidence grow. Last year, this family requested twin beds through the AmeriCorps Build-A-Bed program. Instead of waiting for the beds to be made and delivered, the mom and dad volunteered that day to help build their beds as well as other beds. One of our teachers has also given much support to this family by helping the mom with transportation, preparing meals, and bringing the family into her home for holidays. The mom was willing to share a small part of her story about how she works with her children on budgeting money and making good choices at a budgeting class offered by the Family Resource Center. Later that school year, she volunteered at our grandparent luncheon. After the luncheon, the Family Resource Center received a text message that summarized where her life was and where it is now. The text message read, "Praise the Lord! Today I volunteered for my first time! I spent over four hours at school! I loved every minute of it! Three years ago I would have been like, 'go to the school, oh no, I can't do that. I'm too high! Someone will know I'm high!' Now I can hold my head up high and go wherever and whenever I want!!! GOD is good!!" Most recently, this family has been able to get their credit score up and qualify to buy their first home. What a wonderful story of community surrounding a family!

WHAT DIFFERENCE WILL YOUR INVESTMENT MAKE?

With your investment of \$100 **Hancock County Family Resource Center** can:

- Be used in emergency situations such as utility bill cut off, homeless, or transient students
- Provide a child with and outfit of clothing, a coat or a pair of shoes, socks and underwear
- Help a family with food
- Filling a number of tanks of gas to get to work, needed doctors or dentist appointments for children
- Provide 10 kids a weekend backpack of food or could give them a summer camp experience
- Assist in filling food baskets to families during school breaks
- Assist with cost for children to see a play, visit a museum or have another educational activity

