



Union County Family Resource Case Story



Union County Family Resource is blessed to get to know many of the stories behind the families that we serve. During the summer, we offer students one free meal per day, an enrichment program in which we take them on a fun and often educational trip one time per week, and wrap up the summer with school supplies and clothing to successfully get them back to school.

Providing children with one meal a day can be the difference for that family having enough groceries to feed their family that week and the children going hungry for several meals. One family who attended the feeding program daily ensured that the relative caregiver was able provide the children in the home least one hot, nutritious meal per day. This caregiver expressed that she is often unsure of how she will be able to care for the needs of the children in her home due to the family's fixed income, but somehow she always seems to manage to give them everything they need and some of what they want. She receives no financial support for caring for these children but she and her husband took them in because she knew that they could offer them a loving and stable home despite the financial strain it placed on them. She said that knowing that the children have a safe place to lay their head at night and having someone who loves and supports them unconditionally is worth the stress. This relative caregiver is beyond thankful for the help that the Summer Feeding Program gave her because of the strain that feeding the growing children in her home three plus times per day places on her financially. She expressed that the children left their feeding site with full bellies and she left feeling relieved.

Another story comes from a mother with several children whose husband was laid off a couple of weeks before school was out. The family has several school aged children who come with big appetites. The summer feeding program helped her fill the bellies of her children and gave them a chance to get out of the house. She said that since the family's income was greatly reduced she and her husband were not able to take the children to do many of the activities that they had planned for the summer. She said that she had to get creative with keeping the children

entertained but she knew that for one hour every weekday they could have a hot meal and get to interact with friends outside of the home. She said that was almost as much help as feeding them!

How Dollars Help Our Clients



\$100

- purchase clothing for children when needed throughout the school year, or replace clothing lost in a fire, or provide a coat when weather turns cold
- purchase hygiene supplies for a children who arrive at school dirty
- purchase lice kits to treat a family
- pay for mileage to transport children to doctor to resolve sickness
- medication for students

\$500

- Extermination fees (bedbugs, roaches, fleas, etc.)
- Purchase furniture for family that needs new mattress or basic furniture
- Emergency housing for homeless (result of fire or other issues)
- Assistance with car repairs for parents who are working and could lose job without reliable transportation

\$1,000

- Transportation of high school student and her baby to school each day. High school student would drop out without the transportation provided.