



Birth & Beyond Program Success Story

Regina and her partner were a family referred to Birth & Beyond by Child Protective Services. According to Child Protective Services, Regina declined a urine test after giving birth to her baby, due to having a drug history and having admitted to using marijuana. The Child Protective Services Worker encouraged both parents to participate in Birth & Beyond services. Regina appeared reluctant at first to starting the program, but soon began participating and opened up with the Home Visitor. However, the partner was not interested, and thus, did not participate.



Regina, a mother of three children, shared that she had lost custody of her two oldest children. She was currently raising a 7-month old daughter. Regina was immediately connected to community resources and services at Birth & Beyond. A Home Visitor referred her to meet with a housing specialist to look for safe and affordable housing, after Regina disclosed that her home was infested with cockroaches and rats. She was able to utilize the housing lists she was given and soon found a larger home for her family. Regina also utilized the Crisis Nursery information that the Home Visitor provided and used their services when it was time to move. She used both North and South Crisis Nursery locations during that time. Regina also attended a Birth & Beyond Pediatric CPR/First Aid class held at the Firehouse Family Resource Center.

Regina additionally had a visit from a School Readiness Home Visitor, and appreciated all of the information on preparing her child for school. She shared that she would be using the information on Child Action when she is ready to go back to work.

Regina expressed that she is happy in her new place because it is safer and more spacious for her family. It is also affordable, and she no longer has a roommate. Regina also graduated from the Birth & Beyond program. She completed 16 sessions of the Nurturing Parenting Program and received her certificate. She shared she learned a lot about empathy, being a nurturing parent, and ages & stages of development. The Home Visitor was able to see how Regina utilized what was discussed and how she bonded with her baby. Regina would hold, play, and give lots of love and attention to her baby during these visits. Additionally, Regina wanted to continue to do the lessons she did not complete and continue to improve her parenting knowledge. Therefore, her Home Visitor made a new referral to the Birth & Beyond that was located near her new address in North Highlands to further provide her with more local support and resources. Regina's ability to improve her family's circumstances, combined with her desire to continue learning and growing as a parent, and to stay connected with Birth & Beyond services, demonstrated her family's success.