



SUCCESS STORIES

- We have a family who graduated from HFA in July 2020 after 5+ years with the program. She was lucky enough to have the same home visitor the entire time. Mom dealt with substance use, housing issues, and CPS. Mom went through a tough custody battle with the children's father and is still dealing with issues involving this. The Home Visitor was one of the only people mom felt was on her side supporting her through it all. Mom has stable housing and will be three years sober in October 2020. Mom is comfortable advocating for herself and was asked to be a part of the Community Cafe Parent Leadership.
- A teen mom was very difficult to get excited or involved in activities with her baby. During a curriculum activity one day, she got really excited about seeing her baby do new things, and made the connection on how babies' brains grow and develop based on how she interacts with him! "It was a win not only for baby but mom as well!"
- We received a referral from the hospital for a family of newborn baby girl. The mother was having difficulty bonding and had a history of drug abuse; she had previous children removed from her home and Children & Family Services were concerned about her ability to parent this newborn. The father of the baby had had trouble in his past, but was now clean and sober and wanted very much to raise this child. Shortly after birth, mom abandoned the family and left the area leaving our client as a single dad raising an infant daughter. Over the last 18 months, Dad has maintained home visits and attended group events. Learning about his child and her needs and applying what he learns in his daily life. He has grown into a confident parent and role model for other young fathers in the program as well as now sits on our Advisory Board as a parent representative. Dad has an older son from a previous relationship and is now using his HFA training and resources to regain custody of this child--something he would never have pursued if he had not had the chance to learn and grow with HFA.
- We are working with a mom who moved to (a nearby city) with her immediate family. She reported feeling very isolated as she doesn't have friends or family in the US. Her last CESD indicated signs of depression. We were able to get her connected with a Spanish therapist through NECC and she has been consistent with her therapy at CSI. This month she is excited that her and her husband will be starting English classes at the Latino center of the Midlands and recently shared that she also registered for GED classes. Mom shared that the notebooks and bilingual books we provided made her feel like she is ready to begin her classes. Mom stated she know she has our support!
- A Guatemalan family that does not speak English (FYI: Guatemalan families don't speak Spanish either because of the regional dialects) were having a lot of trouble remembering appointments. The home visitor provided them a large desk calendar and drew pictures on the dates (teeth for a dental appointment, a person with a pregnant belly for prenatal appointments) to help. Coming home one day, the father noticed the calendar with the picture and got them to the prenatal appointment on time! He was so PROUD to tell his caseworker that he had done it!



- I had one of my own clients refer a family to us. She said that this family came to her asking for help with parenting and that she knew she got services through us. My client said that she told her that we are an awesome program and that she enjoys our services!
- Both of my families (home visitor) are mothers of young babies, so they really enjoyed our Easter parent/child activity. It was a fun way for the moms to do something with their babies and have a keepsake.
- Prenatal family that has transportation barriers was able to attend Car Seat Safety Check Event. They received education and a new car seat for baby!
- We had a mother graduate from the program this month. She remained in the program despite the loss of her son, who was our target child. The FSW continued to support mom for several months after the death of her child. This mom is currently involved in group therapy, individual counseling and meeting her work goals. She has loved HFA services!
- A Healthy Families client spent the last year working with DHHS to get her kids back home after they were placed in foster care. The kids were reunited full-time with her on (date) 2021. This Mom stated she was very grateful for the support she received from HFA during her journey. She has restarted regularly scheduled Health Families home visits and continues to improve her relationship with her children.
- A first-time mother has a 9 month old. When the home visitor first started visits, the child was propped up on pillows & could not sit up on his own, grab things, or do most of what was developmentally appropriate for his age. After 3.5-4 months of visits where the home visitor and mother worked on developmentally appropriate activities; baby is crawling, grabbing, pulling himself up on furniture an close to walking! The most recent developmental screen was near normal.
- One home visitor reported that over the past year, she's had 7 child welfare-referred families. 6 have had their cases with DCFS closed, and all 7 of them have chosen to stay engaged with the program!
- We have a teenage mom who recently dropped out of high school due to her fears of COVID-19. The mom had recently lost a friend to COVID-19 and discussed this with her Home Visitor. The visitor was able to listen to her concern and talk about ways to stay healthy including vaccination. The mom is now vaccinated and has been in contact with the school to return and get her high school diploma.
- Client started off living at the City Mission with her baby. Mom had 15 previous children that were removed in another state and was desperate to parent this baby. Baby has a genetic syndrome and is blind, deaf, has a cleft palate, and is developmentally delayed. HV got the family involved with EDN and closely followed up with his doctor regarding his medical issues. Mom cannot read, so HV made daily photo checklists to instruct her how to provide medical care, medications, and feedings appropriately. She organized transportation to medical



procedures in Omaha. She also worked to get them housing and the mom and baby are now living in an apartment and baby is making progress with his development.

- A Mom enrolled in Healthy Families as part of the child welfare protocol. When she completed the CES-D at intake, the Advocate believed Mom just marked answers without really reading the questions. After Mom had been enrolled for 3 months, the CES-D was administered again. At this time, Advocate could tell Mom was taking her time reading the questions before answering them. The advocate believes this is because Mom was gaining trust in the Advocate and the program and believes Healthy Families is helping her family.