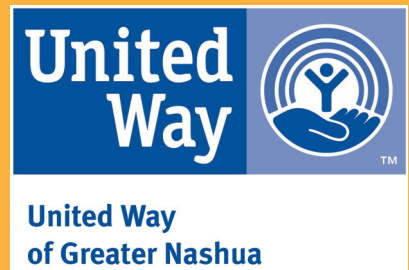


Success Story: Transitional Housing Helps Mom, Kids Get Back on Their Feet



“Different circumstances bring individual families into transitional housing programs,” says Cynde, a mother of two teenagers and former resident of Nashua Pastoral Care Center’s Norwell Home - Phase II program. “A divorce and lack of consistent child support payments caused us to be unable to survive financially in our own home. I went from homeowner to homeless in a very short period of time. “

Working with her case manager, Cynde learned how to cope with financial difficulties and to take things one step at a time. “She helped me break down my situation into workable parts, and gave me guidance to help me make the decisions necessary to move forward.

“As much as this program did for me, it did much more for my children,” Cynde continues. They were able to celebrate the holidays in their own apartment and not in a shelter. They helped me make Thanksgiving dinner with the food basket that was donated to us by this program. They had an amazing Christmas. They were able to open

gifts under our tree that I could not have ever been able to give them. They were able to come home every night to their own room, eat dinner at their own table and not have to worry about where their next meal was coming from. My children were given hope. Hope that we would get back on our feet and start to live a good life again. We have done that.”

Having previously graduated from another area transitional housing program, Cynde and her children stayed in the Norwell Phase II program for just four months before moving to Pennsylvania where she found a decent paying job in her field of study. While brief, the transition at Norwell was just what she needed to move on with her life.

“I was able to go to bed at night and know that my children were safe. We had food, shelter and clean clothing, and I built a support system,” Cynde recalls. “It was very hard to reach out to this program for the help I needed, but I will forever be thankful that I did.”



Some residents of the Nashua Pastoral Care Center’s Norwell House transitional housing program pose for a group photo.