



NEICAC | FaDSS PROGRAM SUCCESS STORY SARAH'S STORY...

Sarah enrolled in NEICAC's FaDSS Program in February 2019. When Sarah enrolled, she was in a single parent household with her three children. Sarah self-referred herself to the program, as she had participated twice before in years past. Sarah had recently moved back to Iowa after spending time in Washington State in a Mormon Community and then in Seattle. Sarah left Seattle when her neighborhood was becoming volatile, with rioting in the streets.

Throughout Sarah's time in FaDSS she worked with her Specialists in areas of employment and work preparedness, financial literacy, life skills, parenting, and health. Sarah struggled finding employment due to childcare barriers. Her only income was through the Family Investment Program and her son's Supplemental Security Income.

Sarah saw opportunity in the lack of childcare options for her children and decided to open an in-home childcare of her own. She set many goals surrounding making this dream a reality. She passed her final childcare inspection and started her business in April 2020.



Sarah transitioned to NEICAC's 2 Generation Pilot Program in March 2020 in the midst of a global pandemic. Sarah was no longer receiving FIP and was providing childcare in her home. Sarah became a registered childcare provider and enjoyed what she did.

Sarah entered into a healthy relationship and got engaged. She set goals and would crush each goal that she set for herself and her family. Sarah transitioned from renting to owning her home. She set goals around the work she put into her house, as her home was a fixer upper. This was a huge milestone for Sarah and she was able to achieve it through hard work.

In the Winter of 2022, Sarah set her sights on another business endeavor. She decided to open a store in Oelwein that sells used and new items. She began buying up wholesale items and flipping them as well as taking donations of used, good condition items. Sarah made the decision for her business to fundraise and give back to local charities in need.

In April 2022, as Sarah's time in FaDSS came to an end, her journey through life was just beginning. Sarah exited FaDSS in a two-parent household, with her fiancé and their blended family. Both of her businesses were thriving. Sarah was working hard to make a difference in her community.



Scan the QR code to watch Sarah's success story and hear Sarah's story in her own words!



MISSION STATEMENT

Through dynamic partnerships, quality family services, advocacy, and education, NEICAC advances community development and improves social and economic conditions for individuals and families with limited resources.

VISION STATEMENT

Create inclusive communities with equitable access to resources and opportunities where all individuals and families thrive.