



# STORIES of SUCCESS

Northeast Iowa Community Action (NEICAC)

## CHYANNE HAS OBTAINED HER MASTER'S DEGREE & HAS BEEN CALLED TO BE A PASTOR AT A CHURCH IN GREENE...

Chyanne referred herself to the Family Development & Self-Sufficiency (FaDSS) program, enrolling in August 2020. At enrollment, she was a single mom raising two boys, 8-year-old Axel and 5-year-old Izik. Chyanne had been through a lot, as she had recently left an unhealthy relationship, which ended in a divorce and filing for bankruptcy. On top of this, Chyanne was working on staying sober, as she suffered from a substance use disorder. Her children's father also struggled with the use of illegal substances, which resulted in him being in and out of prison over the years and involvement with the Department of Health and Human Services, which Chyanne had to participate in.

Chyanne turned to her faith when starting over. This led her to a dream of becoming a Pastor, and she enrolled in classes at Wartburg College. Chyanne's source of income at this time was FIP benefits and part-time wages. When Chyanne sought out FaDSS, she was looking for additional resources she could lean on during this challenging time.

Chyanne and the boys later experienced the loss of the children's father's home due to an unexpected fire. After this, Chyanne sought additional support through therapy and counseling for herself and her children. They began the process of rebuilding their family, acknowledging past fractures while working toward a more stable and supportive future.

Through everything, Chyanne has been able to stay strong and keep herself on track as she has been in recovery and free from using substances for several years. Although things have been going well, there have been obstacles to overcome along the way. While working with FaDSS, Chyanne set goals in the areas of support networks, adult education, housing, child development, health, and mental health. Chyanne has accessed programs such as the Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund, LIHEAP, the Family Self-Sufficiency Grant, and Embrace Iowa. She has also had referrals to clothing closets and Christmas gift programs. Chyanne has reached self-sufficiency, obtained her Master's Degree, and is no longer a participant in the FaDSS program.

Learn more about how NEICAC provides the support and resources to improve the stability and quality of life for individuals & families with limited resources.



[www.neicac.org](http://www.neicac.org)



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