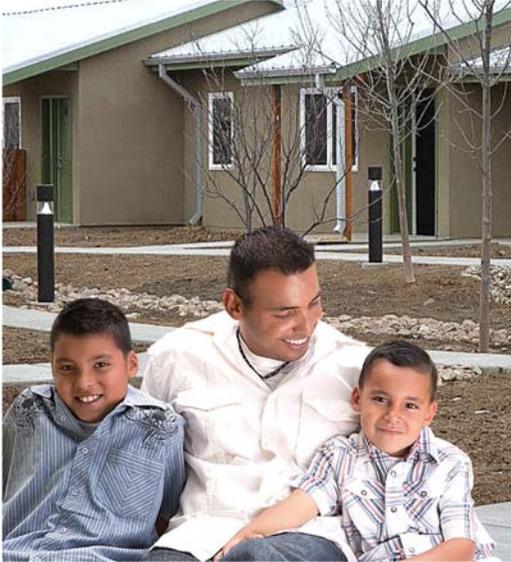


This Family's Homelessness Has Ended for Good!



We don't always realize the struggles that our families have to overcome in order to get successfully and permanently housed. One of our participants, Eddie, has had to overcome a complicated divorce, a custody battle, substance use issues, transportation, and child care to finally get to a place of stability for himself and his family.

In the spring of 2017, Eddie found himself homeless and without any resources when his ex-wife left with all their property including their mobile home. Eddie soon learned that his ex-wife had not hooked up electricity or water to the mobile home and his five children had been living in these conditions for over a year. In treatment, unemployed, and living with friends, he did not have the resources to provide support for the children or to come up with the filing fees required for seeking custody.

Not one to give up easily, Eddie started hitchhiking to parenting classes. With the encouragement of the social worker and his friends he finally decided to seek custody of the children and was awarded full custody within a few

months. The social worker at his parenting class referred them to SHC's Permanent Supportive Housing program at Chuska Apartments in Gallup. The program provides housing and supportive services for families that have experienced chronic homelessness. They qualified for housing at Chuska and have been stably housed in a three-bedroom apartment since fall of 2018.

Today, Eddie is sober and continues to attend counseling to address his behavioral health issues and the impact they had on his children. He advocates for his children in the school system and has tackled many of their health needs, which had been neglected under his ex-wife's care. The children are happy to be with their father and they are all doing very well in school. One of his sons earned scholar awards for his 4.0 GPA and his youngest son was awarded a Presidential award for his academic achievements. The family is doing very well and they have a structured home with roles and responsibilities for everyone. The children attend after-school programming to keep their grades up and to build character. They also participated in summer camps last year where his eldest daughter was trained as a peer counselor. Eddie was accepted to the UNM-Gallup Branch, but has held off due to transportation needs and child care. He reports that he always keeps this goal close by.

Welcome Home Fundraiser Goes Virtual

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

We had an amazing response to our very first online Welcome Home Fundraiser & Silent Auction June 22-26. While we missed everyone at our annual event, we appreciate everyone who helped make this "Stay At Home" effort a success. Whether you were a sponsor, a donor, or a silent auction winner, you made it possible for us to welcome people home.

Missed us that week? You can still see all the videos and make your [donation](#) or [pledge](#). Visit www.shcnm.org/welcomehome



Every Day Heroes



Here at SHC we work every day towards ending homelessness for good. We are proud that we have built a solid team of individuals that believe in providing New Mexicans with permanent and supportive housing. In this line of work, everyday is different. Our participants have different needs and we are happy to assist them on their journey to housing. It is incredible to see how having a safe and secure home allows freedom to our participants. They no longer have to worry about where they are going to stay, they can focus on employment, family, and their health.

While every team member gives 110% every day, today we are putting the spotlight on **Carly Miller, Housing & Services Coordinator**. We received a referral from the Westside Shelter for a family that really needed to get housed. The family had qualified for a rental assistance voucher but unfortunately, because of some previous evictions, they

were denied housing at over a dozen different place, even though they had paid off all their eviction debts. Carly had to come up with a creative solution to ending this family's homelessness. She reached out to one of our partner landlords who had a house he was planning to sell. She explained the family's situation, that they had been in shelter for five months and may end up losing their voucher if they didn't find a place to live. The landlord said, "Well, let me meet them." So, Carly came in on her holiday off to facilitate the meeting. The kids were so excited and the family was so nice, he couldn't say no.

Carly gets teared up whenever she talks about this family because they are so positive. "I check in with them to see how they are doing. It's such a joy to work with them." The eldest daughter says she is excited to celebrate her birthday – they couldn't do that in the shelter. They couldn't have celebrations or open their Christmas gifts so they had all their family's gifts in storage with family members until they found a place to live. Now the family is busy getting settled, reconnecting with family and friends. The Mom says that now that they have a stable place to live, "I can be totally focused on getting my kid's health back, work on their trauma, take time to be happy and celebrate birthdays and accomplishments. Our family is united. I can feel this tension I've been feeling in my body get released."

For Carly, working at SHC is all about the mission. "Our mission is making a difference, we can't give up. For our clients and people who need it, it's really important." Because of her efforts and dedication to her position, Carly has been helping her new participants settle into their new home. Thank you, Carly, for believing in our mission. We are proud to have you with us at SHC!

www.shcnm.org/donate

Grant News!

SHC has had amazing community support this year. As you know, as an essential organization, we have had to re-imagine how to meet our mission while keeping our participants and our staff safe. With the support of our donors and the business and foundation community, we have been able to continue our work to end homelessness for good by providing affordable and permanent supportive housing. SHC thanks these 2020 corporations and foundations for your grant support so far this year:

