

United Way of York County funds 74 programs through 37 Partner Agencies. Here is one way your dollars improve the lives of individuals and families in York County.

FOCUS AREA: HEALTH

NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

FAMILY FIRST HEALTH

If you are a parent, **think back to the emotions you felt when you first learned you were going to have a baby.**

Excited... Fearful... Overwhelmed... Were you planning on having a child at that particular time? Was there a partner or other family members to support you? Did you worry about financially supporting a child? Did you have a roof over your head? A job? An education?

While you are considering all these emotions and factors, let me tell you about Sara.

When we met Sara, she was 18 and had just found out she was expecting a baby. She had not completed high school, her mother was not involved in her life, and she had very little support from her family. The father of the baby was involved, but also had limited resources, and had not completed school past the 10th grade.

Enter the Nurse-Family Partnership program at Family First Health, which pairs home visits from a registered nurse with first-time mothers.

As the couple built a relationship with their nurse, they began to talk about goals for the first time in their lives. Their nurse worked with them to break down these goals into small, achievable steps. Over the course of the program, Sara was able to obtain her diploma and her driver's license, purchase a car, and find a stable home for her new family to live in.

Sara and her boyfriend were so excited to show their nurse their home and immediately asked her to look it over for any potential safety risks. They knew exactly what to look for and expressed over and over how important it was for their daughter, Bella, to have a safe place to live. Their nurse shared that even with a limited education, she consistently observed the father reading to Bella and reinforcing that he wanted more for her than he had been able to achieve. They also absorbed so much information on parenting and discipline!

Bella is now a happy, thriving, intelligent toddler who brings joy to the whole family. The nurse often comments about how advanced Bella's language is and her exceptional manners. Sara recently celebrated her graduation from the Nurse-Family Partnership program, and we look forward to seeing how much they can accomplish in the future.

This is just one example of the efforts here in York County that are building a strong foundation for our community. When you support the United Way of York County Community Fund, your gift impacts ALL 37 partner agencies who are working to improve the lives not only of individuals like Sara, but the lives throughout York County.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

