

Please enjoy these short snips that describe success stories in the N-MIECHV network. All are real, true, and demonstrate the “story” of home visiting. Some successes are big, some are small, some given from the perspective of the client, some from the home visitor but ALL are noteworthy. Identifying information has been removed.

- **HV: Home Visitor**
 - **HFA: Healthy Families America model of evidence-based home visiting**
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- One Home Visitor has a client that was living at the city mission with her baby. Mom had several previous children that were removed in another state and was desperate to parent this baby. Baby has a genetic syndrome and [has significant physical and developmental delays]. Home Visitor got the baby involved with Early Development Network and closely followed up with his doctor regarding his medical issues. Mom cannot read, so Home Visitor made daily photo checklists to instruct her how to provide medical care, medications, and feedings appropriately. Home Visitor organized transportation to medical procedures in [nearest town with those resources], and also worked to get them housing and the mom and baby are now living in an apartment and baby is making progress with his development.
 - At the beginning of January, one of our moms was considering leaving the program. The worker suggested meeting the next week to discuss it further. The following week, Mom confessed that she had been through a traumatic event with her ex, and she was scared to tell the HV so that is why she said she said she wanted to quit. He had come to the apartment over the holidays and refused to leave. He took mom's phone and wouldn't let her or her child leave. He never harmed them physically but was dealing with his own mental health issues. Mom got a protection order and assistance from the police. The HV was able to hold the space for Mom, allowing her to tell her story and express her feelings. The HV checked in with Mom to hold her accountable for therapy which she is attending consistently. Mom stated she feels motivated to get out and take care of things after meeting with HV. In December Mom had purchased a car. In January, Mom got a job and is getting out of the apartment more. Mom enrolled her child in a daycare at the end of the month. [Home visiting program] will be providing a backup pre-paid phone for Mom as her ex is having court and she wants to be prepared and feel safe. The support the HV showed Mom has made their relationship stronger and Mom is determined to do what she needs to for her and her child.
 - I was able to find a new furniture resource in [town] for a family. I had a pregnant mom and 2½ year-old co-sleeping on a couch. The [resource] was able to provide a full-size bed for mom, a twin size bed for the 2 year old, and a crib for the unborn baby. While we were there, they also threw in diapers for the new baby, bedding for the twin bed, and handmade quilts for both Mom and [2 year old]. Leaving there, my heart was so FULL!
 - I had a newly enrolled expecting mother text me right after I left their house and tell me "I appreciate you so much! Thank you for everything you have done and will continue to do!".
 - I have a young, teen parent that I am working with and now the father is starting to consistently participate in home visits, even though they do not live together or have a personal relationship. It is really nice to see these two young parents work together and try to parent in a way that is best for their son.
 - Lots of the families are taking part in the summer reading program. They are enjoying the program and some of them are learning to read to their child. It is a great experience for all

the families that are taking part. So far, the families (and that includes all their children) that are taking part have read more than 700 books.

- HV assisted P2 (*prenatal, 3rd trimester*) Mom to advocate for her health care needs when she was experiencing dizziness and multiple vision concerns. HV connected Mom to RN (*nurse*) the same day, Mom was assessed, received education about Warning S/S (*signs and symptoms*) and RN scheduled Mom to see Ophthalmologist the following day. Mom was happy to see the RN, she was very worried about herself/health and unborn baby. HV role modeled for Mom how to advocate for her health needs and unborn baby.
- Mom wants her children to have a "better life growing up" Mom has traumatic childhood history. Mom's strengths are learning about child development, keeping her children safe and having a healthy lifestyle. She is on her second Parenting class, enrolled in an 8 week reading program at [local school], walks to her kids to and from school (pushes [baby] in stroller), signed up for a scholarship membership for her family. Her favorite GGK (*Growing Great Kids curriculum*) activity is E-Parenting and likes to discuss "Feelings/Reading [baby's] Cues" with HV.
- Client had second-to-last home visit last week. She shared with HV how proud she is of herself that she has learned to navigate community resources independently and she no longer feels she must rely on HV.
- We have a family who graduated from Healthy Families America in July 2020 after 5+ years with the program. She was lucky enough to have the same home visitor the entire time. Mom dealt with substance use, housing issues, and CPS. Mom went through a tough custody battle with the children's father and is still dealing with issues involving this. The HV was one of the only people Mom felt was on her side supporting her through it all. Mom has stable housing and will be three years sober in October 2020. Mom is comfortable advocating for herself and was asked to be a part of the Community Cafe Parent Leadership.
- A Healthy Families client spent the last year working with DHHS to get her kids back home after they were placed in foster care. The kids were reunited full-time with her on [date]. This Mom stated she was very grateful for the support she received from HFA during her journey. She has restarted regularly scheduled Health Families home visits and continues to improve her relationship with her children.
- A first-time mother has a 9 month old. When the home visitor first started visits, the child was propped up on pillows & could not sit up on his own, grab things, or do most of what was developmentally appropriate for his age. After 3.5-4 months of visits where the home visitor and mother worked on developmentally appropriate activities; baby is crawling, grabbing, pulling himself up on furniture and is close to walking! The most recent developmental screen was near normal.
- A teen mom was very difficult to get excited or involved in activities with her baby. During a curriculum activity one day, she got really excited about seeing her baby do new things and made the connection on how babies' brains grow and develop based on how she interacts with him! It was a win not only for baby but mom as well!
- A Guatemalan family that does not speak English (*FYI: Guatemalan families don't speak Spanish either because of the regional dialects*) were having a lot of trouble remembering appointments. The home visitor provided them a large desk calendar and drew pictures on

the dates (teeth for a dental appointment, a person with a pregnant belly for prenatal appointments) to help. Coming home one day, the father noticed the calendar with the picture and got them to the prenatal appointment on time! He was so PROUD to tell his caseworker that he had done it!

- We received a referral from the hospital for a family of newborn baby. The mother was having difficulty bonding and had a history of drug abuse; she had previous children removed from her home and Children & Family Services were concerned about her ability to parent this newborn. The father of the baby had had trouble in his past but was now clean and sober and wanted very much to raise this child. Shortly after birth, mom abandoned the family and left the area leaving our client as a single dad raising an infant daughter. Over the last 18 months, Dad has maintained home visits and attended group events. Learning about his child and her needs and applying what he learns in his daily life. He has grown into a confident parent and role model for other young fathers in the program as well as now sits on our Advisory Board as a parent representative. Dad has an older son from a previous relationship and is now using his HFA training and resources to regain custody of this child-- something he would never have pursued if he had not had the chance to learn and grow with HFA.
- One home visitor reported that over the past year, she's had 7 child welfare-referred families. 6 have had their cases with CPS closed, and all 7 of them have chosen to stay engaged with the program!
- We have a teenage mom who recently dropped out of high school due to her fears of COVID-19. The mom had recently lost a friend to COVID-19 and discussed this with her Home Visitor. The visitor was able to listen to her concern and talk about ways to stay healthy including vaccination. The mom is now vaccinated and has been in contact with the school to return and get her high school diploma.
- A Mom enrolled in Healthy Families as part of the child welfare protocol. When she completed the CES-D (*depression screen*) at intake, the Home Visitor believed Mom just marked answers without really reading the questions. After Mom had been enrolled for 3 months, the CES-D was administered again. At this time, HV could tell Mom was taking her time reading the questions before answering them. The advocate believes this is because Mom was gaining trust in the HV and the program and believes Healthy Families is helping her family.
- We are working with a mom who has been struggling with routines for her baby. Through conversation with Mom, HV discovered Mom's preferred learning style is to do hands on activities. HV used this information to communicate more effectively with Mom. After a lot of talking about it and encouragement, baby is now sleeping in his bassinet rather than co-sleeping! Mom has also created a schedule for baby's basic care, so she won't forget things like bathing and nail clipping. Mom and her HV talked about ways to know baby has a wet diaper such as feeling that it's a bit heavier, squishy rather than crunchy, and if the line is blue instead of yellow on the diaper. This helps Mom know when to change it more often due to baby previously developing a severe rash. Mom and HV practiced making rice cereal after Mom was told by her mother that babies eat white grain rice. Mom and HV also practiced and discussed ways to get baby used to eating from a spoon. Mom is now doing tummy time 3 to 4 times a week (there used to be no tummy at all) and is beginning to read with baby as well every other day after four months of very little PCI (*parent-child interactions*) outside of visits.

These may seem like small things you would automatically do, however for this mom, these achievements and measures are HUGE. And to top it all off, the relationship between HV and Mom has grown stronger with more trust and welcoming feedback both ways. Visits are much more positive and enjoyable for everyone compared to the beginning when HV felt a lot of resistance from Mom with various topics. Now, Mom excitedly shares her latest accomplishments with baby and is implementing the practices talked about in visits into her daily routines.

- I have been working with a CWP (*child welfare-involved*) family whose kids were in [foster] placement for the last couple of months, during this time I have seen positive changes to get her kids back, when I told her how proud I am she replied, "because you are teaching me, and you have not left me."
- One of our teenage mothers who is a sophomore in high school needed to shadow a job she had interest in. This mom chose to spend the day at the HFA office. It is exciting to see that this young mother is continuing school despite being a teen mother and showing interest in setting future employment/education goals.
- The Mom of a 2½ year-old has started using e-parenting more consistently resulting in her son displaying fewer aggressive behaviors.
- A family was in an emergency situation needing food, school supplies, and clothing- thanks to the fast reaction and help of my co-workers we were able to provide assistance for family. They are very thankful to be part of Healthy Families.
- A family was approved for Child Care help and was beyond thankful for me to help her fill out that application.
- We are working with a mom who has made huge progress in her goals during the last month. She was hired as a direct support specialist and will be working as a care giver to adults with developmental disabilities. She is currently working with the company to be trained and will be receiving a Registered Behavioral Technician certification. She has enrolled her children in childcare so that she can work outside of the home, which is something she has wanted to do for a long time. She also went to a psychiatrist appointment last Thursday. She has struggled with finding the right kind of mental health support for a long time. She now feels that she will be able to fully engage in work and family life as she continues to participate in mental health services.
- We are working with a mom who has been through many challenging situations. During each situation the HV has been a sounding board for mom as she figured out how to advocate for herself and her children. Mom went through a divorce and had sole custody of the children. She struggled to get child support. She went from being a stay-at-home mom to the sole provider. The father rarely saw the children until recently when he filed for full custody. He was eventually granted 50/50 custody. This is brand new but so far the parents and children seem to be adjusting well. Mom began a new relationship and eventually moved in with her boyfriend as they joined their families of five children total. Mom and her boyfriend have had several recent contacts with CPS. CPS decided not to move forward on any of the allegations. However they are being charged criminally for leaving one older child home to watch a younger child while they ran to the store. They started attending additional parenting classes and have been given the opportunity to finish the class and be put on

diversion leaving no charges on their record. This is very important to mom as she has never been involved with CPS and has always prided herself as being a good mother. The family was also subletting a house and recently found out they have to move. Both Mom and her boyfriend have evictions on their records making it difficult to find housing. Mom worked diligently and found housing for their whole family to stay together. They move into their new home in two weeks.

- We are working with a mom who was referred to us while at the [women's shelter] in [town]. At the time, she was unemployed and homeless with no transportation. Mom completed the Mobility mentoring Bridge tool with her HV to help identify where she was at and where she wanted to be. Once Mom set her mind to it, she completed her employment goal within a week of creating it. Within 3 months of involvement with HFA, Mom has moved into an apartment and is working. With the help of her HV, Mom completed enrollment paperwork for her older child to attend Kindergarten in the fall. Mom continues to meet regularly with her HV. Mom's enrolled child will be a year (*old*) next month.
- A mom that I work with gained new employment during the month of September. Her husband had an injury, which led to this, but she is excited and looking forward to getting out of the home and working. She has been a stay-at-home mom for fifteen years. Seeing her excited about this has brought me joy for sure.
- A few successes across the HFA families: Mom and partner got married, a few families got jobs and raises at work, a Mom who was previously enrolled in HFA who had a miscarriage is pregnant again and reached back out to the program, and a HFA family who has been hoping to have another baby learned she is pregnant!
- Mom enrolled in HFA program prenatally (*and*) gave birth to healthy baby. Mom has been actively engaged in HV. Mom was co-sleeping with her new baby and HV provided pack n' play for Mom. HV completed Safe sleep education, environmental checklist and curriculum to teach Mom about safe sleep and prevention of SIDS. HV made a referral to lactation services to assist Mom with her concerns regarding breastfeeding. Mom reported to HV that she is moving to [another state] to live with family for support. Prior to moving, Mom was putting her baby in a separate sleeping environment (pack n' play) and successfully breastfeeding her baby. Mom wanted to continue HFA program; HV connected Mom with HFA in her area, and she is currently in the process of transferring.
- HV able to secure [resource] enrichment funds for a client in crisis.
- Teen Mom has enrolled full-time in an online school program and is set to graduate high school early!
- We are working with a mom who graduated from the [resource] for her English classes. She has been in the U.S. under 5 years and was one of the best students. She was nominated to make a "how to" video about how to setup an email account through Google/g-mail. She was also asked to make the graduation speech but declined due to being nervous.
- We are working with a mom who has struggled with substance use. She has had CPS in and out of her life. She has dealt with the grief of being separated from her children. Mom's middle child was born with a chromosomal abnormality, and she fought an uphill battle of medical needs while learning to advocate for her child. Mom has had many starts and stops

while working towards self-sufficiency. In [month, year], Mom completed her Certification in Gerontology and is now planning to get her CNA and then begin working full-time. Through everything, Mom remained consistent in her participation in the HFA program and continues to work hard toward reaching her goals.

- We are working with a mom who was referred to us by child welfare and voluntarily enrolled in our HFA program in January 2021. She had challenges engaging with her HV due to Dad communicating on her behalf and having limited technological resources. The family moved to creative outreach level within a couple months of starting services and closed in July 2021. However, a DV incident shortly after, brought Mom back to HFA. She let her DHHS Children & Family Services case manager know she felt comfortable with her HV and reengaged on her own with baby. Mom continues to work through housing, mental health concerns, and treatment recovery all while staying at a shelter. Most recently, we have been able to highlight her success with her by sharing her Healthy Families Parenting Inventory results.
- We are working with a mom who started with us in 2022. In a short six months, she has accomplished a lot! Mom moved into her own apartment with her child while attending night classes for high school. Along with attending night classes, Mom started working in April. She maintained her employment which provided Mom the opportunity to get a vehicle for transportation including insurance and license plates. Mom graduated from High School in July and (by) August, Mom accepted a work at home position. Mom has a 75% completion rate of home visits. She completed two of her family goal plans, one being a Tier 3 (long term) goal of child development. Mom successfully transitioned her child from exclusively breast feeding to adding baby food/table food such as fruit and veggies. From the first meeting, HV and Mom built a great relationship through rapport building and trust. Mom has had a positive attitude and learned a lot about parent child interaction. Mom participates in the Raising a Reader book exchange program and absolutely loves the GGK Next Generation activities. Mom has been a joy to partner with.
- A teen mom is back to school after maternity leave and was scared to leave baby. HV used normalizing (*HFA reflective strategy*) to help Mom feel better about the situation. Daycare sends her pictures and tells her how spoiled her baby is at their daycare. Mom feels much better leaving her now.
- We are working with a mom who suffered from postpartum depression. She worked with her doctor and found medication that works for her. The HV and Mom are utilizing Mothers and Babies (*curriculum for mothers experiencing depression*) as well. Mom got a job and started [date]. This is her return to the workforce after giving birth 7 months ago. Mom reports being very happy to be working. Mom and Dad found an in-home childcare center with someone they know and trust. They've come up with a routine of work and home life that works well for all of them.
- We are working with a mom who recently received her car through Chariots for Hope. She was persistent and responsible about getting things turned in, setting up necessary meetings, and building a relationship with the organization. After waiting 6 months, she was surprised [date] 2022 with her first car! This mom began the HFA program with her 10-month-old son in September of 2021. Baby is now a walking, babbling, curious, intelligent 16-month-old! Mom was referred by DHHS with an open CPS case. She worked hard at her sobriety and building a healthy and positive support network. Mom met her HV every week (never missing a visit) and worked to build her skills as a parent to support her son's

development. By the end of November 2021, her [CPS] case worker decided to close her case. After her CPS case closed, the father's parents filed for full custody of the baby, claiming that Mom was unfit to care for her son. Mom and her HV worked hard at obtaining legal representation to prove her amazing parenting skills and why her son belonged in her custody. Mom fought hard in court for her son and was rewarded by retaining custody. She has maintained her sobriety through support from her NA (*Narcotics Anonymous*) group and her sponsor. She completed schooling for her CNA license and passed her exams with flying colors. She is working hard as a CNA caring for Alzheimer's and dementia patients. She is saving money each month to achieve her next goal of getting her own apartment for herself and her son. When given the opportunity to graduate to level 2 in HFA, Mom said no thank you and asked to continue meeting with her HV weekly due to the support she receives from HFA. Her car awarding ceremony was a huge step in her journey to independence but is certainly not the last!

- We are working with a mom who has been a participant in HFA for 3 1/2 years. She has worked with the same HV the entire time and they have built a relationship of trust and respect. Throughout their time together, Mom has struggled with homelessness, substance use disorder and the loss of a loved one. Mom's resiliency and love for her children has helped her to get through these crises and traumatic events. Mom has always been open to accessing the help of resources and has been very receptive of the curriculum. When the HV began working with Mom, she said that her dream was to start her own business. Mom has taken several business classes and has worked extremely hard to make her dream a reality. Over the last year her business has prospered tremendously. During the past 5 months, Mom has been able to completely abstain from alcohol use with the help of her doctor and support networks that she has created. Ending her alcohol use was a goal that Mom identified using our Mobility Mentoring tools. She had requested a gift card to Lowe's for her recognition item, after maintaining sobriety for 90 days. With this gift card she was able to buy a tent that she can use for craft shows. Mom told me that making her jewelry is a form of therapy as well as income for herself and her 2 young children. She shared that during a craft show in June 2022, she was asked to come to an organization and teach beadwork to others. Mom told her HV that she is very grateful for the HFA program and her HV's continuous support during her journey. It has been an honor for her HV to witness her successes and walk with her through her challenges. Due to her hard work, determination, and talent, along with support of HFA and other community resources, Mom has been able to follow her dreams and accomplish huge goals. She is truly an inspiration.
- We are working with a mom who received an eviction notice due to having her apartment raise the fees on the entire apartment complex for the year and the mom was not prepared due to her ADC (*Aid for Dependent Children*) getting canceled and her social security not coming into her bank account on time. She received this notice on the 14th and was told she needed to be out by the 20th if it was not paid. Mom and HV worked together to call several places including 211, DHHS emergency assistance, [resource] and some of mom's acquaintances like her pastor for help. Mom ended up getting aid from [resource/program]. DHHS was able to help Mom get her ADC back by the 20th so she did not have to leave her apartment. Through community support and the help of her HV, Mom was able to access the help she needed to maintain stable housing.
- A mom was assisted with the completion of a renewal application for SNAP (*Supplemental Nutrition Program or food program benefits*). The same mom was provided with information (*on how*) to contact the local Unemployment office. She contacted the office and completed the application (*on her own*).

- A mom of a 4 month old daughter talked about her daughter getting fussy within an hour of eating. I explained to her that it is possible that she is having tummy discomfort. I recommended using some belly massage techniques. I printed out some hand outs and showed her how to do them. At the next visit mom told me the belly massage is working great and baby is less fussy.
- With encouragement from the HV, a [parent] was able to contact Nebraska DHHS regarding utility assistance on her own.
- During the 3rd home visit, a newly enrolled mom sat on the floor near her 5 month-old baby at the urging of the HV and tried to engage her baby with a toy. During the previous visits Mom had sat on the couch in the same room.
- During a visit a mom demonstrated budgeting and problem-solving skills she has learned during her time in the program to figure out how to pay for her children's' upcoming birthday party. She did this without prompting by the home visitor.
- HV assisted 3 families who have the same landlord negotiate terms of their leases. Two of these families were able to obtain acceptable housing while the 3rd family remained in their apartment.
- After discussing Module 2, Social and Emotional Development, and promoting independence during a previous visit Mom gave her 2yr old two choices; playing with a red ball or a yellow yoyo. The child chose yoyo and even repeated the word yoyo.
- A mom got confirmation that she was approved for a new apartment with 3 bedrooms and were able to move their DHHS case along and get their children back from foster care.
- I had a family who was struggling with finances. I recommended that they apply for assistance through Access Nebraska. Both parents were iffy at first, but after talking about it a couple times the family decided to apply. The family is now receiving EBT (*food program benefits*) and daycare assistance and it is helping them feel less stressed.
- A parent of an 8-month-old child reported using the Growing Great Kids activity with his baby (*in between visits*).
- One of my clients said she was proud to have found a job, but most of all thankful for HV teaching her how to transition and prepare her children for a new routine.
- After several months of her not meeting with me, having no contact with me, and many many attempts by me to reach her through Creative Outreach, Mom met with me four times in the month of October and seems invested in the program.
- The family who struggles with sobriety had an entire month of being sober. Another parent was accepted into low income housing and will be living on her own for the first time.
- Although [client] and I have not had consistent visits; she has had consistent contact with me. That is a success for me. Especially since we were ready to [exit] her from the program.

- HV is working with a family who has been struggling financially, dad lost his job, mom was in a very toxic work environment, and they could not afford daycare. Both parents managed to find new jobs that they enjoy and will provide a good amount of income to get them back on track and also managed to find someone for daycare for [baby] that is reliable along with backup daycare if ever needed. Also, that same mom has worked extra hard to overcome her poor mental health days and is taking the steps to work on her mental health by following her stressor scale and learning how to manage one stress at a time. She has succeeded in managing one stress and is working on a second one now.
- One of the families' dads that a HV works with has been able to participate more in home visits with mom and baby and it has been a joy to see him interact with baby and the family enjoying the parent/child activities together.
- Home Visitor has a family who had a premature child back in November and was notified that he is now on track for his age in his development and his height/weight which is very reassuring and a sign that the family is retaining the helpful information we provide in this program.
- Home Visitor has a family that just had a baby boy and is successfully breastfeeding. Mom reports that she is very excited about this. During her prenatal visits Home Visitor provided mom with a lot of breastfeeding education and information about resources available to her.
- I have a couple of breast-feeding mothers who we provided Haakaas (*breast pumps*) to and these have been a tremendous help to them. These moms are finding that they are able to store more milk and also have other people help with feedings which has been a relief to them. I love that our program gives support and education for our breastfeeding mothers and I look forward to possibly being a CLC (*Certified Lactation Consultant*) in the future as this area is very limited in CLCs. Often times without support, our mothers don't breastfeed or stop early on or before they are wanting to.
- I have had several families move up a level. It is exciting to see families grow and utilize what they learn through HFA visits with their children. It is also amazing to see some of these parents meet their personal goals and also build their support systems through community resources and informal supports.
- Home Visitor has been working for months with a family that had a very dirty home. Home Visitor went to the home visit and mom had cleaned and has a chart of what she is doing each day, so it is not overwhelming for her but yet can keep the home clean. (cleaner then it was) :)
- Home Visitor working with CWP family that there was talk of going to termination, court has dismissed case because mom is doing so well. :)
- Home Visitor family has successfully completed 3 years. She started when she was 8 weeks pregnant, she has shown lots of growth as a first-time parent. The child is now 3 and has awesome bond with her parents, she speaks in full sentences, she is a happy and well-adjusted little girl, awesome smile and loves to sing. (Graduation date in Jan 2022)
- Home Visitor has a Mom (who) is 14 years old, first baby and is breastfeeding the baby.

- Family was chosen to do the MIECHV interview (*federal testimonial for reauthorization in 2022*), she was so happy and proud to be part to HFA and she did awesome job.
- HV has couple families that have found housing and are planning on moving in the next few weeks. Also HV is very close to getting a family off of creative outreach soon. HV has two new clients that are easier and meeting with her, this has help build her self-esteem.
- Family graduated and was thankful and happy she completed the program.
- One of our Moms has been working on becoming more independent and got a job and left an abusive relationship.
- We had a family complete the program this month. Mom was in the program prenatally and BABY recently started preschool. Mom shared her positive experience in the program and is interested in sharing a testimonial!
- Mom has moved off CO (*Creative Outreach*) and is back to doing weekly visits. She has gotten a license and a car. She is working AND taking college classes!
- A few families have gotten new higher paying jobs! One teen mom is having success with online classes and is on track to graduate early. Another teen mom has plans to return to school for her senior year next month.
- We have a family who has been involved in custody cases with two of her children. Parenting plans have been finalized and she now has joint/primary custody of both of her kids!
- Client achieved goal to get a library card - she now has one and using it for access to community activities throughout [town].
- Pregnant client fully engaged in services; loves curriculum. Increased self-sufficiency and use of concrete resources. Connected to OB (*obstetrician*) who specializes in mental health medications she can take while pregnant.
- Mom enrolled in services March 2022 and is expecting her second child. Mom has history of complex Mental Health issue, verbalized social interactions can be very stressful. She has 1 supportive person in life who left her. Mom verbalized attending social settings can trigger anxiety and PTSD. Mom has been engaged in visits, obtained Medicaid, ADC, SNAP and WIC. Mom enjoys the GGK Curriculum and activities. Recently last this month Mom attended the HFA socialization with her daughter at the park! Mom said she had a great time interacting with others and [her child].
- Mom on Level 3 (*monthly home visits*) and will be graduating in August 2022. Mom was on CO-III from 11/21 to 2/21 and HV reengaged Mom in March. Mom said she was grateful of HV and her support during times of crisis. HV provided Mom with referral to [domestic violence resource] and other legal services for DV crisis. Mom loves participating in GGK Curriculum/activities with her child during visits. HV is currently supporting Mom with Community resources to obtain new housing.

- Mom has been enrolled since 4/2021 and verbalized to HV she has worked hard to achieve four goals and is proud of herself impacting her child's life. HV helped Mom navigate and overcome her barriers by utilizing community resources. Mom is working, saving money and child attends licensed daycare. Mom's asylum case was accepted, and Mom has money to pay a lawyer. Mom stated at last visit she is less stressed and has more time to spend time with her child doing activities and bonding.
- Home Visitor was able to get a family housed through the Homeless Voucher Program (HVP). Dad was injured early in the summer and has been in rehab since. He couldn't return to the previous apartment because it wasn't handicapped accessible. It took a lot of time, effort, and coordination to help HVP understand that he was (going to be) homeless, as he technically was on a lease at his previous apartment.
- We are working with a mom who was initially referred to HFA from DHHS CPS. Mom connected to a maternity home and has immersed herself in all the connections and supports they offer. After baby turned 6 weeks old, Mom applied for a job at an assisted living facility in housekeeping and has successfully been employed there for over two months. Mom was referred to Chariots 4 Hope and received her vehicle two weeks ago. Mom was very patient with the process and said the 6 months went by quickly. Mom had an extensive substance abuse history in her past. However, when arriving at the maternity home, she already had been sober for 15 months. She recently spent her Thanksgiving receiving her 18-month AA chip and proudly showed this off to HFA staff at her most recent home visit. Mom has established a healthy co-parenting relationship with the father of her child and they both spend time with their daughter even though they are not together. Mom has concerns over her child's development and early on with HFA established language development goals. She wanted to teach her baby sign language and has been doing this on a routine basis. Mom reports baby recognizes "more" and "bottle" and plans to expand on the ASL vocabulary as she grows. Staff provided flash cards and a sign language book in support of this goal. Mom has been given the opportunity to cross train at her work to become a CNA and plans to start this after the holidays. Mom also has a desire to further her education and has signed up for a business class that will start in December. Eventually Mom hopes to own her own business in the medical field and has lots of interest and passion for working with the elderly. Mom is very interested in child development and eagerly tries the child development activities that staff bring. Mom has already graduated levels due to doing so well overall. She is very loving towards her child and puts her needs first as she strives to be the best parent she can be.
- We are working with a mom who reported having a "break down" due to stress and feeling like she is doing everything for the home and children with very little help from her spouse. Mom was previously working but due to a health issue she quit and had to stay home. Dad is working outside of the home. It was the middle of the night when Mom became overwhelmed, so she called the [resource] Hotline. After speaking with her, they sent the sheriff to do a well person check. The sheriffs sat and talked with mom about parenting and life until she felt better. Mom reached out to the HV the next day and let her know what happened. Mom says her HV is her "go to" person so we were happy to see she used the appropriate resources provided to her since it was the middle of the night. HV will continue following up with Mom about her mental health and will incorporate some GKG and Mothers and Babies information while following Mom's lead. This mom used to be a part of the HFA Advisory Committee and had to leave when she became employed. She recently decided to

rejoin the Committee and will start in the new year. We hope this will help with her feelings of isolation and providing a purpose outside of the home again.

- We are working with a mom who was very guarded and reserved when she first started the program. She started with her assigned HV who went on maternity leave a couple months later. The supervisor who completed the FROG (*strengths & risk assessment*) with the family was able to step in as the sub worker. Mom stayed consistent with the sub worker and re-engaged when her HV came back from leave. Sometimes Mom has to work overtime at the last minute and has to cancel but will reschedule to meet that same week. Both assigned HV and supervisor have done a lot of chasing and following up with Mom. Mom sees the consistency of the HFA team which appears to have made an impact on Mom as she continues visiting and opens up. Occasionally the HV sees minor safety issues. She is able to address them with Mom who is receptive. Mom will make changes or will have open conversations about her culture and how things may be done differently in that area and why she does what she does. We are able to support Mom and respect her culture while keeping the kids safe. Mom actively participates in visits. Mom is reading to her kids at home between visits. The HV is inviting Mom and encouraging her to bring the kids to socialization activities at [home visiting program]. Mom is open to the possibility. Mom has recently graduated to level 2 (*visits every other week*).
- We started working with a mother in June 2022 who was just 15 years old. We worked with her mother to get her enrolled. Dad's family also supports the young couple. Mom delivered a healthy baby at the end of July. Mom was back in school at the end of Aug/beginning of Sept. Mom and Dad have both been meeting regularly with their HV. Mom is committed to continue breastfeeding baby. On top of being a young parent and going to school, Mom is also working part time. Mom has recently graduated to level 2.
- We are working with a mom who started with us in August 2022. She had one child in the child welfare system and was pregnant with her second child. Mom was able to keep her new baby out of the system. Mom has had a lot of ups and downs and relies heavily on her HV for support. Mom recently received a car through Chariots 4 Hope. She is registered for school at a Community College to start her general education classes. Mom is in the hiring process for a new work from home job. Mom's older child was recently reunited with her and they are all adjusting to being together full time again. The family's child welfare case is set to close in less than a month!
- We are working with a mom who started with us in December 2022. Mom has two young children and was referred by child welfare. Mom is living with family and there were some concerns about the cleanliness of the home as well as there being room for the kids to safely move and explore. The family got a large dumpster and cleaned up the house, making room for the kids to learn and grow. Mom is working to get the children back into daycare. They had been asked to leave due to lice which they have treated the children for. Mom has met consistently since joining the HFA program. Mom shared right away there were concerns for the focus child's speech and walking. He was delayed in both areas. Mom worked with her doctor and got connected to [resource]. Mom attended an appointment in March to get services for her son. He is on the waitlist for speech therapy. HV and Mom focused on getting the child out of the highchair and giving him more opportunities to practice walking. Mom shared that her son is always excited when HV comes over and is ready to learn and play. Mom began working a second job as an assistant manager at Burger King. Mom was able to take her kids on their first out of state vacation. After returning from vacation Mom

shared with her HV that her son is now fully walking. Through the use of curriculum, HV and Mom have been working on communication for the child. Mom now reports that she takes time to listen to her son and tries to understand what he is saying.

- A parent told me how proud of herself she was with how far she's come with her child and finances.
- A parent that was struggling to find employment is now employed full time. We searched for jobs together and made a plan for childcare and transportation.
- A parent thanked their healthy families advocate for showing how to identify safety issues around their house.
- I (*as a Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician*) facilitated a Childcare Transportation Training class at a childcare center. During the class, one of the staff members participating said she was using a car seat she found. She didn't know the history of the seat and thought it might be expired. She also said she didn't have a seat for her 5 year-old and had been borrowing one from the childcare center. When the class was complete, I looked at her child restraint, verified it was expired and provided her with the 2 new seats I had brought for demonstration purposes. She expressed sincere gratitude and also disbelief that I would help her in this way.
- I had a mom talk about how far she has come since we started working together. She talked about how proud of herself she was about being a mother, working, getting caught up and ahead of bills and making time for herself!!
- During a home visit to work on a goal with an almost three year old, she was able to trace lines for the first time and hold her marker correctly. That was the first time attempting that sort of activity for the little girl.
- A mother thanks advocate for the support given during her grief, she said "I definitely feel better after talking to you" "you remind me of happy moments with my kids and that makes me happy".
- A child who was born at 32 weeks was referred to the Early Development Network by the Healthy Families HV. The child was evaluated, qualified for services, and has begun receiving services from EDN. Mom said she was grateful for the referral and eager to start working with EDN.
- I had a family who is moving because Dad lost his job. Mom and Dad were both in tears about not being able to work with me anymore. I told them that one of the areas they are considering moving to was still in our service area. They were so excited to hear that I could continue working with them if they moved there.
- Helped Mom understand the importance of paying attention to Baby's cues and respecting them by discussing how adults feel when our cues are not recognized or respected.
- I have a family who believed preschool is not important, after reviewing "shaping the future for my child" (*video & activity*) and the education their child will have the parents decided to enroll child in Head Start. Child is on the waiting list for next school year.

- A mom reached her goal of getting a new apartment after waiting several months. This allows her children to come back home from foster care.
- We have a mom who has been learning about infant massage techniques and she has enjoyed using these techniques with her infant at bedtimes which has helped her with her personal goal of having a bedtime routine for her baby.
- We have a family that has agreed to testify for LB114. We are super excited for this! (*LB114 was a 2023 Nebraska State Legislature bill that would potentially increase the allocation of funds for evidence-based home visiting.*)
- I have a family that celebrated a lot of successes this month. I worked with this mother when she was pregnant and baby has recently turned two years old. In these two years, I have seen this mom grow in her confidence of being a mother, seen her build a strong, trusting bond with her child, and be able to maintain sobriety and provide stability for her and her daughter. Recently, Mom and Dad also got married.
- I have a mother who has really been struggling with dental issues and has been dealing with a huge amount of pain. This mother was getting really discouraged because she was not able to find a dentist or resources that would work with her, so I was able to connect her with [partner] from the [local health dept] Dental program and she was able to assist her.
- A family is being creative with promoting play and engagement while living on a busy road- they bought a blow up pool (*and used it*) to be a safe zone.
- One mom is finally accepting her pregnancy and starting to enjoy it!
- Home Visitor started with this family and has been able to keep the family engaged in the program through COVID and zoom visits. BIG success for Home Visitor to graduate her first family.
- Home Visitor's family closed (their CPS case) this month, this is good thing, as she was CWP and felt she needed the to prove to everyone she is good parent. Now using positive reflection and therapy she feels good enough to do parenting on her own.
- Home Visitor has (*graduated a*) CWP family that is sharing their story and being filmed (*education and outreach video for families involved in child welfare*). The family has worked hard to overcome why their got involved with CPS and with HV's guidance and expertise the family was successful.
- Home Visitor had family's CPS case close. They are staying with the program.
- Family celebrated one year of sobriety! Mom is working full-time, has an apartment, and Mom and Baby are doing great! She has goals for moving into a house and has rebuilt many relationships with family and friends and has a strong support system! :)
- Baby was born in January, Mom was worried about obtaining a job and quality daycare for [baby]. Dad unemployed. Mom obtained a job that has been flexible for her and family life, [baby] attends quality day care. Mom is still breastfeeding.

- Home Visitor has been working with a mom who had a goal to purchase a vehicle. HV worked with mom every home visit to discuss barriers, strengths, and next steps. Mom recently purchased her own car and can now easily access her children's medical appointments and her own needs, such as grocery shopping.
- Home Visitor has been working with a mom who lost custody of her baby boy at birth (due to multiple safety concerns). Mom has been consistent with HFA visits and learned a lot about child development and reading baby's cues. During a recent court date, mom was granted visits with her baby at her home (rather than a community location). Mom is hopeful her son will return to her custody early this year.
- HV has been working with a Level 2 mom who has history of depression and attempted suicide. Mom has been engaged with consistent visits. Mom also struggles with positive discipline strategies with [child]. Referral made for Mom for therapy services and medication. Mom attends therapy regularly and takes her medication. Mom recently obtained her work permit and is now working. Mom's self-esteem and self-confidence has increased. Recently, mom shared she was proud of herself for parenting differently than her own parents.
- Mom has been struggling with disciplining her children and overwhelmed with challenges. HV provided mom with education using the curriculum and positive discipline videos. Mom verbalized that she has more confidence when disciplining her children. Mom is eager to learn about appropriate expected developmental milestones and enjoys parent/child activities. Mom is open to discussions with HV and has a better understanding regarding the impact it has on [her child's] brain development when using positive discipline.
- Mom struggling with behavioral issues with her children. Mom is working, living alone with children and lacking support. HV connected mom to community resources - an after school program, provided mom with GGK curriculum (positive parenting) and Daily Do's E-parenting. Mom has gained more confidence when parenting children. Mom has learned to regulate her emotions and developed healthy coping strategies.
- Large size refugee family struggling with transportation issues to and from medical appointments and school, language barrier, navigating norms such as children attending school, use of car seats, safe sleep, and community resources. HV is providing support to family and connecting mom to community resources, collaborating with medical provider, providing family with GGK Curriculum and Daily Do's for positive parenting. Family has gained more confidence navigating living in US and parenting her children. Family was connected with community sponsor to help assist family with transportation to and from medical appt and school.