



charities&nonprofits

IN BREVARD COUNTY

Fresh start for homeless women with children

The women with children that find their way to New Life Mission (NLM) come from a variety of circumstances: friends' couches, living in cars, motel rooms, apartments from which they were evicted, tent communities, and worse.

Families receive housing on one of NLM's four campuses while they work through a four-phase residential program that lasts 1-2 years. They are provided with one-on-one case management, counseling, parenting support, Bible studies, life-skills classes, financial coaching, educational opportunities, and employment assistance.

Being a "student" in the NLM program is challenging as accountability is the organization's core tenet. Graduates of NLM are employed throughout Brevard County in sustainable careers, such as insurance agents, mortgage processors, physical therapists, LPN, medical assistants, administrative assistants, and even a firefighter.

In Her Words...

A current student, who has struggled through the perils of addiction, recounted her journey before finding NLM.

"Nobody ever goes to bed and thinks they will fall into addiction the next day," she said. "I lost almost all contact with my family and custody of my children. I lost everything I had gained throughout life. I had to completely start over. My children were in foster care for 16 months while I attended a residential rehabilitation program and lived in transitional housing before making it to New Life Mission."

The mother of three worked closely with an NLM financial coach and took to heart the life-skills classes that were offered to her.



New Life Mission
Transforming Homeless Families

"I had to rebuild my life," she said. "This February, I will complete a Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) program. Without New Life Mission, I would not have been able to overcome my past traumas and reach my goals. They helped me become the mother, woman, and Christian sister I am today."

A Growing Mission

NLM currently serves 13 families in its residential program and another 8 families in graduate housing. With the recent purchase of the former Hacienda Girls Ranch from the Children's Home Society, NLM has room to grow.

"We named the property New Life Village because it truly takes a Village to bring about the transformation these families undergo," said CEO Amy Lyon. "We expect to be able to serve another 15-18 families on our new property this year, but we need the community's help to keep the momentum going."

With rising costs of food and supplies, NLM has felt the effects of inflation not only in the number of calls it receives but also on its bottom line.

How You Can Help

NLM is a nonprofit organization that does not utilize government funding but is privately funded by individuals, businesses, churches, and grants. Volunteers are always needed to assist in Kids Academy with facilities projects and in the organization's Transformed Shop, a sewing center where the moms transform used denim into new products.

"We don't give a hand out to these families, but rather a hand up," said Lyon. "Our moms are educated, empowered, and equipped to leave a life of dependency and achieve self-sufficiency. Through their own hard work, they break the chains of homelessness for generations."



FOR MORE INFORMATION, A TOUR OF THE CAMPUS OR HOW TO HELP, CALL 321-480-9100 OR VISIT NEWLIFE-MISSION.ORG