

RANDOLPH COUNTY



Patricia

Randolph
County Family
Crisis Center,
Inc.

“A place to call home...That is really all I have ever wanted, a place to call home. I grew up in foster and group homes as a ward of the state since I was 8 years old and it was always my biggest dream. I went on to college and did well until I found myself in the same situation as I watched my mom go through growing up, before they took me. Domestic Violence. Words we throw around a lot with a lot of different meanings for everyone, the one definition for me was my own private hell.

I couldn't believe I ended up in the same situation that I criticized my mother for being in long ago. So humiliating- the shame of it and so much pain and so much isolation, you truly are alone. Or so I thought.

I decided it was time, I had to leave (live) or that man was going to end up killing me, or hurting one of the kids. Best and hardest decision I ever made was to leave, and even harder yet we had nowhere to go. **No place to turn, until I called Randolph County Family Crisis Shelter (RCFCS) and an angel answered the phone.**

They gave us a bed to lay our heads while I cleared mine. **They got the kids a scholarship to the YMCA's day camp so I could go to work and get back on my feet.** The group that they offer on Tuesday nights has been the most helpful. Its open to the public and it is a great support. **The kids go to the children's group while I go to my group. It has helped me see the patterns of abuse so that I don't find myself in the same boat again with no paddles. The agency also pay for me and my kids to go to therapy.**

I was broken and lost and I have my confidence back now, I know I can do this, we can make it and if I ever need help or just someone to talk to that I can call anytime and RCFCS will be there. I met with the case manager who helped me find a job, and apartment with help from a rapid rehousing grant through the shelter. The staff actually took me to work and the kids to the YMCA and wherever else we needed to go like court or DSS or therapy. **I can't tell you how good it feels to get my own home.** This program services is made possible through North Carolina state funding and its Council for Women. Learn more by visiting the website www.councilforwomen.nc.gov.

*name changed to protect her identity

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