

Successes 2020-21

- All four apartments were filled by the end of April 2021
- Each mom has a mentor for coaching and support
- Common space was remodeled, so we can enjoy having meals and group time onsite
- Hired house mom for the first year to do troubleshooting, problem solving and provide support
- Social Media started including Facebook and the website
- Childcare support provided from East Creek Child Care
- Volunteer program launched including a relationship with Chaska High School volunteers for childcare
- Classes offered:
 - Empowerment (know yourself and believe in yourself)
 - Healthy Cooking
 - Self-Care (art, meditation, emotional regulation)
 - Parent Education (development, role of parent, setting limits, discipline, self-esteem)
 - Personal Safety
 - Budgeting/money management
- Social activities for moms and children

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Greetings Supporters

Greetings BNB supporters. Thanks to you, we are celebrating nearly a year of operation providing housing for young moms and their children. We are very pleased with the progress. Four moms and five children are living in the facility, are safe, and being nurtured. We are excited to share that our first graduate is preparing to go out into her own living space in December, feeling confident that all the parts needed are in place for success.

BNB continues the fight against housing and food insecurity, abuse, trafficking and all of the other uncertainties these young families face each and every day.

We are adapting the programming to serve the specific and current needs of our families. There is so much to learn when living in your first apartment! Basic skills in independent living are a primary need for some moms. Each family is on their own unique journey, and we provide support regardless of where they are when they come to BNB.

We believe we are now ready to hire part-time staff members to lead social programming and leadership

to ensure that BNB is as effective as possible in its service to these families. This is all in effort to prepare for growth. We know that the need is far greater than BNB's current capacity and our vision is to grow. Our growth discussions include topics such as on-site childcare, more apartments, classrooms for education and maybe even scholarship programs to increase the probability of self-sufficiency. With this growth there is of course a commensurate need for additional financial support.

Our goal is to raise \$100,000 which will allow BNB to hire the talent needed to grow the support. It also includes essentials such as security, Wi-Fi systems, fencing for the safety of the children, as well as reserves to bolster BNB stability. We humbly ask for your continued financial support as well as help letting others know about our program so that they might be able to support us as well.

Please know how much gratitude we all have for your support; whether it's your time, talent, or treasure.

Gratefully,
Jill, Russ, Sue (BNB Executive Board)

Spotlight on Success

Madison Heutmaker began her participation in the Beyond New Beginnings Program in November 2020. Her goals were to learn how to live independently while maintaining a full time job and finishing her Associate's Degree at Normandale. She was also hired to serve as our "House Mom" to address issues and support other moms onsite. We are so impressed with Madison - her determination, sense of responsibility, kindness and compassion toward others. She has met her personal goals and will be moving on with her life. Her plan is to own her own home. We are grateful for all Madison brings to BNB and wish her the best of luck.



▲ Connie J. (mentor), Carter and Madison

Who is your child and how old is he?

My son is Carter. He is currently 8 years old. He is a third grader. Carter enjoys playing hockey, swimming and spending time with our family.

You are an alumni of the New Beginnings High School Program. How old were you when you had Carter?

I had Carter a week before I turned 17.

What were your goals in moving into BNB?

I was excited to have an opportunity to live independently and provide for my son.

You served as BNB "House Mom" and helped oversee issues about the building and questions from other participants. Explain how it felt to be able to advocate and look out for the other moms.

I understand how hard it is to be a young mom and while I am only a few years older than the moms here, I feel like I have had practice in standing up for myself and my son's best interest. I am glad that I was able to do this for the other moms and show them how to do it for themselves. This is a skill that will benefit them for the rest of their lives.

Describe the support you receive from your mentor.

BNB introduced Carter and I to our amazing mentor, Connie. She and her family have welcomed

us with open arms. We have been able to share meals, get outside and volunteer together. She is always so thoughtful and welcoming. I am excited to have Connie as a mentor and friend moving forward.

What are some skills you acquired while living independently?

I had to learn how to manage a household. This has included meal planning, cleaning, time management and so much more.

You manage our Facebook page. Explain how you might build on these skills for future career options in Social Media.

I have a certificate in Marketing along with my AA degree that I acquired while I was a participant in BNB. Managing the Facebook page for BNB is something that I will be able to add to my resume for future employers. It has also given me an opportunity to build a Facebook page from the ground up and put all of the work into it myself.

Name one or two reasons BNB should continue to support young moms and their children.

One: This program gives moms a chance to be on their own with their children and still be supported
Two: The moms are able to continue learning and becoming better moms with the classes BNB offers.



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BNB is an approved 501(c)3 organization.

Connect with Us

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