

February 14, 2017



# PATHWAY OF HOPE

## Celebration of Success!

On Sunday, January 22, 2017, there was a ruckus at Kroc Community Center! No, it wasn't the wave pool or the busy construction. It was a great time as Pathway of Hope celebrated four families who successfully completed their journey! See one of the success stories on page 2.



## POH on the Go!

Emergency transportation may not be a barrier for Pathway of Hope families. POH was gifted a vehicle during the Red Kettle Event in 2016. Carstar and State Farm wanted to ensure families could make those unexpected appointments and increase mobility, and the staff and clients are truly appreciative!

## Check out these numbers

We continue to strive to decrease the family's barriers.

Number of families who entered POH: 201

Number of families reporting increase in Hearth Hope Indicator: 38 = 19%

Number and percent of families reporting barriers reduced: 92 = 47%

Number and percent of families who achieve increased stability: 56 = 28%

\*These numbers are based on completed assessments.

## Site Visits

There will be four sites chosen where THQ and your Regional Coordinator will visit sometime in March. Springtime = spring cleaning = the perfect time to tidy up your Pathway of Hope files.

## A Place to Call HOME!

Carissa and Francis came to the Salvation Army on September 15, 2015, looking for help during a tough time with their four kids. They had extensive debt, low paying jobs, and no permanent housing. Carissa and Francis had experienced trouble with apartments in the past, and were getting collection calls from their previous landlords. Due to their past evictions, they were paying by the week and living in a one bedroom motel with their four children. They both attempted to work full-time, but their hours at their minimum wage jobs were consistently cut. They felt alone, hopeless, and had no idea where to look for help. They both had a history that they wanted to leave behind, but it was a constant barrier keeping them from achieving success.

A POH caseworker sat down the Carissa and Francis, and discussed each problems with possible solutions. The POH worker gave Carissa and Francis numbers of places that could help them out of debt. They chose Credit Advisors, and immediately felt a relief from the overwhelming stress. Carissa and Francis took this newfound hope and support from the Pathway of Hope Program, and started working at breaking down the rest of their barriers to achieve a sustainable life. Within a few months, around Christmastime, they had reached a place where they were asking how they could help others .

Through Pathway of Hope, Carissa and Francis succeeded in advancing their employment. Both Carissa and Francis now are employed full-time with increased pay and benefits. They have benefited from a wide range of services referred through POH including Credit Advisors, which helped them consolidate their debt, and made it possible for them to start paying off what they owed. Soon after this, the collection calls stopped. They were able to lease a three bedroom townhouse so they could leave the motel. For Carissa and Francis, this was their greatest success. Their children are so proud of their parents, and are incredibly happy to be in a new home that they can call their own.

In January 2017, Francis and Carissa were able to graduate from the Pathways of Hope Program with flying colors. Their family continues to push forward towards achieving new goals every day. Their kids rave about their parents and how proud of they are of them. They said it feels really good to be in a place the can call their own.

Rachel Friesen, POH Case Worker

