

*"We are supposed to be each other's villages."
~Flores, Current Capernaum Place Guest*



Blessings!

First and foremost, thank you for your continued time, generosity, and kindness. Today, I would like you to meet Flores*, a 28-year-old single mom of two boys, who walked through our doors carrying the unimaginable weight of \$13,000 of debt, homeless, with no support system.

"I walked in here and I was a mess. I couldn't even imagine seeing myself six months down the line."

As a young teen, Flores lost her mother to incarceration and then later to a tragic, violent act. She faced homelessness, not once, but twice. And with her six- and eight-year-old sons rooted in Lawrence schools and no nearby family, she truly had nowhere to turn. That is when Capernaum Place, our transitional housing program, called to say an apartment was available. With that, the pieces started to come together, and Flores set her future life in motion.

In just one year, with the help of our Life Skills and Financial Asset Building programs, Flores has:

- Eliminated \$13,000 in debt and started weekly therapy.
- Enrolled at Northern Essex Community College, pursuing her accounting degree, and landed a full-time, remote position with a leading national credit union.
- Built a 15-year plan...homeownership, financial freedom, and becoming a foster parent and a motivational speaker to teenagers.
- Secured fully funded summer programs for both boys, who also attend our after-school enrichment activities.

I am in awe of her.

"I am the biggest change in my life. I see myself in a way more positive light. I am grateful."

Flores shared that none of this happened alone. She credits our Capernaum Place staff, program director, Elianna, case managers, Sagrario and Noelia, enrichment coordinator, Fernando, and our resolute volunteers, whom she calls "the true definition of teamwork" and exceedingly rare people "who genuinely want nothing but the best for you."

"Without this program, I don't know where I would be right now. My goal is for my children to never experience instability again in their lives."

Flores' story is just beginning. Your donation will write the next chapter. Please make your spring gift today. Because of you, we can keep opening doors at Capernaum Place for more people like Flores.

With gratitude,

Carmen H. Vega
Executive Director

P.S. Check your company's matching gift program; it could double your impact today.

P.P.S. The resources you build during your lifetime will continue to serve others after you are gone. Contact ebedrosian@lazarushouse.org for information on making a legacy gift from your will, trust, or estate plan.

**To protect the privacy of our Guest, name has been changed.*