

SUMMER 2019 EDITION

NEWSLINK

GOAL MAMA APP IN ACTION

Parent Ambassadors
Take DC by Storm

A LIFELINE FOR TEENS
Meet this Successful Family

THE MAGIC OF
OUR NURSES

TENACIOUS TEAM IN THE VIRGIN ISLANDS



Nurse-Family
Partnership

Helping First-Time Parents Succeed[®]

A LIFELINE FOR TEENS



The image is burned hard into Salinta's memory. She was three months pregnant, standing in the middle of the street in a neighborhood in Gary, Indiana. Her parents had just told her she couldn't come home, that they had left all her possessions – one bag of clothes – at a neighbor's house. Then they drove away.

She was 17.

"It hurt me," Salinta said. "I was so young. I didn't know what to do. My mom, my dad and my sisters just left me there in the street. Wow."

"I didn't want to have to go to my boyfriend's house, but I had no place to go."

Salinta and her boyfriend, Darian, knew they couldn't stay with his mom for long. She was a single mom, living in an apartment with her four kids. "We were taking food out of her mouth," said Darian.

The two high school kids faced a crisis.

"We figured we had to decide if we were going to stay together as a couple or separate and co-parent," Salinta said. "We knew we had to grow up. We had a child on the way."

They decided to stay together. But they knew they needed help.

Salinta contacted Nurse-Family Partnership at Goodwill Central & Southern Indiana in Gary and enrolled in the program. She attended a pregnancy class, but she was there only a few months.

Darian's older brother was living in Madison, Wisconsin, and invited the couple to move in with him until they could find their own place. By this time, Salinta was eight months pregnant. They had no money and almost no possessions.

Darian's brother sent them \$60 for bus fare, but when they arrived in Madison, no one was at the bus station to meet them.

"We thought it was over," Salinta said.

"They finally came," Darian said, "and they really helped us."

But Darian and Salinta knew they were in over their heads, so they called Nurse-Family Partnership at Public Health Madison and Dane County. Their case was transferred from Indiana, and nurse Sarah came into their lives like an island of stability in the middle of a hurricane.

"Sarah helped us completely with everything," Salinta said.

Darian got a job as a cook at Noodles & Company. Salinta's due date was closing in fast and the couple walked to every doctor appointment to make sure everything was OK.

Not only did Sarah teach them what to expect in the last weeks of pregnancy, and counsel them on labor and delivery, she helped them find a place to live.

"She brought us lists of apartments and taught us about leases," Salinta said. Then, when they had saved enough for the rent and were ready to move in, they found out they needed to have another \$1,000 for a security deposit.

"We didn't know anything about security deposits," said Darian. "This was our first apartment."

Sarah helped them access assistance for the security deposit and they finally had a home.

Each week, when Sarah visited, she brought more information and Sarah's reassurances helped Salinta put her fears about ordinary aches and pains to rest.

"Sarah came through for us," she said. "Our mothers, our fathers, our grandparents weren't there. She was everything."

When their daughter was born, Sarah "would teach us about stages before they happened so we knew what to expect," said Darian. "Armonie really isn't a challenging baby, but it helped."

Salinta went to work soon after the baby arrived and then, when Armonie was about 8 months old, Salinta's parents came to Madison with her four sisters. They moved in.

"We wanted to forgive them," said Salinta. "They had nowhere to stay and we wanted to help

because we knew how that was."

Money was extremely tight as Salinta and Darian worked to support all nine of them. "There were days we didn't eat so they could," said Darian.

"We were getting the girls to and from school, and trying to keep food in the house," Salinta said. "Things were really tough. With my dad, there was drinking and there were fights and police calls."

Her parents left after eight months. Her sisters remained for more than a year.

Sarah helped the young parents learn to establish healthy boundaries in their relationships and focus on their daughter and their future.

At 2, Armonie is crushing every milestone. "She's learning how to talk, to eat by herself, getting potty trained," said Salinta. "She's becoming an actual human."

When Sarah made her regular home visits to assess Armonie's progress, she was always amazed. "Salinta and Darian have a beautiful parent-child relationship," Sarah said. "That's been the most rewarding thing for me. With all the chaos in their lives, their relationship with their daughter is really beautiful."

Salinta and Darian are both working and, little by little, finding themselves able to envision a bright future. They both want to get their GEDs and develop skills that will help them provide a good life for Armonie.

"The strength Salinta has shown is remarkable. She's taught me so much and opened my eyes to a lot of things. She's an exceptional mother," Sarah said.

“ “ ” ”

WHEN OUR BABY WAS BORN, EVERYTHING CHANGED. NOW I LOOK AT HER AND I DON'T KNOW WHERE I'D BE WITHOUT HER.

SALINTA, NFP MOM

FUELED TO REDUCE INFANT MORTALITY IN INDIANA



"Reducing Indiana's infant mortality rate requires us to focus not just on the health of babies, but on that of their mothers. NFP plays a critical role in improving outcomes for both."

- Kristina Box, MD, FACOG

Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb and other government leaders have fueled into action. They are on a mission to reduce the infant mortality rate in their state. Their goal is to reduce the infant mortality rate to 6.0 from the current 7.5. This group of leaders has made significant investments to achieve that goal.

Expanding Nurse-Family Partnership teams across the state has been a key strategy in helping Indiana achieve its goals. The first Nurse-Family Partnership network partner established in Indiana, Goodwill of Central & Southern, has added more nursing teams. Three new network partners opened in Indiana— Healthier Moms and Babies, IU Health Bloomington and Goodwill Michiana.

To the leaders in Indiana and across the nation, we support your efforts to improve infant health.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT
NFP INDIANA**

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

The report highlights Nurse-Family Partnership's exceptional work in communities across the country. It serves as a tool for transparency for our potential and existing external stakeholders. The report also shares about our ambitious goals in the future.

Please review and share the 2018 Annual Report.

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



**TRANSFORMING LIVES
AND COMMUNITIES**

Annual Report 2018

Nurse-Family
Partnership
Helping First-Time Parents Succeed

GOAL MAMA APP IN ACTION



Nurse-Family Partnership has launched a new mobile goal-setting app called Goal Mama. It's designed to support improved health and life outcomes for our moms and their babies. This is the first app of its kind for a home visiting program and was developed exclusively for NFP moms.

Goal Mama builds on the trusted relationship between a mom and her nurse to improve program engagement. We worked with our moms and nurses to gain insight on how to

amplify the program's impact. Moms use their mobile devices to help them stay organized and are most engaged when their nurses help them reach their personal goals.

The digital connection created through the app strengthens the partnership between mom and nurse. Goal Mama helps enhance their work together, improves program retention and boosts a mom's confidence in setting and achieving her goals.



H O P E
L Δ B



THE MAGIC OF OUR NURSES



A RESILIENT NURSING TEAM

When Virgin Islands NFP nurses Carmen, Mya and Aniquewae arrived in Denver for a week-long nursing education program their community was still recovering from two Category 5 hurricanes. Hurricane Irma landed the first brutal blow and before any major recovery happened Hurricane Maria hit.

The destruction was indiscriminate and hit their lives along with the families and communities they serve. They shared stories about the strong connection between moms and nurses, especially during major disasters.

Emotions filled the room as they shared stories of true strength, human kindness, heroism and the magic of trusting relationships.

VISITING THE TEAM IN VI

Our NSO staff visited this resilient team to check in and attend their graduation celebration. Staff landed in this tropical paradise where the color of the vegetation was as vibrant as the sky. Reality set in quickly and everywhere was evidence that the islands were still struggling to recover.

SERVING DURING CRISIS

Carmen Vanterpool-Romney, NFP nurse supervisor, spoke about the strength of the families through those disastrous times. Carmen spoke highly of the nurses' tenacity as they helped families in dire need who lost their homes and their livelihoods.

As nurses, they were called to care after the people in their communities. The time they spent in the shelters during the day began to cut into their normal meeting times with their NFP moms and babies.

Instead of missing time with their moms— they ventured out into the destruction at night to visit families before heading home to their own. One nurse had to change four flat tires over the span of

a couple days because of debris and yet, it did not stop her. The lengths these nurses took to meet the needs of the moms was extraordinary.

TIME TO CELEBRATE

The results of their efforts showed during the graduation celebration! The community came together to celebrate this accomplishment and support both the families and nurses. The graduation served as a moment to come together. They processed the hardship they endured and realized their unified strength.

Deneisha Brazzle, a graduate and speaker, praised the nurses for their emotional encouragement and dedication during her family's most trying circumstances.

"WE THANK THE NFP NURSES AND THEIR ASSOCIATES FOR ALL THE HELP THEY HAVE GIVEN US, WITH THEIR OPEN ARMS, ATTENTIVE EARS, WISE MOUTHS AND CARING AND ADHERENT SUPPORTIVE MINDSETS."

DENEISHA, NFP MOM

We learned education was important for these graduates. Each of them shared their current and future plans for higher education. As each family received their program certificates, they shared their work toward building a better future for their families.

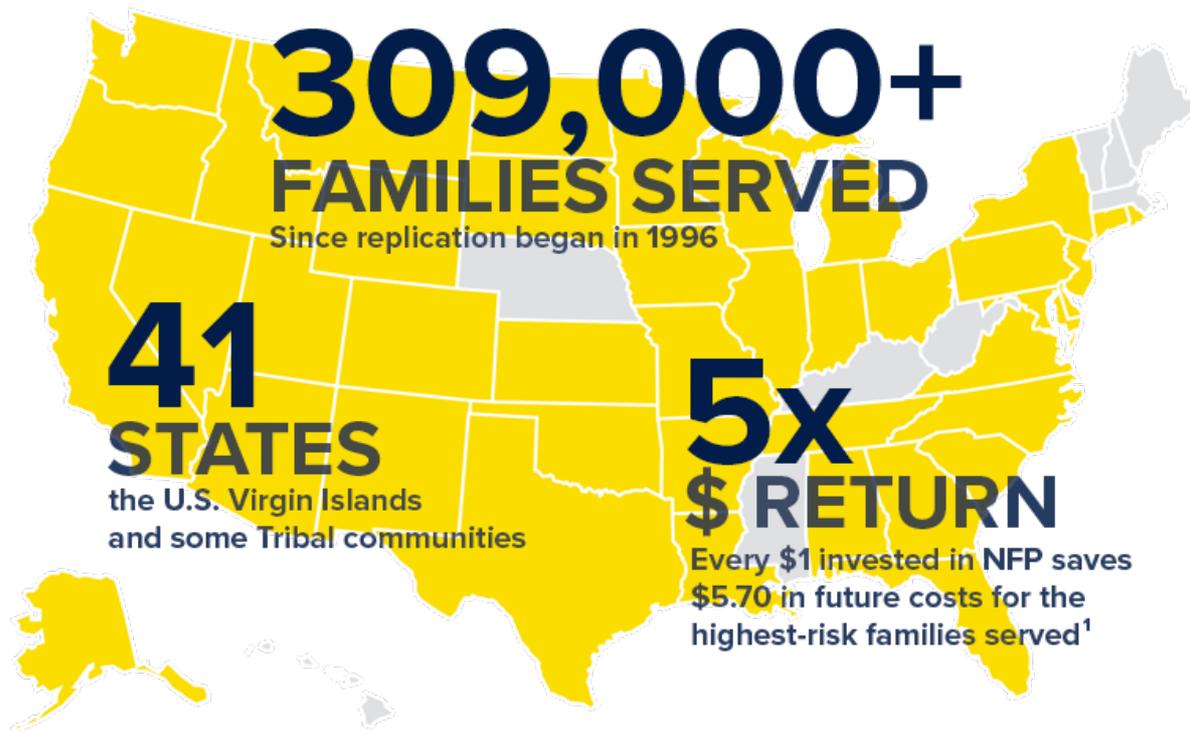
THERE DURING TRYING TIMES

Our nurses share their knowledge often under the most difficult circumstances. They build a genuine and caring relationship based on trust. This relationship bonds first-time moms living through hardships with our trained nurses.

Our nurses have a deep sense of purpose to help improve the lives of moms and babies. With their support, moms build a brighter future for both herself and her child. This is the magic of NFP.

**THE TRUST OUR NURSES BUILT WITH MOMS WAS SO STRONG THAT
NO BARRIER COULD JEOPARDIZE THEIR BOND.**

SUPPORT NFP



DONATE.

Your gift helps us serve more families

LEARN.

Read about NFP families

SHARE.

Refer a first time mom in need

ADVOCATE.

Contact your elected official

VISIT.

NurseFamilyPartnership.org TODAY



CAPTURING GREAT MOMENTS

TAKING DC BY STORM



Six women showed up at the NFP National Service Office six months ago. That day was the first day of orientation as the inaugural cohort of NFP Parent Ambassadors. Last month they stepped foot in the halls of Congress to share the most powerful tool in their belt, their stories.

Asia, Allison, Amber, Megan, Gayle and Lisa, arrived in the nation's capital in July ready to hit the ground running. Before heading to the Hill, they spent time learning about the political landscape, dived into NFP's public policy priorities and explored storytelling with the Beekeeper Group. They took the Capitol by storm exuding confidence! Each Parent Ambassador tackled three-four meetings with a total of 19 Congressional office visits. In their visits they shared the importance of their nurses, they cultivated

awareness of NFP and closed with calls to action for their legislators to support NFP. Several members of Congress expressed their interest to reconnect with Parent Ambassadors in the future and to schedule a visit with their local NFP program in their districts.

As for the Parent Ambassadors trip to build support in Washington, DC: Mission Accomplished.

The momentum is building.

Over the next year and a half, the parent ambassador's will work to double the number of parent advocates in their state and continue to use their platform to increase public awareness and support for NFP.



““”

“I FEEL... CHANGED AS A MOTHER AND AS AN ADVOCATE... STRONGER FOR HAVING WALKED ALL THOSE STEPS... GRATEFUL FOR THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE THAT JOURNEY DAILY ON BEHALF OF ME AND ORGANIZATIONS I CARE ABOUT. I FEEL UNSTOPPABLE!”

— MEGAN FARRAR, NFP PARENT AMBASSADOR





National Home Visiting Resource Center

August 16 at 2:47 PM · 🌐

👍 Like Page



The Nurse-Family Partnership #homevisiting model serves first-time/low-income mothers. A recent study explored the potential impact of NFP—and its focus on healthy early childhood development—on parents' breastfeeding and immunization practices. #FridayReads



NHVRC.ORG

Status of Breastfeeding and Child Immunization Outcomes in Clients of the Nurse–Family Partnership - National Home

JOIN US ON SOCIAL



LET'S BE FRANK

excerpts from the blog...

Positive change occurs when authentic channels for feedback are weaved into our organization. Consultants and other outside forces can only take us so far. It's the internal feedback from the men and women in the field that drives our change. And nurses not only have insights, they constantly affect change in their communities as advocates.

Some may wonder what issues like secure housing, access to healthy foods and livable wages have to do with maternal health?

Everything! Our nurses know intimately how these issues impact families. Nurses see the direct link between health outcomes and economic opportunity, stable housing and quality healthcare. They are at the forefront of intervention for preventable health disparities and they advocate for systemic change.

Nurses save lives and change systems.



This July, the National Service Office hosted the Innovation Advisory Committee of around

60 NFP nurse supervisors, administrators and home visitors. They are passionate, insightful and visionary members of our NFP family. Nurses' feedback is invaluable for us to improve as a whole. They are after all the professionals working closest to our first-time moms.



Goal Mama, one of our recent innovative successes is a clear example of the power of feedback and innovation in action. The first seeds that became Goal Mama were planted by the Innovative Advisory Committee three years ago.

By 2023, Nurse-Family Partnership's goal is to serve 100,000 families every year. Technology is one of the resources we are leveraging to help us meet this goal. We will continue to streamline processes, appropriately measure success and create transparency around our best practices. Innovation is the key to foster our culture of solutions and provide a gold standard of care to the families we serve.

[LEARN MORE](#)

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Helping First-Time Parents Succeed®