SUCCESS STORY 1

When cold weather hits and all is out of control! Well, that is what recently happened to one of our clients who became homeless one cold January night. Scott, as he at work at a job he had just moved to town for less than a month ago. His house caught on fire! He came home to a place engulfed in flames at 3 am. He had spent all his money on rent and deposits and had no money to spend on lodging, Red Cross helped with a few nights but other than that he was out of luck. We got a call from our local United Way director asking if there was anything we could help with. Initially we thought Rapid Rehousing and did all the paper work, but no housing available, through local charities and family members somehow Scott was able to stay in a local motel and when there was nothing his car. After several calls and search Scott was able to find a one bedroom home at an affordable rate. With Salvation Army funds we were able to help with his first month’s rent and Scott was able to afford his deposit. His is now housed and on the road to get back on his feet.

SUCCESS STORY 2

We had a Grandfather complete an application for a little girl who was removed from her mother’s custody because of drug abuse. Grandpa had recently been given permanent custody because the mom refused all the help that was offered and had escaped from the detention center. This little girl was aware that she would not be returning to her home or to her Mother. She was very distraught, anxious, and fearful from the changes in her life. She cried all the time; she was worried about Mom, uneasy and apprehensive about what was going to happen to her next. She was not attentive in the classroom ad could not concentrate and therefore, was not learning.

Every day she came to school needing extra attention, assurance, consoling, patience, and love. Thankfully, the Lexington Head Start Program is staffed and is
trained on social emotional development and were able to give her the individual attention and devotion that she so badly needed. Head Start staff worked with Grandpa at Parent/Teacher Goal Setting Conferences and determined getting counseling for her was their family goal. By working together, Grandpa at home, Head Start staff at school, and the counselor, we were able to invent and maintain a new “consistent normal” for her. By accomplishing this, the results have been, that this little girl seems content, is gaining independence and is also learning at a very fast pace. Only occasionally now, will she need to be reassured and climb up on a teacher’s lap to be held. But, minutes later, she is ready to get down and join the other kids in the classroom routine. We are seeing a happy, well-adjusted little girl, who had good self-esteem and a bright future in front of her.

SUCCESS STORY 3

Recently, we helped a newly arrived family to the Lexington community with 2 month old twins. Because they relocated from another state, the children had no insurance. For this one visit their cost for 2 month old vaccines only at a private clinic would have cost $755.84. An amount which the family did not have to spend. Mom commented to us how she would like to go to school to obtain her P.A. degree. But she was informed that she would have to travel to obtain that goal. (That morning upon arriving we were informed of a job opening.) More details about the job were obtained and I called the Mom to discuss them with her. She said she had been a CAN before moving to Nebraska and the job opening interested her very much. I also informed her that she should check with the Workforce Development office to ask about the job training possibilities to see if she qualified, would she be interested in starting on a smaller scale with trying to obtain a Nebraska CAN or LPN degree.