



## NeighborImpact

Lisa

Domestic violence caused Lisa and her two sons, Mark and Peter,\* to abandon their Bend home. Fortunately, they could move in with family – Lisa’s parents. That safety, however, was short lived as the landlord threatened eviction due to excessive occupancy. Lisa and the boys immediately moved to the NeighborImpact family shelter to avoid her parent’s eviction.

While at the shelter, Lisa could continue to work. She managed to pay off debt associated with property she had purchased with her husband and buy a used car. Additionally, Lisa went back to school, saved enough for three months’ rent, and moved her family into a new home. Using the shelter not only kept this family from living on the streets, but also helped them to thrive. Lisa was able to continue working, save money, pay down debt, return to school, and start a new life with her boys. In December, Lisa will graduate from OSU-Cascades with a bachelor’s degree in psychology.

***At the 2016 Canadian Public Health Association’s annual conference speakers shared alarming statistics on links between domestic violence and community health. Survivors of domestic violence are roughly twice as likely to experience depression or have an alcohol use disorder, and are 16% more likely to deliver a low birth weight baby. Therefore, domestic violence has implications for society as a whole, and even future generations.***

\* All names changed to protect privacy.

*Community Action Agencies, like NeighborImpact, support low-income individuals and families, both directly and through partnerships with community organizations. **Read more about how Community Action Agencies are helping Oregonians find safe, stable, and affordable housing at [www.caporegon.org](http://www.caporegon.org).***