

# HAVING TRUE PURPOSE



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Clorissa faced enormous challenges when she welcomed into her home a family friend's three children who had entered the foster care system. As the children's case progressed, it became clear that they could not return to their original home, and Clorissa decided she wanted to become their forever family. However, as a "fictive kin" placement, she lacked the official support that state-approved foster homes receive. Clorissa faced numerous challenges in securing the support needed to care for the children. Despite these obstacles, she remained steadfast in her commitment, supported by her CASA volunteer, Liliana, who connected her with essential community resources.

Fictive kin placements often struggle due to the lack of financial support from DFCS, creating barriers for caregivers like Clorissa, who are deeply bonded with the children. Liliana played a crucial role in ensuring the stability of the children's placement, helping Clorissa navigate personal hardships, and accessing necessary resources such as furniture, hygiene products, and other household goods. These supports were vital in maintaining a nurturing environment for the children throughout the year.


Clorissa succeeded in providing a loving home for all seven children in her care. The dedication and perseverance of Clorissa culminated in a joyous adoption, when Alissa, Emilio, and Eva officially became part of Clorissa's family. This heartwarming success story illustrates the profound impact of community support and the importance of programs that United Way funds. With your support, United Way can help more families like Clorissa's overcome obstacles and provide loving, stable homes for children in need.



**YOU PROVIDE A FAMILY WITH HOME VISITATION SERVICES FOR ONE YEAR.**

Thanks to your gift to United Way last year:

**8,751**  children learned to recognize or prevent abuse.

**4,744** families and caregivers were provided with information, resources, tools, training materials, and teaching skills. 



United Way of Northwest Georgia