

# ROBIN'S STORY

Robin knows what it's like to battle health problems and all the related hardships that accompany serious illness. She lost her job with a cleaning company after a series of health crises, including two strokes and a heart attack. On her own with two children, suddenly she was homeless, and very ill.

She and her children found help at the YWCA Family Center, but the return to stability was rocky. While at the shelter, Robin was hospitalized and underwent gallbladder surgery. And her children, ages 8 and 6 at the time, were struggling in school, both with grades and classroom behavior.

Robin was matched with a rapid re-housing case manager from Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio, who works with families in shelter that need more intensive assistance to be re-housed and stabilized. Because of her health conditions, Robin and her family qualified for permanent supportive housing, which is subsidized housing coupled with health care, employment services, and other supports. Once in safe housing, Robin received help getting to medical appointments and began working on her resume. Without a high school diploma, her options were limited to cleaning, laundry, and housekeeping jobs, but she's not afraid of hard work and embraced any work she could find.

Today, Robin's children are thriving in every possible way. Her son is on the honor roll, plays the snare drum in the school band, and is a member of the theatre club. Her daughter overcame dyslexia and learned to read, and she plays the violin. Robin loves her children fiercely, and wants to continue to build a better life for them. "They are my everything. They are the air I breathe." She's working on her GED and has dreams of nursing school.

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*Home for The Holidays.*

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