



When was the last time your bills were more than your income?

June 2016



Dear Friend,

Do you recall a time when your living expenses exceeded your income?

I remember in college when a care-package from home made the difference in having shampoo and gas money. But Sarah's story tells a whole different struggle.

In our [newest video, Sarah's Story](#), Bridge of Hope participant, Sarah, explains that her daily work commute was four hours. The \$8/hour that she earned as a residential aide did not cover her gas, insurance, rent, and child care expenses of \$1,600/month. And, she had little time to spend with her sons.

Sarah had not been able to make time to study for and pass the medical assistant certificate test.

Her time with [Bridge of Hope Harrisburg Area](#) (PA) allowed Sarah to study (with help from her Bridge of Hope [mentoring friends](#)) and receive her medical assistant certification. This led to a higher paying job, and Sarah excelled at the budgeting skills she learned from her Bridge of Hope case manager.

Sarah's new job is closer to home, and she has more time with her sons!

Census data and studies find that [50 percent of single-mother-headed families are poor](#). Education and professional certification can help moms to attain a higher-paying career.

This [Atlantic article](#) explores why going to college is difficult for low-income single mothers. And, this [Washington Post article](#) examines anti-poverty programs that focus on parents and children at the same time – especially on quality education for both.

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Check out our newest video, [Sarah's Story!](#)



The [Sarah's Story video](#) explains: **“Bridge of Hope is about reminding moms what their dreams were and then being there to support them while they work toward those goals.”**

I'm grateful that Sarah was able to realize her dream of earning her certification and obtaining a higher-paying job that allows her to provide for and spend more time with her sons.

I'd love to [talk with you](#) about how trained Bridge of Hope mentoring friends from a church in your community can help a single moms facing homelessness to name and pursue her dreams.

What's New?

- Check out the "[State of Homelessness in America 2016](#)" report from the National Alliance to End Homelessness.
- Anne Dunnenberger, our Director of Outreach, will have an exhibit at the [Association of Gospel Rescue Missions](#) (AGRM) convention from June 7-10 in Jacksonville, FL. [Contact Anne](#) if you know a Rescue Mission that is at the convention or that would make a great Program Site - like [Bridge of Hope @ Safe Harbor Rescue Mission](#) (NC) or [Bridge of Hope @ Shirley's House of Hope](#) (WI).
- AGRM [featured](#) Bridge of Hope in their newsletter.
- July 26 is the 13th annual [Golf Classic](#) at [Foxchase Golf Club](#) (Stevens, PA). [Golfers and sponsors](#) invited. Special thanks to hosts [Signature Custom Cabinetry](#) and [Bomberger's Store!](#)

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Blessings,

Edith Yoder



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