



Our Daily Rest Case Study: Annette

One of our favorite residents at Our Daily Rest was Annette and her young son David. Although David had several health problems, including a heart condition, he is a very bright and well-behaved child.

Annette had left an abusive husband after his actions threatened David's health. She had family in the area but they were financially unable to help her and she refused to cause them any further hardship. When she and David arrived at the shelter, she was already working two jobs, one at a local diner and the other at a grocery store. David was able to stay with his grandparents and an older friend from church while his mother worked.

Annette had old debts to handle, just as a lot of our residents do, and she sometimes worked 60 hours a week to try and secure a future for her and David. Unable to keep up such a grueling schedule and devoting more time to her child, Annette focused on her job at the grocery store and proved just what an asset she was to their business.

After a few months, Annette was offered a supervisory position and was able to leave the late night job at the diner. With her debts finally paid down, and money in the bank, she was able to begin her search for housing. When she found an affordable apartment in a nearby town, the grocery store offered her a manager's position in that same town.

Annette and David now live in their own comfortable home. She has a secure job and is able to support herself and David on her own. She is a positive contributor to the community.

All most people need is a helping hand and someone who believes in them. With the support from Our Daily Rest, Annette was able to improve her employment, secure housing and provide a loving and stable environment for her son.

The most amazing thing about Annette was that she was able to keep her sense of humor, her faith and a beautiful bright smile for both David and other residents. All the staff and residents alike were sad to see them leave but so proud of her that she became a role model for others to follow.

Several clients were heard to say, "If Annette can do this, I can too!" We see Annette and David often as they come back to visit and volunteer at the shelter. Annette loves to cook and using her own resources, occasionally cooks an evening meal for the shelter.

Annette's story is proof that with hard work and perseverance, obstacles can be overcome.