



EMPOWERED VOICE

Together, you and Bianca are overcoming challenges

Bianca had just fled from her abusive husband when she called the New Beginnings' Helpline. Desperate for a place for her and her twin daughters to stay, Bianca was relieved to learn that we were able to offer her an extended hotel stay.

As Bianca worked to rebuild her life, you provided her with the help she needed. She connected with a mobile advocate who went grocery shopping for her, met her at her hotel a few times a week to provide one-on-one advocacy, picked up her prescriptions, and connected her to community resources.



Mobile Advocacy ensures that travel is no longer an obstacle to accessing crucial benefits like intensive support, access to community resources, and legal assistance.

Bianca got a Domestic Violence Protection Order and permission to leave the state with her daughters. Using flexible funds, our mobile advocate purchased bus tickets for Bianca and her daughters to travel to Montana to stay temporarily with a friend.

Bianca's journey with our mobile advocate did not end there. They continued working together over



the phone while the advocate tried to find a more permanent place for Bianca to stay when she returned to Seattle. Once she returned, she found a job and moved into transitional housing.

5 months passed, and Bianca called New Beginnings with an update. Here is what she had to say about **you**, the person behind her success:

"Thank you for being my rescuer at a time when my life was falling apart. I want you to know that I have found stable housing in an apartment complex only a mile from my new job in Kent. Thank you for giving me the help I needed to begin rebuilding a healthy life for my daughters and me."

You helped New Beginnings transition to mobile advocacy!

Did you know that many survivors have not been able to access services because they had no way of meeting with an advocate, even after they called our Helpline? Many abusers control and/or limit the places that survivors can go, often tracking their locations. For years, New Beginnings could only provide advocacy to the survivors who could come to us.

But you said this wasn't good enough. And we listened.

In 2015, our first mobile advocate joined the team. Mobile advocates meet survivors at the location of their choice and accompany survivors to appointments such as court hearings.

In just two short years, our mobile advocate has met with many survivors around the community, connecting them to resources, helping them to safety plan, and working with them to achieve permanent housing.

And thanks to your support, **all 19 of our advocates are now mobile.** Just imagine what you will make possible in the years to come!

The moments of success highlighted below are yours!



Coffee Shops



"When I called the New Beginnings' Helpline, I realized there was no way for me to get to their offices without three bus changes and over an hour of travel each way. I couldn't fit this into my schedule. Then I learned that an advocate could meet with me in my neighborhood. We started meeting at my favorite coffee shop. I have learned so much already and feel like I know what to do if my husband ever gets violent." – Nadeen



Churches



"I don't think I would have had the courage needed to go to New Beginnings' offices. I asked my advocate if we could meet at my church, so I started reserving a meeting room there each week. It doesn't seem very common for men to admit when we are being abused. One of my friends even told me to "man up." But meeting with an advocate made me realize that abuse can happen to anyone." – Je



Doctors' offices



"My husband rarely lets me leave the house, but he does drive me to a weekly appointment with my doctor. She arranged for me to meet with an advocate for half of my visit. It is not much time, but I have learned so much about my resources and feel so supported by my advocate." – Dalia



Libraries



"I knew there was no way I could travel to see an advocate, but I do take my daughter to the library on a regular basis. I asked if we could meet there, while my daughter is engaged in story-time. My advocate recently helped us move into a transitional housing program, and now I'm working with a legal advocate to get custody of my daughter. My advocate even comes with me to my court hearings, which makes me feel much more supported and confident." – Beth



Survivor Homes



"My boyfriend travels for work every week while I watch the kids. I haven't worked in years, so we depend on him to provide for us. I was not able to travel to meet with an advocate, but she said she could come to me. I have a close friend in our apartment complex who watches the kids while I meet with my advocate. I love that I don't have to leave my home to be able to use services." – Paige



Hotels



"Even though all the shelters in the area were full, New Beginnings was able to place my children and me in a hotel for a few weeks while we worked to find housing. My advocate came to meet with me regularly. I asked my company to transition me to an office in a more affordable part of the state. New Beginnings helped me to find an apartment and paid for my deposit. I still have to figure out so many things such as custody of my children, but having a permanent roof over my head makes me feel like I can breathe again." – Claire



Make a difference by donating Back to School items!

Help us to make sure that kids at New Beginnings have the items they need to start the school year off right. Please donate items by **Friday, August 25!**

How to donate:

1. Host a back to school drive for a specific student(s) & fill a backpack!
2. Choose items from our wish list and arrange a drop-off time
3. Donate money/gift cards

Wish List

- Backpacks
- Scientific calculators
- USB drives
- Pink erasers
- Glue sticks
- Black or blue pens
- Highlighters
- 3 ring binders
- Notebook paper (wide- and college-ruled)
- Spiral notebooks
- Two-pocket folders
- Graphing paper
- 3x5 notecards
- Fine and broad tip markers
- Crayons & colored pencils
- No. 2 pencils
- Mechanical pencils
- Pencil sharpeners
- Pencil boxes
- Headphones

Gift certificates for back to school outfits and shoes from:

- Target, Fred Meyer, Foot Locker, Ross, Marshalls, TJmaxx

For more information, contact Kerry at kdirk@newbegin.org or 206-926-3033

