

Epworth Work Day Offering

Sunday, September 14, 2025

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Your Kindness Helped Rescue Elliott and His Family

After their dad died two years earlier, 14-year-old Elliott*, his younger brother, Skyler, and their mom were left on their own, with little support from out-of-state family or friends.

Over time, Elliott's grieving mom sank into a deep depression. The boys usually found her in bed when they got home from school. For most meals, Elliott warmed up canned soup or improved. But after repeated reassurance made sandwiches. He oversaw Skyler's homework. He tried to keep the dishes and clothes washed, but the rest of the increasingly cluttered, messy house overwhelmed him.

One night his mother locked herself in her bedroom, telling the boys she was going to harm herself. Terrified, Elliott called 911.

First responders took Elliot's mom to the hospital to get her help. With nowhere else to go, the boys were brought to Epworth.

At Epworth, Elliott emphasized that the boys had not been abused like some of the other residents. His mom just needed help, he said. She had not always been this way.

While at Epworth, both boys improved their grades. Elliott especially enjoyed church and Bible study. Faith had never been a part of the boys' lives, and Elliott seemed hungry to learn all he could.

He felt guilty because caseworkers had determined that his mom could not regain custody until her health and the home environment from Epworth staff that he did the right thing, Elliott finally found peace. Soon staff noticed that on the boys' weekly phone call with their mom, Elliott was ending each call with a prayer.

Six months later, when the boys returned home, Elliott's mom hugged him tight and thanked him for saving her life.

Your support not only helps children like Elliott and Skyler and those who are neglected and abused, it helps countless families struggling with difficult challenges. Thank you for making a difference with your Work Day offering.

*Children's names and photos changed for confidentiality.

Epworth

Did you know?

children were adopted by Epworth foster families in 2024.

1,677

children, youth and families were served in 2024 because of your

100%

of your Work Day offering provides comprehensive care for the children