

Thanks to You, Brianna is Winning

Seventeen-year-old Brianna* came to live at Epworth three years ago. She and a sibling had been taken into protective custody after social workers discovered they were being physically abused by an adult in the home.

Reserved by nature and highly intelligent, Brianna was failing all her classes and getting into fights. She had come to distrust adults, felt powerless over everything, and resented peers who, unlike her, had been blessed with secure, less complicated childhoods.

Epworth counselors worked intensively with Brianna to help her deal with her accumulated trauma, fear and rage. They helped her understand that none of the abuse she endured was her fault. Along with Epworth's faith formation director, the counselors also helped Brianna realize that she is a beloved child of God who deserves all the beautiful gifts life can offer. They taught her to focus on con-

trolling the things she could – such as school attendance, the effort she invested in her assignments, and participation in extracurricular activities. Epworth tutors worked closely with her to help her catch up with her peers in school. Our activities director saw that Brianna was a naturally fast runner, so he encouraged her to sign up for a team sport.

In a few weeks, Brianna will graduate with honors. She is proud of the letter she earned from excelling in soccer. She is also proud of saving some money from her weekend job, which will come in handy when she starts college this fall.

In partnership with you, Epworth transforms the lives of many deserving young people like Brianna every year. Thank you for supporting this year's Mother's Day offering.

*Children's names and photos changed for confidentiality.

Epworth

Did you know?

111

Number of children and families who lived at Epworth last year, each one from our own communities in SC.

361

Number of children served through Epworth's Foster Care Program

100%

Of your Mother's Day Offering provides comprehensive care for the children at Epworth. Epworth is not an apportioned item in the Annual Conference budget. Mother's Day is your opportunity to support Epworth's ministry.