

Ruby's Story

"I had my daughter Evangeline at the age of 17. I was facing postpartum depression and anxiety for the first six months, and I don't really remember much about my pregnancy. It makes me kind of sad now because when I look back, it's like I don't really remember much of her being little.

I started facing homelessness when Evangeline was about a year old. I was in and out of places, couch surfing, and so my Children's Aid Society worker was trying to help me find shelter. All of the shelters were full in Toronto, so the only choice that I had was to go to Parry Sound.

I packed up all of my stuff and I went to Parry Sound. I was there for about a month and a half, but some problems arose, and I could no longer stay at the shelter. The only choice I had was to come back to Toronto.

After months of couch surfing and living in shelters, I moved into Abiona Centre. My first impression of Abiona Center was that it was very respectful and helpful. The staff were very helpful and understanding and they knew how to comfort me. I was very scared, nervous, and anxious because this was the first time that I was living on my own. They've helped me throughout the journey, and I've been enjoying it so much so far.



Abiona Center helped me go to school, where I graduated in June of 2024. They've also been helping me find a job and helping my daughter with her speech and language.

I've been living at Abiona Center for almost a year now, and it has been really helpful. My goals before moving here were to graduate high school, get a job, work for a few years until my daughter goes to kindergarten, and then go to college. I graduated from high school already, and now they are helping me to look for a job. Overall, my experience at Abiona Center has been great. I'm very thankful for everybody and everything that they do."