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How Free Childcare Helped Me Rebuild My Life

Hello everyone, my name is Kanatria Ramey, and I am honored to stand before you today to share my story. A little over a year ago, I was in a place I never imagined—homeless with my children, struggling to find stability. It was one of the hardest times of my life, but thanks to free childcare support, I was able to turn my situation around.

Like many parents, I wanted nothing but the best for my children. But life threw challenges my way, and I found myself without a stable home. Every day was a battle—not just to find shelter but to keep my kids safe, cared for, and in a routine that gave them a sense of normalcy.

One of my biggest fears was not being able to work or go to school because I had no one to watch my children. Without childcare, I felt trapped, unable to move forward.

Then, I found out about the Pitter Patter Learning Center. At first, I was hesitant. What if they judged me? What if I couldn't meet the requirements? But when I walked through those doors, I was met with open arms. The staff welcomed my children and me, providing them with a safe, loving environment while I focused on rebuilding my life.

Families experiencing homelessness should have access to Publicly Funded Childcare for at least a year. This support allows parents to become stable without the constant worry of how they will care for their children while working or pursuing education.

For a full year, my children had a place to learn, grow, and be surrounded by people who truly cared. Knowing they were in good hands gave me the chance to secure a job, work on my goals, and eventually find stable housing for my family.

Today, I am proud to say that I have a home for my children. They are thriving, and I am on a path that once felt impossible. The support I received through free childcare changed everything. It wasn't just about babysitting—it was about giving me the opportunity to rebuild my life.

To anyone out there struggling, I want you to know that help is available. You are not alone. And to those who support childcare programs—thank you. You are changing lives. I am living proof that when parents have access to resources, they can rise above their circumstances and build a better future for their children.

Thank you.

Kanatria Ramey