



United Way
of Tarrant County

Your support makes a difference

“After finding herself in a **downward spiral**, Mandie’s journey out of **poverty** started with a ride.”

When Mandie moved to the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex for a new job, she made a slight miscalculation on the distance between home and work. Not knowing the area, she had secured affordable housing in Fort Worth, but her job was in Plano. This commute wasn’t sustainable for long. She soon found herself in a downward spiral.

By the time Mandie found another job closer to where she lived, she was two months behind on her bills, and her car was repossessed. She moved to a hotel so she could walk to work. However, the walk proved to be too much.

Mandie began to experience significant pain in her feet. Her doctor said she was developing stress fractures and needed to walk as little as possible. She said she just kept putting one foot in front of the other, until one day, the pain became unbearable and she just couldn’t take another step.

Out of options, Mandie started paying a cab \$10 each way, but the cost of the cab was too much and she needed that money to help pay her bills. Overwhelmed and unable to reach her goals of independence, Mandie began losing hope. “I couldn’t even count on my own two feet anymore,” she said.

One day she noticed a Catholic Charities Fort Worth transportation vehicle. Mandie called the number and the voice on the other end was full of grace. For the first time in a long time, she felt a glimmer of hope. “It’s hard to put into words how wonderful it felt to be treated so kindly, when I’d been used to being treated as less or insignificant,” she said. After just one call to CCFW, Mandie was provided with a safe, affordable, and reliable solution.

Within two months, Mandie’s life began turning around. She was able to purchase a car. She was promoted twice at work and started working on her Bachelor’s degree in Business Management. She recently got married, and she and her husband are looking to buy their first home.

Thanks to Catholic Charities Fort Worth, her life has changed for the better. She still works with a CCFW case manager and is forever grateful for the support system the organization has provided during her entire journey out of poverty – a journey that started with a simple ride.



LIVE UNITED®



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Support more success stories like Mandie’s:

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