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REDUCING POVERTY.

Milwaukie High School Navigator

Community Health Worker serves families in helping to reduce truancy and health challenges.

Northwest Family Services came into my life during a very difficult time. The mother of my three children left us and moved to California. Concerned about the psychological impact that their mother leaving would have on my children, I came to Northwest Family Services. During my initial contact with the receptionist at NWFS, I learned that there was a Family Support Navigator at Milwaukie High School where my eldest son attended.

Financially, I was in a good spot; I had my own landscaping and construction company. Until, one day I fractured my knee and things changed. I was self-employed and not sure how I would get assistance to cover my medical bills, still cover household expenses, and the costs associated with my children and their extra-curricular activities in school. Luckily, I was connected to the Inside Out Program which covered my medical expenses.

I was unaware of the vast resources available to my family and I. Northwest Family Services helped us get connected to resources and provided a bus pass and a cell phone for my eldest son. Now he could attend his activities and stay connected to me. I know where he is at all times. My daughter, Christy, expressed an interest in wrestling and volleyball. With the help of Northwest Family services, the costs for those activities are now covered. My family has also learned and benefitted from local food pantries, a mental health service provider for the children, and health insurance. I am not sure that I would have known that these resources existed or even how to access them. My family and I now know where to turn in the event that we are faced with challenges in our future. Thank you Northwest Family Services!

-Northwest Family Services' Client

