

Why Prevention Matters – Churmell’s Story

Speaker 1: I am a full time single father of two beautiful children, Prince, who is eight years old and Princess, who is seven years old. I have the most amazing children in entire world. But, also we have faced so many challenges that made me feel less of a father. [00:00:30] One of the biggest supports, which is so many, that helped me to become a better father and the wellbeing of me and my children. One of those is, was when I was homeless, I got assistant house. After getting consistent for housing, I was able to afford better childcare. Because before I was paying \$900 a month, attending [inaudible 00:00:50] University, an 18 hour semester and also working two to three jobs.

Yes, there was a lot of stress on me at all times. I couldn't sleep. I couldn't think [00:01:00] because I was always figure out where our meal was going to happen. And then also another barrier was our car broke down, so I didn't have a car. So thank you to all the resources in the community. I was able to get a better car that somebody sold for me for one holler. That was amazing for me and my children that barrier was met.

And also too, being able to get my kids in free ed start program and also paying a very small amount of childcare payment each month. And lastly, the low income [00:01:30] housing was a big thing for us.

One of the biggest wishes I have is definitely to get rid of all of my debt, especially student loan debt. The biggest thing that I hope that I can definitely do for my children one day, really big dream of mine, is to buy a home. And so they can actually live in a community with other kids and play and we can ride our bikes in a great community.