

Kind HEARTED

YOUR GIFTS CHANGE LIVES

FALL 2025

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Ways to Work Program Builds Strength & Stability



As of the end of September, our **Ways to Work** program has closed **145** loans, compared to **59** by the same time in 2024.

1,426 clients have received financial literacy coaching so far in 2025, versus 683 in 2024 — a **48% increase** over last year.

We now have clients **across Virginia**.

The HumanKind Ways to Work program is having a record-breaking year providing fair-interest car loans to working individuals who need reliable transportation. Because of your support of Ways to Work, in recent weeks:

- a mom no longer has to walk along busy roads with no sidewalks while carrying her baby to run errands
- a worker stabilized his employment because he now has reliable transportation to get to work on time
- a family could eliminate expensive ride services to get back and forth to work and can now put those funds aside for other critical needs

Ways to Work is all about empowering families, reducing barriers, and creating lasting impact in our community.

"Allison and I wanted to pass along what a fantastic experience that we had working with the entire team at Ways to Work. With our struggles financially, our housing situation and other factors we felt that getting a reliable vehicle was out of reach. Once we were pointed in your direction everything turned around, the process was made easier by you and the team. You guided us through each step, eased our concerns, and made us feel hopeful on a daily basis."

— Recent Warrenton client



Learn more by scanning this QR code with your cell phone or visiting www.HumanKind.org/waystowork.



YOUR GIFT EMPOWERS CHILDREN & FAMILIES TO THRIVE



When Foster Care Builds a Bridge to Stability

Selah, Stella, and Sam all entered foster care in mid-2023 as the result of their parents being incarcerated. When the siblings entered the HumanKind Treatment Foster Care program, they were significantly behind on having their medical needs addressed, diagnosed as developmentally delayed, and were in need of wraparound support.

The siblings were all placed in the same foster home and with much grace, empathy, patience, and compassion, their foster parents assisted them in making strides in all areas of life.

visits with the siblings with the goal of being able to get them back home. The parents put in a lot of hard work, met their treatment goals, were able to secure housing and employment, and remained compliant with ongoing visitation. The parents were able to make significant progress as were the three children, and due to this, the decision was made to begin family reunification.

After about six months in foster care, the children's parents were released from jail and enrolled in treatment programs. While doing this, the parents also started to participate in ongoing

Throughout the course of this transition the foster parents were huge advocates for the birth family and supported this reunification fully. Additionally, leading up to the transition, the foster parents were able to build a relationship with the birth family and worked to ensure that all services and support were in place for the children.

Shortly after reunification, the birth parents faced challenges maintaining services and work schedules, prompting them to reach out to the former foster parents. Without hesitation, the foster parents stepped in — offering to care for the children over the weekend, organizing a meal train, and coordinating transportation to appointments. Their unwavering, judgment-free support helped the birth parents stabilize their routines, restore services, and maintain employment, ensuring the children's needs were consistently met.

Thanks to your investment, compassionate foster families, and committed birth parents, HumanKind Treatment Foster Care is building better futures for families!

Camila Finds Path to Brighter Future through EHS

Camila was a determined young woman who excelled academically and dreamed of leaving her small Virginia town to pursue a meaningful career, possibly in education. She loved working with children and held two part-time jobs caring for them, but becoming a mother at 19 was not part of her plan. With the support of her committed partner, Camila faced the reality of raising a child and soon expecting another, prompting the couple to relocate to Lynchburg in search of a better future.

The transition was difficult — Camila was unemployed, pregnant, and without affordable childcare options. She learned about HumanKind Early Head Start, a program offering childcare, coaching, and medical/developmental support to low-income families. Although she qualified, there were no immediate openings, leaving her discouraged. Without reliable childcare, unable to work. Months later, spots opened for both children, and Camila began her job search. Eventually, she was offered a substitute teaching position at Early Head Start, allowing her to work while staying close to her boys.

Camila quickly proved herself and earned a full-time role with benefits. Then, Camila's life took an unexpected turn when her partner left. Thanks to wrap-around services provided by staff, the children remained enrolled while Camila secured custody and a new home for her family. Camila also recognized a different career would better balance this new role of single parent, so with support from her Family Engagement Specialist, she returned to school. Today, Camila holds her head high. Her children are thriving, and so is she.



There remains a critical shortage of child care in the Lynchburg area. Help us expand our center to be there for other parents like Camilla. **Learn more at [Support.humankind.org/EHSstrongfoundation](https://support.humankind.org/EHSstrongfoundation) or snap the QR code with the camera on your phone.**



Teen Mom Grows Resilience with Help from Healthy Families Program

Healthy Families pairs expecting parents and those with young children with a family support specialist to

provide education and coaching to help move toward their goals and grow in their parenting skills.

"I am very proud of Kayla! She started services prenatally at 18, dropped out of school and was not working, and unsure about upcoming parenthood. We talked through a lot of parenting practices, and I gave her lots of research-backed information. She has made great, healthy, and safe decisions regarding her baby (who is now 6 months old). Kayla started working on her GED (high school diploma equivalent) and is one test away from finishing it. She wanted to start working and made a Family Goal Plan. She applied for jobs and has been working as a hostess and loves her job!"

— Family Support Specialist Therese



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Your generosity changes lives. Thank you!



With Your Help We Will Soon Double our Early Head Start Capacity

Help us build a strong foundation for families in our community. Construction has begun on expanding our Fenwick Drive center in Lynchburg.

Community members gathered to celebrate the groundbreaking (right). Won't you join them in helping build a strong foundation for stronger families?



HumanKind leaders and parents dig in!



Learn more at Support.humankind.org/EHSstrongfoundation or snap the QR code with the camera on your phone.