

## REMOVING THE BARRIER OF CHILDCARE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Nadja, a kindergarten assistant at Oakdale Elementary, dreamed of going back to school to finish her degree in early childhood education. She had arranged childcare for her son so she could take that next step toward building a better future for her family.

Then life shifted. A family member who had been part of her support system fell ill, and the plans she had so carefully made began to fall apart. Nadja searched everywhere for affordable childcare, but every option was either full, too far away, or simply out of reach financially. In that moment of uncertainty, what she needed most was a community to stand beside her.



That support came through the Childcare Scholarship she received from United Way of York County. This gift lifted the weight of worry off her shoulders. With her son safely enrolled in a quality childcare center, she finally had the peace of mind to focus on her future. She was able to keep working, save money, and return to school to continue her studies in early childhood education.

Today, Nadja leads her own kindergarten classroom, a result of her hard work and the support she received along the way. **Because donors helped remove the barrier of childcare, Nadja is on a clear path to build lasting financial stability for her family.**

Your generosity makes stories like Nadja's possible. **By giving, you are not only providing childcare but opening the door to education, opportunity, and a brighter future for families in our community.**