



## Success Spotlight

**S**ingle mother, Sara Jones, thought her life was taking on a new direction. She moved from her family and friends in another state to Palatka with her fiancé to start a life together.

When she got to Palatka, however, things changed. She separated from her fiancé and was left to figure out how to make ends meet in a new town.

While she was able to quickly find a job making \$10.50 per hour, it left her unable to make rent and child care payments.

Sara turned to the Early Learning Coalition for help. Through the ELC she met her Family Service Specialist, Vicki, with Episcopal Children's Services. Assessing the situation, Vicki found that Sara didn't have correct pay verification to initially qualify for assistance but assured Sara that the ELC would work with her. Vicki was soon able to get Sara alternative work-verification information and this let Sara find safe and legally operating child care while she worked.

"You didn't have to go to all of that trouble," a grateful Sara told Vicki. "You could have just told me that you couldn't help. I am so grateful you did though because I don't know what I would have done. I couldn't pay for everything without some help."

Because Vicki was doing the right job, Sara continues to work and support her child in a new city she now calls her home.

