

Homeless Families Out on Top!

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See that happy family in that picture? Do you think that's their true feelings? I'm Ari Dunn and that's my family and this is the TRUE story behind the clipping:

To tell you the whole story would take a millennium. Long story short, my mom's boyfriend's sister's name was on the house deed and she decided to boot us out. We (my mom, sister, brother and I) were sent to a shelter in Goodyear. (Avondale) Arizona (we were in east Mesa).

While we were in that shelter, we were required to go to school. So my mom enrolled us into Bradley Academy. I have to say that, that school is SMALL. To explain the school in 5 words or less, would be a catastrophe.

After that shelter we came back to Mesa and went to a shelter here. We went to Burke Basic School and the after-school program at the YMCA. Then we found Save the Family.

In Save the Family we went from homeless nobodies to one of the most successful stories in the program. While the kids went to art classes and homework helpers, the parents went to conferences where they talk about their problems with other people in the same situation.

When we were back on our feet, my mom got a lease-to-own house (the one we own now). We go to New Horizon School for the Performing Arts and after-school care at the East Valley Boys and Girls Club. My mom is PTO president and I'm in student council and I'm the Wellness Committee Chairman.

After what happened to us, a lot of people thought we wouldn't make it. They thought we would give up and just stay homeless. But look at us now, we came out on top. And I've never been happier. =)