



A Hand up, Not a Handout

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SPARC Hope (formerly Mom's Closet Resource Center) is designed to support the whole family. A support system, with mentors for myself and my children, as well as networking, finance management and household resources was just what I needed when I sought to change the lives of myself and my children. The many stressors that come with "single-mom life" kept me from completing school, saving money and being present in the lives of my children. With the support of SPARC Hope I was able to get my Associates, Bachelors' and Masters. Many years removed from the program now, I currently operate my own 501c3 Pathways to Economic Growth and Development, I sit on multiple community boards (LMG Civil Service Board - Chairwoman, NOIR Black Chamber of Commerce - Founding Member and Secretary and others) and I manage a low-income independent living senior facility in the Shively area. Soon enough, I will add grocery store owner, public civil servant and PhD to my list of accomplishments. All of which I couldn't not have done so easily without the support of SPARC Hope, Laura, Shelia, Ms. Mary, Cassie, the ladies at NECC that sent me motivating and encouraging messages - that always seem to find their way to me when I needed them the most. Many times, pride can get in the way of one's success - however, we must remember that no one can do anything alone. Take that help up, use it to change your circumstances. SPARC Hope was there for me, when my son got sick, when I got sick - they were and remain an extended family which I am forever grateful for. As I move forward with the conquering of my dreams and breaking the cycle of poverty for my children I reflect on the positive, life-changing impact SPARC Hope has had for me (and I hope so many others) here in our community.

