## **Families in Need**

## Who does Frisco Family Services Serve?

The affluence in Frisco is not as universal as many believe. While much attention is placed on the exciting boom, Frisco has also witnessed a growing population of families who are experiencing a financial crisis. Loss of employment, medical issues, death and divorce are all contributing factors to the rise of families and individuals needing assistance.

No matter the cause, poverty and financial crisis strikes a family at its most vulnerable points. Living below the poverty line puts tremendous strains on a household budget, often causing stress, hunger or nutritionally inadequate diets, disruption of utilities, health problems, lack of transportation, fragmentation of families, loss of a home, isolation, decline in self-esteem, and eventual desperation. These problems do persist in Frisco today.

## **Excerpts from client letters:**

We had recently fallen onto the hardest of hard times. We are the people next door, in a nice suburban family-oriented neighborhood with a swimming pool and jungle gym. We were about to lose our American dream. Our house was close to foreclosure, our utilities were on the verge of being shut off and we had nothing in the pantry or fridge. My husband had not been paid by his company in several months because their sales had drastically decreased. I ran out to get a better paying job as fast as I could, but we had already fallen months behind in bills and mortgage payments. Our family and friends were not in a position to help us. We turned to Frisco Family Services as a last ditch attempt to save our fate.

I am a single mom attending college, with two teenage children. I never thought returning to college would lead to the financial challenges that my family and I have faced over the past year and a half. I had always worked, provided for my kids and there was never a need to ask for assistance. Asking for help is probably the most difficult thing for me to do - but I had to do it. Having a roof over our heads was at stake.



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