



DOING THE MOST GOOD™

Success Story

Anna from Booth House

For six years, Anna had been living with her mother and sister in Syracuse after immigrating to the United States from Cuba. When Anna's mother was murdered two years ago, her father attempted to establish immediate custody. Anna informed Booth House that she had only met her father three times during the past 15 years and to make matters worse her father had been stationed in London, England. After an extensive amount of mediation at the time, Anna was allowed to move in with her 23-year old sister.

Unfortunately, Anna's sister lived with a domestically violent boyfriend who often took out his anger on Anna as well as her sister. Finally, Anna could no longer endure the boyfriend's abusive behavior and she left her sister's home in July 2010, seeking emergency housing from Booth House.

Booth House staff assisted Anna through the legal process of contacting the police and filing an order of protection against her sister's abusive boyfriend. Booth House staff also arranged ongoing mediation sessions between Anna and her sister in order to determine whether or not Anna would be able to return to her sister's home. The staff worked with Anna's sister, community advocates, child protective services, legal services and immigration services to determine a safe and stable housing plan for her.

Anna's father was pressuring her to move to London, England. Anna wanted to know what her rights were for remaining a resident of the United States. Booth House staff made a referral to UCIS for Anna to discuss her rights and her possible options. Booth House staff also facilitated telephone meetings with the youth, her father and her sister to discuss a local housing plan for Anna.

Ultimately, Anna's sister chose to evict her abusive boyfriend permanently from the home, allowing Anna to safely return and begin living with her family once again.