

Reshawn Goods

My name is Reshawn Goods, I'm 39 years old and a mother of two beautiful children. Life for me has been a real challenge I'm currently a survivor of domestic abuse and three years ago gave birth to my son who was born with VATERS Syndrome. Because of my son's condition I had to stop going to school, stop going to work and take care of him.

Since his birth we've lived in Children's Hospital Oakland. He had to physically stay there for four months and then go in and out for the 12 different surgeries he's had to have. That alone has made life very stressful, sad and very difficult financially. Now my son is entering school, he still has more surgeries but we are trying to create a life for him that is normal as possible.

I am returning to school and has been given an opportunity to work but transportation is a major issue. My other child who is now 14 years old goes to school and has an internship she has committed to. She will also be working with a community garden group.

Maintaining all three schedules and making sure that everyone is safe to and from their destinations are key for me. I've overcome a lot, I'm hopeful for the future, I'm ready to deal with the challenges that are to come but I seek some help, some light at the end of the road that will make it just a little easier.

To get all of us out the door using public transportation I have to get up at 6am with an hour of travel time, taking two buses to get the baby to school and I to work and school. Getting home takes even longer, in the dark and in the cold which can be scary to do where I live. Having a car would relieve a lot of stress. I could park that car inside the building where I live, getting in and out of it would be safe and I could rest easy at night knowing that we have a way to do normal things like laundry, grocery shopping and possibly a night out for this overworked mother.

Please consider our family we would be ever so grateful.