

Making Ends Meet for a Military Family

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The birth of their first child was supposed to be a joyful occasion for "Mike," a veteran, and his wife, "Julie". But while they were awaiting the baby's arrival, Julie was suddenly let go from her job. They were devastated—the family needed income from Julie's job to get them through the summer because Mike's job is seasonal. Julie suspected she had been a victim of pregnancy discrimination, and filed a complaint with the Department of Labor. Summertime brought the joyous arrival of their child, but also a season of hardship as Mike and Julie faced several months without any income. They didn't have savings to fall back on, and they could no longer meet their basic living expenses. With a new baby at home, they were worried about losing their apartment.

The couple contacted People's Resource Center, and we were able to help them make it through summer until Mike's job resumed by providing rental assistance. After that, PRC's Job Assistance program helped Julie find a Pharmacy Tech training program that guaranteed employment if she could finish the program successfully. With support from the PRC as well as their church, Julie finished the program at the top of her class!

During their time in the Family Connections program, monthly assistance from PRC enabled Mike and Julie to get back on their feet, pay off some debt, find affordable childcare, and build up some savings for emergency expenses. Additionally, the Department of Labor found in favor of Julie in the pregnancy discrimination complaint, and she was awarded back wages, which made it possible for the family to make needed repairs to their car. Julie and Mike are both working now, and have successfully graduated out of the Family Connections program. Julie and Mike say that they don't know what they would have done without assistance from Family Connections...the help was "a godsend" for them.