"You’re not thinking for yourself no more. You have a kid and whether it’s a girl or a boy, they’re looking at you as their role model, their advocate, so you have to be there."

- Jylisa, Job Training Participant

Jylisa was living in a shelter before being referred to New Moms. In January 2021, she gave birth to her daughter Ja’nylahh after an emergency C-section and almost suffering a stroke.

After recovering, Jylisa enrolled in our Job Training program and began working at our social enterprise, Bright Endeavors. She was promoted to team lead because of her task initiation and leadership skills.

“Bright Endeavors gave me a boost of confidence.” Jylisa said. “It’s like you’re working for them but they’re also working for you. They value your opinion. They make sure you’re okay, physically and mentally.”

Jylisa also graduated from high school during her time at New Moms and has enrolled at Malcolm X College in Chicago to pursue nursing.

To other young moms thinking about joining a New Moms’ program, Jylisa says that if she can do it so can they.