

C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation



2008 FAMILY OF DISTINCTION The Tammy Workman Family

Tammy Workman is a single mother of two boys, Aaron, age 13, and Kobey, age 9. In 2006 they were living with family and needed a home of their own. When a friend referred her to C.E.F.S., Tammy went to the Effingham County Outreach office seeking affordable housing.

Tammy had previously been a participant in the Workforce Investment Act Program. She enrolled at Lake Land College in 1994 and graduated in 1996 with an Associate in Applied Science with an Executive Secretary degree. The Workforce Investment Act Program was able to pay for her tuition, books, and fees. She also received assistance with daycare and gasoline through Supportive Services. In 2006, C.E.F.S. was able to further help Tammy and her family with energy assistance through LIHEAP, comprehensive housing counseling services, and free tax preparation services.

When Tammy expressed an interest in homeownership she was referred to Kristie Warfel, the IDA and Homebuyer Program Coordinator. Kristie enrolled Tammy in the Individual Development Program in April 2006.

Tammy was instructed on the importance of financial management. She completed ten hours of financial literacy, learning budgeting and debt reduction skills. She also completed six hours of homeownership counseling in preparation of becoming a homeowner.

Today the Tammy Workman family has succeeded in obtaining safe and affordable housing. Tammy now works full-time at Joint Active Systems. She is also a volunteer for the local Search and Rescue Team, a task that requires daily work with her dog in addition to weekly meetings. Most importantly, Tammy is now able to spend more quality time with her sons.



The Tammy Workman Family are the recipients of the 2008 Family of Distinction Award.

Pictured Left to Right: Aaron, Tammy, and Kobey Workman