



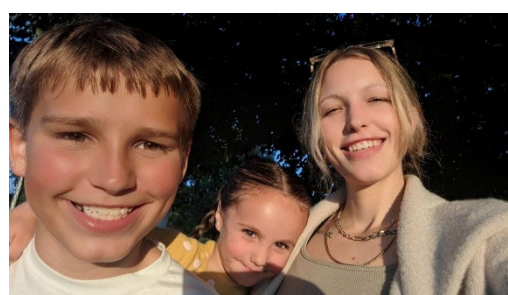
## Niagara Regional Native Centre

*“With time, I rebuilt trust and strengthened bonds within my family. Today, I stand proud of myself and the transformative potential within each of us.”*

As we prepare for the Haudenosaunee midwinter ceremony, a time for reflection, gratitude, and renewal, we are reminded of the power of new beginnings.

This sacred period inspires the work we do at the Niagara Regional Native Centre each day, as we foster an environment where healing, resilience, and cultural connection empower our community to thrive.

Your support plays a pivotal role in furthering our mission to *advance, foster, encourage and promote the cultural and social interests of Indigenous peoples*, while creating a supportive environment where every individual can realize their potential and build a brighter future.



**Bryanna with her children, Mason & Ava**

One such story is that of **Bryanna Gray**, a young mother who first became involved with NRNC through Abbey House, our women’s transitional shelter.

Reflecting on her journey, Bryanna shares, **“At 25, I found myself navigating a turbulent journey through addiction, alcohol, abuse, and deep emotional instability.”**

As she balanced the responsibilities of motherhood, she faced challenging family dynamics, “marked by difficult communication breakdowns.”

Yet, with guidance from her advocate, NRNC staff member Destiny Bailey, and the stability of Abbey House, Bryanna began to find her way forward. “It wasn’t easy; there were setbacks and moments of doubt,” she recalls, but each day brought newfound strength.

Through programs focusing on emotional health, self-reflection, and positive family relationships, Bryanna gained the tools to rebuild her life and reconnect with her family. “Today, I stand proud of myself and the transformative potential within each of us.”



## Niagara Regional Native Centre

**Now, she is looking ahead with renewed purpose—moving into her own home and beginning post-secondary education.** Her journey is a powerful reminder of what is possible when we stand in solidarity to uplift those who need us most.

With the season of harvest behind us and the renewal of midwinter approaching, we invite you to join our first annual **Dęgyatahahk Winter Campaign**. The word dęgyatahahk, meaning “you and I walk together” in Cayuga, beautifully reflects the shared journey of support and transformation.

Your donation will make an impact for individuals like Bryanna who are taking their first steps toward stability, growth, and hope.

**Will you help us carry forward this work into the new year with a gift that empowers Indigenous voices and creates lasting change?**

Nyá:węh (thank you) for standing with us and for sparking transformation in the lives of those we serve.

May the coming year bring you peace, renewal, and the joy of knowing you are making a profound difference in the lives of Niagara’s Indigenous community.

In friendship,

*Halley Irwin*

Halley Irwin

Director, Development & Community Engagement

Niagara Regional Native Centre



*Want to stay up to date on stories like Bryanna’s and other news from NRNC? Scan the QR code to sign-up for our monthly e-newsletter for information about our programs, events, and client stories.*

***Empowering Indigenous Voices, Sparking Transformation Together***

**Advance**

**Foster**

**Encourage**

**Promote**