

Getting Ahead Participant Remarks – 6/2/09

We can lean on each other

Learned a lot about poverty and the different ways it impacts us

I am debt free now

Developed deep friendships

Think differently and helped me to look at life differently

The bonding that happened is unique and very important

I thought I was alone in the world

I have a more positive attitude

It changed my beliefs

When I have to solve a problem, I look at it step by step

I want to help others

Helped to see the similarities between classes

I realized it isn't all my fault

I never thought about changing—now think differently

Sometimes families suck

Didn't think people were in the same boat, but found we are similar

Opened eyes—self-help—must change me before I can change anything else

I have grown from the experience

I was scared to take the class—didn't know how much potential I really had

Open to other resources

Childcare component is crucial

My kids loved the childcare. Thought Julie was Sister Carmen—Kids kept asking if we were going to visit “Sister Carmen” today. This was very reassuring.

I thought about how we could have the childcare be more educational and do fun things with the kids.

I want to set up a coop for buying local food with food stamps

Been through lots of classes—this different—bonding—I felt valued for the first time

Non-judgmental—other “step” programs are judgmental