



Heart of Florida United Way and Osceola County Council on Aging - Lifeline to the Outside World

When his elderly mother died, Charles*, a 50-year-old mentally disabled man, lost his only connection to the outside world. Abandoned by his siblings and unable to fend for himself, he was alone, homebound and unable to purchase food or prepare meals.

Fortunately, his situation was brought to the attention of the Osceola County on Aging, Inc., a United Way partner agency, which provides services that encourage independence and self-sufficiency for seniors, disabled adults and disadvantaged families.

Once enrolled in the agency's Meals on Wheels program, Charles began receiving home delivered meals and regular visits from people who genuinely care about him. In addition, his Meals on Wheels case manager got him involved in other services and activities offered by agency.

Thanks, in part, to United Way funding, Charles was rescued from a downward spiral of neglect, loneliness and despair and is now living life more fully than ever before.

* To protect the client's identity, a different name has been used.

By supporting Heart of Florida United Way, you help fund nearly 100 local agencies such as the Osceola County Council on Aging, whose programs are making a critical difference in people's lives. You also become part of United Way's work to prevent critical problems by focusing on four key areas: Building Safe Communities; Improving Financial Stability; Developing Healthy Children and Families; and Alleviating Hunger and Homelessness.