



FSS Program Helps Kabutera Achieve Goals

When Roda Kabutera arrived in the United States from Rwanda in 2000, she spoke little English and knew even less about life in Lincoln. Thanks to the Lincoln Housing Authority's Family Self-Sufficiency Program, Kabutera learned a second language and began a new career.



"The program and the people who run it helped me a lot, without a doubt," she said. Kabutera said FSS Caseworkers Elizabeth Redhage and Susan Tatum, "helped so much with everything," including assisting her get to English classes—her native language is French—and answering questions about living in Lincoln, and the United States in general.

"I learned things little by little, and I couldn't have done it without Elizabeth and Susan," she said. The program also enabled Kabutera to train for her career as a certified nursing assistant. She has worked as a CNA at Lincoln's Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital since last August.

Kabutera and her three children will soon move to Dallas for the warmer climate, which doctors recommended for her son, who has asthma. "When we first came here from central Africa, the cold weather was a big surprise," she said. "I'm definitely looking forward to warmer weather." But, she said, she will be "forever thankful" for the help she received from the FSS program.

"It's the best program," Kabutera said. "If I know of anyone who needs help, I'll be sure to tell them about it."



Roda Kabutera, a recent FSS program graduate, began her career as a certified nursing assistant last summer.