

REAL STORIES, REAL IMPACT

[Hope Community](#)

A New Language, A New Life: Marzia's Story

Six days a week for five years, Marzia studied English, writing and math at the [Hope Learning Center](#). Seven years ago she and her four children moved to Minneapolis from Afghanistan and became tenants of Hope Community. When she first arrived, Marzia remembers how hard it was to understand English.

Today she speaks and reads English fluently. Marzia's eldest daughter is a nurse's assistant and a graduate of Minneapolis Community and Technical College. Her son aspires to be an engineer. And her two youngest children are involved in Hope's tutoring program with Project for Pride in Living.



Over the years, Marzia's community has grown – daily Hope Learning Center classes, summer involvement in the neighborhood garden and morning visits by the fireplace with the Hope staff. When asked what Hope means to her, Marzia expresses, "The people of Hope have become like a family to me."

Total TC LISC support: **\$1,520,466** in grants and loans since 2000

Our COACTION Fund grantees share real life stories about the impact of their community development work on local residents. [COACTION Fund](#) is a \$3.3 million capacity-building effort to support 15 high-impact, local community development initiatives. The Fund focuses on new and existing partnerships between Twin Cities organizations working to connect physical improvements in neighborhoods to economic opportunity for residents.