

**HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY FROM FIRST SHIFT JUSTICE PROJECT**



*Well, son, I'll tell you:  
Life for me ain't been no crystal stair.  
It's had tacks in it,  
And splinters,  
And boards torn up,  
And places with no carpet on the floor—  
Bare.  
But all the time I've been a-climbin' on,  
And reachin' landin's,  
And turnin' corners,  
And sometimes goin' in the dark  
Where there ain't been no light.  
So, boy, don't you turn back.  
Don't you set down on the steps.  
'Cause you finds it's kinder hard.  
Don't you fall now—  
For I've still goin', honey,  
I've still climbin',  
And life for me ain't been no crystal stair.*

"Mother to Son," Langston Hughes

### **Love.**

First Shift mothers climb those stairs because they love their children. And they know that if they keep climbing, their children will climb farther.

These women are making it happen, for their families and themselves: They are getting their kids to school, working, taking classes, making dinner . . . and comforting and tickling and hugging.

**Help them climb that next stair. Give them the courage that they lack on their worst days. And bring hope to their children, who will follow in their footsteps.**

Since Fall 2014, First Shift has provided legal services and education to approximately 270 pregnant women and new parents regarding pregnancy and family responsibilities discrimination; accommodations for pregnancy and breastfeeding; and family medical leave. We have also trained over 250 medical providers about how to support their patients in requesting workplace accommodations.

**Your tax-deductible gift will empower low-income working mothers throughout the Washington Metropolitan Area. Thank you for your support!**

Sincerely,  
Laura Brown, Executive Director



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