

**A Little
Story
About
Cassie and
Marcus**



**and Kid
Success**

Brilliant**Detroit**
creating kid success neighborhoods

My name is Cassie!

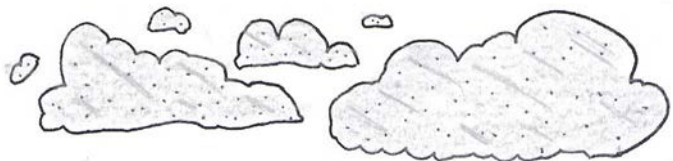
I'm seven and I live with my Mom and my little brother, Marcus. I love my family and they love me! (I also really love to draw.)



this picture
with hearts
marcus only sort of likes



Mom had to **work a lot** to take care of us. Sometimes she couldn't buy all the food we wanted to eat, and we would be hungry.



We lived in a house that Mom could afford in a neighborhood where everything **seemed like it was always gray,** with empty lots everywhere, and no play areas.

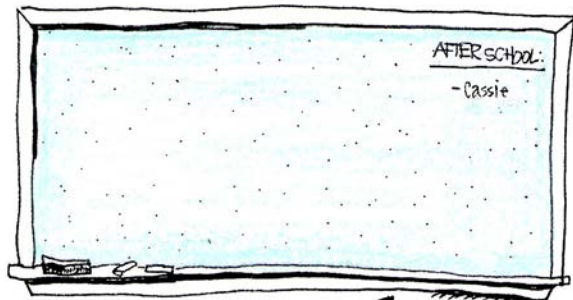


Sometimes I had a hard time sleeping –
**nighttime didn't
feel safe.**

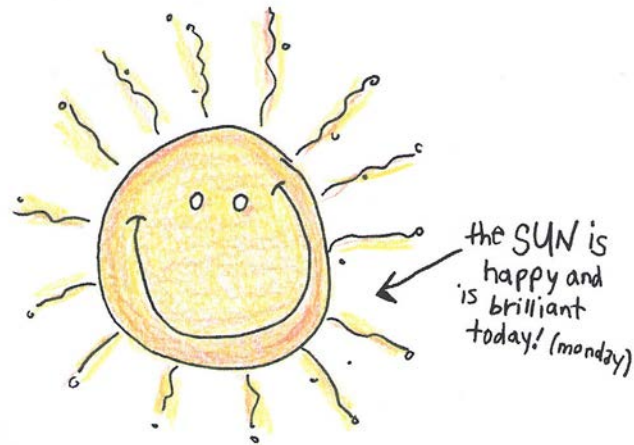


I wanted to go to school close by,
but our neighborhood school,
and lots of others had closed.
Marcus and I had a hard time
and my teachers told me

**I was behind
in my school.**



that's my classroom board →



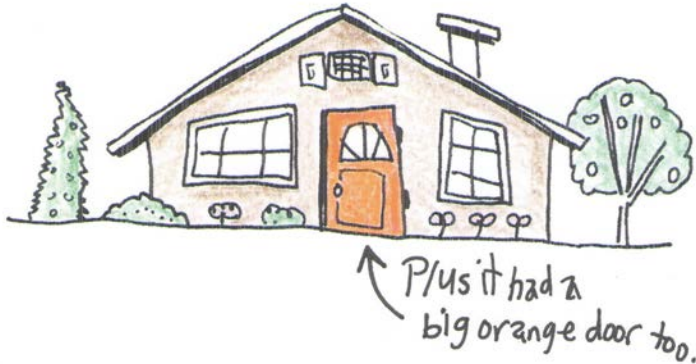
Then something happened;

**something
brilliant!**

Mom came home one day talking about

a group called Brilliant Detroit.

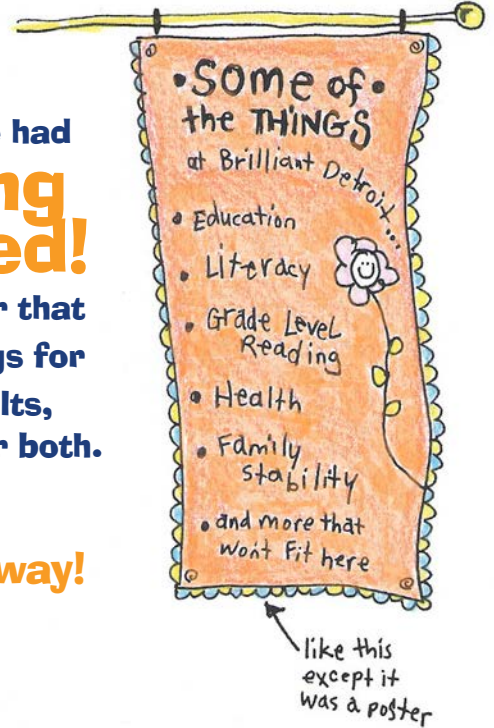
They had come to our neighborhood
and fixed up a house to be
a family center.

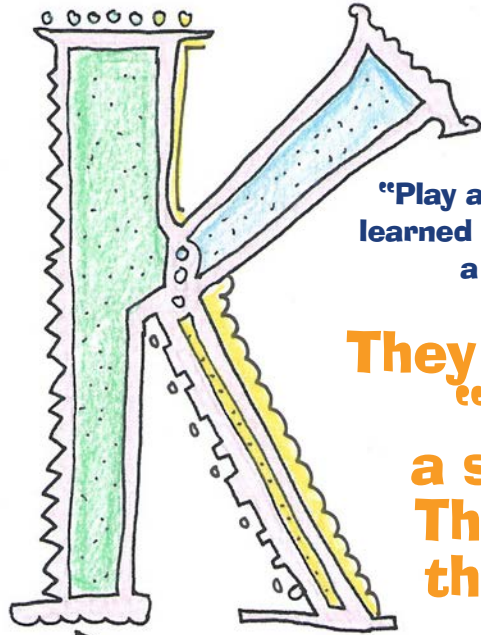


She said the house had
**everything
we needed!**

There was a poster that
showed some things for
kids, some for adults,
and even things for both.

**And it was just
a quick walk away!**





↖ this is my own
art drawing

On his first day, my
little brother Marcus
and Mom went to a
“Play and Learn” where Marcus
learned about the letter “K” with
a group of other little kids
and their parents.

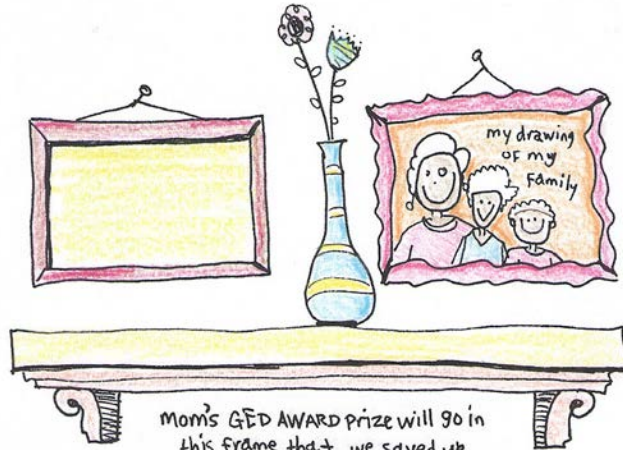
**They talked about
“K,” and sang
a song about it.
They even drew
things about it.**

He had so much fun!

I went to tutoring where I got to
**play games and
read books**
with a buddy. It was a lot more fun
than I thought it would be!



↖ the best games and the best books are
ALWAYS on the bottom shelf. (always)



Mom did activities too.

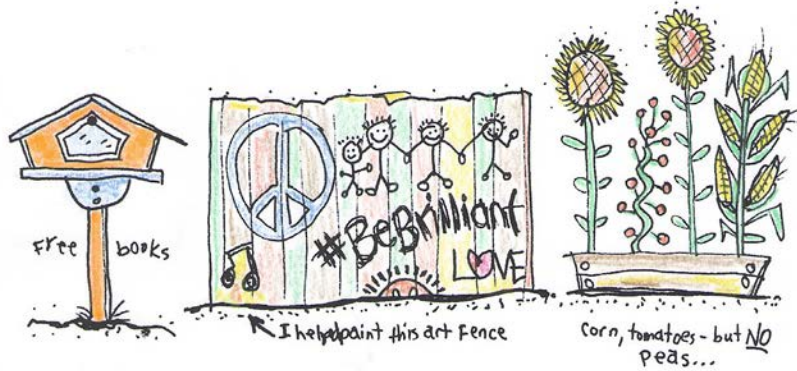
At home, she told us about her GED class that had also happened at the house.

She said it would help her get a better job.



Then, the neighborhood started to look bright and feel fun because Brilliant Detroit got everyone's ideas for a park which they built next to the house.



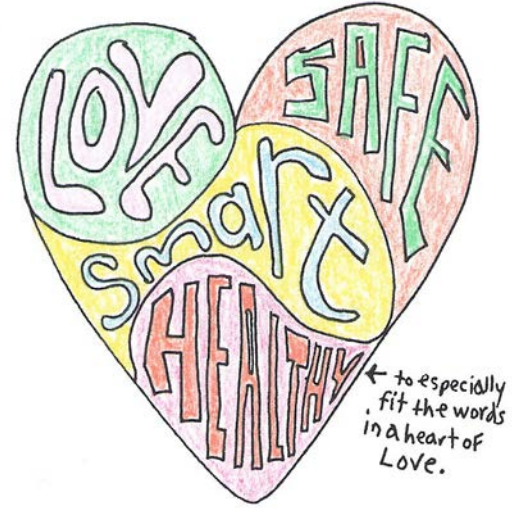


The house also had a
Little Free Library,
and the neighborhood helped
paint a fun mural
on a big wood fence.
We even **grew a garden** together,
which was so fun!

We started meeting our neighbors and
some became
my best friends.



This place called **Brilliant Detroit** is like our **second home**, and even hired Mom after she got her **GED**. With her new job, Mom is able to make sure we aren't hungry.



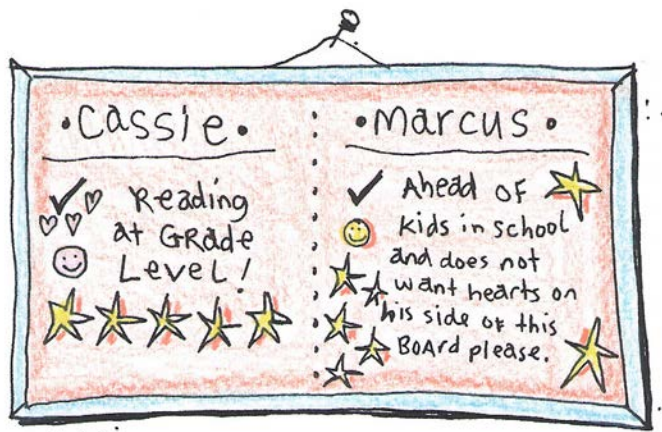
**I feel loved, safe,
and able to become
smart and healthy.**

My family does too!

Eventually, Marcus started school
ahead of his classmates, and I am finally
reading at my grade level.

**This is thanks to
Brilliant Detroit,**

where kid success happens in neighborhoods.



**Become a kid success member
and do one of the following:**

- **Join** a Brilliant Detroit home
- **Volunteer**
- **Give donations** either in-kind or financial to help create more Brilliant Detroit homes
- **Make sure all** of our Cassie's and families get what they need to be successful in life

**We hope you'll join us,
because every child just like
"Cassie" deserves to be
a child from a
kid success neighborhood!**



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