Retirement Solutions Group, Inc. partnered with the Gradient Gives Back Foundation for the third year to surprise a deserving recipient by paying rent — in this case mortgage — payments for a year.

Greg McGee and Ryan Moore, principals at Franklin's Retirement Solutions Group, asked Brittany Anderson to visit the office for an interview on Wednesday.

Anderson, a young mother of two from Spring Hill, lost her husband eight months ago in a tragic accident. She applied to the program because of the financial burden her family has had living on one income.

What Anderson didn't realize when she got to Retirement Solutions Group Wednesday was she had already been chosen.

After meeting with McGee and Moore, they walked her down a hallway where, unbeknownst to her, representatives from the Gradient Gives Back Foundation, her best friend Abby Cox and bright camera lights were there to capture her surprise.

"I feel relieved," Anderson said. "This takes the burden off of me and gives me opportunities to give myself time to grieve without the financial burden."

Moore explained why Anderson was chosen, and McGee shared how much her story impacted them. Tears were shed by everyone in the room after seeing the joy on Anderson's face.

In addition to her mortgage being paid, Moore shared that Anderson would receive a \$1,000 gift card to Kroger, \$200 gift card to Walmart, gift bags with toys for her children and beautiful flowers for her.

It took a few minutes before she saw Cox was in attendance. Cox came to support her friend because she knew it could be an overwhelming experience by herself.

The two friends have been inseparable since the accident. Cox was among other couples with the Andersons when the accident happened on Center Hill Lake and has since helped the family with meals, childcare and providing a listening ear and loving heart.

"Going to one income has been hard," Anderson said. "A lot has been asked of us these last eight months."

Moore and McGee said they don't just give the money and then not keep in touch. With the past recipients, they've continued to monitor how things are going and even send gifts on holidays. They will continue to be a presence in Anderson's life going forward.

Generosity is key for the two partners, and they shared that others had given money to make Wednesday's presentation even better.

Gradient Gives Back Foundation is a Minnesota-based nonprofit organization that devotes its resources to assisting Americans in need.

To learn more about the program and Retirement Solutions Group's involvement, visit www.rsgtn.com/rsg-gives-back.