



**every homeowner
has a story**

Future Habitat Homeowner Aishia H.

Aishia H. balances her time between being a full-time worker and a full-time mother. Her son, Makhi (14), is into video games, basketball, and playing string bass in the orchestra at his school. Aishia currently works as a TJ Maxx ticketer but hopes to return to Toyota in a few years once her son is ready for college. Between work life and home life, Aishia reinforces that her son is her main priority. **"Makhi is what keeps me going,"** Aishia says.

Aishia and her son have bounced between small and expensive apartments in not-so-ideal neighborhoods to now renting a small two-bedroom home. **"The whole house is small...kitchen, living room, bathroom...it all feels tight. There's not enough space for two people to live comfortably,"** Aishia explains.

Aishia knew a few people who own Habitat homes, so she decided to check it out and applied. This opportunity will bring many positive improvements. **"The Habitat home will be larger than the one I'm renting, and Makhi is excited for the home too."** Since partnering with Habitat to own her own, affordable home, Aishia has been spreading the word. **"I've been telling my friends to come and apply,"** she states.

There are so many moving parts in the process to getting her own home, but Aishia takes it all in with positivity and excitement. **"I love the Money Management class because it's teaching me to save. Also, I like getting out in the community. I like working with the Core Crew members and I like learning all the different parts of the build prior to working on my own home,"** Aisha says. **"I'll be the first person in my family to own my own home – ground up."**

Homeownership has been a dream come true for Aishia. **"My dream was to own my own home. I want to save my money...I want to build up my rainy day fund and then save up for a vacation in five years! When I get done, I'll have my own home. We won't have to move again and we won't have to worry about rent being raised. I'm showing my son that you can achieve anything if you work hard and put your mind to it. It takes time and dedication,"** she says. **"We can start our own memories in the new home because this home will be ours."**