



 **Habitat for Humanity**[®]
of Evansville

**every homeowner
has a story**

Future Habitat Homeowner Ashley B.

Ashley B. is the mother of one son, Donovan (6), who loves basketball and Power Rangers, and starts 1st grade in the fall. Ashley has been a daycare coordinator at Donovan's school for three years, and she has worked with the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation (EVSC) for seven years total. Ashley and Donovan also attend Little Valley Baptist Church together, and they are excited for the possibilities their new home will bring.

Safety is the primary issue in Ashley's current living situation. Although the duplex she rents is brand new, the neighborhood is not one she wishes to raise her son in. **"There is a gunshot on the side of my house,"** she explains. Ashley looks forward to moving to the Glenwood area, where she is familiar with the neighborhood and the people. Her new house will also fulfill her dream of becoming a homeowner, and her low mortgage payments will help her get off of government assistance.

Ashley heard about Habitat for Humanity of Evansville because she knew several Habitat homeowners. **"I have a lot of family members who have gone through the Habitat program,"** she states. **"They encouraged me to apply."** From the start, Ashley has considered the process a quick and positive experience. **"The first 50 hours of sweat equity are the most difficult, but after that, everything goes by smoothly, especially with family and friends helping me with my sweat equity on Saturdays."** Ashley also says the budgeting class she is taking through Habitat has been very useful to her, and it is helping her understand ways to save and cut back on spending.

There are many things Ashley is looking forward to in her new home, including building a fence in the backyard for her son to play in, having a safe area for them to ride their bikes together, and maybe even one day owning a pet. The home will provide a bigger kitchen for breakfast on Christmas morning and extra room for storage and a place to play games. It will also mean a secure place for both Ashley and Donovan, and a house for her son to inherit in the future. **"I want my home to be the house in the neighborhood where the kids all come to play. I want to have a basketball goal, a bonfire pit, and lawn furniture – everyone will be there."**

With becoming a homeowner in sight, Ashley is eager for the opportunities to come. **"This house will be ours, and we can fix it up how we want,"** she says. **"This home is the next piece of our future plans."**