

Leona Daugherty and Carlos Urbina



Future Homeowner Bio

Leona Daugherty and Carlos Urbina found out about Habitat for Humanity from family members. Although initially denied for partnership because of credit issues, when those obligations were taken care of, they re-applied and were approved for homeownership.

Leona grew up in Muhlenburg County, Kentucky, and moved to Evansville in her 20s. She lived with family members first and later lived in public housing. Her mom and dad never were able to own their own home. There weren't opportunities like Habitat in Muhlenburg County, says Leona. She and Carlos are determined to have a better life and to get away from rental situations that are not good environments for raising a family. She says one of the things she's learned in life is that **"if you want something badly enough, you have to go after it."**

Leona and Carlos have three children, Leticia, 26, Juan, 15, who goes to Central High School, and Miguel, 12, who goes to Thompkins. Miguel has a mild form of autism and Leona says she is grateful for the special help he gets at school. Carlos works at Uniseal and Leona devotes her time to caring for the family, especially Miguel.

One of the things they enjoy the most about Habitat is meeting good people — nice people who are willing to help. They also enjoy learning new things on the construction site as they work on sweat equity hours. **"You want your children exposed to kind people, not people who don't care and are making all sorts of bad choices."** She is a firm believer in the importance of a positive environment and she sees owning a Habitat home as providing that for her family.

Leona and Carlos look forward to the independence they will enjoy once they are in their own home. They will be able to leave something of value to their children and grandchildren and see a bright future ahead because they've made a decision to **"go after it!"**