



 **Habitat for Humanity**<sup>®</sup>  
of Evansville

**every homeowner  
has a story**

## **Future Habitat Homeowner Carol R.**

Carol R. currently lives with her son, Josh (33), a cockatiel named Pepé, and a puppy named Jersey. Carol enjoys collecting Marilyn Monroe memorabilia and palm trees, and loves watching TV. Josh has autism with developmental delays, so Carol is his primary caretaker. Aside from the times that Josh is at adult day care, Carol spends her time caring for her son and building and maintaining that relationship. Between her sociable son, a visiting daughter, a bird, and a puppy, Carol's home is a busy one.

Carol and Josh currently live in a two-bedroom townhouse in an apartment complex. **“There isn't enough space to have people over and for our possessions. The home has stairs, and we are really looking forward to having a single-floor home with a laundry room on the main floor,”** Carol says. **“Where we are now, there are a lot of rules and regulations so we are looking forward to homeownership where we can do what we want with the home.”**

With the help of Carol's daughter, Shanon, Carol decided to apply for the program at Habitat and begin the journey to affordable homeownership. **“I've always known about Habitat, but I didn't think I was eligible,”** Carol explains. **“It was when my daughter learned more about the program that we finally applied.”** Since application, Carol and her family have worked hard to make the dream of owning a home that much more real.

Oftentimes when working on a Habitat home, strangers can build relationships, and old classmates can reconnect. **“Josh really enjoyed helping with the floor system on Mateo's home. We hammered nails that day, and it meant more because [Josh] had gone to school with Mateo,”** Carol says. **“I've met so many great people through working on the site and in classes. I've realized that it's really a special thing...everyone working toward the same goal. I love building these friendships.”**

Upon the completion of her home, Carol feels as though she can breathe a sigh of relief. **“It means security. After I'm gone, Josh will have a place to call home,”** she says. Carol and her family will be able to build a sturdy foundation and have a comfortable home environment. **“Josh wants to have a home where he can invite friends over. I'm looking forward to having more freedom from owning my own home...inside and outside. I'd like to do some landscaping. It's neat that we will have all new appliances!”**

**“This home means a different kind of freedom...it'll be our home.”**