



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

**every homeowner
has a story**

Future Habitat Homeowners David B. and Alexia W.

Dave and Alexia are a family-oriented couple working hard to build a better future for themselves and their children. They are the parents of five kids: Simon (24), Asher (22), Gillian (10), Finn (9), and Willow (3), and they also have a cat and a dog named Ginger. While Simon made a recent move to Texas, the four younger children live with Dave and Alexia. When Dave is at work, Asher plays a particularly important role in the home as a caregiver to Alexia, who battles the daily struggles of her relapsing multiple sclerosis (MS).

The children enjoy learning and playing, and Asher in particular enjoys engaging and volunteering with the community. However, their current home does not provide a safe environment for the kids to run around and explore outside. The house has no backyard, and the front yard lies next to a busy bus lane. **“Safety is an issue where we live now,”** Dave explains. **“We want to have space for the kids to play hopscotch and jump rope outside.”**

Having a one-story home is also important for the family. In their current house, Alexia’s MS and Dave’s arthritis often prevent them from being able to go up the stairs and be with their children. They are eager to have a space that contributes to a stronger sense of togetherness. **“We’re excited to have a place where we can sit in the kitchen and hear the kids playing.”**

Dave and Alexia learned about Habitat for Humanity through their friends Marsha and Tom at their church. **“Marsha was very sweet, and she talked us into applying,”** says Alexia. **“We are very thankful for the day we met them.”** Shortly after, the family began the application process, and a month later they received their acceptance call. **“We built it up in our minds that we weren’t going to get it after a string of bad things... but when we got the call, it was wonderful. We were so excited!”**

Since their acceptance, the family has been actively engaged with Habitat, working hard in anticipation of a brighter future and a place to call home. They have also received an outpouring of support from family, friends, co-workers, and their church family. The sweat equity process has been a rewarding one, especially for Dave and Asher. **“Asher and I have both enjoyed working and doing something together. The build sites are a place where we can do good and not be judged,”** Dave says. **“Everyone has been really nice, from the ladies doing the home inspection to the accountant helping with budgeting.”**

The family’s new home will create many opportunities for them, and they have eagerly begun planning. **“We want to have an organic vegetable garden, just like Dave’s dad. We want to grow what the kids love to eat, so they can just run out and pick it! And we want to have them learn how to grow things as well.”** The new home will also provide a safe place for the kids to run around and play outside with their dog. Additionally, the Habitat house will give them a place to truly call home. **“We really want to have a house that is a family home... somewhere the kids know they can always come back to if anything was to happen.”**

As they continue their work with Habitat, Dave and Alexia have a piece of advice for other potential future homeowners. **“For all those in similar situations... Apply!”**