



**every homeowner
has a story**



Future Habitat Homeowner Jacki B.

Jacki is a hardworking mother who is excited for the possibilities her partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Evansville will bring. She has three children, Jordan (21), Jeremy (19) and Jillian (17). Her oldest, Jordan is grown and is out on his own, but he's looking forward to making memories with his family at "mom's house" in the future. Jeremy is an Aviation Management student at Purdue University and is working toward a license to fly privately owned planes. Jillian still lives at home and attends school locally; she loves all things music and has played the trumpet since 6th grade. Jacki, once a stay-at-home mother, now works with the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation (EVSC) at Jillian's high school.

The family currently rents a two-bedroom home. Jacki explains that choosing the rent house made sense at the time due to its ideal location near work and school. However, the house has several maintenance issues, and the price and size keep it from being ideal. They are looking forward to having a home that is truly theirs and meets all of their needs.

Jacki learned about Habitat several years ago when Jillian was in a Girl Scout Troop. **"The girls in the troop painted two-by-fours that later went into a Habitat home, so I've known about Habitat for a while,"** Jacki explains. **"However, it wasn't until recently when I heard a Habitat story on the news that I was reminded about the organization and the work they did, and then I decided to apply."**

Since the start of her sweat equity process, Jacki says everything has "fallen into place." Her hard work has helped make the positive experiences ahead of her family even clearer. **"My first day on the build site, I was raising the walls on Steve's house, and as I did, I could see the good future ahead of us with our own home. Seeing that brought me peace of mind."**

Jacki has also appreciated the kindness of those working with her. **"I've met a lot of really nice people through Habitat,"** she explains. **"The Core Crew is awesome – they are all really kind and patient."** She adds that even after her home is built and her 300 hours of sweat equity are complete, she wants to continue working with Habitat to help build more homes.

Jacki is excited for the new opportunities that will come from having a home she and her family can call their own. **"This home is the light at the end of the tunnel. The number one word that comes to mind when I think about what it means for our future is 'security.'" With a third bedroom, Jeremy will have a comfortable place to stay over the summers and when he is home visiting from college, and the low mortgage cost will allow the family to save for both important and fun events. "The zero-interest is a huge bonus. The house will cost almost half of my current rent, so I'll be able to save up faster for these small trips."** Perhaps most importantly, these savings and opportunities will help with both Jillian and Jacki in their college careers. **"My plan is to assist Jillian with college. She's looking into music careers,"** Jacki states. **"I also want to go to school, possibly to learn American Sign Language through the IvySucceed program. All three of us would be in college at the same time!"**

Jacki and her family are eager to own their new home, and their time with Habitat has revealed some valuable truths. **"Working with Habitat has reminded me what you can accomplish when you work together as a team,"** says Jacki. Jillian adds, **"And I've learned you don't have to be a man to build a home."**