



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

**every homeowner
has a story**

Future Habitat Homeowner LaToya M.

LaToya M. is working very hard to upgrade to a house for her family. Her children, Ta'Liska (11) and Asaata (4), mean the world to her and she is continuously striving to provide a solid foundation for them. Ta'Liska, a 5th grader at Stockwell, likes dancing hip hop, while Asaata is enrolled in Head Start. LaToya has been cleaning as her current employment and is really focusing on getting as many hours as possible. Being a single mother can be tough, but LaToya works to maintain her family as one.

Currently living in a two-bedroom apartment, LaToya is ready to upgrade and have more space. **"I'm ready to be out of the apartment-style of living and be farther away from neighbors. I'm also ready to be in a one-level house, since we are currently on the second floor. Packing food and transport is a lot of extra work going up the steps,"** LaToya says. Moving away from an apartment and into her very own home will relieve various struggles and open the doors to a brand new way of comfortable and affordable living.

LaToya learned about Habitat through family members who have their own Habitat house. She applied for a Habitat house several years ago but didn't qualify. **"My family encouraged me to reapply, so I did and I got accepted after my home visit,"** LaToya explains. With the help and support from her family, LaToya has been able to push through and begin the process of homeownership.

Since starting her partnership with Habitat, LaToya comments that **"trying to see [her] friends and family is challenging."** Because of Money Management courses through Habitat, LaToya is able to learn about budgeting and making sure everything fits within that set budget. Even though adapting new skills can feel foreign, she knows that this will mean a lot for the future of her family. **"My family will have finances in case something were to happen to me. I'll be glad when the home is paid off, and I want to get it paid off quickly...that would be really nice."**

For LaToya, the feeling of accomplishment is a big deal and the process of becoming a homeowner has been challenging. Seeing the everlasting rewards will be huge. **"I like that we could add on if we wanted...put up a fence outside too. I'm looking forward to having space and extra seating for when the family comes over, and letting the kids decorate the house the way they want. We have to maintain it because it's ours...we won't be living here for a few years and moving out, but staying long-term."**