



every homeowner has a story

Habitat Future Homeowner Tim E.

Tim E. has rented an apartment in downtown Evansville for the last 20 years. Over the years, the residence has had some problematic neighbors, who have caused some strife to Tim. However, he has always found sanctuary in his music and writing. Despite the disturbances in the neighborhood, Tim treasures the residence because so much has happened there and its long history holds many memories.

He states, **“Health issues forced me into early retirement, which drastically reduced my income, thereby limiting my options in the housing market. And, although my current home is affordable, structural problems have now rendered it virtually uninhabitable.”** These structural problems are due to rain water coming in through the apartment walls and creating mold and mildew. The mold and mildew in his apartment are creating health problems for Tim and disrupting his day-to-day life. He is forced to keep all his clothes outside of his closet to keep them dry. Additionally, some of his most valued possessions have been ruined by mold. Due to the danger that staying in his apartment presents to Tim’s health, safety and belongings, Tim has been forced to consider other options.

After much searching and many inquiries for a new, suitable place to live, Tim says, **“I felt rather hopeless of ever finding a solution. God, however, accomplished for me what I was unable to accomplish myself. He put me in touch with Habitat for Humanity of Evansville.”**

Since his acceptance into the Habitat homeownership program, Tim says he has gotten out more and become more sociable. He has enjoyed being around the other families in the program and working with the staff and volunteers.

Although it will be bittersweet to move from his longtime home, Tim is ready to live in a healthier environment and to be settled in a better neighborhood. He expressed his relief of having a solution to his housing dilemma and a place where he will never have to move from again. To Tim, owning a Habitat home will mean strength because living in a healthier residence and becoming a part of a better neighborhood will have a strong impact on his life. Now, with the reassurance and stability of soon owning a house, Tim comments, **“Having a yard will be nice, and I think I will try my hand at gardening.”**