



**every homeowner  
has a story**

## **Future Habitat Homeowners Yvette S.**

Yvette S. grew up in the Midwest with her mother Debbie. After several years away on her own, Yvette has moved back to the area and is residing with family along with her 14 year-old cat Bali. She says, **“Because I have lived on my own before, I have all the things that go with owning a place ... lawn care, furniture, etc., so my room in the house feels cramped.”** She goes on to say, **“My mom is a gracious, awesome lady for letting me stay with her. She’s my best friend and there for me no matter what, but I’m ready to be on my own again and take care of myself.”**

However, after exploring the housing options in the area, Yvette was unable to find an affordable residence that fit her needs. It was at this time that her mother’s friend Candy L. was going through the Habitat for Humanity homeownership program. After speaking with Candy, Yvette’s mother encouraged her to apply. Yvette comments, **“Applying for a Habitat home is exciting and scary ... especially the home visit. But, it was simple and easy to apply. The ease of the experience was nice.”**

After being accepted into the program and beginning her sweat equity hours, a job at the Habitat office became available. With other things in her life lining up at this time, Yvette decided to take a chance and apply for the position. Shortly after applying, Yvette was hired onto the Habitat team as the new data systems specialist.

Looking back on her time with Habitat Yvette notes, **“I’ve really gotten two hands up from Habitat. The opportunity for affordable homeownership and a new job. And along the way I’ve learned new information regarding money strategy, home repair and gained new skills from the building experiences.”**

To Yvette, owning a Habitat home will mean she can be self-sufficient and achieve a goal in life that many people seek – homeownership. She says, **“To me, homeownership will also mean security. I want to pay the house off as soon as possible!”**

Excited for her new adventure of homeownership, Yvette is looking forward to going for walks with her cat and exploring their new neighborhood together. She adds, **“I’m also looking forward to fencing in my backyard to have a place to play with my cat outside and planting a garden.”**