



Diannah

Josue & Jadil



“I don’t have the words to let FCCI know how appreciative I am. They don’t know the blessing that this house is to me and my kids.”

Diannah’s need for affordable housing mirrors what many families in Sarasota face – long commutes from living and working in different towns, poor living conditions, annual rent increases, and overcrowded housing.

Diannah is proud to raise two “A” students. Josue, 16, is at Sarasota High School and is in the Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education Diploma program. Jadil, 11, attends Sarasota School of Arts/Sciences. For the past two years, they left the house by 7:00am to make the commute from Bradenton to Sarasota. Her oldest son is dropped off first. Then Diannah and Jadil wait in the car for an hour until his school opens. This daily routine takes its toll on all of them.

Diannah moved into her two-bedroom duplex just over 15 years ago, her rent has increased by \$400 a month while the condition of the property has steadily declined.

As her boys grew, Diannah became more determined to become a homeowner for stability. She looked in to buying a home before coming to Habitat but couldn’t find a home

she could afford. A friend who owns a Habitat home told her about the program and encouraged her to apply. She is grateful that she did.



More than a policy. A promise.

FCCI employees provided 293 volunteer hours on this affordable home in Hammock Place.

Habitat made homeownership possible because of the interest-free mortgage and Habitat’s down payment program. Her hard work toward sweat equity, all combined, created an opportunity for permanent affordable homeownership. “I feel excited, happy and blessed that I was given this opportunity to partner with Habitat Sarasota. God had a lot to say in this. I prayed for this.”



Reesa

J’Niyah, Iriah & Kandace



Habitat
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Sarasota

“I am forever grateful and appreciative to know that the community surrounded us to help us accomplish our dreams.”

Reesa, like many Habitat homeowners, is an essential member of our community’s workforce. In December, she will graduate nursing school as a Registered Nurse that specializes in addiction recovery and crisis intervention.

A few years ago, she found herself starting over with three young girls depending solely on her. Reesa moved in with her grandmother to get back on her feet. Three bedrooms. Four generations. Four children. Each day presented challenges.

Her family has lived in Sarasota for generations. She knows first-hand the challenge to find permanent, affordable housing with one income. Reesa sought a traditional mortgage. Even with her steady career, she hit roadblock after roadblock while seeking a home with affordable terms.

She turned to Habitat to give her daughters the stability that a home provides. Reesa approached her partnership with Habitat with quiet determination, earning sweat equity and attending homeownership classes while juggling work and nursing school.

Now that they are in their home, Reesa is celebrating the small moments, like her daughters being able to go outside and play in their own yard in a beautiful neighborhood. And she is looking toward their future by making plans to set aside money for a college savings plan.



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FCCI employees provided 86 volunteer hours on this affordable home in Hammock Place.*

“I encourage others to put their best foot forward and go for it. There is support in this community. Before this experience, I never knew that people could be so dedicated - rain, cold, heat – the volunteers are there. They dedicate themselves. It is amazing.”

*CDC social distance guidelines imposed due to the coronavirus pandemic limited volunteer activities.

Habitat for Humanity Sarasota, Inc. is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.
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