



future homeowners

Marie Gaines and Family

Marie Gaines and her son are on the verge of a life-changing moment as they prepare to move into their very own Habitat for Humanity CFC home. For Marie, homeownership seemed like a distant dream, but this opportunity has shown her that anything is possible.

“I never thought I would be able to afford my own home, especially in Connecticut,” Marie shares. “This will change my life in more ways than I can imagine. Most importantly, it gives stability. I won’t have to worry about rent increases or whether I can renew my lease next year. It gives me peace of mind knowing I have complete control.”

Marie and her son have faced many challenges over the years, particularly with housing. After her landlord passed away, the property was sold, leaving Marie and her son with little time to find affordable housing in the midst of a housing crisis. “As of now, we’re staying with my parents in a small apartment,” she says.

Marie looks forward to the space and freedom their new home will provide. “I’m excited to have personal space for myself and my son, with room to move around and still have space for storage. I’m especially grateful that my son will have a yard to play in.”

“This will change my life in more ways than I can imagine. Most importantly, it gives stability.”

As a single mother, Marie has worked hard since she was 14, navigating the delicate balance between earning an income and providing childcare. Despite always being employed, finances have been a constant challenge. “Needing to work to pay for childcare but needing childcare to work has been the story of my life,” she reflects.

Marie also found her volunteer hours to be a humbling and heartwarming experience. “Working with the volunteers has been unique. Every person has their own reasons for helping, and it’s so heartwarming. Although I didn’t get the chance to work on my own home, I love paying it forward by helping others.”

Her son, who is highly active and loves technology, is excited for the new chapter as well. He enjoys soccer, tennis, volleyball, and has a passion for science, anime, and graphic novels. When he grows up, he wants to become a doctor or an engineer.

For Marie and her son, this home represents stability, security, and a fresh start – one filled with hope, space to grow, and peace of mind.