

Meet Victoria



My Biggest Dream

When Victoria heard about the Habitat Future Homeowner program, she knew it was what she needed to move forward with her career path and create a nurturing home for her two sons. She felt that she had done everything right with her education and work ethic her whole life, but was stalled in her job and didn't qualify for a traditional mortgage.

Victoria was born in Dayton, Ohio, but the family soon moved to Antioch, TN when she was 5 yrs. old. After high school, she attended High Tech Institute where she graduated with a Medical Assistant's Associate Degree. In 2002, she started working with mentally disabled clients at Cloverbottom Developmental Center.

After moving to Murfreesboro, she worked with individual disabled clients through Stones River Center and Volunteers of America, a ministry that employs professionals to work with vulnerable populations. She loved helping disabled and mentally challenged clients, but the physical and emotional work took its toll, leaving her with little time and energy to devote to her two sons, age 5 and 11. She currently provides care for a disabled aunt through Public Partnership. After 15 years of caregiving, her goal now is to complete her Health Information Management degree at TSU and transition to an office job that offers more career advancement. Having her own home, and the money she'll actually save on an affordable mortgage versus high rent and unreliable housing, will help her realize that goal.

Victoria sees this as a way to show her sons that when you work hard, you can own a home and be safe and comfortable. Her boys are looking forward to having their own rooms and yard! She is certain that they'll grow and develop in that healthy and safe environment. "This is my biggest dream and I'm accomplishing it day by day," she states with a big, proud smile.

Victoria is in the process of completing her 350 hours of "sweat equity", working on the construction of other habitat homes, and attending 30 weeks of Financial and Homeowner Education. She is thrilled with all that she's learned and the strong relationships she's made with the other Habitat Future Homeowners.

Victoria would like to thank all the volunteers and donors who have help make her dream of homeownership a reality and to anyone who is thinking about applying to the Habitat program, Victoria says, "Have patience. It's a lot of work. But do it because it's worth it."