

Partner Family

Now more than ever, Help Build It!



Faith, trust and love...

The Howard Family

From the moment you meet Danielle Howard you are immediately drawn to her faith and positive attitude. It would explain her answer to what she wants everyone to know about her family is, "We're a family based on faith, trust and love. We always have one another."



Danielle and her four children ages nine, four, two and one are currently renting a three bedroom trailer in Robert. Unfortunately, only one room is habitable as the other two rooms sustained floor/roof damage during Hurricane Katrina and have not been repaired. Danielle will not let her children sleep in the other rooms for fear of them inhaling mold or getting injured. Therefore, that one livable bedroom sleeps Danielle and her four children in a king size bed, a crib and a toddler bed. It also has two dressers and an entertainment stand.

"We are not a family of luxury. Our luxury is playing outside. Call us a simple, but we do everything as a family," Danielle said.

Danielle works as a manager at McDonald's in Covington. Her income mainly goes towards rent and the children for basic needs and recreational sports at Coquille for her two oldest children.

"All financial decisions are made as a family. We are one unit. I like to include all of the children in any decision making to teach them responsibility and

that we all have to make sacrifices in order to one day have our own home."

Danielle not only instills responsibility through decision making, but also through chores. All of her children, even the youngest, help out their single mother with picking up after themselves and putting away their clothes. Due to the current unsafe living conditions, she does not want them helping out with the cleaning but it's a mutual understanding that with a new home comes new chores and they are more than happy to help!

Through the ups and downs in Danielle's life one thing has remained consistent – her faith.

"When I was pregnant with my second child (my boy) I turned it all over to God and my whole life changed – my stress level, my attitude and my faith. I now have an unbreakable faith and feel that if you give it your all, God will meet you halfway and He will provide."

Danielle's home is part of Women Build 2015. Women Build is a Habitat for Humanity International program that seeks to encourage women volunteers, without excluding men, to further the home building mission of Habitat for Humanity and positively impact the lives of children by making homeownership a reality for families.

When asked how she empowers her children, Danielle says, "by teaching them self respect. At least once a day I tell them 'you have to love you.' Everyone has an opinion and you cannot let it break you."

The Howard family is looking forward to being a part of Women Build 2015 and continuing to count their many blessings.