

Habitat Homebuyer

Now more than ever, Help Build It!

Building A Future

The Barker Family



Venezia Barker lives with her mother and three kids, 11 year old De'Mayria, 6 year old Peyton, and 5 year old Mia. She works at Lakeview Hospital as a medical assistant and is currently taking classes to become a licensed practical nurse.

While juggling a full time job, studying, and being a single mother Venezia has found it hard to find

housing in the community that won't leave her rent burdened. Ready to start a new journey and life with her children Venezia partnered with Habitat for Humanity St. Tammany West to take the first step in achieving homeownership.

"I didn't have a home while growing up and I want to give my children what I didn't have" said Venezia. "Home is a place for family and where I can go to forget about all my problems. For me, my home would be my life, my pride, and my security. It's where my heart will be."

Venezia and her children love spending time at home and enjoying each other's company, so they are very excited to have their own space where they can bond. Although it is tough balancing work, raising her children, and completing her sweat equity hours Venezia stays positive and reminds herself that she is doing it to improve her family's future. Her kids are extremely excited to pick out their rooms and the first thing they will do in their Habitat home is decorate each room and make it their own.

"To own a home is a blessing" says Venezia. "Thank you from the moon and back to everyone who has helped me on this journey. You are all very appreciated and God bless you for everything you have done for me and my family."

Capital One has awarded Habitat STW with a \$5,000 grant that will be used to support Habitat STW's Homeownership Center. As a result, the center will be able to assist more low income individuals and families, like Venezia's, with financial education and increase the number of clients successfully reaching act of sale through non-Habitat mortgage products/ programs. Thank you to Capital One Bank for your continued commitment to our community.