



Teanika Johnson & Family

Teanika Johnson is a single mother with one son. She was living in a drug and crime-infested neighborhood, and though she and other tenants complained, nothing was done to help keep them safe. She tried to apply for housing with local agencies, and even tried to get a housing loan. She was told she did not qualify. After many years of the same problems, she moved to her present home. Still she has some issues with unsafe housing, but now from inside her home. Crumbling walls, bad ceiling leaks and other problems helped her realize she needed to get her son to a safe environment. Teanika drove by the Habitat office a few times and decided to find out what the agency was about. After inquiring, she decided to sign up and has been very pleased with her decision.

Teanika worked for Honda in the factory for 4 years, and recently has been employed as a home healthcare aide, taking care of people with disabilities. She has a 12-year-old son named Treyvon. He is a 7th grader attending school in the DECA program with the University of Dayton. His passion is the study of robotics. Treyvon says that he really loves school and is a good student. He enjoys playing sports, video games, reading, eating healthy and interacting with his friends. Teanika says that she and her grandmother are the only family members living in Dayton and Clayton, Ohio areas. Her mother and another sibling live in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Teanika says she learned a lot from the homeownership classes and it was tough at first to save money and cook healthy meals. She expressed that the home maintenance class was very helpful as it taught her to fix a toilet from the floor base to the very top, and she now knows how to check her fuse box. Her most memorable time during sweat equity was when she worked at the Dragon's Stadium. She felt very proud to help build the house of another partner family. Teanika says she is glad Habitat's program teaches its future homeowners the skills needed to maintain their homes, and provides opportunities to families who need it the most and push hard to get the work done. "I can pass my home down to my son, Treyvon so that he may continue to have a stable home life", said Teanika. The Johnsons are very excited to celebrate the holidays in their new home.