

I Wake Up Every Day Thinking It's Still A Dream!



ARABA

Medical Secretary & Mother of Three

»» A Dream Made Real

After five years of searching for an affordable home and applying twice to the Habitat for Humanity MetroWest/Greater Worcester Affordable Homeownership Program, Araba is now the homeowner of a new 4-bedroom, 2-bath home in Worcester.

»» From Overworked to Overjoyed

Her living situation prior to this was defined by steep financial strain. "I was paying almost 3 times the amount I am paying for my mortgage now," she recalled. The constant burden of exorbitant rent forced her to work endless hours, taking on grueling overtime shifts just to keep up. This took a heavy toll on her health and family life. She rarely got to spend time with her children or rest in her own bed.

"I was doing so much overtime that my coworkers often said that I did not have a bed at home and that was why I was always picking up extra shifts," she shared. When a colleague recently asked if she had won the lottery after noticing her absence from overnight shifts, she responded with a resounding "Yes! Literally I did win the lottery made possible by Habitat for Humanity MetroWest/Greater Worcester. Now, my boys and I are living like a Queen and her princes in our little mansion!"

»» A Key to Peace & Better Health

Now four months into homeownership, the house has brought immense peace, fulfillment, and stability. The excitement she feels heading home after work is unbelievable. It is a vibrant, welcoming environment for her family.

For her children, they are thrilled to finally host friends in a safe, nice environment free of mice. Her sons are happy to have a lawn to mow now and the ability to do laundry in their own home. For Araba, the experience is almost surreal. "I still wake up every day thinking it's still a dream!" she expressed, describing the transition as a true blessing.

➤➤ **Looking Forward to the Future**

With her mortgage payments now less than half of her previous rent, she has stepped back from excessive work hours to focus on her health, enjoy her weekends, and bond with her kids. Over the next ten years, she plans to build a secure future by saving for retirement—something that was impossible while pouring all her income into rent.

➤➤ **Deeply Grateful**

Reflecting on her sweat equity experience, she especially appreciates her new painting skills. Moreover, she shared “it created a sense of accomplishment and pride knowing that we helped build the beautiful home that we live in.”

Araba’s dream for herself and her family could not have been achieved without the help and support of the donors, Habitat staff, and volunteers who made her new home possible. “Here I am living in a brand new 4-bedroom home, furnished with brand new appliances! This could only be possible with Habitat for Humanity. It is my prayer that God will bless this great vision so that many people like me can benefit from it.” She now rests easy, knowing her family finally has a place of their own.

***Congratulations to
Araba & Her Family!***



Opening Doors & Transforming Lives Since 1985

ABOUT US

At Habitat for Humanity MetroWest/Greater Worcester, our motto is “A hand up, not a handout.” We are dedicated to building houses with families, not for them.

We partner with hardworking families who earn between 30-60% of the area median income and do not qualify for other homeownership programs. Not only do Habitat families pay for their homes through a monthly mortgage, they also put in 300 hours of sweat equity by volunteering in our programs and attending financial education classes prior to becoming homeowners.

Habitat homes are built completely through donations and volunteer labor of individuals, organizations, businesses, and foundations throughout the MetroWest and Greater Worcester areas.

**Help us build a better life for a local family. Your support truly makes a difference.
Visit our website to learn more about our mission of building homes, communities, and hope for
local families and veterans.**

www.habitatmwgw.org



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