



The Belgrave Family



“I want my kids to have stability.”

Sabrina Belgrave knows first-hand how constantly pulling up stakes and moving to a new place can impact a child. She knows very well how hard it is to keep changing schools with every move. She remembers having to leave friends behind, while struggling to make new ones.

She recalls dreaming of having a secure home she didn't have to leave. A dream that continued into adulthood once she had her own children.

She remembers it all well enough to know she wants a better life for her sons, Jamari, 11, and Jakeem, 5.

“Growing up, it was just me and my dad,” said Sabrina. “We moved around a lot – from New York all the way to Florida.”

She and her father lived briefly in Fort Lauderdale and Miami before moving to Tampa. And once they settled in Tampa, they continued the pattern of relocating to several rental units in search of cheaper rent within the city.

“Given my history, I want my kids to have stability,” said Sabrina. “I want them to have a place to grow up, a place to call their own.”

The Belgrave family currently lives in a run-down apartment complex

every mother
needs a safe, secure home for her children.

where Sabrina worries about her kids playing outside safely and about break-ins at night. She is grateful to have an upstairs apartment where she feels slightly less vulnerable to a break-in.

There are also maintenance issues in the small two-bedroom apartment and management is lax about making repairs. Ever challenged to juggle rent and living expenses on a modest income as a credit card collector, the small rental is all she can afford. She is doing everything she can to avoid putting her sons through another move.

Sabrina was elated when she found

out her dream of a home and a stable life for her children could become reality when she qualified for the Habitat program. She was honored when she learned her home would be the 2019 Women Build home.

She looks forward to working side by side with the Women Build volunteers. “Thank you, thank you! I thank them all for what they are doing! I can't wait until we all work together.”

Most of all, she is over the moon that her family will finally have a place to call home. She knows it is the foundation for their future and a safe, stable place where her children can thrive.