



The Patrick Family

“Owning a home of our own will give us an opportunity to have a foundation to build upon.”

When you are a single mom balancing work life and bringing up three young children, life is complicated.

Add to the mix the challenge of providing a secure home environment in a safe neighborhood on a modest income, and things get even more difficult. Rent for an apartment consumes much of your monthly pay and leaves you wondering how to meet other living expenses like utilities, food, gas, clothing, and various needs for the children. Choices are made to live in less safe neighborhoods because it's all you can afford. You get the picture.

Such is life for Shemeka Patrick and her children, who despite the day-to-day rigors, are a loving family who roll along with the energetic bubblyness that life with three kids under ten brings.

So when Shemeka learned she qualified for a Habitat home, needless to say she was thrilled. And hopeful. Hopeful that the opportunity to own a home she can afford will help ease some of the finan-



cial burdens that come with high rent that escalates every year.

“It's been a true struggle not being able to afford to provide a safe environment for my children,” said Shemeka.

After growing up in a small two bedroom/one bath house, where she lived with her father and four siblings, Shemeka is thankful for the opportunity to purchase a house to comfortably raise her own family.

She looks forward to finally having a

place to live that will provide stability and have enough room and a backyard for her children, Tyler, 10, Sha'mira, 8, and Tamira, 3.

“I thank all who will be volunteering to help me make this dream a reality,” said Shemeka. “I thank you for your hard work and time that you chose to spend away from your own family to make my family whole with a house to call home. May God bless you.”