

April 23, 2025

Dear friend,

"I remember the day that my co-worker tapped me on my arm and said, 'You know, Habitat could help you have a place of your own.' I was working at Kah Tai as a nursing assistant, and I felt trapped. I did not earn enough to provide a safe and stable place for myself and my two small children." These are the words of Christie, the first Habitat of East Jefferson County homeowner.

Christie felt trapped, until she partnered with Habitat. Twenty-six years after Christie built her own home, there are even more people in our community who need a safe, decent, affordable place to call home. The sky-rocketing cost of housing is driving people, including those who grew up here, out of our community, or worse yet, forcing them to stay in unsafe housing.

As a valued member of our community, you know that **HOME IS THE KEY** to stability, well-being, and a healthy economy. You can help people like Christie achieve the dream of homeownership by donating to Habitat of East Jefferson County.

Habitat needs your help now. We are building TWO new neighborhoods:

- Cliff Street Cottages 6 homes in Port Townsend off Howard Street
- Landes Terrace 14 homes near Kah Tai Park, Safeway, and the Transit Station

All of these homes will be permanently affordable. This means that your donation will benefit the next homebuyer, and the next, in perpetuity.

Give generously today and help us house six local families this year, while laying the groundwork for 14 more next year.

Today, Christie serves on the board of directors of Habitat EJC. In February she participated in Habitat on the Hill to advocate for policies that support affordable homeownership. She told her story to Senator Cantwell, sharing that after she left home at the age of 14, she grappled with incredible challenges like supporting herself on minimum wage jobs, becoming a single mom, and parenting two small children. Discovering Habitat transformed her life.

She credits Habitat EJC with helping to make these achievements possible:

- Raising two beautiful children in a safe, stable, and decent home
- Becoming the first person in her family to get a college degree
- Advancing to better and better jobs in her career in criminal justice
- Accumulating assets that can be passed to her children

As Christie told her story to the Senator, she laughed and cried, along with everyone else in the room. Her story is so touching because every single person knows how important a safe and decent place to live is. **Everything we do in life depends on stable housing. HOME IS THE KEY.**

We are grateful to Christie for how much she gives to our community, and we are grateful for supporters like you who make the dream of homeownership a reality.

You can make more stories like Christie's possible by supporting Habitat's mission: "Bringing people together to build homes, communities, and hope."



The lack of affordable housing is hurting our community, but you can do something about it.

Please donate today to help house six local families this year.

In partnership,

Jamie

Jamie Maciejewski Executive Director

P.S. Please give generously to help transform lives like Christie's. Donate now; the first \$37,000 received will be matched dollar for dollar! Use the enclosed envelope, donate online at www.habitatejc.org/give, or scan this QR code.