

HOME Success Stories

Missouri



The HOME Coalition
2015

CONTACT

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PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Location: St. Louis

Project: Habitat For Humanity Homebuyer Assistance

HOME: \$97,000

Total Cost: \$176,000

Other Federal: N/A

Units: 1

District: MO-02

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Habitat for Humanity Saint Louis

Habitat for Humanity Saint Louis (HFHSL) believes in a world in which everyone has a decent place to live. In 28 years, HFHSL has partnered with more than 355 families to provide simple and affordable housing in St. Louis City and County in Missouri.

By providing safe and affordable housing, HFHSL not only helps low-income families break the cycle of poverty and build financially secure futures, but it helps transform communities, strengthen the local economy, and ensure that future generations have the opportunities they deserve.

HFHSL uses HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) funds to help reduce the gap between what a family can afford to pay and the cost to build or repair their home. This helps ensure that HFHSL homeowners are successful.

Adam and Habiba

Originally from East Africa, Adam and Habiba moved to St. Louis, Missouri ten years ago and have four children, including their 15-year old, adopted nephew who goes to the local school district for the deaf. For many years, they lived in an apartment that was too small for their growing family, but they couldn't afford to move into a larger apartment near good schools.

After hearing about the HFHSL homebuyer program, the family purchased their first home in 2015. Under the program, they invested at least 350 hours of sweat equity into building their home. They also attended educational and skill-building workshops.

HOME played a critical role in helping the Adam and Habiba become homeowners. They received \$15,000 in HOME homebuyer assistance funds and the developer received \$82,000 in HOME funds to offset costs. In turn, this helped ensure that their mortgage was affordable and sustainable.

Adam says that the knowledge and skills he gained during the process are invaluable to his family. "If we want to change a room or build part of this home, I know I could do it myself. I had no experience holding a screw gun. I didn't even know its name. Now, I go to Lowe's and I know exactly what I am looking for."

His favorite part of this experience was seeing a community working together for the betterment of each other. "We loved getting to know the dedicated volunteers and we looked forward to seeing them every Saturday. We will always appreciate their time and effort, and we hope to get a chance to serve them one day."

