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Press Release

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Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity Dedicates 2022 Apostles Build Home

Colorado Springs Children's Chorale to Provide Music

Colorado Springs, CO (Dec. 5, 2022) —On Saturday, Dec. 10, 2022, at 10:30 a.m., Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity hosts a home dedication celebration in The Ridge at Sand Creek neighborhood for new homeowners Prisca and Noella. The ceremony takes place at 845 Bidwell Dr., and the public is invited. Prisca and Noella's home is our 2022 Apostles Build project.

At the dedication, Pikes Peak Habitat Executive Director/CEO Kris Lewis presents Prisca and Noella with the keys to their new home. Pastor Steve Stanton of Waypoint Church offers a prayer of blessing for the family and their new residence, and Pastor Denise Waldon of Colorado Christian Fellowship leads participants in the Lord's Prayer. Light refreshments are provided, and the Colorado Springs Children's Chorale performs a selection of Christmas music. The media, volunteers who worked on the home, and the Colorado Springs community are invited to celebrate this milestone in a family's journey to strength, stability and self-reliance.



Prisca, Noella and Noella's son

Prisca came to the United States as a refugee from the Central African Republic in 2017. The following year, her sister Noella, along with Noella's son, joined her. In El Paso County, they have been living in a noisy, crowded apartment without functional heat, so they applied to Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity's homeownership program. Since being accepted, they have worked alongside construction staff and volunteers to build their home, and they will continue to support the development of their neighborhood by volunteering on future Habitat construction projects.

Pikes Peak Habitat requires all future homeowners to be either U.S. citizens or permanent legal residents and to have lived in El Paso County for at least a year. Prisca recently passed her U.S. citizenship test.

"For the first time in America we will sleep so well and breathe good air and be in a beautiful place that is quiet and calm," she said. "We are excited for [Noella's son] to have a place to play that is safe and more space. We are also excited to each have our own room!"

The Apostles Build (formerly Thrivent Faith Build) is an ecumenical project that brings local churches together to raise walls, funds and prayers to build a house in partnership with a family in our community in need of affordable housing. "Pikes Peak Habitat is so grateful for all of the church congregations that came out to our construction site over the past nine months to help make homeownership possible for Prisca and Noella," said Chloe Henry, Pikes Peak Habitat Faith in Action program manager.

"We can't begin to express our joy and gratitude for all the people who are helping to make this a reality!" Prisca said.

The Ridge at Sand Creek, located near Galley and Babcock Roads, is a 90-home, mixed-income development. Pikes Peak Habitat is building 30 houses in the neighborhood, which enables homeowners to form a community, support each other, and contribute "sweat equity" to each other's homes.

As with all Habitat homeowners, the family must show (1) a need for affordable housing such as overcrowding, unhealthy or unsanitary conditions, unaffordable rent, and/or an unsafe neighborhood; (2) a willingness to partner with Habitat by completing homebuyer education (credit counseling, budgeting, estate planning, protecting assets and more), as well as investing 200 "sweat equity" hours to build their house; and (3) the ability to purchase the house and pay the mortgage.

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About Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity

Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity builds strength, stability and self-reliance through shelter in El Paso County. We build permanent, affordable homes in partnership with the community and prospective homebuyers. Pikes Peak Habitat has been an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International since 1986 and has partnered with more than 200 families in El Paso County. Families purchase their homes with affordable mortgages. In addition to new construction, we also collaborate on repairs for homeowners who are seniors, veterans and/or cost-burdened. For more information, visit <http://www.pikespeakhabitat.org> and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).