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Press Release

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***Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity Dedicates Home for Family of Three
Perla and Her Children to Move into Safe, Healthy House***

Colorado Springs, CO (Feb. 21,2023)—On Saturday, Feb. 25, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity hosts a home dedication celebration in The Ridge at Sand Creek neighborhood for new homeowner Perla and her family. The ceremony takes place at 5303 Beauport Dr., and the public is invited.

At the dedication, Pikes Peak Habitat Executive Director Kris Lewis presents Perla with the key to her new home. Light refreshments are provided. 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.



Perla (right) and her two children

Born in Mexico, Perla came to the United States with a green card when she was 18 years old. (Pikes Peak Habitat requires future homeowners to be citizens or legal residents of the United States and to have lived in El Paso County for at least a year.) She and her husband had two children, but she left him because of abuse when the younger child was an infant. Since then, she has rented homes. “Since I can remember we have never had a permanent place, much less [a] secure place,” she says. “We always rented and changed schools, and that has harmed my children.”

The mobile home where she has been living most recently has multiple serious issues. "When it rains the house suffers from leaks, and in places like the living room and kitchen we don't have heating, the floor has holes where you can easily see out of the trailer, and that allows the entry of mice and other rodents," says Perla. "The place where [the trailer] is located is dangerous."

Homeownership means establishing security and roots for her family. "I want to offer my children a safe and reliable, stable place, a place that they can say, 'That is my home,'" she says.

Perla expresses gratitude to the volunteers she partnered with to build the home. "May God continue to multiply favor and grace over their lives because without them it would not be a reality for families like mine to obtain a roof, a safer and more stable place for our children," she says. "God bless you!"

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 construct permanent, affordable homes in partnership with the community and prospective homebuyers, who purchase their homes with affordable mortgages. In addition, our home repair program works with seniors, veterans and other cost-burdened homeowners in El Paso County, who "pay it forward" by serving their communities. 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. For more information, visit <http://www.pikespeakhabitat.org> and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).