

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **Press Release**

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# Four Families Celebrate Milestones on Their Homeownership Journeys Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity Dedicates One Home and Blesses Ground for Three Others

**Colorado Springs, CO** (Feb. 18, 2025) — "This opportunity is really, really good for people that need it," says Isxel, a special education paraprofessional, of the Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity homeownership program. "I feel blessed and grateful, so positive. It's something really good for me and my children!"



*Isxel* and her family

On Saturday, Feb. 22, <u>Isxel and her family</u> will join three other El Paso County workforce families celebrating milestones on their homeownership journeys at The Ridge at Sand Creek, 868 Bidwell Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80915.

We'll kick off the day with a joint ground blessing at 9:30 a.m. for <u>Misty</u>, <u>David</u>, and their family and <u>Willie and Barbara</u>.

Misty and David are the parents of three children, and their future home is our 2025 Apostles Build, a project that brings together El Paso County

churches. "It's been a wild ride of emotions. We are just so thankful every day," says Misty. "I literally wake up and just smile, because it's really happening for us! We waited so long for something like this to happen, and we're still in shock."

Willie and Barbara are our 6th <u>Veterans Build</u> future homeowners. He is a U.S. Army veteran, and she grew up in a military family. When they move into their new home, Willie's excited to cut his own grass, and Barbara says, "What I look forward to enjoying in the house is sitting in my backyard, feet up in my little itty bitty swimming pool! Kick back with the lemonade and the straw, and actually make lemon sun tea..."

After their ground blessing, at 10:30 a.m., we'll hold a ground blessing for our 5<sup>th</sup> Interfaith Build for Unity (IBU) for Amanda and her family. Faith communities from across El Paso County volunteer side by side to build the IBU home.

"I can't believe this is happening to me!" says Amanda. "I'm just truly grateful that you and God have chosen us for this house and that I'm going to have somewhere for my kids to grow up, and we're not going to have to move. It's just amazing."







From left, Misty and David's family, Barbara and Willie, and Amanda's family will celebrate ground blessings.

Bringing the IBU celebration full circle, we'll then hold the dedication of Isxel's new home, constructed as our 4<sup>th</sup> IBU.

"I feel really like God loves me. And you are like angels for me!" says Isxel. "It's really a blessing.

After the dedication, attendees may tour Isxel's three-bedroom home.

Future homeowners and Pikes Peak Habitat staff will be available to speak with media. To honor the privacy of our current and future homeowners and their families, Pikes Peak Habitat does not publicly share their last names. Individual homeowners may provide full names to media if they choose, but we respectfully request that they be given the option to use only first names if they prefer.

Each Pikes Peak Habitat homeowner invests 200 hours of sweat equity, which includes assisting on our construction site and taking classes in budgeting, maintenance, and other aspects of homeownership. Their work culminates in the completion of their home, which they purchase with an affordable 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 300 families in El Paso County. For more information, visit <a href="http://www.pikespeakhabitat.org">http://www.pikespeakhabitat.org</a> and follow us on <a href="facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="Instagram">Instagram</a> and <a href="YouTube">YouTube</a>.