

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Community Invited to Celebrate Family's Achievement, Homeownership with Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County**

A long-held dream is coming true for Keisha Penny and her family. She's purchasing a home through Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County. The Dedication Celebration will be held at the home located at 1252 North Rutledge in Grandview on Wednesday, September 19, at 5 pm. You're invited to attend.

"I felt like I had won the lottery," Keisha said, describing her emotions when she found out she was eligible for Habitat's Homeownership Program. "I never win anything, this is so big."

Keisha is employed as a health counselor in Springfield, is taking online classes toward a college degree and is a mother of three children that keep her busy with school and sports' activities. In addition to completing sweat equity hours, working on her home and the homes of other Habitat Partner Families, Keisha took required education classes covering topics that included financial management, insurance and home maintenance.

"Financial management has been so useful. I didn't realize how important good finances and credit were in all parts of life," she said. "My Family Nurturer and her daughter have also helped me along the way. Not pressing or pushing, but just asking me 'now Keisha, how are you going to do this?' and that's helped me plan and think things through."

This house also continues a partnership with Central Illinois Foodbank. The Foodbank will be filling Keisha's pantry with a week's worth of supplies to get her settled into her new home.

"Habitat for Humanity is proud to partner with the community, churches, and volunteers to build decent, affordable houses in Sangamon County," said Colleen Stone, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County. "Together, we are constructing and rehabbing houses that build hope for families like Keisha's in Sangamon County."

Habitat for Humanity is currently recruiting volunteers for this and future Habitat projects in Sangamon County. For more information or to join the efforts to eliminate poverty housing, visit <http://www.habitatsangamon.com> or call 217.523.2710.

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