

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dylan Prevost is soon to move into a place to call his own with Habitat's Help and Steve Koch, Ameriprise Financial

Join Habitat House #112 Virtual Dedication Celebration October 8, 2020

Thanks to Steve Koch; Koch, Sylvia and Associates, Ameriprise financial, and Habitat volunteers who spent the last three months building, Dylan Prevost is about to realize a life-long dream – owning a simple, decent home that will provide long-term stability for him. Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County (HFHSC) invites you to share in the joy of this achievement at the Dedication Celebration virtually Thursday, October 8, 2020, starting 5 pm. Please contact Habitat for the meeting invitation information.

"I've always wanted a home of my own. I've been waiting quite a while," he said. "I'm 45 years old, I have a job and I'm financially able now. It's time to take the first steps." Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County "is like a key that opens other avenues," Dylan said. "I feel it would be impossible for someone in my position to get a conventional loan. This program is a Godsend. I am volunteering and I'll concentrate on getting all my hours in to purchase my home."

Dylan knows that his late father would be happy that he is on the path to home ownership. "It was always my dad's dream, too, that I would have a home, a place of my own, that works for me. The time is right," he said.

Building a home, utilizing volunteers during a pandemic has not been without challenges, but in the end WE DID IT! Dylan's home will accommodate his physical as well as emotional needs. Born with cerebral palsy, Dylan has used a wheelchair most of his life. He is dreaming of a home that is handicapped accessible with a walk-in shower and wider doorways that accommodate his chair. Because there will be plenty of closet space, he will have a place to keep holiday decorations. "I'll be able to decorate for the holidays. My space is tight now and I don't have any storage."

"Our Habitat volunteers, donors and community partners are what make building houses and hope a reality," said Colleen Stone, HFHSC Executive Director. "Their willingness to lend a hand up through simple, decent, affordable housing is providing long-term strength and stability for Sonia's family, her neighborhood and our community. "

Habitat homes are not given away for free. Dylan will pay a zero percent interest mortgage (provided by Habitat), property taxes and homeowners insurance. This zero-interest, affordable mortgage is invested back into Habitat's program to build more homes. In addition, prior to building, Partner Families in Habitat's Homeownership Program take classes on topics that include budgeting, taxes and home maintenance and also invest hundreds of "sweat equity" hours.



For more information about the Dedication Celebration on October 8th or to learn more about opportunities to help Habitat build, visit <u>http://www.habitatsangamon.com</u> or call 217.523.2710. Habitat for Humanity is currently recruiting volunteers for Habitat projects in Sangamon County.

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