

our phase III families

Meet Abdi and Fadumo

I want my children to have a better childhood than I did. In 1993, we immigrated from our home country of Somalia to Canada. We fled to seek safety and a better life. At the time, our home country was undergoing a civil war, causing us to lose our home and our belongings. We had to travel many kilometers to escape and faced many challenges along the way. I gave birth in the midst of bombs and open gunfire.

Since then, my family has grown from three to six members. Together my husband, Abdi and I are responsible for our two sons, our grandson and our granddaughter. My husband works as a custodian and I work in childcare. Even though living in Canada has given us a better life than we would have had in Somalia, we are still struggling.

For twenty-five years we have lived in our current home, which is in extremely rough shape. The house has lots of mold and almost all the doors are broken. The heat does not work well, leaving us to be cold during the long Canadian winters. We also have a rodent and cockroach infestation! And to top it off, our neighborhood has been subject to shootings and stabbings. I do not want my family to feel uncomfortable and unsafe in their home.

When speaking to a family friend of ours, I was told about her success with purchasing a new home with Habitat for Humanity. Knowing our struggle with homeownership, she suggested we look into applying to work with the organization ourselves. I am so glad that I applied and will be forever grateful for this opportunity.



I look forward to freeing myself from the stress that comes with living in our current neighborhood and all the maintenance problems in our home. Knowing that I will be able to continue working as a childcare provider in a healthier and happier home brings me peace. I love working with children and want to live in a safe space to practice my profession. Working with Habitat for Humanity will allow us to take control of our home and our lives. I am excited to work hard for a positive change and a fresh start for my family.