

our phase III families

Meet Said and Aisha



Twelve years ago, I left Rwanda and came to Canada as an immigrant. When I was seventeen, I witnessed a genocide attack. I knew I didn't want to raise my future family in a place where terrible events like this happened, so I left for Canada. Now, I am a Canadian citizen and have two beautiful sons Zaym and Naym. My wife Aisha and I met in 2012 and had our first born later that year. Our eldest son Zaym is seven and Naym is four. I am a letter carrier for Canada Post, while my wife is a stay at home parent.

As an immigrant, moving from Rwanda to Toronto in 2007 left me with a fair share of challenges. I had to go to school for almost two years to learn proper English. I remember my first day

in Canada like it was yesterday because it was so cold. I was so used to Rwanda's warm 36-degree weather, that I did not know how to dress for Canadian winters. But like all changes that came with moving to a new country, I learned to adjust.

In 2010, my wife and I moved to Ottawa because we found Toronto was too expensive. I struggled to find a steady job but managed to get some work as a mover and delivery driver. After the birth of our first son, I was finally able to secure a position with Canada Post, the job I work hard for today.

But having a secure job is not enough to support my family. We currently live in an unsafe neighbourhood that is unfit to raise our children. I do not want Zaym and Naym to grow up in this home. The boys enjoy many sports like soccer, swimming and basketball, but our small apartment is too cramped, leaving little-to-no space for them to play.

While waiting for a way out of our unfit home, my cousin told me about Habitat for Humanity. Now, my family is so overjoyed at the opportunity to own our home. My boys are so excited they ask me every day when we are going to move into the new house! We can't wait to feel safe when we are at home. I want a place where my children have room to play their sports and I want a place that we can proudly call our own.