

our Kemptville Korner families

meet Ousmane & Fatma



When we left Senegal over 10 years ago it was because we believed our children would have better educational and life opportunities. Actually, it was my time in the United States where I learned more about Canada, and I knew it would be a great country for my family.

Currently we live in a small apartment, and it's not the best for my children as there's a lot of repairs that

are unaddressed as well as a lot of mold on both floors and we're worried it'll cause health issues. Our youngest daughter Mariam is on the autism spectrum, and it would benefit her greatly if she had her own space. However, it's been very difficult saving up for a mortgage and trying to find a mortgage plan that works for us. Luckily, we heard about Habitat for Humanity through one of Fatma's friends. As soon as we heard about Habitat's mission and program criteria, we knew it would be the right program for us.

My children love to read and play music and I want to give them the opportunity and physical space to pursue their interests. As a family we enjoy spending time together and one thing we often like to do is to get in our car and drive along the countryside. The drive always makes us feel peaceful and connected. We are looking forward to living in a safe community where we can get out and feel closer to nature.

Now that we've been accepted into the Affordable Homeownership Program and have started our volunteer hours this dream is becoming more and more of a reality. To us, home is a gathering place where we will be able to experience the pleasant and unpleasant things about life – together. I want our home to be a place where we can relax and recharge. We're no longer at the mercy of rentals and look forward to saving more for our children's future. Since we will own our home, that home will eventually belong to our children – and that brings us a lot of peace of mind.