## our phase III families

## **Meet Anna**



As a single mother, life is a challenge for everyone, every day. There have been moments where I felt overwhelmed and unsure of my next step. Through these times, I have relied on my amazing support group consisting of friends and family. My hardest challenge was the road to finding strength to raise my kids on my own.

I work with TD Bank as a Team Manager in Governance and Operation Solutions. I have two beautiful children who I love very much. My son Valentino is incredibly talented in sports and has a passion for math and science. My daughter Violet likes unicorns, dancing, and making her mark in the world. My children are everything to me and I

want to provide them with a proper home.

The most impactful advice that has shaped who I aim to be today was given to me by my father. He would say, "Think and plan ahead! What are you doing for the next step?". But it is not always easy to plan for the future. One of the scariest points in my life was when I had difficulty finding affordable child care. I feared that I would not be able to make ends meet. I felt I had failed everyone and myself. I was afraid of losing the ability to provide a safe and stable place for my family.

We are currently sharing a home with a friend of Violet's and her mother. We pay them rent as a way for both of our families to share finances and make better lives for each other. But it seems our luck will be short lived, as our friends plan to move in September. Working with Habitat for Humanity will finally solidify our future. I want to be at peace and enjoy the years I have left with my kids before they venture off on their own.

I am looking forward to the chance to paint my house. For so many years we have seen wall after wall of contractor yellow and white. I want to be surrounded by a happy bright colour of my own and for my kids to have some creative freedom and expression in their bedrooms.

The best part about Habitat for Humanity is not just the opportunity to work towards owning my own home, but it gives other people in the community the same opportunity. In my opinion, this is the way communities should work and I am so happy to be a part of it.