



# The Leachman Family

Karen Leachman works at Prudential Security and enjoys working in her church, the community, and with the elderly.

"I currently living with my brother in a small one-bedroom apartment. I used to be employed as a driver for a local transportation company, but lost my job due to an illness. I am trying to get back on my feet and re-established now that my illness is somewhat under control. I am an active member in my church, and I also am active in my community."

"I am getting older, and moving from place to place is becoming a daunting task. I am ready to have a permanent place to call home. My brother, friends, and other family members that I have had to stay with off and on since I have been ill, have truly been a gift from God. But there is nothing like having your own. My friends and family have sacrificed so much for me, and I will be forever appreciative to them. I have been self-sufficient all of my adult life, so having to depend on others to assist me has been a challenge for me. I want to get the old Karen back. Being that my health issues are now somewhat regulated, I am ready to begin a new life and get back to being self-sufficient. The Karen that was able to take care of herself, by herself. Not just physically and/or medically, but financially, emotionally, and spiritually."

"Experience has shown me that you appreciate things more when you work for them, opposed to someone handing you something. I was not looking for a handout, just help. Habitat for Humanity has given me the help that I needed."

"I still have quite a ways to go, but I am confident that with prayer, hard work, attending class sessions, and with the assistance of the staff, I WILL BE A HOMEOWNER!"



## **What does homeownership mean for you?**

Homeownership means that I will be in a stable environment and have something to call my own. Knowing that I will not have to move or stay with a relative or friend is a burden that will be lifted from my life. To have a chance to have a house to come home to on a daily basis is a relief. Being a homeowner will also build up my self-confidence in knowing that I was able to accomplish this goal and re-establish my independence.

## **What goals will you set once in your new house?**

I would like to be a mentor to other people who are looking to become homeowners. I want to show them that even though life is unpredictable and you run into hard times in life, never give up. Another goal that I would like to achieve is to keep my financial affairs in order and being responsible. Also being a matriarch of the neighborhood that I will live in. Perhaps start a community watch program, so the violence in the area that I will live in can be minimal.

## **What are you most looking forward to in your new home?**

I am mostly looking forward to having a family dinner in my home. Having my family and friends who have helped me in my time of need, to be able to come to MY HOUSE to have a family dinner. I want my pastor to come and pray a blessing over my home as well. But the main thing that I am looking forward to is being able to see my name on the deed to the house.