



meet Josh & CJ

In the span of 11 months, Josh stepped into a reality he never thought possible – **he became a homeowner.**

Before Habitat, Josh faced obstacles of homelessness, incarceration, and addiction. After overcoming these challenges and years of sobriety, he found a passion for helping others in recovery, working as a mentor and outreach coordinator for recovery housing agencies.

Although he found happiness in his job, he still wanted something that was truly his own and was **ready to find it through homeownership.** He looked forward to the Habitat U classes every week. He found a community in his classmates and learned things he uses in his life today, most recently lessons on estate planning. The day after Christmas Josh lost his stepfather, but he felt relief being able to walk his mom through the process. “I was able to help her in that transition, so the classes were definitely needed.”

Josh felt humbled working alongside volunteers and the Tiger Team to build his home. “Sometimes I look up while watching TV and think about all the people who were willing to be a part of building this with me.” Even his dog, CJ, recognized that this home was right for them.

“During my dedication, CJ kept pulling me into the house. Even he knew this was home.”

Recently, Josh started a new role as a Business Development Coordinator with Sunrise Recovery. He shared how having an affordable and stable home made a huge difference during his career transition.

“It was easy to have faith and feel comfortable because it’s so affordable. I would need a roommate otherwise.”

What more does Josh have planned? Even though he’ll always have a passion for work in recovery, he is thinking about becoming a real estate agent to help others find the same stability he has found through homeownership.

“My serenity is at an all-time high now.”

