

The BOGGS FAMILY



Sarah Boggs packed up her two small children, Tirzah Joy and Samuel, and left Clay County when her marriage fell apart. Originally from Pendleton County, she knew of only one thing to do, head home to her parents.

Having two special needs children of her own to support she soon found a job with Mountaineer Family Services helping families at risk. Working with the challenged children and families through her employment only reinforced Sarah's desire to try to give her children every opportunity possible for a normal life.

Although employed to help families in need, Sarah herself was in need. The small cramped two-bedroom apartment in Brandywine that the Boggs family called home, cost Sarah more than 40% of her monthly income. Although they had the opportunity to live near her parents the apartment was very close to a main highway which posed a threat to her two active special needs children.

Tirzah Joy, six years old, has been diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and attends Brandywine Elementary school and Samuel, five years old, has Autism, and attends Franklin Elementary Special Education classes.

After volunteering for Habitat for Humanity through West Virginia Works, Sarah became aware of how active Almost Heaven Habitat for Humanity is in Pendleton County. Having been in need of a safe, affordable place for her and her children, she applied for a home in May of 2009.

While waiting to hear if she would be approved, Sarah participated in the Habitat for Humanity National Women Build Day, helped with other homes being built, and assisted with the Home Show in Moorefield where Habitat for Humanity had a display.

Sarah was overwhelmed when she was told she had been approved for a home. It seemed too good to be true!

"It's humbling to know that people volunteer their time and travel far and wide to help people in need to have safe and affordable housing," says Sarah. "When things are bad, you can sometimes forget that the love of God is always present in your life. Habitat for Humanity is one of God's ways to remind you of how much He cares."

"I had the opportunity to help build my own homes alongside many wonderful people who came to volunteer on my house, they remain in my prayers and I thank them. They are truly a blessing to me and my children."

Sarah and her children moved into their new energy-efficient 3 bedroom home, Lot # 3 in the Buffalo Hills Subdivision in November 2009 and her monthly mortgage payment became less than what she had been paying in rent by \$75 per month.