

# A Cinderella Story Come True!

Tommy and Angel Bodkin are a single income family trying to provide the best life they possibly can for their eight-year-old daughter Kristin.

Due to the fact that Tommy is currently unemployed, the family relies solely on the income of Angel, a Certified Nursing Assistant, at the local nursing home. Kristin is presently a second grader that plans on becoming a cheerleader and dreams of becoming a princess.

Life, however, has not always been normal for this special child. Kristin was diagnosed with Supraventricular Tachycardia (a rapid heart rate) at birth. She has since known a life of multiple hospital stays and taking medication everyday to keep her heart-rate at a stable level. In June of 2008, Kristin underwent surgery in hopes of repairing her heart. Even though the surgery was not successful, Kristin is currently medication free but continues to battle her disease every day.



The Bodkins live in a mobile home with an insufficient heating system, leaking ceilings, drafty windows and mold growing in most of the rooms. The family uses a wood stove for supplemental heat in the winter months because of exorbitant heating costs. All these problems continually increase the unhealthy environment that Kristin breathes, plays and sleeps in daily. They hope that moving out of the trailer and into a Habitat house will improve Kristin's future heart health.

In the summer of 2008, Tommy and Angel met several Habitat volunteers that were working on a repair project at Tommy's mother's house.

*"That was really great,"* says Tommy. *"Working along side those folks made quite an impression on me!"*

The Bodkins then began to wonder if Habitat might be able to help them with their unsatisfactory living situation. Tommy and Angel applied with Almost Heaven Habitat in the fall of 2008 and the family could hardly believe it when they were told they had been approved!

*"I can't wait to be able to work with the volunteers on our own house!"* said Tommy.

*"It's a good feeling inside to know that there are people who care about us and are willing to give their time to help others,"* said Angel.

With a great big smile Kristin offers her thanks to those that will be helping to make her dream come true,

*"Thank you for helping to build my castle!"*

*The Bodkin Family moved into a rehabilitated three bedroom house that had been foreclosed upon which is located in the South Fork Crossing Subdivision. They moved in July 2009.*