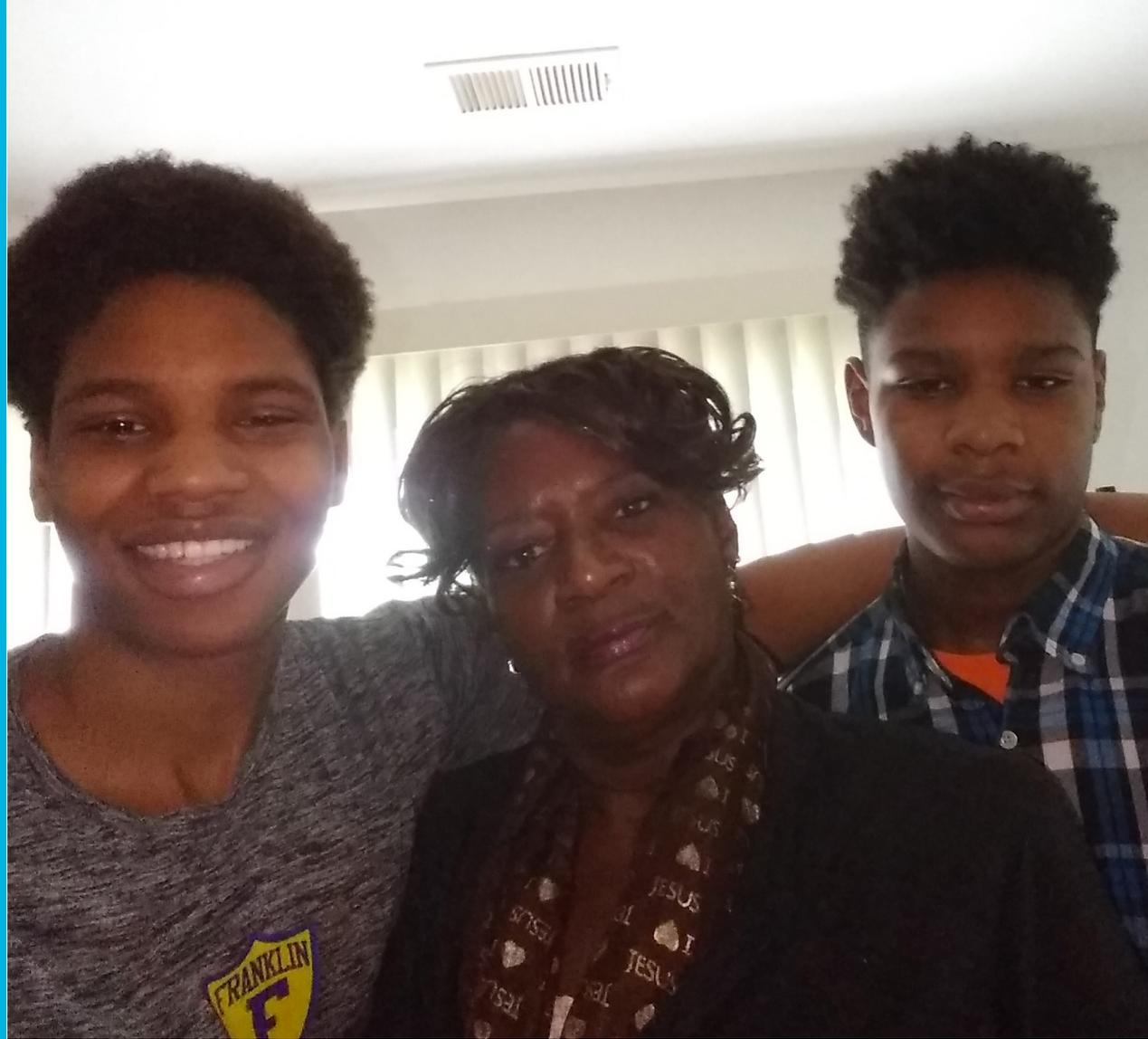


The Belton Family

Doris is caretaker to two of her grandsons, ages 14 and 12. Doris is currently in her third year of working on a degree in Addiction Counseling with a minor in Religious Studies and is looking forward to planting a garden in her new home.

Thirty-one years ago I came to Indianapolis, escaping the crime in Detroit that came after drugs infested my city. Indianapolis was peaceful, and finding a job was easy because jobs here were plentiful. I could see that my children were happy. They were able to play outside, with reasonable overseeing. Owning my own home will just seal my journey here. I have only girls, and just last year, I lost my mother, and my mother owned her home. My children and I know what it meant to own a home as we visited my mother at any time. For six years I was not under a lease. I was notified last November that repairs are needed, and the unit cannot be repaired with anyone occupying the unit. I have two of my grandchildren living with me and after six years, I am adopting them. They are good boys and have been on honor roll five years. They play football.



“I am looking forward to planting flowers and a vegetable garden, and having a cat that the boys wanted because they had to leave one before coming to live with me. They need to call an address home now and after they reach adulthood.”



They need more room. With my income rent was an issue.

My goals are to give myself and the boys room to grow, such as they need. That is the boys need a permanent structure because they have not had that in the 12 and 14 years of their life. And we need the enhancement of being in our own home where they have their own backyard, where they can spend time with their cousins, and friends. As a family, we are small in number, nevertheless, we are growing right here in Indianapolis.

I am looking forward to planting flowers and a vegetable garden, and having a cat that the boys wanted because they had to leave one before coming to live with me. They need to call an address home now and after they reach adulthood. Their trophies and personal things that I did not display before just in case they were moved again through their situation of being foster children.

I went through life feeling like owning a home was out of my reach because of my income. I always worked before I had some medical problems. I am excited about Habitat. I have been on my own from the age of 17. I really need to learn what it means to own my own home.

Saving, budget cuts, asking a family member to look over my budgeting plans while also providing suggestions to me about financial stability and responsibility. I will also set goals to prioritize with spending, which comes with sacrifice between things I want, versus things I need. I would be able to get back to cooking instead of eating out, which would benefit my health and wellness plans. I would ask family and friends to help with planning cost efficient gatherings and family centered events.

What I am most looking forward to in my new home is a house

warming party, having family over for Thanksgiving, grandkids staying all night, sitting outside on the front porch. Playing in the backyard with grandkids is something I now dream of. To value any moment I have with family and this would be amazing.

Having the ability to have my own home and feel safe and comfortable is something I've attempted to do most of my life. Unfortunately, I wasn't able to provide that quality of living to all my kids and me. I know they understand and they continually do what they can do to support me. I want to return the favor by having a place to host my family during the holidays and family gatherings. I would like to add provided love and joy in a community, being a positive factor and neighbor.