

CHARLESTON HOME + DESIGN

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Dottie Frank Invites Us Into Her Home**

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update

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Where the Heart Is

How Four Local Families
Found a Place to Call Home

In an inspiring Lowcountry spin on Extreme Makeover, several of our own citizens recently sprang to action to give four deserving families a place to call home. East Cooper Habitat for Humanity recently collaborated with the Trident Home Builders Association to challenge local builders to construct four homes in one week. The four builders to accept the challenge were John Wieland Homes and Neighborhoods, The I'On Group, Structures Building Company, and The J.D. Smith Company, Inc. The homes, located on McAdams Court in Mt. Pleasant, were finished in impressive fashion over the course of May 3 through May 10, and now house four hard-working families from the community.



What a difference a year makes! Before the construction challenge, Sandra Collins (pictured above with a member of the I'On Group) and her five year old daughter Zakiyah shared a modest home in Huger with eight people. She is now employed by the South Carolina Federal Credit Union as a bank teller. Collins' new home was constructed by The I'On Group.



Dreaming of a better life, Myriam Martinez and her two daughters (pictured here with a member of John Wieland Homes) came to the United States from Colombia in 2005 under the U.S. Government's Refugee/Asylum Status. Martinez has since achieved U.S. residency and works at a local cleaning company to support her family. Martinez's new home was constructed by John Wieland Homes and Neighborhoods.



The construction challenge couldn't have come at a better time for Latoya Palmer and her daughter DaKeliah (pictured here with members of Structures Building Company), a first grader at Laurel Hill Primary School. In the past year, they were forced to move from an overcrowded single wide trailer housing eight people to a crime riddled apartment complex. Palmer's new home was constructed by Structures Building Company.



Allison Keane (pictured here with a member of The J.D. Smith Company, Inc.), a mother of three boys, was struggling to achieve the American dream before the challenge. Even with a full-time job as Administrative Assistant for SeaCoast Church, Keane suffered with the high cost of raising three children in the pricey region east of the Cooper River. Keane's new home was constructed by The J.D. Smith Company, Inc.