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Habitat For Humanity Helps Local Families Become Homeowners

Seven months into their “Expanding the American Dream” campaign, San Gabriel Valley Habitat for Humanity (SGV Habitat) donors and supporters have made progress toward SGV Habitat’s goal of helping at least 100 families achieve home ownership by the end of 2023.

Since the campaign first began, 20 families have been served. In the upcoming weeks, three additional families will move into their new homes — opening the door to opportunity and brighter futures.

Two of these valley homes are part of SGV Habitat’s acquisition-rehab program in which

houses are rehabilitated and sold to new homeowners as affordable housing. The third home, located in Pasadena, was sold back to Habitat by a former Habitat homeowner and will be resold to a new buyer in the program.

One of these new homeowners is E’Tiffany, a single mother of four who officially purchased her home earlier this month.

“My prayers have been answered. This has been a long journey and lifetime goal for my family. The space my children will have is near to my heart. They will have their own rooms and a backyard to run around in,” she said.

The new home will provide her with financial stability, something that renters have become more concerned about since the beginning of the pandemic. “Consistent payments will be a long-term life-changer for my family,” she added.

The two remaining homes will be sold in the upcoming weeks, bringing the total families served through homeownership to five since the “Expanding the American Dream” campaign began in January. Additional homeownership and home repair projects in Pasadena, Baldwin Park and El Monte, South El Monte and beyond are expected to serve an ad-

ditional 33 families in the next 12 months.

“With the upcoming sales of these homes and other projects in various stages of planning and construction, we are well on our way to helping 100 families locally and abroad through our partnership with Habitat branches in Haiti and the Philippines,” said Executive Director Bryon Wong. “Thanks to our donors, volunteers, ReStore shoppers, government partners and advocates, more families and individuals like E’Tiffany will discover the impact of living in safe, stable and affordable housing at a time when housing costs continue

to skyrocket.”

Even before the coronavirus pandemic, nearly one-third of households in the United States faced housing cost burdens. Today, one in five families in California and one in six in the United States pay half or more of their income on their rent or mortgage, often choosing between paying for housing or nutritious food, reliable transportation or healthcare needs.

To donate to or support SGV Habitat’s “Expanding the American Dream” campaign or for more information, visit sgvhabitat.org/ead.