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## **Alachua Habitat for Humanity Celebrates 174th Home Dedication**

**Gainesville** – Crystal and her 8-year-old daughter Aubrey first heard about Alachua Habitat for Humanity through her father, who was volunteering at the time. Crystal knew that Alachua Habitat for Humanity’s homeownership program, which is described as a hand-up not a hand out, was exactly what she was looking for.

After the passing of Aubrey’s father, Crystal has worked tirelessly to support her family. She picked up a second job at Aubrey’s daycare program and discovered her passion for children. From there, she graduated with a Bachelor’s in Psychology and hopes to pursue a Master’s degree. Recently, she accepted a new position with Autism Worldwide.

In order to qualify for an Alachua Habitat for Humanity home, a family must be willing to partner with Habitat by demonstrating a need for housing, willingness to complete 250 hours working to build their home and someone else’s home, attend financial literacy and relevant homeownership classes and they must be able to assume an affordable mortgage payment at the end of the build.

Crystal’s home was funded through the generous contributions of Trade PMR, Florida Housing and Finance Corporation, The UF Habitat for Humanity Campus Chapter, as well as support from the City of Gainesville. The construction of this home would not have been possible without the dedication of 190 volunteers working tirelessly for 1,598 hours alongside the future homeowner, Crystal.

For more information about this build, please contact Stevie Doyle (352-371-5871).

Founded in 1986, Alachua Habitat for Humanity is the local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International. We envision a world where everyone has a decent place to live and we work towards that vision by bringing people together to build strength, stability, and independence through shelter. To accomplish these goals, we invite people of all backgrounds, races, and religions to build houses together in partnership with families in need of affordable housing. Through volunteer labor and donations of money and materials, Alachua Habitat has built 167 homes in the local community. Habitat houses are sold to homeowner families financed with mortgages they can afford. For more information visit [www.alachuahabitat.org](http://www.alachuahabitat.org)