

From Kuresha Dolal
2010 Partner Family

Assalamu Caleykum Waraxmatullahi Wabarakaatu.

Greetings, welcome and may peace be upon you,

In my culture every good and kind act is rewarded with blessings from Allah, or God. The many people who have volunteered this summer to help our family will never be forgotten. From your time, your donation, your blessings, your support you have really changed our lives. Not just by helping us to create a home, but by reaching out to people who are new and sometimes seem a little bit different to members of this community. At the beginning when we spoke with Habitat I thought "We are not from here and we have no family to help build the house." But at this moment volunteers really took the place of our family.

When I received my American citizenship I felt a part of this country. After becoming a Habitat for Humanity recipient I now feel a part of this *community*. Words cannot describe how thankful we are!

Our deepest thanks go out to the Habitat for Humanity organization, the many skilled carpenters, supervisor and unskilled volunteers, as well as the administrators who make this program possible. Thanks to all friends in the Somali community and our wonderful co-workers and friends, as

well as their families. May you be richly rewarded for your compassion.

Being a new neighbor means a lot to me. In my religion when you wake up very early in the morning you have to think about 40 houses that lie to the East of you, 40 houses to the West, 40 houses to the North, and 40 houses south of where you live. You must be concerned that they woke up healthy, they are safe, and they have enough food to eat. It's different here, in America because checking 160 houses each day would take all of your time! Generally, what this means is care about your neighbors. You have all shown such care toward us. To my new neighbors, I say, rest assured that we will look out for you with care.