

KATHERINE MARTINEZ

MYSTIC COVE, BOISE ID

Katherine's Story

In January 2004 I signed papers on a beautiful home in Mystic Cove, a subdivision developed by Neighborhood Housing Services. **Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine that I would ever be able to buy a house!**

Just 4 years ago, my son and I were living in a homeless shelter. After six months at the shelter we received a Section 8 Voucher which enabled us to enter Neighborhood Housing Services' Homeward Bound Program. **Homeward Bound provides transitional housing and supportive services for homeless families with children.**

Homeward Bound quickly replaced my fear with hope. They provided my son and me with a house in a nice neighborhood and helped us get furniture and household supplies. And they helped me complete a "Family Planner," a written plan that became my road map to the future. We wrote short-term and long-term goals, determined the steps I needed to take to reach them, AND identified the resources I would need.

The range of resources Homeward Bound offers is amazing. The Program's zero interest loan fund allowed me to get a decent vehicle that didn't break down every week.

My son got new school clothes and supplies through the Shop With A Cop program. **The budgeting and credit management workshops were especially helpful for me as I had never been "allowed" to assist in financial matters before.**



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