



Announcing Our Newest Partner Family!



Braden, Shannon and Isaac. Photo by BigZig Photography

We are delighted to announce that the Sargeant-Goodrich Family will purchase our next new home in Lebanon upon its completion. Shannon and her two sons, Braden (age 13) and Isaac (age 11) currently rent in Lebanon. Shannon works full time and takes college classes online.

In 2019, Shannon suffered a life-threatening health condition that left her with large medical bills, medication expenses, and major anxiety due to the trauma of the situation. Stability is critical in managing her residual health impacts of this event.

The family has experienced countless transitions and moves and is looking forward to having a permanent home of their own. Shannon explains that “as a single mom, finding affordable housing in the Upper Valley on a single income isn’t easy. Having a home would give my kids the opportunity to have their own space and to make that space their own. To have refuge

from each other, as siblings tend to need sometimes. To have space to be kids.”

Their current 2-bedroom apartment is constantly too hot; not all the electrical outlets function properly; some doors hang precariously off their hinges; and there are areas with persistent mold. The apartment is also undersized: the boys share a very small bedroom with barely enough room to navigate between their twin-sized beds and Shannon worries about them not having their own space or room to play.

Shannon knows that “this home would bring stability for my kids, health, finances and peace of mind. It is an answer to my prayers. My dream for my family is a sense of place and feeling settled. The ability to sit around the dinner table or for the boys to know they have somewhere they can go when they need a break. It would be ‘our home.’”

Shannon has been making excellent progress with her financial coach, Katy Almstrom of Almstrom Financial Coaching, whose services are partially funded through a Claremont Savings Bank grant. The Sargeant-Goodrich family is looking forward to remaining in the same school district and living in a quiet, rural and wooded location a short distance from downtown Lebanon. Shannon looks forward to homeownership as a way to “work towards financial freedom much more quickly,” elaborating that “this would really open up options for my children, and experiences they are interested in that would provide growth and development.” Shannon also predicts this will allow her to build savings faster, which would ease her mind if emergencies pop up.

Please Support Our New Home Build

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Our next project will be building a new home for Shannon and her sons on a lot we own in Lebanon this season (adjacent to the Chin’s home). The Sargeant-Goodrich home will feature 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, an open living/dining/kitchen space, and be designed to accommodate future aging-in-place and accessibility modifications.

Please consider a donation in support of the Sargeant-Goodrich home build. Your support is crucial for helping us build affordable, energy-efficient, durable, and healthy homes that our partner families can thrive and grow in. Your donation enables us to construct a high-quality home with volunteer labor and reduce the family’s purchase price.

Donate online or mail a check to:

Upper Valley Habitat for Humanity
PO BOX 1038

White River Junction, VT 05001

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