



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 8, 2019

**CONTACT:**

Rebecca Berkley

Director of Development

903-595-6630

[rebecca@smithcountyhabitat.org](mailto:rebecca@smithcountyhabitat.org)

## **Habitat for Humanity of Smith County announces new home closing**

**TYLER, TEXAS** – An East Texas family has a new place to call home after signing the official closing documents this week with Habitat for Humanity of Smith County.

Imelda Tiscareno and her three children are the proud owners of a new home on North Tenneha in Tyler.

“I am so ready to be able to raise my children in a good neighborhood and in a house that’s clean and safe,” said Tiscareno. “I am ready to create memories in my own house. I have made a lot of sacrifices and worked hard to get to this day.”

Tiscareno and her family completed over 300 “sweat equity” hours by helping to build their home and others. She is purchasing her home from Habitat with a no interest, 30-year mortgage. Tiscareno is a single mother. She has lived in the U.S. almost 20 years. She became a citizen and is learning English so she can pass her General Equivalency Diploma (GED) and gain better employment.

To qualify for a Habitat home, applicants must demonstrate the need for affordable housing and show the ability to make a monthly mortgage payment.

The home is the 107<sup>th</sup> home built by Habitat in Smith County since 1989. Funds to build the home were provided by Lin and Sandy Barker. Four other homes are also under development on the same street.

“We are deeply grateful for our donors’ generosity,” said Habitat CEO Jack Wilson. “Their gifts make it possible for a hard-working, single mother to provide a home for her children.”

**About Habitat for Humanity of Smith County (HFHSC)**

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit organization that makes homeownership possible for low-income working families. The Smith County affiliate was formed in 1989. In the past 30 years, HFHSC has partnered with local volunteers and donors to build 107 homes. Through its home repair program, Habitat has completed over 800 critical repair projects, making it possible for veterans, seniors and the disabled to remain safely in their homes. For more information, call 903-595-6630 or visit the Smith County Habitat website at [www.smithcountyhabitat.org](http://www.smithcountyhabitat.org).

###