



## A Dream Realized

More often than not, when a client who has received assistance from HPT sits down at the closing table and the realization of their dream is before them, their emotions overflow. In June 2008, Loretta Harrison experienced that very thing. Ms. Harrison is a single mother of three who was living at Country Club Gardens, a THA property. Ms. Harrison worked an odd assortment of hours and jobs to provide for her children and struggled to become self-sufficient.

A friend convinced Ms. Harrison to look for a house, a place to raise her children, a home of her own. She didn't really believe she was ready for buying a home of her own, but when she walked through the door of one particular house, Mrs. Harrison knew God had sent her to this house and that it was the place for her to raise her children. However, she really did need down payment assistance if her dream was to come true.

Ms. Harrison decided to come to the group homeownership education class offered by HPT to see if it would help her. The entire homeownership education process went very smoothly for her. From the group sessions through the individual counseling sessions, Ms. Harrison showed an eagerness to succeed. Ms. Harrison called sometimes daily to ask questions and let the Housing Counselors know she was committed and on the right track.

While at the closing on her new home, Ms. Harrison read every document thoroughly and asked all the right questions. Near the end of the process, she began to cry. When asked if she was all right, she told everyone at the table, "I am just so happy. You do not know how far I have come to get here."

Ms. Harrison explained how she had struggled for many years just to get by, to just live day-to-day and care for her family. Being able to purchase a home to raise her family in was the culmination of her many years of hard work.

At the conclusion of the closing for her new home, Ms. Harrison hugged and thanked everyone, leaving with tears in her eyes to take her children to their first home, purchased with the assistance of the Housing Partners of Tulsa, Inc.