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Atlanta Habitat for Humanity Congratulates its new *Vision, Goals, Action* Scholarship Recipients

ATLANTA—Two Atlanta Habitat for Humanity homeowners have received \$2,500 scholarships each from the nonprofit homebuilder to take the next step in reaching their goals beyond homeownership.

LaKeisha D. Brown, a patient care technician and a student at Clayton State University says the scholarship is “life-changing” for her. The scholarship will pay for books and other education expenses as she pursues a nursing degree to become a registered nurse for pediatric care. She has been an Atlanta Habitat-Clark Howard homeowner since 2009.

Crystal Green has been an Atlanta Habitat homeowner in the Perkerson community since 2012. “I have been praying for this!” Green exclaimed when she received her giant check during a presentation at Atlanta Habitat headquarters October 13. In addition to working, Green is currently studying culinary arts at Atlanta Technical College and will graduate next summer. Her ultimate dream is to start a food truck business that will serve southern soul-food and BBQ from a family recipe.

Brown and Green are the first recipients of the *Vision, Goals, Action* Scholarship launched by the Atlanta Habitat Family Services Home Smart Education Program. The program offers two \$2,500 scholarships to homeowners who aspire to take the next step to reaching their earning potential. This year’s winners were selected from 16 candidates who submitted an application, personal statement, and letters of recommendation. Their application packets were reviewed and scored by a selection committee in October.

Through strategic partnerships with hiring agencies, businesses, colleges and trade schools, VGA connects Atlanta Habitat families with resources to motivate and stretch them to reach higher goals.

“The *Vision, Goals, Action* scholarship truly speaks to the part of our mission to build long-term relationships with families. We believe this is going to be another life-changing opportunity for our homeowners, and we are thrilled to be able to help Ms. Brown and Ms. Green pursue bigger dreams in addition to homeownership,” said Lisa Y. Gordon, President/CEO of Atlanta Habitat for Humanity.

This program was kicked off with a generous donation from a long-term contributor who wants to remain anonymous. The contributor wanted to provide an opportunity for homeowners to be empowered beyond the build. A recent grant from the Atlanta Women’s Foundation will allow Atlanta Habitat to expand the program.



Atlanta Habitat for Humanity, one of more than 1,400 U.S. affiliates of Habitat for Humanity International, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to homeownership for working families. Since 1983, volunteers from corporations and from faith-based and civic organizations have worked in partnership with qualified homebuyers to construct affordable, green, quality homes, which are then purchased through no-interest mortgages. To date, Atlanta Habitat has built and renovated more than 1,370 homes, primarily in Atlanta and South Fulton County. For more information, please visit www.atlantahabitat.org or call 404.223.5180.

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