

# Ashley

219 Perry Street

This family is sponsored by Valvoline

Ashley says having a home of their own is a dream for her and her daughter, Arwen (6). Growing up, she never thought she would own a home. "It's something my mom always wanted but never got. This will be the first time I have not lived in a rental. I need to make this happen if not for me, then for my daughter."

Born and raised in NY, Ashley had her daughter at 26 and promptly moved to KY for a better job at UK Hospital. She works as a certified Medical Assistant, taking vitals and prepping patients, and aspires to continue school and become a Physician's Assistant, "after we get a house."

**"The financial stability of homeownership will make so many other things possible for us,"** Ashley says. "In addition to going back to school, I want to travel. I want to take Arwen to Disney World for the first time. She has no idea. Neither of us have ever been. It might sound like not a lot to some people, but giving my daughter a home and a trip to Disney means so much to me."



Not only will homeownership help Ashley reach her goals in the future, it will immediately improve her family's quality of life. "Our apartment is very small, old and broken down," she shares. "We sleep in the living room because the leaky windows and poor circulation make the bedroom too cold." They have also had problems with flooding from the unit above, and have lost keepsakes to water damage and mold. "We stayed because it was the only apartment we could afford."

Ashley is excited and ready to leave substandard conditions behind and finally have peace of mind. "I doubt myself, I worry a lot. This home will take a lot of that away. It's ours. It's not like someone can come in any day and tell you to leave for any reason."

They look forward to Ashley's parents coming to visit, to having a place for family to gather and space to enjoy their hobbies. Arwen loves Rainbow High Dolls, riding her bike and playing with their dog, Harley, who "is basically Arwen's sister". Though as a working single mom her free time is rare, Ashley is a gamer.

When asked what she would like to say to the volunteers and donors who will help her achieve homeownership, Ashley says, "I'm very grateful. I couldn't believe it when I first found out about this program. **I didn't think I could be a part of something like this.** The first thing I'm going to do when we move in is run around the house with Arwen and the dog. The kid in me is going to come out. I can't thank everyone enough."