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Building New Homes for Families

by Anna Lempereur, Reporter
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In just nine days, dirt and a concrete foundation will be transformed into homes for three families.

Adil Abdulhassan has lived in Sioux Falls with his wife and eight children for two years. But their current home is just too small for such a big family.

"Where we are living is kind of low income housing, and there's a lot of families, and there's not enough space for the whole family," Abdulhassan said.

Ever since the Abdulhassans were forced to leave Iraq in 2008, Adil wanted a place to live that would accommodate his whole family. He was thrilled when the Habitat for Humanity selected his family to receive a new home.

"In the first two days, they should have these three homes, the walls stood up and ready for shingles," said Alan Amdahl, president of the Sioux Empire Home Builders Association.

The builders are adding accessible ramps to all three homes, which is very important to the family.

"I have a child with a brain atrophy, and he might develop any kind of motional problems or something. We are very concerned about that, so it's very important for us to have that ramp and to be accessible just in case, in the future," Abdulhassan said.

Each family is required to put in a certain amount of sweat equity to show their ability commit to the new home.

"Yesterday, I knew that we have only 32 hours to be done with our sweat equity, and that's amazing, just like 400 hours being gone," Abdulhassan said.

After lots of hard work, this house will be finally be their home.

So far, 314 volunteers signed up to help out with the Blitz Build next week. The build will take place from July 21st to July 30th.

Call Troy Gordon at (605) 339-6406 or email him at troygordon@siouxfallshabitat.org if you would like to volunteer.

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