Frank and Anyelis are a hardworking couple that have been on their path to the American dream for many years. Originally from Cuba and both working as dentists, the couple moved to Venezuela for better work opportunities in their field in 2015. As the political situation in Venezuela became dangerous, they relocated to Colombia. In Colombia they found a program that worked with the US government to allow medical professionals such as themselves a way to enter the country and become a legal resident. Anyelis is currently a stay-at-home mom raising a 17-month-old son and Frank works maintenance for an apartment complex.

They have now been living in North Austin for 3 years and they love what the city has to offer. They love the weather and the access to water which reminds them of Cuba. Their current apartment however is too expensive, and they feel stuck having to invest so much money into something they do not own. Their one-bedroom apartment is too small for their family of 3 and leaves no room for their family to grow. Luckily, a friend of theirs that is an Austin Habitat homeowner encouraged them to apply for our program!

Now Frank and Anyelis are looking towards their future. An Austin Habitat home will provide them with the stability needed to grow their family, put down roots and thrive in this city that they call their new home. Without concerns of getting priced out of Austin, they will be able to focus on their personal goals such as learning English and returning to work as dentists. Their son will be able to grow up in a neighborhood with kids his age and have a yard to play in. Anyelis will be able to plant a garden, grow flowers and entertain guests in a space they can call their own.

Frank and Anyelis couldn’t be more excited about being part of this program. They love the fact that they are learning practical construction skills and they recognize that there is something special about a community built by neighbors working alongside each other to build their homes. The hours invested in sweat equity makes their home mean so much more to them. They want to acknowledge all of the sponsors, donors, volunteers and staff that have contributed to the Tech Build and their homeownership dream. They believe that having an Austin Habitat home is a unique opportunity, and after so many years of relocating they are so grateful to finally be able have a permanent place to call home and all of the benefits that come along with it.