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## **The Home Built in the Spirit of Community – Alachua Habitat’s 178<sup>th</sup> Home Dedication**

**High Springs** – A remarkable collaboration of diverse faith communities, including Presbyterian, Catholic, Muslim, Methodist, and Christian congregations in Alachua County, have joined forces to provide dedicated volunteers for the construction of Alachua Habitat for Humanity's 11th Interfaith house. This inspiring partnership exemplifies the true spirit of community engagement, education, and unity.

Generous contributions from The Jack and Irma Hoornstra Foundation, donations received during The Amazing Give campaign, HCA Healthcare, State Farm, and Ox Strong Moving have sponsored this home, enabling Alachua Habitat to continue its mission of providing affordable housing. The City of High Springs generously donated the land upon which this home now stands.

The beneficiary of this collaborative effort, Kiana, is a resilient and compassionate manager and cook at Alachua Bev's Drive-Thru, where she has dedicated the past decade of her life. She aspires to further her education and her acceptance into the Habitat for Humanity program sparked a beacon of hope for a brighter future. Kiana's unwavering dedication, strong work ethic, and passion for helping others are evident in all she does. Family holds a special place in her heart, and moments spent with her sister and mother bring her immense joy.

Living in an area that experiences gun violence, Kiana resolved to seek a safer and more stable living environment. She turned to her sister for guidance, who had successfully completed the Habitat program herself. For Kiana, a home represents more than just a house—it's a sanctuary where she can feel safe, loved, and create cherished memories. It's a place of growth and empowerment, where she can blossom into her full potential and realize her dreams.

Founded in 1986, Alachua Habitat for Humanity is the local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International. We envision a world where everyone has a decent place to live and we work towards that vision by bringing people together to build strength, stability, and independence through shelter. To accomplish these goals, we invite people of all backgrounds, races, and religions to build houses together in partnership with families in need of affordable housing. Through volunteer labor and donations of money and materials, Alachua Habitat has built 178 homes in the local community. Habitat houses are sold to homeowner families financed with mortgages they can afford. For more information visit [www.alachuahabitat.org](http://www.alachuahabitat.org)