

F A C T S H E E T

Latif Family

Life for Ju-Juanna Latif of Wilmington, Delaware, has not been easy. As a young girl she struggled to survive in a dysfunctional home. She became a single mother at age 16 and then dropped out of high school. In spite of these obstacles, Ju-Juanna's persistence and ambition drove her to get her GED and then set her sites on college and a career. However, just as she was starting to get her life together, her family—including her own grandmother—turned her away. With nowhere else to go, Ju-Juanna and her baby were forced to move into a homeless shelter, which would change her life forever.

In the shelter, Ju-Juanna learned life skills, took parenting classes and received job training. She went back to college, which meant toting her young son on eight buses a day. Eventually, she entered a work-study program and landed a job. This enabled her to move from the shelter to low-income housing to finally being able to afford her own apartment. Ju-Juanna continued to pursue her dreams, one of which was to own her own home. That's when things came full circle. The same grandmother who had once turned Ju-Juanna away needed to sell her home, and Ju-Juanna was ready and able to buy.

In addition to getting her own home, Ju-Juanna got a wonderful new neighbor, 70-year-old Rose Chatman, called "Grandma Rose" by the community. This grandma, although not a blood relative, enabled Ju-Juanna to pursue another dream, becoming a working mom. Ju-Juanna works as a welfare fraud analyst and is raising her four children ages 19, 13, 12 and 9. Her youngest child, James, has cerebral palsy and is wheelchair-bound. Grandma Rose takes care of James during the day so that Ju-Juanna can work.

Today, Ju-Juanna is a role model for her children and neighbors. Life is better than it has been. However, Ju-Juanna still faces some obstacles—including her row house is not wheelchair accessible for James and it is falling apart at the seams. In addition, Grandma Rose's house, which is next door, is falling apart. By building the Latif family a new wheelchair accessible home and Grandma Rose a new home next door, *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* and Anderson Homes will help make sure these devoted community members have safe and functional homes in which they can live and pursue their dreams for a long, long time.

Quick Facts:

- 2 new homes
- **Ju-Juanna Maria Latif**, 39
- **Antonio Ju-Juan Earl**, 19-year-old son
- **Aarron Marcal Perkins**, 13-year-old son
- **Ju-Juanna Perkins, Jr.**, 12-year-old daughter
- **James Cornelius Perkins**, 9-year-old son, has cerebral palsy
- **Rose Chatman**, next-door neighbor, is a retired librarian
- Cerebral palsy (CP) is a disorder that affects muscle tone, movement and motor skills (the ability to move in a coordinated and purposeful way). Cerebral palsy can also lead to other health issues, including vision, hearing and speech problems, and learning disabilities.
- Children with CP have varying degrees of physical disability. Some have only mild impairment, while others are severely affected. Related medical problems may include: visual impairment or blindness, hearing loss, food aspiration (the sucking of food or fluid into the lungs), gastroesophageal reflux (spitting up), speech problems, drooling, tooth decay, sleep disorders, osteoporosis (weak, brittle bones), behavior problems, seizures, speech and communication problems, and mental retardation. Many kids with CP also have problems that may require ongoing therapy and devices such as braces or wheelchairs.