CHANDUS’S STORY

Through a stroke of bad luck, Chandus lost her home when she was 25, and suddenly needed some help. A family member took her in and let her sleep on their couch, but that was not a long term, sustainable solution. Not having her own space, privacy, bathroom, or daily routine took its toll, and she needed to get out.

Chandus had a limited income, so she did the legwork and applied for any affordable home or housing list she could find, despite the notoriously long wait lists. Then, she discovered she was pregnant with her first child. King County Housing Authority was able to move her up the wait list and find her a safe and healthy home before her child was born, so that they didn’t have to experience homelessness together. The first and last months rent were taken care of for Chandus, and because she only needed to pay a $250 deposit upfront, she was able to move in right away.

Chandus has lived in the same home for more than six years. She now has two kids who have never experienced housing instability. They live in a safe neighborhood where Chandus can let them run around and play outside. Their family established roots in the community and they are all thriving. Chandus says, “If it weren’t for that first bit of help to establish me in my home, I don’t know where I’d be. I am able to focus on my kids because I know we have a stable home.”