



Ashley (4) is the youngest granddaughter of Nora Isabel and although she is practically a baby, she is very determined, so much so that the first time we visited them at their house she said she did not want to take pictures and left. The second time we saw her was during the training on healthy floors, she was accompanying her mother, and that day, she did not want any photos either.

But, something changed with little Ashley because before the third visit from the Habitat Nicaragua team, she not only asked that they take pictures of her with her grandmother, but she also insisted that we take pictures of her while she showed us how she plays with her bicycle and her skateboard, because now that her house already has a concrete floor,



Doña Nora had her granddaughter Ashley and the baby she cares for, pose for the photo.

she is free to do so. The expression on her face says it all.

"This has been an incredible change, a joy for the family because here the water from the street got in, we practically lived in the mud and now we don't, now we are clean and we even reorganized the house. Not only the girl is happy," Nora told us, who works taking care of a girl at home, who is also enjoying the advantages of having a concrete floor.

After completing the work on the floor, the family was able to use the select material left over to improve the entrance of the house and thanks to that, the water no longer gets in and the humidity has been reduced considerably. Nora Isabel is part of the first project in Nicaragua of the

100,000 floors to play initiative that Habitat for Humanity and the International Cement Federation (FICEM) promote in Latin America and the Caribbean, to replace the earthen floor with concrete floors in vulnerable homes. In Nicaragua, we have the support of Holcim Nicaragua and the collaboration of INPRHU Estelí.





Marvin is already playing in a safe space



Gema (26 years old) has a degree in pedagogy and works as a teacher; She is a single mother of Marvin (6 years old) who was diagnosed with autism and Nataly (4 years old). The young family lives with Gema's mother, Doña Marcela in the Sonrisa de Dios neighborhood located in the municipality of Nagarote, León.

This family is one of the 90 that allied with Habitat for Humanity Nicaragua, and its local ally Nicaphoto to exchange land for concrete floors, as part of the 100 thousand floors to play on initiative that Habitat

for Humanity and the Inter-American Federation of Cement (FICEM) launched in April 2022.

"I am super grateful to Nicaphoto, first of all, because I received a scholarship from them to study, and even though I got pregnant while I was at university, they did not take away their support, thanks to that I have a degree and have a job. And now, more grateful because they made me part of this project with Hábitat and Holcim, now my children can play on a concrete floor, cleaner, healthier," Gema tells us.

The first time Habitat visited the family, Marvin and his little sister played on the dirt floor, but now they play on their concrete floor, and his mother feels safer because she knows that the risk of them getting sick is much lower.

"As a single mother it has not been easy, but it has not been impossible to fight to give a better life to my children. I am very grateful because financially it is very difficult for me to build a flat overnight. We hope they continue to support more families," says Gema.