



## Sandra Settle Home Again Spotlight

The Settle family home was impacted by Hurricanes Matthew and Florence. Mrs. Settle heard about ReBuild NC in in spring 2019 and applied to the program at a local library. Today she's back in the home she built with her father.

"We've been here since 2000. I started building it in 1999 after Hurricane Floyd. I bought this property because it didn't flood during Floyd. And I grew up in Beckett North Carolina, which is a Native American community. And I'm Waccamaw Siouan. And this is the last house that my dad Harold Jacobs physically built himself. He and I worked hand in hand on this house from the beginning."

"Hurricane Matthew was, uh, the original storm that damaged the house. We did not flood like rising water. We had the river of overflow that came from the flood area through the underside of the house. That took out the duct work, the HVAC system and the insulation. And then, whenever the water and power came back on, one of the pipes burst. And, again inside the house on the second floor, which ended up flooding the inside of the house. We repaired part of the damages, but then Hurricane Florence came. And again, we had the overflow flooding of the river underneath the house. So all of the repairs that we had done were destroyed. There was no way that we could afford to fix it."

"The ReBuild NC program, I had heard about it on the radio. And I had actually called the number. It kind of never went anywhere and then I heard about it from a friend who was actually accepted by the program. So when she was accepted by the program, I called again. And this time, I actually got a meeting scheduled. And when I got the meeting scheduled, I went and spoke to them. Then it kind of stalled. I gave them everything that they needed. Then it wasn't going anywhere. We felt alone."

"So, then all of sudden, things started to change. And I found out later it was because NCORR was developed by the Governor and that they took over. And when NCORR took over ReBuild NC, it made a tremendous difference. It just catapulted things. It just immediately started rolling. Things started changing. And all of a sudden, they were ready to start work."

"It was phenomenal. The workers themselves. Both the construction workers and all the workers in the program. They deserve to be recognized. They deserve to be congratulated. Their work is incredible. It's just absolutely beautiful. It's really something. It's amazing to see how much they've done in such a short time. of just being here. I say it's just amazing having my house with no negative feelings about it at all. I don't know how to explain it. They've done a really good job, and I couldn't be happier with the work that they've produced. And, I just can't thank them enough."

"There was a long period of time when we felt alone, where we felt like that nothing was actually going to come about and that we were going to be this way forever. And that it was going to deteriorate until there was nothing left. And to have all that changed, has been life changing."