Jacqueline Walker has lived in Fredericksburg, Virginia for the past 56 years. She shares that she remembers a time when she would go to the store across the street and get 25 pieces of candy for a just a nickel and a hamburger for just five cents. Growing up, Jacqueline lived with her parents and 12 other siblings. She was the baby of the family.

Jacqueline worked in the food industry all her life. She worked at Wendy’s, Waffle House, and her last job was at Hardy’s, where she worked for over ten years. She explains it was a fast-paced and stressful job – making sure that the food was prepped, cooked and ready for customers in time. Because of the stress, she had to retire early and now receives social security for her disability.

When she worked full time, Jacqueline says she was able to live on her own and managed to get by despite the high rental prices. Unfortunately, once she stopped working, Jacqueline struggled to find an affordable place to live. She spent a lot of time looking and looking for a new home, many places had waiting lists that were years long. Briefly, she lived with her nephew and his family, but wanted a place of her own, having experienced that independence and not wanting to be a burden on her family.

Finally, in June 2017, Jacqueline was accepted to live at Hazel Hill in Fredericksburg. She has a place of her own and does not have to rely on family and friends. Jacqueline says she loves the convenient location of the property as it’s easy to catch the bus to the town center and get to church.

It’s a really nice place to live.