



## FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER

Bridget Wallace was born and raised in Kensington. She remembers picnics in Tioga Park. Now a mother of three, she recently found herself looking to purchase her first house in the same part of town she grew up in. In August of 2008 after many years of renting she had her credit approved by a lender and began her search for the perfect home. Around the same time, the father-in-law of a dear friend had passed away, and the family was considering selling his house. It's location - right on the north side of Tioga Park.

Not sure exactly what next steps to take in order to purchase the house, Bridget sought advice from numerous people close to her. Her sister told her the same thing that her realtor told her - go to New Kensington CDC. They can help guide you through the process.

"The counselors were nice and explained everything in great detail," Bridget says of her experience at NKCDC. "Going to the workshop was so informative. I sort of had an idea of what to do, but there was a lot I didn't know." In fact, Bridget received so much useful information about financial assistance that she passed much of it along to her co-workers. "One of my employees needed help with her credit," she said. "I told her 'you need to call these people'."

Today her new house on Tioga Street is a cozy happy home, with her three kids and a new granddaughter. The same Tioga Park she frequented as a child is right outside her window. "When my kids were little I'd take them over there for picnics," she says, smiling from ear to ear. "The churches do a nice job with BBQ's and concerts over there. It's also where my son played football. There's just so many memories in that park."