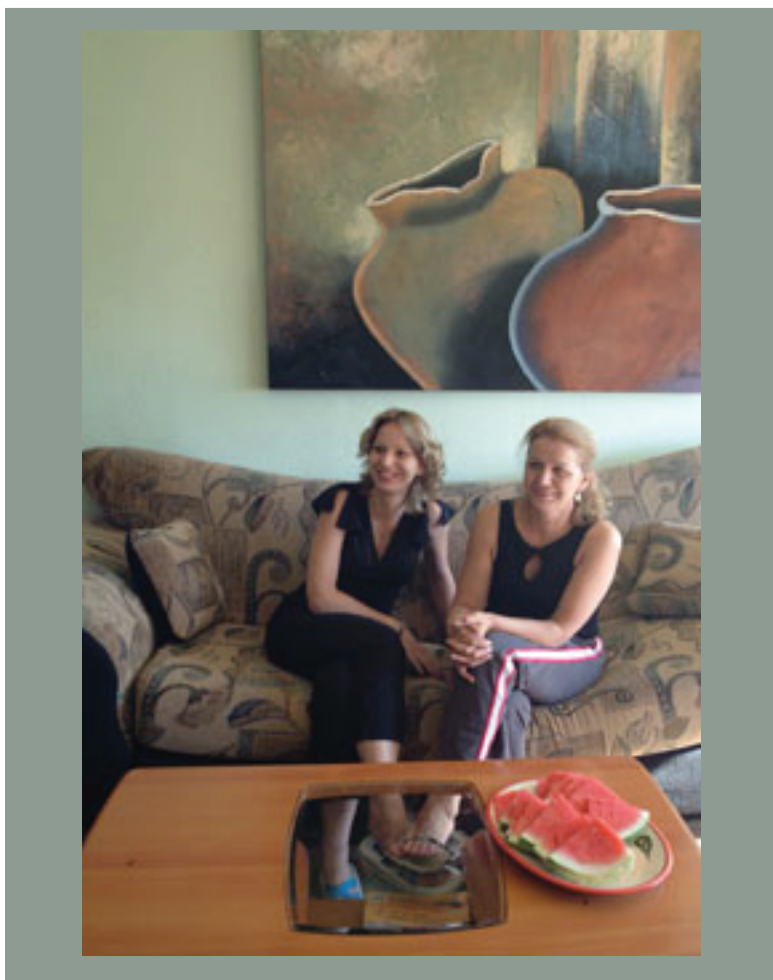


Jelica

IDA Success Story

Santa Clara, CA
New Homeowner



In 2000, Jelica arrived in the United States as a refugee from Bosnia with six pieces of luggage, her two daughters (Korana, 22 years and Arnela, 4 years), and \$10 in her wallet. She had a dream to buy a home and lead a normal life with her family in their new country.

IDA Account Fast Facts

Monthly/Total Savings: \$80/\$2,000
Amount of Matched Funds: \$4,000
Amount of Withdrawal: \$6,000
Time to reach goal *with* IDA: 3 years

Challenge

Jelica and her daughters dreamed of owning their own home, but the financial barriers in front of them posed a difficult challenge.

Opportunity

In 2000, Jelica and her eldest daughter Korana joined the IDA Savings program with the goal of saving to buy a home. They took full advantage of the program's classes and training resources to learn about money management and the process of buying a house. With the support of other savers as well as Opportunity Fund staff, they saved diligently and each month saw themselves move closer to achieving their goal.

Hearing about Opportunity Fund

Jelica was referred to the IDA Savings Program through Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County, one of Opportunity Fund's community partners.

Lessons Learned

With their newly acquired financial knowledge and savings from the IDA program, the family purchased a condominium in Santa Clara. Having fulfilled one dream, Jelica plans to keep right on saving for the future, and Korana wishes to go to college to study accounting.