Foreclosure.com Highlights Daniela Gonzalez's Journey From First-Time Homebuyer at 21 to Fixer-Upper Renovation Story

Foreclosure.com has released a new interview with Daniela Gonzalez, who bought a fixer-upper at 21 and has inspired millions with her homeownership journey.



BOCA RATON, FL, UNITED STATES, September 9, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Gonzalez purchased a three-bedroom, two-bathroom home in Oviedo, Florida, for $340,000 at age 21. The property required an extensive renovation that has taken nearly two years and approximately $50,000 to $60,000 in materials, according to Gonzalez.

Her story was recently featured by PEOPLE in an article titled "21-Year-Old Buys a Run-Down Home for $340K. Nearly 2 Years Later, It's Almost Unrecognizable (Exclusive)," published July 8, 2026.

In the Foreclosure.com interview: How Daniela Bought Her First Fixer-Upper at 21 | First-Time Homebuyer Tips, Gonzalez discusses how she prepared financially for the purchase, including saving approximately $20,000 over two years. She explains that she worked with a financial advisor, automatically saved $500 each month and pursued additional income through freelance marketing and dog sitting.

"I feel like they think I have like a magic secret answer, but I didn't have huge income at the time and I don't have wealthy parents," Gonzalez said during the interview.

Instead, she said, she treated homeownership as a specific financial goal and built a plan around it.

Gonzalez also discusses why she ultimately chose a fixer-upper and what she learned from living through an extensive renovation with her father, a contractor. Among her recommendations for prospective buyers is bringing an experienced contractor into the inspection process to better understand the potential cost of improvements.

“The appraisal will tell you the value of your property, but your contractor will tell you how much it’s going to cost you,” Gonzalez said. “And that will give you a clear picture of if it’s even worth it.”

The interview also explores how buyers can look beyond conventional property searches. Gonzalez discusses her experience searching for fixer-uppers and explains why understanding the circumstances surrounding a property can provide useful information when evaluating an opportunity.

“Knowing why the seller is selling their home definitely gives you the upper hand,” Gonzalez said.

For younger Americans who may view homeownership as increasingly out of reach, Gonzalez’s experience offers a different perspective: homeownership may require planning, additional income, patience and a willingness to consider properties that need work rather than waiting for a perfect home.

The interview and Gonzalez’s renovation journey are the focus of “She Bought Her First Fixer-Upper at 21. Here’s What Daniela Gonzalez Wants Young Buyers to Know,” providing practical lessons for prospective first-time buyers while highlighting one young homeowner’s path toward achieving her goal.

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