

KATIE ROTHER

After 12 years of helping enrich the lives of children and families as a special education teacher, Katie Rother stumbled upon a new passion — renovating homes. You could say that she was built for it. Growing up, her family always purchased homes that needed rehabilitation. This allowed them to be creative in taking a house and making it into their dream home without the price tag of new.

In 2015, Katie and her husband began looking for their first home together. He wanted new construction, she wanted a fixer-upper. With some convincing from Katie that they could make their vision come to life, the couple settled on a beautiful 1986 Cape Cod-style home. A spacious backyard and a strong foundation were all the promises this property had to offer. So they went to

work removing walls, renovating bathrooms, painting, laying new floors — you name it, they did it, and Katie felt right at home. "I kind of fell in love with doing renovations," she recalls. She has a gift for visualizing a home's potential, noticing a standout feature, and building a theme around it to make it truly special.

Two years later, while renovating a quaint beach house on Oak Island, North Carolina, Katie made a life-changing decision. This is the house that really sparked Katie's passion for real estate. "You know when you walk into a house and envision all the cool things you can do to make the space your own?" She knew then that she wanted to help others bring their own visions to life.

Katie earned her real estate license in 2017. Since then, her career has progressed at a rapid rate. After spending two years with Keller Williams, Katie was ready for a change. In December 2020, she reached out to a fellow REALTOR, Jessica Wainwright, Owner of Live Love Brunswick, who encouraged her to start her firm. Partnered with Jessica, Katie brought Live Love The Triangle to Raleigh, North Carolina. It was never Katie's intention to run her own firm, as she explains, "I just wanted to replace my teacher salary, hang out with my dogs, be happy, and help people, and it turned into this amazing dream that I never thought was possible."

Live Love The Triangle has flourished in the short time since it began, and Katie already has six agents working alongside her. "While Live Love The Triangle is made up of individual agents, it truly runs like a team. We work together, support each other, and help each other succeed." From first-time home buyers to seasoned investors, Katie and her team want to show folks in The Triangle how they can invest their money for the long term.

Though she is no longer in the classroom, Katie still utilizes her teaching skills in real estate. Those she works with admire her patience and enthusiasm, and that keeps clients coming back. She strongly focuses on client needs, comfort levels, and goals, and it shows. An impressive 88% of Katie's business comes from agent referrals and repeat clients.

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You'll see that passion and enthusiasm from the first time you meet her. She says, "I've made such amazing friends over the last four years, my job is basically to go out to lunch, go get coffee, show people houses, and make friends. I don't think it could get better than that."

Katie truly treats her clients as friends — she has even been included in a client's proposal! Katie, who has always had a knack for matchmaking and has introduced several couples who eventually married, sees real estate as another way to work her matchmaking magic. She loves getting to know her clients so she can understand what properties they'll fall in love with. It's so hard in a market where people are having to settle, she explains, "I don't want anyone to settle for something they don't absolutely love."

Just as she supports and encourages her clients, Katie is always giving to others at home as well. Both Katie's Labradors are registered therapy

dogs. They spend time visiting schools, nursing homes, universities, and other spaces around the community. This was a major factor in Katie wanting to change careers, as she wanted to share her dogs Sunny and Apollo with the world. Her dogs help reduce anxiety in those they visit, and they particularly love being read to by local students who are working on building literacy skills. "It's a pretty cool thing to take the dogs inside the school and watch the kids light up. Reading is such a hard thing for many kids, but reading to a dog? That is something they will never forget."

Katie can always be counted on to show up on time to appointments, answer calls, and to be responsive. She takes pride in being hands-on and thorough, making sure that her clients always come first. In the current market, buyers often have to put down large amounts of non-refundable money very quickly, so looking for potential issues on-site before making an offer is extremely important. "You can potentially have a really cute house that someone renovated, but maybe it doesn't have the best foundation." Katie certainly knows all about starting with a good foundation.

When not focusing on work, Katie loves walking the trails on her property with her dogs, taking weekend trips to the North Carolina beaches or the mountains, and enjoying all of the incredible food Raleigh has to offer. With her adventurous and giving spirit, Katie is the kind of agent anyone would be lucky to work with!

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