

Thank You to Our Donors and Volunteers Making 2022 a Year of Impact!





Donna Vincent
Executive Director

With 2021 in the rear-view mirror, we are focusing on the prospects ahead for our Habitat families. With recently acquired property on Hillview Street, we are poised to build five more houses there, following the completion of Renita's Very Very Very Fine House on February 26th. After much anticipation, others in our queue are selecting their home sites. Twenty-two individuals in the five families are dreaming of their home dedication day.

I hope you'll one day meet any of the beautiful Habitat families who are working hard to build the stability and self-reliance that a Habitat home offers. They go through a rigorous process to ensure they can be successful homeowners. Each one is partnered with a volunteer who mentors their progress through the program, including finance and homeownership preparation classes and volunteering for sweat equity hours. Our current families are particularly remarkable, having been through a lot together as they were approved for the program when COVID arrived. They've organized themselves and taken on duties at the jobsite that free up staff and crew for leadership activities.

Among its other impacts, COVID has challenged the attendance of our regular crew volunteers. We urgently need people who can commit to one or more days a week to learn the Habitat construction methods. We have fabulous crew members and a construction manager who enjoy teaching newcomers. Fellowship is the word that comes to mind when I think about our volunteers. The camaraderie among the "regulars" is one of the major factors enabling Habitat for Humanity's success. For those who are longing for a return to normalcy, consider joining this group – you will be blessed in the experience.

In the not-too-distant future, we'll complete the construction of utility infrastructure and a road extension for Knott Street in the Fort Hill neighborhood. This will create nine, possibly eleven, buildable lots for future families. A homeownership program application cycle will open up in April. We are in need of sponsors for those houses.

Friends, we are headed in the right direction with great momentum. If you've considered taking a larger role in the mission at Habitat for Humanity, I encourage you to do so now. Now, perhaps more than ever, families right here in your community need a hand up in providing what we all need – a safe, decent place to call home.

The Families and Our Plan for 2022

We are primed to hit the ground running in 2022! There are currently six families approved to become Habitat homeowners: the Jacksons, Paynes, Lyles, Austins, Goodes, and Dabneys. They are working diligently on their sweat equity hours, attending financial education classes, and preparing themselves to be successful homeowners.

We are currently building on Hillview Street. This neighborhood is great for many of our Habitat families as it is a quiet, cul-de-sac road, and we have ten lots to build homes there! Renita Jackson's home is the first and is nearly complete! It is sponsored by Zeb and Jan Gray with additional support from the Genworth Foundation. Renita is so excited because at the time of writing this, we are finishing the interior of the home, and it will be dedicated by the time you are reading it! The lot for Beatrice Payne's future home is being cleared. You can read their stories in our past newsletters or go to www.lynchburghabitat.com/homes.

Upcoming Application Cycle: Do you know anyone in need of a hand-up?

Our application cycles begin with an orientation class that explains the entire process of becoming a Habitat homeowner, from application to closing. We have classes scheduled on April 4th at 10:00 am and April 5th at 5:30 pm. Please tell any local family in need of safe and affordable housing to reach out to our Family Services Manager, Greg Tyree at gtree@GLHFH.org, or call (434) 528-3774. If they want more information about the program, they can visit www.lynchburghabitat.org/own-a-home.



Make an Impact in 2022 as a Habitat Volunteer!



Volunteers make the Habitat for Humanity model work beautifully. Individuals and groups partner with us and our families to support our vision of a Lynchburg where everyone has a decent place to live. We have a variety of roles, and no experience is required. Volunteers are critically important to furthering the organization's mission in our community. Through the different places one can help, Habitat volunteers impact many local families each year.

Individuals and groups of all backgrounds are welcome. In addition to making a lasting difference in the lives of local families, volunteers build skills, relationships, and communities. Please contact our Volunteer Coordinator by email at volunteer@GLHFH.org or call (434) 528-3774. We will assist you with choosing how and when you would like to volunteer.

Areas We Need Volunteers:

- **Construction Volunteers:** Help build homes for local families! No experience is needed. Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.
- **Hospitality Volunteers.** Building homes is hungry work. You can help by providing meals for volunteers at the job site.
- **ReStore Volunteers:** Help process the donations and serve the customers that support the Homeownership Program.

"Sharing skills and experience with other volunteers is very rewarding. I also enjoy working with future homeowners. They are so willing to help and learn. It is amazing how little they know about home construction at the beginning, but by the time they buy the house, they are much more self-sufficient and able to handle many problems as they arise because they have been part of the building process."

- Ed Shallock
Regular Crew Member, 8 Years

"Volunteering with Habitat has changed my life. Being around all the other volunteers is great! I've been learning from the seasoned crew, and it has been wonderful to spend time with those who are there for just a day or two. I serve on Wednesdays and Thursdays. I am excited on Wednesdays because I get to volunteer for the next two days, but disappointed on Fridays because I know I will have to wait until next week to serve again."

- Rich Marot
New Crew Member, 2 Months



Thank You – Ethan Allen Furniture!

You Save 50% - We Raise 50%

In January, Ethan Allen donated an entire semi-truckload of brand new products to the ReStore to raise funds for the Homeownership Program.

The ReStore marked the brand new products down at least 50% below the retail price. Our goal is to raise \$35,000, which is 50% of a sponsorship to build a new home for a local family in need. At this point, we have raised \$20,000. Come by the ReStore before it is all gone.

Stepping Up to Fill the Need!

One of the impacts of the global pandemic on our organization is the cost to build homes increased by nearly 25% - almost \$18,000! We want to thank Centra, Genworth Foundation, Pacific Life Foundation, Walmart Community Foundation, and the individual donors who gave to help address the increased building costs!



CENTRA



Genworth



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Thank you to our 2021 Donors

Since 1988, our charitable donors have enabled 310 families to build and own a decent place to call home in Lynchburg. GLHFH can only continue to partner with those in need of safe and affordable housing through this generosity. We are incredibly grateful for every gift that helps families build strength and stability through shelter.

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Tribute Gifts

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- Starr Shank
- Shannon's Color Street Team
- Jean Ann Thill
- Cary Tichenor
- Tonia Watson
- Stacey Watson

Remembering John Matheson

With foundness, we remember John Earl Matheson Jr., who was devoted to helping the Lynchburg community. He served on the Board of Directors for Greater Lynchburg Habitat for Humanity, Lynchburg Grows, and the Lynchburg Area Food Council. He supported our organization for over 25 years and served on our Board of Directors from 2011 to 2015. While on our Board, he helped lead GLHFH as both Secretary and President of the Board.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to John's family and friends. He is survived by his wife of 31 years, Cindy Matheson, four children, and three grandchildren. His legacy and impact will continue to be felt in Lynchburg for years to come.

Special Volunteers:

Jersey Mike's - Month of Giving
Cenvar Roofing
Dodson Pest Control
Gerdy Construction Co.
John Vincent Custom Building
Monile Construction
Patches n' Pieces Quilting Bees
Bryant Haskins, Photographer
David Embrey, Legal Services
Larry Owen, Construction
P.J. Reed, Neighborhood Watch

Liberty University Habitat for Humanity Chapter:

Thank you to the students and the incredible Faculty Advisor, Alison Pettit, of the LU Habitat Chapter for all the work you have done for families in Lynchburg! We are very grateful for your ongoing support and dedication to building affordable housing in our community.



Thank you to our 2021 Volunteers

Thank you to every volunteer who served last year, from our incredible regular volunteers to those who helped out just for a few hours. You are critically important to helping local families build a safe place to call home in our community! Every one of you has made a significant impact!

Regular Construction Crew:

Bob Bibee
Jerimiah Brooks
Dave Bultema
Tim Coleman
Chuck Doremus
Harry Downey III
Randy Elkins
Carolyn Faubion
Betty Franklin
Eric Gavlek
Bob Hahn
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Winter Newsletter!

Thank you to all our
2021 Donors and
Volunteers!

Thank you for your loyal support!



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