

homes
communities
hope
+ you

Now more than ever, we need you www.waynehabitat.org



A letter from our Executive Director, Beth Weaver

Habitat for Humanity in Wayne County is built on the foundation of bringing people together, and with your support over the past 33 years we have built 83 homes, all with the express purpose of building homes, communities and hope.

Today, as we all closely monitor the escalations surrounding COVID-19 and receive varying “shelter-in-place” orders, it is even more critical that we bring people together to support one another, even though we are apart. For those with stable housing, sheltering in place means figuring out the logistics of working remotely, transitioning school-aged children to learning at home, avoiding crowds, preparing meals, and adjusting one’s mindset.

All of us at Habitat for Humanity know that there are far too many families for whom shelter-in-place or stay-at-home orders aren’t as straightforward as they sound.

When a person is living in substandard or overcrowded conditions, sheltering in place only increases feelings of uncertainty and vulnerability. The uncertainty that so many of us feel today, these families have felt for a lifetime — if not generations.

Many of the families in our current pipeline represent the front-line workers who are fulfilling essential duties in at-risk industries during this crisis. These are the individuals bagging groceries, delivering packages, preparing food and working in hospitals.

We are needed now more than ever. And now more than ever, we need you. We would like to invite you to invest in the Homes, Communities, Hope + You campaign to ensure that we are able to not only continue our work in Wayne County to ensure that everyone has a decent place to call home, but also accelerate our ability to serve when our economy reopens. Habitat is needed now more than ever. And now more than ever, *we need you.*

During our most recent homeowner meeting, we received nine (9) applications and we have eight (8) on our current waiting list, demonstrating the desperate need for affordable housing solutions in Wayne County. Your one-time or monthly gift will directly support:

- The 10 families currently in our pipeline working toward their homeownership opportunity
- Two builds that are either in progress or slated to begin this summer but have been paused due to pandemic
- Our plan to build/repair homes by the end of 2020; we will need a total of \$150,000 to make those plans a reality.

In partnership, we thank you for your continued support of our mission.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN ‘STAY AT HOME’ MEANS STAYING IN AN UNHEALTHY PLACE?

As a result of COVID-19, more than 300 million people in 42 states have been asked to “stay at home” - and now more than ever, home is *everything*.

Home is the place to stay safe from a global pandemic. And for many of us, our home also has suddenly become our school, our barbershop, our restaurant, our office, our movie theater. For many, “stay at home” has meant the inconvenience of a changed routine. But for more than 19 million U.S. families sheltering in place, the substandard, overcrowded or unaffordable housing situations they live with have only increased their feelings of uncertainty and vulnerability.

All of us at Habitat for Humanity know firsthand that better, affordable living conditions lead to improved health and stronger childhood development. We know they give families the ability — and financial flexibility — to make forward-looking choices. Proper shelter creates jobs, revitalizes neighborhoods, attracts employers, increases consumer spending and government revenues, and lowers the risk of foreclosure, all while bringing transformative benefits to families and developing resiliency in communities.

Habitat for Humanity is a Christian organization that operates in more than 70 countries around the world and in every state of the U.S.

Our vision has always been the same: a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Here at Habitat for Humanity in Wayne County, with community support like yours, we have partnered with more than 83 families who now have a safe, decent and affordable place to call “home.”

Before this pandemic, the world was already experiencing a housing crisis. COVID-19 has revealed its extent and added to its urgency. Habitat is needed now more than ever.

And — now more than ever — we need you.



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Every family who qualifies for homeownership with Habitat for Humanity meets the same basic criteria:

A DEMONSTRATED NEED FOR HOUSING

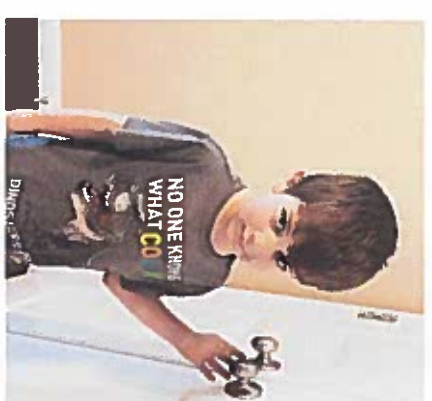
Depending upon the community, this can mean that the current housing situation is substandard, overcrowded or unaffordable.

THE ABILITY TO PAY BACK AN AFFORDABLE MORTGAGE

Every family who seeks the opportunity for homeownership through Habitat for Humanity earns enough to pay back the mortgage for the home that they buy from Habitat, but not enough to qualify for a traditional home loan. Habitat is the pathway to homeownership for these families.

A WILLINGNESS TO PARTNER

Every adult member of a household contributes hours of what we call “sweat equity” toward the completion of their future home. Sweat equity is earned on our job sites, as future homeowners build their own homes and the homes of their neighbors, or by working in Habitat’s offices or in our Habitat for Humanity Restore. Future homeowners also attend classes that prepare them for successful homeownership.



'Home has rarely been more of a life-or-death situation.'

Leilani Farha,
U.N. special rapporteur on the right of adequate housing

Habitat for Humanity in Wayne County has just now launched the Homes, Communities, Hope + You campaign to ensure that we are able to continue and accelerate our work in Wayne County and to ensure that everyone has a decent place to call home. As the economic shocks from this crisis ripple out, the need for safe, affordable and healthy housing is more apparent than ever. Low income households are particularly at risk because of their economic instability and their concentration in service industry and other hourly jobs that have some of the highest risk of COVID-19 disruptions. Many are front-line workers such as grocery attendants, delivering packages, food preparation and hospital workers. The uncertainty that so many of us feel today, these families have felt for a lifetime — if not for generations.



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We cannot do our work without your help. Habitat is needed now more than ever...and now more than ever, we need you!

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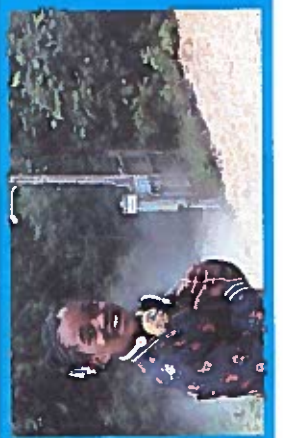
- ◆ Ten (10) families currently in our pipeline working toward their homeownership opportunity
- ◆ Two (2) builds that are either in progress or slated to begin this summer but have been paused due to pandemic
- ◆ Our plan to build/repair homes by the end of 2020; we will need a total of \$150,000 to make those plans a reality

Please help us with the homes, communities, hope, + you campaign by making a gift to Habitat for Humanity in Wayne County

- Enclosed is my One Time Donation of \$ _____
- Enclosed is my MONTHLY donation of \$ _____
- Please EMAIL reminder to: _____
- Please MAIL reminder to: _____

Telephone #: _____

We will only contact you by telephone if we need to verify the email or mailing address. We do not give/sell your contact information to anyone. **THANK YOU !!!**



THE Habitat Staff and Board of Directors THANK YOU for your support!

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