



## A Message from our Executive Director

April is a special month for Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna. We'll be celebrating our 30th anniversary with a **Gala**. Our sincere appreciation and thanks go to the Gala sponsors to date, listed in the "Sponsor Spotlights" section of this newsletter. Our additional gratitude goes to the **Harford Mutual Insurance Group** for its sponsorship at our highest level (Tricennial Sponsor), giving \$30,000 in honor of our 30th anniversary. Thank you for your generosity! If you're not attending our sold-out event, you can still support our mission by becoming a sponsor or purchasing [Gala Raffle Tickets](#).



Yvonne Golczewski

Also in April, Habitat ReStores all across the country will be highlighting **Earth Day** because ReStores reduce landfill waste by encouraging and accepting donated items. Our [Aberdeen ReStore](#) has a lot of Earth Day celebration activities planned so read more about them in this issue.

Our **Women Build** fundraising efforts have started this month for three home builds, and you can learn how to support them in an article further below.

Lastly, every year in April, Habitat for Humanity International launches its **Home is the Key** campaign, intended to shine a spotlight on Habitat's mission and work. It's the perfect theme and time for us to thank YOU for your partnership

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**April 7:** Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna is closed in observance of Good Friday

**April 15:** [Earth Day](#) activities at the Aberdeen ReStore

**April 22:** 30th Anniversary Gala (sold out)

**April 28:** [Golf fundraiser](#)

**May 4-20:** [Women Build](#) teams volunteer at build sites

**May 26:** [Hard Hats & Hops](#) at Hopkins Farm Brewery



throughout our 30 years of "opening the doors" to our past 122 (and counting) Habitat homeowners in Harford and Cecil counties! We are very grateful for the role you have played in making homeownership accessible to everyone. Home is the key to a better future, and we couldn't do it without you!

## Meet a homeowner helped by the Repair Program

*The story of Violet by Heather Gibson, Repair Program Specialist*



Pictured clockwise from left: Violet is surrounded by family, friends, members of her church, and Habitat staff who attended her House Blessing ceremony; Violet stands in front of her townhouse door; Pastor Meldon Dickins of the Isaiah Baptist Church, Monkton, performs a blessing of the house and its rooms.

Violet's goal when retiring in 2006 was to be able to purchase her own home. It was an accomplishment she was able to achieve and one that gave her much pride. However, as the years passed by, the need for home repairs started mounting. With limited income, Violet reached out to her homeowners insurance company for help on her leaking roof. After endless calls, numerous inspections and many months, she was told they would not be able to help.

"I had no money, no one would help. In all of my years, you lean on the Lord and I then decided to place this in the Lord's hands," Violet said.

Shortly after, a friend from her church informed her of Habitat Susquehanna's **Repair Program**. Upon inspection, Violet needed many repairs and modifications to help her safely "age in place." Through the **Community Development Block Grant**, the Repair Program replaced her leaking roof, deteriorating front door and made several bathroom accessibility upgrades, such as tub and toilet modifications.

"I feel more comfortable," Violet said. "My mind is at ease and the work Habitat does to make seniors feel safe is a blessing."

The Repair Program was able to eliminate the daily stress Violet endured and help her feel more safe and secure in her home she works so hard to maintain. Violet's repairs and modifications were so meaningful that she decided to hold a House Blessing with close friends, family and the Repair Program team.

"From the very beginning, everyone at Habitat for Humanity was so polite, well-mannered and treated me with so much respect," Violet said. "Habitat was so very kind, I wanted to let the Lord know that I am so thankful to have people like those

from Habitat in this world.”

## Gala Raffle Tickets for sale

Here's another way to support us if you're not attending our sold-out 30th anniversary Gala: raffle tickets are on sale for the chance to win a \$500 Visa gift card! The tickets are being sold at the **Aberdeen ReStore** and through our website. The name of the raffle winner will be drawn at the Gala, but you do not need to be present to win.

To purchase the raffle ticket(s) online, click the blue button below.

[purchase raffle tickets](#)



Celebrating the Past  
**30<sup>th</sup>**  
Habitat  
est. 1993  
Building the future

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY SUSQUEHANNA'S  
**30TH ANNIVERSARY**

It's Habitat Susquehanna's 30th anniversary - 30 years of opening doors for our community! Your support will help us launch our next 30 years of service!

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR 30TH ANNIVERSARY BY PURCHASING RAFFLE TICKETS TO WIN A \$500 VISA GIFT CARD!

1 RAFFLE TICKET FOR \$10  
3 RAFFLE TICKETS FOR \$20  
10 RAFFLE TICKETS FOR \$60  
20 RAFFLE TICKETS FOR \$100

WINNER TO BE PULLED APRIL 22, 2023 AT 30TH ANNIVERSARY GALA, BULLE ROCK RESIDENTS' CENTER, 1200 BULLE ROCK PARKWAY, HAVRE DE GRACE. WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN.

VISIT [HTTPS://HABITATSUSO.ORG/EVENTS/30TH/](https://habitatsuso.org/events/30th/) FOR MORE DETAILS

## Aberdeen ReStore's shredding event, kids' crafts, goody bags to celebrate Earth Day

On Saturday, April 15, the **Aberdeen ReStore** will be marking Earth Day by holding a paper shredding event from 9AM to noon. A truck from Chesapeake Shredding will be on site to shred documents. The event is free, but as there is a cost involved in having the shredder, we ask that customers consider providing a goodwill monetary donation to help support this event.

Kids will be able to make a bird feeder at the kids' crafts table. Goody bags containing flower seed packets and ReStore swag will be handed out to the first 100 people who attend.

Follow our [ReStore's Facebook](#) page for all the details and event updates.



**EARTH DAY EVENT**  
April 15th • 9 am to 12 pm • at the Aberdeen ReStore

Shredding truck on-site  
9 am to 12 pm  
Please consider bringing a donation to help us offset the cost of the shredding truck!

For more information on what we DO accept, please visit [AberdeenReStore.org](#)

Habitat for Humanity | **ReStore**

## Aberdeen ReStore seeks donations

Throughout the year, we accept donations of gently used furniture, building materials, housewares, flooring, appliances, and more! Donation days are Tuesdays through Fridays from 10AM to 5PM, and Saturdays from 9AM to 3PM. For a list of what we do or do not accept, visit our [website](#).

If you can't drop your items off, schedule a free pickup of your donations.

[schedule a free pickup](#)

## AmeriCorps positions available

We are currently looking for two AmeriCorps National [Construction Crew](#)



[Leaders](#), and one [Repair Coordinator](#) for the 2023-24 service year. (Click the links on the position titles above to apply.)

To learn more about the AmeriCorps program, check out our [new video](#)!

Questions? Visit our [website](#) or contact [John Lanigan](#).

“I’m AMERICORPS”



Rene  
AC Natl Repair  
Program Coordinator



Ben  
AC Natl Construction  
Crew Leader



Julia  
AC Alum



Nick  
AC Alum



Shelby  
AC Alum



Ethan  
AC Alum

## 6th annual Women Build in May

Female-led teams compete to fundraise during the month of April, then the teams volunteer to build together in May. This year's Women Build event will fundraise for the future Habitat homes of three single mothers -- LaTera, Felicia and Yaraly -- and build the houses in Havre de Grace, Elkton and Aberdeen, respectively.

This year's nine teams are fundraising in April towards these builds, but we have **one team spot left**. If you're interested in forming a team (it's easy!), visit our [website](#) for details.

How else can YOU partner with us in funding these homes? Make a donation (of any amount), purchase virtual 50/50 raffle tickets, and/or be a sponsor of our Women Build.

[become a Women Build sponsor](#)

## "Be On Our Side" Sponsors

Special thanks to our \$5,000 Women Build sponsors, [Enspire Energy](#) and [Allan Myers](#), for kicking off our campaign with these wonderful gifts!



If you'd like to support Women Build by being a sponsor, donor, or to purchase 50/50 raffle tickets, visit our [website](#). Questions? Contact [Phyliss Mosca](#).

## Collegiate Challenge

The students from **Colgate University** spent a week volunteering at the **Aberdeen ReStore** (below pic) and on our Havre de Grace build site (at right). We thank them for donating their time during spring break to make an impact



in our community!



Want to hear more about the **Colgate University** Collegiate Challenge team's experience with us? Visit our [Facebook page](#) and watch our two-minute video!

## Groundbreaking Ceremony

We held a groundbreaking ceremony in Elkton at the end of March to commemorate an important milestone in the homeownership process. Once the foundation is laid, the "Habi-Tech" home will be transported to its final, permanent location at 2 Manor Road.

It is the fourth time that Habitat Susquehanna has partnered with the **Cecil County School of Technology** in purchasing a home built by their students, overseen by their teachers.



The homebuyer is Felicia, the single mother of three children, ages 13, 8 and 5. This year's **Women Build** teams will be fundraising for this house build as well as two others.

## Habitat homeowner milestone anniversary

Congrats to **Tsegaye** who celebrates a 10-year anniversary as a Habitat homeowner this month!

During the Homeownership process, he said, "I would like to thank you, Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna. I would like to thank the staff, site engineers, supervisors, sponsors, donors and all volunteers. To all of them, I say 'thank you' from my heart. Today my dream



has become reality."

**Did You Know?** Habitat homeowners pay an affordable mortgage, and their journey to affordable homeownership involves required sweat equity hours building their home, or the home of another Habitat homebuyer. Each qualified applicant puts in at least 250 hours of volunteer work, which includes attending financial literacy and home maintenance classes.



Tsegaye (pictured, at left, working at a Habitat build site towards his required sweat equity hours).

Interested in learning what it takes to be a Habitat homeowner? Visit our [website](#) for details, and complete the Interest Form (located on the web page) to attend an Applicant Orientation Meeting.

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## Workiversaries

Congrats to our staff members who are marking one-year anniversaries working at Habitat Susquehanna (pictured clockwise from left): Grants Manager **Rachel Hennick** (March 28), Repair Program Manager **Scott Zoeller** (April 25) and Repair Program Specialist **Heather Gibson** (April 25)!



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## Sponsor Spotlights

Thank you to the following generous sponsors this month:

*The* Dresher  
Foundation *Inc.*



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Gala sponsors to date





HABITAT FOR HUMANITY SUSQUEHANNA'S  
**30th ANNIVERSARY GALA  
DREAM BUILDERS BALL**

APRIL 22, 2023  
BULLE ROCK RESIDENTS' CENTER BALLROOM

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS BELOW:



Bulle Rock Developer, Inc.



**Tricennial Sponsor**

Harford Mutual Insurance Group

**Dream Builder Sponsor**

Bob Ward Trademark Custom Homes & Bulle Rock Developer, Inc.

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APGFCU

**It Takes a Community Sponsors**

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Peninsula Wealth Advisory Group

**Virtual Sponsors**

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Weyrich, Cronin, & Sorra  
Donna & Jim Chason



**When you give to Habitat, your support  
changes lives every day!**

