



## A Message from our Executive Director

I want to highlight a special anniversary in the Habitat family: June marks the fourth year of **Habitat for Humanity International's** five-year **Cost of Home** advocacy campaign. As Habitat International recently announced, "The collective advocacy efforts of 400+ state and local Habitat organizations have helped 6.6 million people gain increased access to home affordability and stability." To learn more, visit Habitat International's [website](#).

At our local level, after having successfully built three duplexes at S. Stokes Street, and one duplex at Erie Street, Havre de Grace, we're moving on (in our current build/rehab schedule) to single family homes. Volunteers, are you ready?!

Speaking of volunteers, I cannot emphasize enough how important they are to the success of our mission. Our Habitat homes are made affordable thanks to volunteer support and sponsorships that keep construction costs low. By partnering with us -- either at our build sites or in our **Aberdeen ReStore** -- we are making homeownership a reality for many in Harford and Cecil counties. It's a perfect reminder to end my message to you on this National Homeownership Month!



Yvonne Golczewski

## NOTABLE DATES IN JUNE

**Jun 1-30:** June is National Homeownership Month

**Jun 2:** House dedication ceremony for 808 Erie Street, Havre de Grace

**Jun 10:** Hammers Up! with **Bel Air United Methodist Church**

**June 12:** Four-year anniversary of the Cost of Home campaign



## Note of thanks for Hard Hats & Hops

This year's Hard Hats & Hops sold (excluding sponsors) almost 40 tickets MORE than last year's, making it one of the most well-attended Habitat events ever! We thank all of the Habitat volunteers, AmeriCorps members and staff who helped put this fun event together. A tremendous note of thanks to our sponsors, **Testerman Electrical**, **Solvay Group** and, **Jarrettsville Federal Savings & Loan Association**.

Thank you to **Hopkins Farm Brewery** for the use of their scenic venue, and to **Edgewood Creamery** for donating their delicious ice cream! Thank you to **Lowell Sheets** for the incredible illusions in our program. Thank you to our door prize donors: **Plumpton Park Zoo**, **Aberdeen ReStore**, **Jurassic Golf & Arcade**, **MaGerks**, and **The Pit Shack**.



Thank you to our wonderful volunteer photographer, Laura Ames of **Laura Ames Photography**, for capturing the event in her beautiful photographs. Visit our Facebook page's [photo album](#) to see the pictures.

Thank you to our homebuyer **Julia** (standing at the lectern in the above photograph) for sharing her incredible story. Thank you to our emcees, WJZ's **Kristy Breslin** and **Bob Bloom** (Ambassador for Visit Harford), and WXCY's **Tim Hartley**, for putting their time and talents once again into helping us fundraise for affordable housing!

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## We're seeking volunteers!

We're looking for build site volunteers in Havre de Grace, Aberdeen and Elkton. We're also looking for volunteers to help us in our Aberdeen ReStore. If interested, contact [Michele Louderback](#) (for volunteering for the construction program), and [Ashley Hall](#) (for volunteering at the ReStore).



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## Meet a homeowner helped by the Repair Program

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



Longtime Harford County residents, Thomas and Mary, purchased their home in 1996. Over the past 25 years, health issues arose, along with mounting home repair needs. Having a limited income, they turned to a friend who suggested they reach out to a program that recently assisted her with obtaining a new roof -- our [Repair Program](#).

"From the beginning everyone was absolutely wonderful. The application process was so easy and the flow made us so comfortable," stated Mary.

Upon the initial visit, the Repair Program Manager noticed many critical repairs that needed to be addressed, particularly the leaking roof and the basement door which allowed for basement flooding during rainy days. Along with those repairs, and thanks to the generous grant funding through the **Community Development Block Grant**, the Repair Program was able to address the issues, and replace their outdated HVAC system, sub pump and insulation.

"I worked for a construction company for 30 years and have never seen a job completed so well. The construction guys went above and beyond -- even kept my house clean!" said Mary.

"We now have security," Thomas added. "We no longer need to stress. Our house is now comfortable and we can walk outside through our door without any worry."

Also, as a result of the repairs, Thomas and Mary have seen a reduction in their BGE costs and during a recent rainstorm, there was no basement flooding!

"I can't thank Habitat enough," said Mary. "The service was remarkable and we cannot begin to tell you how much this group touched our hearts."

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### Collegiate Challenge: Bullis School

We thank the **Bullis School** for once again volunteering with Habitat Susquehanna! This year, they came for a week during Collegiate Challenge and



worked at the **Aberdeen ReStore** and at our build sites.



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### Habitat homeowner milestone anniversary

Congrats to our homeowners, Holly and Dale, who mark 10 years in their Habitat home this month!

When they applied to our Homeownership program, they said, "I want a home where my children can create cherished memories, ones that - once they're grown - they can share with each other and with their own children. I think it's very important to have stable relationships with your children, and that starts with a stable home. Have hope, because with Habitat, there are possibilities. Don't let them pass you by."



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### Workiversary

Kudos to our CFO **John Battista** (pictured serving ice cream during our most recent **Hard Hats & Hops** fundraiser) for his six-year work anniversary at Habitat Susquehanna!



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**Janney MACWIN: Winner of the "Tacky Hammer" award for Women Build 2023**





## Sponsor Spotlights

Thank you to the following generous sponsors this month:



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