September 2024

www.habitatsusq.org

GREEN & BLUEPRINTS

A newsletter to keep you informed.







A Message from our Executive Director

Looking for some good news to read about Habitat for Humanity's work? Here are several quick facts & stats:

Habitat for Humanity has been named as one of the <u>2024 Best Places to</u> <u>Work for Disability Inclusion</u> (Source: Disability:IN and American Association of People with Disabilities)

Habitat for Humanity was listed in the "Top 10 Most Trusted Nonprofits" according to the Morning Consult's fourth annual Most Trusted Brands Report (page 50).

Habitat for Humanity has a four-star rating on <u>Charity Navigator</u>.

<u>Forbes</u> listed Habitat for Humanity under its "5 Best Car Donation Charities."

These are just some of the reasons why you can feel good about Habitat's work and our efforts to create a world where everyone has a decent place to live!

NOTABLE DATES IN SEPTEMBER

SEP 2: Labor Day. The Habitat Susquehanna Bel Air office is closed.

Sep 14: Stuff the Truck. The Aberdeen ReStore will receive your donations at The Soccer Factory, Forest Hill. Details are contained in the ReStore's Facebook event.



Yvonne Golczewski

SAVE THE DATE

Oct 19: Trunk or Treat at the Aberdeen ReStore. Details to come.

Nov. 1: Habitat Harvest. Tickets and sponsorships are available. Proceeds will support our "Habi-Tech" program. Each year, we partner with the Cecil County School of Technology and/or Harford Technical High School as their students build a Habitat home, under the supervision of their instructors. Habitat Susquehanna purchases all the building materials, and this program teaches students marketable construction skills and STEM learning. (Read the latest updates about the event in this issue's article below.)

Help us repair our community

We currently have 94 people on our Repair Program's waitlist. If you are interested in helping to provide funds for a critical home repair on that list, visit our website for the donation process. Questions about our need can be addressed to Michele Louderback, Community Engagement Manager.





Help us provide critical home repairs for low income homeowners.

94 people are on our Repair Program's waitlist.

That means almost 100 households are struggling with leaking roofs during the hurricane season, facing a winter without heat, or praying for a miracle so they can continue living in their home.

Donate today! All amounts appreciated and every dollar supports your neighbors in Harford and Cecil counties.

Speaker and MC for upcoming Habitat Harvest

We are so pleased to announce that **Dr**. **Nicole Parr**, Principal of the Cecil County School of Technology (CCST), has agreed to be a speaker at our upcoming Habitat Harvest. This fundraiser will support the "Habi-Tech" program, where we build homes each year with students from the CCST and Harford Technical High School.

Kristy Breslin, part of WMAR's Good Morning Maryland team, will be the emcee at our event. Kristy is a strong advocate for our local nonprofits, and has enthusiastically supported us as an emcee at many of our past fundraisers.



Purchase Habitat Harvest Tickets and support our Habi-Tech Program

Sponsorships available for Habitat Harvest event

We are very pleased to have many sponsors stepping up to help us raise money for our "Habi-Tech" program, and we are seeking more sponsorships before our November 1st Habitat Harvest fundraiser.

To date, we have received sponsorships from Susky River Beverage Co., Constellation, APGFCU, Aire Serv of Elkton, Rhoads Energy, Buttonwood Beach R.V. Resort, and State Farm Insurance – Karen Michaels. Thank you, sponsors, for your support!



Pictured: Last year's Habitat Harvest "30th anniversary" fundraiser at the scenic Susky River

Visit our <u>website</u> to view the sponsorship levels and/or purchase tickets or sponsorships. Sponsors do not need to attend the event; however, all sponsorship packages include tickets.

Farm Brewery. This year's event is rain or shine and includes a bonfire, s'mores, acoustic music in the taproom, craft beer, food, hiking trails and more. Once again, dogs are welcome and kids are free!

Questions? Contact Ola Boswell, Director of Development.

Habitat for Humanity is at work in all 50 U.S. states and in more than 70 countries around the world

Tithing is a way that our U.S. Habitat affiliates contribute to Habitat's global ministry. Our own affiliate — Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna — has been tithing to various eligible overseas Habitat affiliates since 1995 to help fund the building of homes around the globe.

Our lifetime tithe has served 210 international households to date. We currently tithe to **Kenya**, **Haiti**, **Malawi** and have added **Egypt** as our fourth tithe partner.

Read more in the **Summer issue** of our Building on Faith newsletter.



During the annual Habitat for Humanity International conference in Atlanta, our Director of Development, Ola Boswell, met Ashraf Eid, National Director for Habitat for Humanity Egypt, to learn about their efforts. This fortuitous meeting led Ola to recommend that we add Egypt to our tithe partnerships, and our staff unanimously agreed.

Did you know? In this month...

September 1995: The first Habitat home that our nonprofit built was a three-bedroom rancher on land donated by the City of Aberdeen.

September 2008: We officially announced plans to help people with repairs, naming it the FIXIT UP program (later renamed the Repair Program).

Staff news

Congrats to the following staff members who mark work anniversaries with us in September:

Naomi Mattingly: 7 years John Kunzelman: 5 years Tom Baker: 2 years

Homeowner news

This month, **Linda** marks 10 years as a Habitat homeowner.

Here's an excerpt of the story that she shared with us when she learned she was approved as a Habitat homeowner:

"I was speechless. It was an extremely emotional moment for me. I gratefully accepted my new home. It's unimaginable to think what it is going to be like living in my own house. Previously my life consisted of moving from room to room, and for two years I was in a small cramped one room apartment. It's a miracle! This is truly a dream come true. Words cannot express my deepest heartfelt gratitude to each and every volunteer who worked to make my dream come true by building me a home. There is a saying 'home is where the heart is.' I feel like I have

been given the beautiful gift of a place to rest my head and to put my heart."

Vehicle donations fund homes for low-income families

Habitat for Humanity has accepted over 160,000 vehicles under its <u>Cars</u> <u>for Homes</u> program, with over 48,000 vehicles directed to licensed recyclers by our car donation partner since the program began in 2005. This keeps many materials (including steel) out of landfills, among other benefits.

Visit the Cars for Homes website to learn more about this national vehicle donation program, or call 1-877-277-4344.

Start Your Vehicle Donation Today



Q: What kinds of vehicles can be donated?

A: Cars for Homes accepts almost all vehicles, including cars, trucks, motorcycles, recreational vehicles, boats, snowmobiles, farm equipment, and construction equipment!

Sponsor Spotlights

Thank you to the following generous sponsors this month:













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