

Inhabit

A look inside Habitat for Humanity of Franklin County



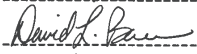
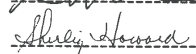
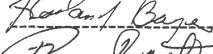
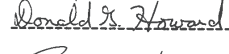
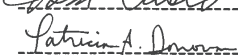
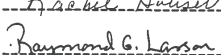
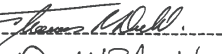
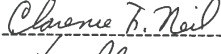


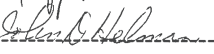
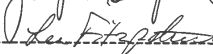






HAPPY ANNIVERSARY HFHFC!

In 1993 a group of local citizens with genuine concern for affordable housing in Franklin County banded together in the basement of the Heidelberg Church in Marion (PA) and formed what would become Habitat for Humanity of

Franklin County. Habitat International recognized us as an official affiliate in early 1994 and our work began in earnest with the construction of our 1st home in partnership with the Bowers family on Memory Lane in Chambersburg. 20 names adorn our Articles of Incorporation and we honor them for their vision and commitment to safe, decent, and affordable housing in our local community. These 30 years have witnessed over 100,000 hours of volunteer construction work and generous philanthropic dollars contributed from thousands of donors. More importantly, God's love has been demonstrated in practical ways resulting in 56 completed homes as we build communities and hope. We thank God for blessing this housing ministry and thank you, our faithful volunteers and donors, for making it happen. Speaking of anniversaries: Our ReStore will be 10 years old in January 2025! We look to the future with eager anticipation of doing more, building more, and to reach even closer to our vision of a world where everyone has a decent place to live.

*All 20 signatures from our founders
(HFHFC Articles 1993)*

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the incorporators have signed these Articles of Incorporation this 23 day of May, 1993.



Summer / Fall
2024

Board Officers

- President:**
Doug Hess
Vice President:
Natasha DiStasio
Treasurer:
Chris Morrow
Secretary:
Brandon Copeland

Board Members

- Courtney Shauf
Patti Murray
Bob Wolff
Marlin Maclay
Laura Stover
Jim Zoerkler

If you have a building lot in Franklin County and would like to consider donating it to our mission, please contact our office. We are able to receipt donors for the market value of the land.



Help Build Hope is a program of CrossRoads Missions. They frame walls offsite for Habitat houses by utilizing church parking lots and volunteers. They follow Habitat blueprints and donate the cost of the materials. Over the past two years this program has framed the walls for four of our local Habitat houses. Most recently, New Life Church in Frederick, MD framed two houses for us in 3 hours with over 100

helpers. Wow! Their volunteers were able to have a fun Habitat experience that directly benefited our housing ministry. And just like our volunteers, several of them signed the studs with well-wishes and verses of Scripture. This creative partnership demonstrates the central portion of our mission by "bringing people together." We are very grateful!



HELP BUILD HOPE WALLS AT OUR 2024 GREENCASTLE PROJECT

Habitat FOUNDATIONS BREAKFAST

What happens when you approach area businesses for sponsorships and bring together 120 community leaders for a Habitat program? You get the Foundations Breakfast, our signature fundraising event. Inaugurated in 2023, our goal was to share stories from our partner families, spotlight a specific upcoming project, and to hopefully receive enough donations to pay for the foundation. Ephesians 3:30 says, "God is able to do far more than we could ever ask for or imagine." We certainly experienced that! Our event this year raised \$63,500 that is currently being invested at our Guitner Road project in Hamilton Township. The Foundations Breakfast has taken place each year at

the lovely Grant Street Loft in Chambersburg with F&M Trust as our Grand Diamond Sponsor. Members from BNI Referral Gold (a local networking group) supplied the majority of the leadership and planning required to have a successful event. Save-The-Date: Our next Foundations Breakfast will take place on April 17, 2025 from 7:30-9:30 am.



2024 planning team for the Foundations Breakfast

MISSION BUILDERS

Calling weekly volunteers! Each Wednesday we build with a consistent crew we call Mission Builders. This group of regularly returning volunteers enjoy camaraderie, special training, and higher engagement with Habitat. Most workdays are from 9-2 and no prior construction experience is needed. We announce where we will be working and what type of projects are planned about a week ahead

of time. We offer you a local opportunity to be part of a worldwide mission, construction training that is guaranteed to turn you into a DIYer, and a practical way for you to give back to your community (and FREE Habitat t-shirts)! The group is led by volunteer Bruce Burr. To join the Mission Builders or just to have a chat to learn more, email bruce@habitatfranklinpa.org.

WHO IS SERVING WHO

Habitat volunteers and donors serve our mission with a wide variety of motivations. Some closely align with our Christian identity and want to live out their faith values, some are passionate about affordable housing, others enjoy the permanence of our work and watching the cycle of poverty be broken. In every way, whether volunteering at the construction site, ReStore, on the board of directors, or solely as a donor, they serve and you serve, altruistically expecting nothing in return. What if we flip it around, just for a moment: the people you serve, our Habitat house-buying partner families, serve you too - you just might not know it! Our local homebuyers are intricately woven into the communal fabric of Franklin County and make our everyday lives better. These are real people who have worked hard at their local jobs such as: Doordash delivery (known as a Dasher), distribution warehouse packer, concrete construction, pharmacy tech, retail cashier, teacher's aide, preschool teacher, forklift operator, translator,



cosmetologist, church pastor (2, actually), gas station attendant, credit card processing company start-up (you didn't expect that did you?), restaurant hostess, school bus driver and the list goes on. You serve them and they serve you. This spirit of working together was articulated well in 1985 by President Jimmy Carter, "Another thing I like about Habitat is that it's a partnership. It's not somebody up here helping somebody down there. It's somebody reaching out a hand and saying, "Let's work together." Our community is strong and it is only right to work together recognizing the reciprocal benefit we all enjoy. Serve well.

DEVELOPING *The Future*

Finding affordable building lots in Franklin County for our Habitat homes is becoming increasingly difficult. It is no stretch of the truth to say that a group of us look for lots every single day. Please make us aware of any "For Sale By Owner" lot signs you may see in areas where our modest ranch-style house would fit well. Our staff and board are also actively investigating the model of creating our own building lots by purchasing a tract of land and putting in the infrastructure, also known as a development. This would be a big step for us which would require technical expertise and a capital campaign. We share this possibility with you now so that you too can ponder and join us in prayer for wisdom as we consider this concept.

"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago, The second best time is now."



CRIMINAL ACTIVITY SPURS GENEROSITY & INNOVATION

For many years our construction tools have rolled from project to project in our black tag-a-long construction trailer. Our practice was to lock the trailer each evening and leave the trailer at the jobsite until the house was completed. Sad to say, the trailer was criminally broken into by cutting the locks (and doors) and our volunteer tools were stolen. After filing a police report we conducted a small circle fundraising campaign to replace them. Our donors were generous and provided enough funding to upgrade to Milwaukee battery operated power tools, thus dramatically reducing our dependence on a generator.



Matt Stine & Mark Story on tool delivery day

Nitterhouse Hardware & Masonry in Chambersburg stepped up and made the new tools available to us at a dramatically reduced cost. We certainly couldn't continue to store tools at the jobsite any longer, so we had to innovate. We purchased a brand new Ford tool truck which was funded 100% by a grant from the Commonwealth of PA Financing Authority. It's called a KUV or Cutaway vehicle and the tools are stowed in a secure cargo area with external compartments for easy access to the equipment. The vehicle is taken off site each night. At Habitat we believe in redemption. While we wish our tools hadn't been taken, something meant for harm resulted in an outpouring of generosity and a better way to steward and mobilize our resources.



New tool truck for Habitat



SCAN THIS CODE WITH YOUR PHONE TO GIVE ONLINE

SHOW YOUR *Support*

Habitat depends on charitable donations. We have been blessed by your support for 30 years. For your convenience, a remittance envelope is included if you like to give by mail. For fast and secure online donations please scan the QR code which links directly to our "Give" site. We are also able to quickly and efficiently receive gifts of stock. The stock donation process is simple and you are given a receipt for the full value based on the date transferred. Habitat then liquidates the stock and uses the proceeds to buy building materials for our next project. Contact Mark Story at 717-267-1899 or mark@habitatfranklinpa.org for full details. However you choose to show your support, please know how much we appreciate you!

Our Habitat

CONTEMPORARY UPDATE

Timing project updates with the mailed arrival of this newsletter is tricky but we do want you to know what's going on with our mission building work this season.

1

The duplex structure on West Queen Street in the Borough of Chambersburg is super close to being finished! No later than October, we anticipate that each side will be occupied, bringing our completed project count to 57 & 58, respectively. Queen St. was challenging from the beginning as we worked through tight lot conditions, a lengthy subdivision process (complete with public hearings), closing the road at one point, and working with significant slopes and grades.

2

Cement has been poured at our Guitner Road project. This was the focused giving area for our 2024 Foundations Breakfast fundraiser and is also one of the sites using Help Build Hope walls. We anticipate the home being dried-in before the end of the year, allowing us to have plentiful winter work for the volunteers.

3

In bittersweet news, the dilapidated structure at our St. Thomas property on Lincoln Way West has been torn down. While we lament losing historical housing stock, this was the best outcome for the old and unusable house. Habitat expresses profound gratitude to Dave Burkholder from Dave's Truck Repair in Chambersburg for voluntarily doing all of the work to raze the structure. His expertise and heavy equipment brought the debris safely to the ground, saving us thousands of dollars.

4

As previously announced, our project in partnership with Menno Haven on Sutherland Court in Greenvillage is ready to roll! Called the "Hope House," Menno Haven is sponsoring the house with financial backing and volunteer labor. Our organizational missions are aligned and we look forward to working closely together. Menno Haven is celebrating a 60th year anniversary this year and, pleasingly, the Hope House is slated to be our 60th Habitat home in Franklin County. Pretty neat stuff!

5

Finally, our home rehabilitation process on Highland Avenue in Waynesboro is ever-so-slowly inching along. Remodel work is inherently tough but does solve two problems at once: Fixing an existing house and providing a home for a local family in need. Once the inside work on the mechanicals is done we'll pivot to drywall and finish jobs.



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2

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