

Inhabit

A look inside Habitat for Humanity of Franklin County

FOUNDATIONS BREAKFAST *Fundraiser*



130 guests attended our event in its third year

What began as a simple conversation over coffee has grown into one of Franklin County's most inspiring annual events. On Thursday, April 17, Habitat for Humanity of Franklin County hosted its 3rd Annual Foundations Breakfast, bringing together 130 attendees for a powerful morning of generosity, connection, and community. We're thrilled to share that this year's event raised over \$78,000—our highest total yet! Held at the beautiful Grant Street Loft, the breakfast featured an expanded menu, specialty beverages, and a sold-out crowd filled with community leaders, local

businesses, and longtime supporters. The energy in the room reflected a shared belief in Habitat's vision: that everyone deserves a safe, decent place to call home. This year, funds raised will go directly toward the construction of a new Habitat home at 2968 Buchanan Trail West in Greencastle, where another local family will soon begin a new chapter of stability and hope. As a special touch, we were honored to have guests sign our President Jimmy Carter Tribute Door, which will be installed in the home—a lasting symbol of compassion, service, and the legacy of one of Habitat's most faithful advocates.



Mark Story presents Jenna Kaczmarek with the 2025 "Hard Hat Hero" award

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**Spring / Summer
2025**

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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.

CONTINUING THE MISSION BY DEVELOPING THE FUTURE

As Habitat continues to investigate the feasibility of creating a residential development, we're struck by this truth: 10 years from now, leadership at our affiliate will either be glad that we pressed on or they will be disappointed that we did not. A task force of experts has been assembled who are interacting with the complex details of such a project. We know of four other Habitat affiliates in different parts of the US who have successfully used this approach to create building lots. Vicariously, we have benefited from their wisdom as they led the way, emerging from the pandemic. Purchasing a large tract of land for this purpose would be a big step of faith for us and would require a capital campaign to support the work. Here is an apt saying as we look to God to supply beyond what we can see as available: "We can count how many seeds are in the apple, but not how many apples are in a seed." We hope to have big news to share towards the end of this year. Until then, we'll remain vigilant in the details and ask for your prayers on our behalf.



A visit from Habitat for Humanity International. Adrienne Goolsby and Jack Bridges are pictured with Kent Cordell, our Construction Coordinator, at our Guithner Rd project - our 59th completed home in Franklin County.

FOUNDATIONS BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER CONTINUED



Our planning team, "The Breakfast Club" with Adrienne Goolsby from HFHI

We were also deeply honored to welcome Adrienne Goolsby, Senior Vice President for the U.S. and Canada at Habitat for Humanity International, as our keynote speaker. Her words reminded us that what we do locally has a ripple effect around the world—and that strong communities begin with people who care enough to act. A special thank you goes to F&M Trust, our Grand Diamond Sponsor, whose continued partnership plays a

vital role in making this event and our work possible. To everyone who sponsored, attended, donated, volunteered, or helped spread the word—thank you. You didn't just support an event; you helped build a home, a future, and a stronger Franklin County.

We're already looking ahead to next year! Mark your calendars for the 4th Annual Foundations Breakfast on April 21, 2026. We can't wait to build with you again.

Submitted by: Korey Paff Agency Owner/Broker
Goosehead Insurance Korey Paff Agency
Member of the Breakfast Club

To the anonymous donor

An open letter of gratitude from Habitat for Humanity of Franklin County

In every season of our work, we are blessed to walk alongside generous people—individuals, families, businesses, churches, and civic organizations—all united by a desire to build something lasting: safe, decent, affordable housing for those who need it most. We celebrate many of these names publicly - not to place anyone on a pedestal, but to lift up the spirit of community that makes this mission possible. And yet, not all of our supporters choose to be seen. Some give quietly, without recognition, fanfare, or even so much as a return address.

To the anonymous donor—

Thank you.

Your choice to remain unnamed may be guided by personal values, privacy, or a quiet conviction that giving is not about credit received. Perhaps it's an act of faith. Perhaps it's your way of staying focused on the mission, not the moment. Whatever the reason, your generosity is powerful. And your impact is real. Because of your gift, homes are being framed and finished. Foundations are being poured and futures are being built. Because of your gift, a family who has known instability will now know peace. Children will grow up with more than just four walls—they'll grow up with security, stability, and the kind of hope that transforms generations.

We may never get the chance to shake your hand or look you in the eye, but please know that you are part of every nail driven, every wall raised, and every key handed over. Your contribution is woven into the stories we tell—stories of resilience, restoration, and renewed dignity. Anonymous giving is a special kind of generosity. It's selfless. It's humble. It reflects a belief that the cause is bigger than the credit. In a world that often craves attention, you chose to serve silently. That's a legacy worth honoring.

So we say it again—thank you. Thank you for believing in this mission, and for trusting us to carry it forward. Though your name may never appear in print, your spirit is etched into the very heart of what we do.

With sincere gratitude,
Habitat for Humanity of Franklin County

Side by Side

A STORY OF HOME, HOPE, AND SISTERHOOD

How collaboration made a shared dream possible

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Every home dedication is special, but the story of sisters Angelina and Josefina is one we won't soon forget. In October 2024, surrounded by friends, family, and supporters, we celebrated two home dedications on one unforgettable day. These weren't just neighboring houses—they were newly built twin homes, constructed side by side, for two sisters who dreamed of staying close while gaining the independence of owning their own homes. For years, Angelina and Josefina lived together in a crowded two-bedroom apartment with eight other family members. Both worked long hours as food inspectors and leaned on each other to make ends meet. But they longed for something more—space, stability, and a home to call their own. Angelina's journey began when she reached out to Pathstone, a certified USDA Section 502 loan packager. With their support and USDA Rural Development backing, her application was approved. When Pathstone learned how closely the sisters' lives were connected, they reached out to Habitat—and the timing couldn't have been better. We were just completing a twin-style Habitat home on W Queen St in Chambersburg that felt tailor-made for their story. With Pathstone's help and USDA support, Josefina also qualified for a loan. Soon, both sisters had agreements in place—and their dream of homeownership began taking shape, side by side. On dedication day, their joy was unmistakable. "Thank you very much," they shared. "We are both very happy for owning our own little home and house. God bless all of you for helping us realize our dreams." From overcrowded living conditions to proud homeowners, Angelina and Josefina's story is a powerful reminder: when we come together, we don't just build houses—we build futures. At HFHFC, we recognize our part in a larger network of social services, and we are grateful for the way that nonprofits and churches work together in the Cumberland Valley. As we like to say, "We are coworkers, not competitors," and our community is better when we all work together.



W Queen St duplex pictured Nov 2024

BWISE & BRECHBILL TRAILERS PARTNER TO SUPPORT HFHFC

We have a powerful new tool in our mission to build homes and hope, thanks to a generous donation from B Wise Trailers and Brechbill Trailers. The two local businesses teamed up to provide a brand-new 12' DT10 B Wise Dump Trailer, solving a long-standing challenge at Habitat's construction sites. Previously, Habitat relied on roll-off dumpsters for nonrecyclable debris, but those dumpsters often became filled by others overnight, causing delays and extra landfill fees. Now, the donated dump trailer offers a secure and efficient solution, allowing volunteers and homeowners to focus on what matters most—building safe, affordable housing.



Pictured Left to Right:
Bill Shiley, Mark Story, Kent Cordell,
and Joe Steinberg



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WE NOW ACCEPT *Cryptocurrency* GIFTS

We're excited to announce that our local Habitat for Humanity can now receive gifts of cryptocurrency! While digital currencies like Bitcoin and Ethereum may still feel like a mystery to many, they're becoming a meaningful new way to support causes that matter—and we're ready.

Not everyone understands how cryptocurrency works (and that's okay!), but here's what you should know: We've already successfully processed crypto donations and converted them into cash that is actively helping build homes right here in our community.

If you or someone you know is looking for a unique way to give, contact Mark Story in our office to learn more about donating crypto to Habitat. Of course, we still cheerfully welcome checks sent through the mail or online gifts through our website. Your gift—no matter the form—brings us one step closer to making safe, decent housing a reality for more local families.



HOPE HOUSE: A FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

Last April, Menno Haven and Habitat embarked on a meaningful outreach initiative: to raise funds and supply volunteer labor to build the next Habitat house in Franklin County. Habitat exercised our normal program to identify and qualify homebuyers for the home, who turned out to be two dedicated Menno Haven team members. Like any big endeavor, we faced challenges, but in the end, it was worth it! We named the project "Hope House" to symbolize new beginnings. The timing couldn't have been more appropriate. This home marked Habitat's 60th build, perfectly aligning with the 60th anniversary of Menno Haven. On April 13, 2025, we dedicated the home in a heartfelt ceremony. The new homeowners received their keys, a Bible, and a handcrafted board from the ReStore. Menno Haven Development Services also gifted a framed picture signed by donors, volunteers, and friends - a lasting memory of this milestone. Together, we raised over



The Hope House
Photo taken in mid-March

\$200,000 in cash donations and received \$45,000 of in-kind donations. The overwhelming generosity of our community reinforced what we've always believed - when people come together, incredible things happen.

BUILDING HOPE - *Together.*

ILLUMINATE: OUR VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Meet Ron Hosko.

Ron and his wife, Tracy, moved to Franklin County in 2022 from Northern Virginia and live in the Penn National Community. Ron spent 30 years in federal government work, which often lacked visible progress and sometimes felt unsatisfying. Ron says that he's happy in retirement but isn't content to simply play golf every day. In his own words, "Because I have some building skills, I've put up a lot of walls, and having done home maintenance over the years, I wanted to offer my time to a nonprofit to get engaged and give back. Now I can see real progress, and I feel productive. Sometimes we have to take things apart and receive a course correction from Kent, but we have a lot of fun." Ron also shared that there is a strong sense of camaraderie among those who show up and that he enjoys hearing about the other volunteers, their careers, their travels, and their stories. "Our wives are also happy that we're doing something productive during the day," Ron quips. Ron and Tracy have been married for 38 years and enjoy Italian food with a favorite destination being Rosalies on Scotland Ave. Tracy also enjoys her volunteer time by coordinating meals and events at Penn National and helping serve at WellSpan facilities. Ron concludes, "Habitat days, I come home tired, but it's a good tired." Thank you, Ron, for serving your community through volunteerism with Habitat. You are a blessing!



Ron installing handrails at our
W Queen St duplex

GIVING BACK THROUGH CARS FOR HOMES RECEIVER RECIPROCATES AS GIVER!

One of the many benefits of being affiliated with Habitat International is our ability to accept donated vehicles. HFHI runs the program, and we receive the proceeds. Our most recent car donation came to us from Spencer Bowers, who decided it was time to part with his 2007 Hyundai Santa Fe. The motivation behind the gift is the truly special part. Spencer grew up in our first-ever Habitat home, built by volunteers in 1994 on Memory Lane in Chambersburg. His parents, Keith & Shelly, partnered with HFHFC when their three children were young. Spencer says, "I spent most of my life in that Habitat house, and now that I'm an adult, I can look back and reflect on how meaningful that was. I remember feeling that we weren't struggling, and that's because your organization helped set us up in a good place. I wasn't aware of Cars For Homes until my dad told me. The transfer process wasn't too difficult, and now I'm telling coworkers and others about it. I wanted to donate because I've received the benefit from others giving to Habitat, and now I get to give it back."



Thanks, Spencer, for putting the Hyundai to good use!



Scan the QR code,
go to our website
habitatfranklinpa.org
or call 877-277-4344.

Farewell, Justin HABITAT SAYS GOODBYE TO A FAITHFUL COWORKER AND FRIEND

Justin joined Habitat for Humanity of Franklin County in the fall of 2014 as the manager charged with opening our Habitat ReStore. At the time, he was only our second full-time employee. He worked tirelessly to prepare the store for its grand opening—and how far he's come since then, both personally and organizationally! Most recently serving as our Operations Director, Justin has had a hand in nearly every aspect of our work. He's led board meetings, interviewed staff, driven the truck, dedicated homes, implemented new tech systems, spoken publicly, met with donors, earned mortgage certification, led our safety team, traveled to Atlanta, and completed countless other behind-the-scenes (and often thankless) tasks. As Justin steps into a new local ministry role, we celebrate his 11 years of faithful service. And yes—we lament his departure. Justin has served Habitat with excellence. We will miss your steady presence, your talent for spotting creative efficiencies, and your seemingly omnipresent role in the office. We'll miss your humor, compassion, heart for people, and—let's be honest—your ability to simply get stuff done.



Farewell, Justin. You leave with our deep appreciation and heartfelt blessing.



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