

Our Mission

Habitat for Humanity of Kanawha and Putnam County works with individuals, organizations and faith communities in the Kanawha and Putnam County area to build simple, decent and affordable homes in partnership with families in need.

Who We Are

Founded in 1988, we are a self-governing, autonomous affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, the nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing organization. We direct all aspects of Habitat home building in Kanawha and Putnam County – including Partner Family selection and support, building site selection, house construction, fundraising and mortgage servicing. Habitat for Humanity International provides information, training and support services, but no funding for local Habitat builds. We tithe 10% of our unrestricted, undesignated cash contributions to a Habitat project in a developing country or region.

The Need - Simple, Decent Housing

Affordable homes are needed in Charleston because rent in Kanawha County is unaffordable and does not always present a good alternative for low income families. According to the U.S. Census Bureau 2006-2008 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, 33.8 percent of renters in Kanawha County pay 35 percent or more of their household income in rent; this creates a hardship for families who have low incomes.

Many of Habitat's Partner Families are faced with living in homes that have poor – and often inoperable – plumbing that causes sewage to back up into bathtubs or sinks. Others are in danger of the floor or roof falling in. Still others lack adequate heat in the winter months and are plagued by mold and mildew in the summer. Children in these households frequently experience serious health problems because they live in such unsuitable conditions. These families also face difficult challenges in being able to afford decent housing while meeting other basic needs like transportation, health care and child care. Eventually the lack of decent, affordable housing affects their ability to obtain adequate health care and education; therefore, ultimately contributing to the continuation of the cycle of poverty.

Changing Lives - Shaping the Future

Habitat provides home ownership opportunities for families with yearly incomes of 30 to 70 percent of median. Families who fall within this income level tend to be renters of unaffordable and substandard housing. Habitat's homeownership program provides a solution to this need while serving as a catalyst for change in other aspects of society. Numerous studies have shown that homeowners are more likely to make a greater effort to improve their homes, take on a more active role in their neighborhoods, and participate in local churches and civic groups than those who do not own their own homes. In a study on "The Impact of Homeownership on Child Outcomes" published by Ohio State University in June 2001, it was found that "owning a home compared with renting leads to a 13 to 23 percent higher quality home environment, greater cognitive ability, and fewer child behavior problems." This study included 1,000 children and controlled for many economic, demographic, and child factors.

Habitat Homeowners - Partners in Hope

Habitat works in partnership with families and individuals, with low incomes, to help them purchase simple, decent, and affordable homes. We provide financing, training, and support to ensure that Partner Families succeed as homeowners. In addition to a \$700 down payment and purchase price of approximately \$70 per square foot, Partner Families are required to contribute "sweat equity" labor by helping build their own homes and working on other Habitat projects. Families with two adults living in the home are required to complete 500 hours of "sweat equity" labor and families with one adult living in the home are required to complete 250 hours of "sweat equity" labor before moving in their new home. After construction is completed, Partner Families buy the houses with zero interest mortgages spread out over 20 – 30 years in order for the payments, including taxes and insurance, to remain affordable. Their monthly payments are then used to build additional Habitat houses in Kanawha and Putnam County. Thanks to volunteer labor and generous contributions from the community, Habitat is currently able to build a house in Kanawha and Putnam County for roughly \$75,000 (including land and materials) that will appraise for \$85,000 to \$100,000 keeping costs as low as possible for our homeowners.

Family Selection Criteria

Habitat for Humanity does not give houses away. We offer zero-interest mortgages and homeownership training.

Need

Families must be Kanawha or Putnam County residents and show a need by currently living in substandard housing. Examples include little or no heat, leaky roof, pests/rodents, overcrowding, sewer problems, and/or bad wiring.

Willingness to Partner

Families must be willing to partner with Habitat by contributing 250 to 500 hours of "sweat equity" labor toward the building of their house. Partner Families are also required to participate in family support programs, attend Habitat's homeownership training, and take responsibility for the mortgage, taxes, and insurance.

Ability to Pay

Families must be able to make monthly mortgage payments that typically range between \$350 and \$450 per month.

2011 Average House Construction Costs

Excavation/Site work \$10,000

Foundation \$10,000

Walls/Doors/Windows \$12,000

Siding/Roofing/Fixtures \$5,000

Lumber/Porches \$5,000

Drywall/Finishing \$2,500

Insulation \$1,500

Appliances \$1,000

Cabinets \$1,000

Gutters \$500

Heating \$5,000

Electricity \$1,500

Plumbing \$1,500

Water lines \$1,000

Equipment rental \$1,000

Utilities and Permits \$150

Land \$5,000

Infrastructure \$5,000

Misc. materials \$1,000

Closing costs \$500

Staff Supervision & Oversight \$5,000

Total Cost of Construction ~ \$75,000

Sponsorship Benefits

Community Impact

Habitat for Humanity's work impacts more than just the lives of the families living in Habitat homes – it changes the very fabric of our community. Habitat's homeownership program is an opportunity for economic development, builds strong families, and increases educational outcomes. Through our partnerships we can serve as a catalyst for change while building the infrastructure Kanawha and Putnam County depends upon – a stable community and solid living standards for its citizens.

Association with Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity has been, throughout its history, one of the charities of choice for organizations wanting to foster a community service image. With a brand valued at \$3.1 billion, a partnership with Habitat for Humanity allows an organization to make a tangible local community impact while aligning themselves with the mission and values of a highly respected and recognized nonprofit.

Visibility

Participating as a sponsor provides excellent community exposure for your business.

Tax Benefits

Habitat for Humanity of Kanawha and Putnam County is a 501(c) (3) organization. Your cash donations are tax deductible.

Construction Sponsorship Opportunities

\$25,000 Partner Builder

Provides building materials for half of a house

- Name on site signage
- Live link on Habitat website
- Personalized recognition plaque
- Invitation to home dedication
- Tickets to Volunteer Luncheon
- Recognition at Volunteer Luncheon
- Name displayed on sign in ReStore
- Listing on dedication invitation
- Permission to use logo
- Participation at groundbreaking and house dedication ceremonies

\$50,000 Home Builder

Provides building materials for whole house

- Name on site signage
- Live link on Habitat website
- Personalized recognition plaque
- Invitation to home dedication
- Tickets to Volunteer Luncheon
- Recognition at Volunteer Luncheon
- Name displayed on sign in ReStore
- Listing on dedication invitation
- Permission to use logo
- Participation at groundbreaking and house dedication ceremonies
- Press release by Habitat
- Logo placement on volunteer t-shirts
- Opportunity to speak at Groundbreaking ceremony
- Listing on Groundbreaking ceremony invitation
- Opportunity to speak at home dedication
- Keepsake photo of completed sponsored house and family

Construction Sponsorship Opportunities

\$150,000 Community Builder

Provides neighborhood infrastructure development costs

- Name on site signage
- Live link on Habitat website
- Personalized recognition plaque
- Invitation to home dedication
- Tickets to Volunteer Luncheon
- Recognition at Volunteer Luncheon
- Name displayed on sign in ReStore
- Listing on dedication invitation
- Permission to use logo
- Press release by Habitat
- Logo placement on volunteer t-shirts
- Opportunity to speak at Groundbreaking ceremony
- Listing on Groundbreaking ceremony invitation
- Opportunity to speak at home dedication
- Keepsake photo of completed sponsored house and family
- Banner of your sponsorship hung at construction site
- Banner of your sponsorship hung in ReStore
- Unique plaque placed at sponsored neighborhood

We recognize that, like the houses we build and the families we serve, each organization, church, business, and individual that we work with is unique. The listed sponsorship opportunities may not fit everyone's needs; therefore, we are willing to work with you to best meet your individual philanthropic needs.



Celebrate the Blessings is Habitat for Humanity's annual fundraising dinner in which we honor three of Habitat's many outstanding volunteers who support and sustain Habitat's mission of building safe, decent, and affordable housing through their volunteer service. These volunteers might wield hammers and saws, serve on committees, work in our ReStore, prepare mailings, raise funds, teach classes or perform a multitude of other tasks that it takes to fulfill the dreams of our neighbors who need a hand up. Celebrate the Blessings also honors a Habitat homeowner who embodies the characteristics that Habitat desires for all of its homeowners: neighborliness, pride of ownership, self actualization, personal responsibility, community involvement and citizenship. This award is given to emphasize that Habitat builds much more than houses; Habitat builds homeowners and strong communities.

Celebrate the Blessings Sponsorship Opportunities

Master Builder Sponsor \$10,000

- Sixteen tickets (event includes reception and dinner).
- Acknowledgement through invitations, tickets, sponsor banner, signage at registration table, event program, Habitat website, and Habitat e-blast.
- Acknowledgement from the podium and in audio-visual program during event.
- Acknowledgement through press releases.

Builder Sponsor \$5,000

- Eight tickets (event includes reception and dinner).
- Acknowledgement through sponsor banner, event program, Habitat website and Habitat e-blast.
- Acknowledgement from the podium and in audio-visual program during event.

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2011 Habitat for Humanity of Kanawha and Putnam County Board of Directors

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Contact Information

For additional details regarding Habitat for Humanity of Kanawha and Putnam County sponsorship opportunities, please contact:

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