

Bold Vision

AS THE YEAR-END approaches, it offers the opportunity for both reflecting back and looking forward. Since 1990, the roots originally known as Farmville Area Habitat for Humanity have slowly expanded from the town of Farmville across six counties to become a regional housing provider. Thanks to the continued support of the community, 63 homes have been built or repaired during this time. This is a number to be greatly celebrated as it represents 63 families whose lives have been forever touched.

But there is so much more to be done. So, we now look ahead with an audacious goal to take another leap forward in capacity.

Previously, Virginia Housing announced \$40 million in funding available to the 21 Planning District Commissions across Virginia for housing initiatives. Locally, both the Commonwealth Regional Council and the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission made funding available through competitive grant applications.

From this, Piedmont Habitat has been awarded two grants totaling nearly \$1 million toward the construction of 13 new homes by July of 2024! While these grants represent a considerable portion of the sizable development cost for a project of this scale, the generosity of local donors is as important as ever to complete the funding needed for these builds. We are thankful to Centra Health's support of this bold vision in their recent grant award of \$22,000 toward this project.



cardinalhomes.com

respected, quality construction. And the opportunity for volunteers who give of their valuable time on the build site will continue to grow, as finish work, porches, and landscaping will still need to be completed on these homes.

Beyond the Cardinal homes, one home is currently under construction in partnership with students at Nelson County High School. Their excellent building trades department has built Habitat homes in Nelson over the years.

Another part of the bold vision is completing 20 repairs over the next two years with the affordable homeowner repair program.

With deep gratitude we are thankful for the community of donors, volunteers, and supporters who together have served 63 families. And to all who will make this next phase possible, we say thank you for dreaming big with us. Most importantly, we give praise to God who has always been the ultimate provider of the resources needed to carry out the mission.

Please join us as we celebrate the past and boldly envision the future. Together we build!

OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS...



Bold goals require new strategies. Due to the short time frame needed for this project, we are partnering with Cardinal Homes, located in Charlotte County, to build modular homes for 12 of the new builds. We are proud to team with Cardinal and their highly

MISSION

Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope.



Welcome Home Katrice

ON A BEAUTIFUL SUMMER EVENING, Katrice and her three girls cut the ribbon on their brand new Habitat home. In front of a gathering of family, friends, and supporters, they walked through the front door of the dream they made into a reality. During the ceremony, members of the Buckingham County Committee of Piedmont Habitat made a wonderful presentation of a housewarming basket and wreath, making sure to match Katrice's favorite color! Katrice and members of her family, along with the committee, prepared a delicious spread of food to enjoy during the open house. A close friend of the family shared a heartfelt blessing over the home, which was followed by longtime Habitat homeowner Mary Etta Ross presenting the keys to Katrice for her new home. Katrice made a special presentation of gifts to the construction staff and shared wonderful comments about working alongside them during her 200 hours of volunteering during her build.

Such moments of celebration are only possible thanks to the many supporters. Sixty volunteers gave over 400 hours, including employees of Green Properties, members of Alpha Kappa Alpha, various Longwood organizations, and the Longwood women's soccer team. Regarding financial support, generous grant money was made available through Wells Fargo, Simpson Strong Tie, and Whirlpool. We also would like to thank the many individuals, churches, businesses, and organizations that continue to partner through financial support, including the Melvin C. Draft Family Foundation, Kyanite Mining Corporation, Dillwyn Market/Tiger Fuels, and Lowe's of Farmville.

Welcome home Katrice and family. We pray you will know a lifetime of joy and peace in your new home.



The Next Celebration

THE FIRST SITE of the bold two-year plan to build fourteen new homes has been cleared and is ready for foundations to be laid. Come spring 2023, four new Habitat homes will grace this Farmville street. A groundbreaking ceremony will be held in December as the four families, soon to be neighbors, join local supporters in celebrating the joy to come.

Volunteer Red Walker installs sediment fence



Meet Diana

SOMETIMES APPLICATIONS for the affordable homeownership program are submitted by local residents who have just learned about the mission of Habitat for Humanity. However, for Diana, she and Habitat go way back. Her mother became a Habitat homeowner two decades ago. Diana recalls helping her mom by volunteering on the build site. Soon, Diana will be swinging a hammer on her own home, located very near her mom's home. This is very convenient, as Diana helps her mother with everyday needs.

Diana views helping people, especially the elderly, as her calling in life. She has demonstrated her care for others through serving her country and community, as she joined the Army following high school. Later, she pursued a healthcare career



in becoming a Certified Nursing Assistant. This led to over 40 years of caring for seniors in nursing homes and in private duty home care roles.

After living in apartments for fifteen years, Diana is eager to experience all the benefits of affordable homeownership. She looks forward to her own flower and vegetable garden and being able to host family gatherings at her place. Remembering the call she received letting her know she had been selected as a new Habitat partner family, she recalls being on the verge of tears. Even better, the call came very near to her birthday, and the news was a tremendous birthday blessing! Most of all, Diana is excited that now as a senior, she still has the opportunity to fulfill her dream of her very own place to call home.

Meet Inette

VIEWING HER LIFE as being called by God to help others, Inette describes herself as a people person. Her service can be noted in her fifteen years in healthcare as a Certified Nursing Assistant. However, this was cut short as her own health began to decline, eventually leading to a kidney transplant. She continued meeting the needs of others with another decade long career in retail. Now she works at a local non-profit, helping clients with utility needs. When asked about serving others, Inette replies, "It makes you feel good when you can help somebody."

Inette's health concerns have not been her only challenge. She has lived for many years in a place that she knows is impacting her health. However, when searching for other rental options, she has not been able to find anything that is

"I am blessed that I am still going. So many blessings."

both affordable and high quality, a struggle experienced by many in our communities. At the urging of a church friend, she attended a Habitat interest meeting and submitted an application. When asked what it was like when she was notified she had been selected, her eyes got wide as she said thank you Jesus for this opportunity.

Reflecting on some of her trials, Inette comments, "I am blessed that I am still going. So many blessings." Her family, friends, and church community stand ready to see those blessings continue to flow, as they encourage her and pray for her throughout the process and stand ready to build with her.



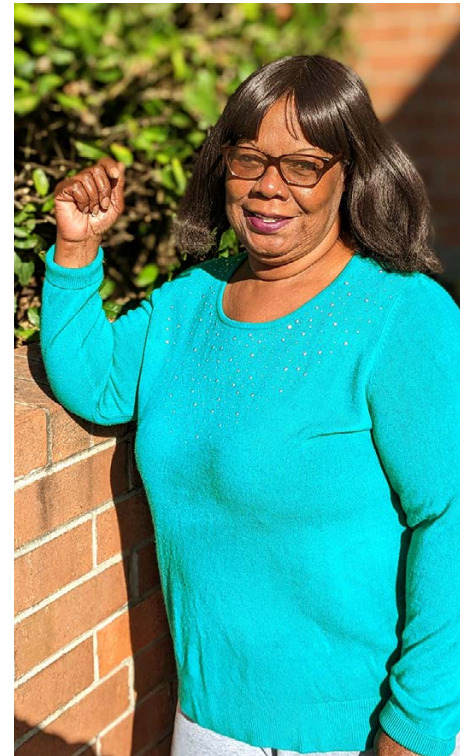
Meet Gloria

GLORIA'S STORY IS INTERTWINED with her mother and their mutual love and care for one another. For many years, Gloria worked in production and was a quality control supervisor. One day, while commuting home from work, she was involved in a hit and run accident. Although she continued to work, her injuries eventually led to surgery and spending the next four months in bed with a brace. During this time, her mom was right by her side, caring for her needs. Later, the roles were reversed. Although they each lived independently within the same apartment complex, Gloria began to worry as her elderly mom began to have more difficulty, including some falls. So they moved in together so Gloria could provide ongoing companionship.

Following their share of health challenges, they were also facing

difficulties in their current living situation, including accessibility issues. Reflecting on being selected for the Habitat program, Gloria is excited for the opportunity for her mom and her to have a warm and comfortable home, a place they can sit on the porch and enjoy a barbeque, something that is their very own. She also appreciates the opportunity to work with construction staff in designing a home that will meet their shared accessibility needs.

Like all Habitat partner families, currently she is preparing for her build by volunteering hours now and taking the homebuyer education classes. Gloria notes, "You have to work for what you want." With the vision of a place to call home for her and her mom, Gloria looks forward to the fruits of this labor of love.



Homeowner Survey

STUDIES CONTINUE TO CORROBORATE the multitude of benefits that accompany owning a home that is both high quality and affordable. These include health, education, community involvement, and wealth generation, just to name a few.

Recently we were able to bring those results closer to home as we conducted our own homeowner survey. Working with two interns from Longwood University, a survey was created using the best practices and methods of sociological research. The two students worked tirelessly in gathering the data.

Reflecting on their overall satisfaction, an overwhelming number of homeowners responded they could never imagine living anywhere else. One homeowner commented that her affordable mortgage gave her the opportunity to go back to school and receive her master's degree. The survey



Longwood interns working on survey

contained a series of question that began with "Because of my Habitat home..." Although most scored highly, the three highest bear noting. "I feel better about my children's future." "My family is under less emotional stress." "I feel positive about the future."

This survey gave consistent data to support the belief that the mission of Habitat is important. The lives of our neighbors are being positively impacted for generations. And everyone who supports this work can know they are an integral part of something beautiful.

Renewal through Repairs

COLLEGE STUDENTS LOOK FORWARD to spring break, often as a time to relax. But this year, for students with Wesley Campus Ministry, they found a way to have fun while also working hard as they participated in a local mission trip. Joined by members of Farmville United Methodist Church and others, part of their week was spent cutting wood and driving nails, as they served three days doing a repair blitz alongside members of the Piedmont Habitat staff. In the end, 24 volunteers blessed families across the region with over 330 hours of service.

Beyond the affordable homeownership program Habitat is most known for, the affordable repair program allows for even more households to be served each year. This is designed for those who already own their home and need some

assistance with minor exterior repairs in order to preserve the health, safety, and longevity of their home. Possible repairs include porches, ramps, steps, exterior doors and windows, minor roof repair, gutters, mobile home underpinning, pressure washing, general painting, and more. While these services are available for all who qualify, the majority of applicants are seniors who live alone. Similar to the homeowner program, the repairs require repayment over time. However, significant cost reduction is available based on the household income.

In 2022, eight individuals and families were served through this program. One woman in her 90s needed her home painted. Fresh paint will help preserve the siding for many more years. In addition, it provides a sense of pride and joy in seeing vibrant paint. And just as importantly, many of our repair clients also get to interact



with volunteers. For the woman in her 90s, this included enjoying high school students from Fuqua School who helped with the painting.

In addition to amazing volunteers, this program depends on the generosity of local funders, including the following: Counties of Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Nelson, and Prince Edward, J&E Berkley

Foundation, Twice is Nice Upscale Resale Boutique, Charlottesville Area Community Foundation, Bama Works Fund, Hampden-Sydney College Philanthropy Class (specifically for Veteran homeowners), and Blackstone Walmart. Thank you to all who give of their time, talents, and resources to serve even more of our neighbors through repairs.

Many Hands

THE MISSION OF PIEDMONT HABITAT is only possible because of hundreds of local supporters who embrace the vision of loving their neighbors through shelter, including the dedicated volunteers who serve on a variety of committees and in consultation. Longwood University interns provide valuable insight, including one project on new mortgage solutions and funding opportunities. Members of the Family Selection and Support Committee spend many hours meeting with applicants for the homeownership program. Faith Relations volunteers partner with faith communities to highlight opportunities to serve. Those on the Donor Relations Committee plan signature events and help attain fundraising goals. Alongside these are the local County Committees. Serving a six-county region geographically larger than the state of Delaware can only be done well thanks to local residents who strive to raise awareness, volunteers, and funds in order to help Habitat programs succeed in their own neighborhoods.

These county groups took part in a variety of local events this past year. In Buckingham, a wonderful tradition returned as they hosted the Anne Mason Field Memorial Gospel Explosion musical event. Attendees at the Carter G. Woodson Celebration also had the opportunity to ask questions about Habitat programs. The Cumberland Committee was represented at the Patriot's Day festivities, in addition to launching a new favorite, the bingo fundraiser. Travelling north to Nelson, the committee took part in a car show and encouraged homeowner applications at the Lovingson Street Festival. Over in Nottoway, the committee raised money for the repair program with a parking lot Yard Sale. They also had a table at



National Night Out



Gospel Explosion



Nottoway Yard Sale



Lovingson Street Festival



Cumberland Bingo

the Crewe Health Fair, highlighting the connection between housing and health. The Prince Edward Committee stayed busy with raffles, along with giving out information at the National Night Out, Taste of Farmville, and Heart of Virginia Festival.

Well-deserved appreciation also goes to the volunteers who come from all six counties to serve on the Board of Directors, providing the overall strategy and oversight for the mission — Sheri Almond, Gary Elder, Cheryl Gee, Cheryl Steele, Lisa Gallimore, Pamela Harvey, Sasha Johnson, Donna McRae-Jones, John Miller, and Pauline Stokes.

In addition to dedicated volunteers,

the mission depends on the support of individuals, churches, businesses, and organizations such as: Walter J. Payne Foundation, Wells Fargo Foundation, Virginia Credit Union, Nelson County Community Fund, Community Foundation of Central Blue Ridge, Southside Electric Cooperative, Rockfish Presbyterian Church, College Church, The Warehouse Church, Watson and Duggan PLC, Virginia Housing Alliance, Habitat for Humanity International, and many more.

From humble beginnings 32 years ago in Farmville to a regional force for good, this work only continues thanks to these and many more willing hands.

Gather for Good

PIEDMONT HABITAT's signature annual event, the Pig Roast, returned this year with over 200 people coming together at the Farmville Community Market to enjoy a great night for a great cause. Guests enjoyed dancing and listening to the sounds of regional favorite, The Holiday Band. Food and drink were enjoyed from local favorites, The Fishin' Pig and Three Roads Brewing Company.

Great gratitude goes out to so many in uniting to support the mission of Habitat, including the 27 wonderful sponsors in their community care.



This festive evening relied on many great volunteers, including the Longwood Women's Basketball Team in their assistance setting up before the

event and the members of Longwood's APO service fraternity in helping serve food and cleaning up afterwards.



Money raised will continue to help families experience the strength and stability that is made possible through shelter. Mark your calendars for September 2023 and the next great Pig Roast.

Shop for Good

WHERE DO YOU GO when you are in need of a great deal on a sofa, treadmill, blender, kitchen cabinet, gallon of paint, AND a good book? Head to the ReStore! Launched in 2009, the Farmville ReStore is a home improvement center where gently used items are donated and then sold to the public. A wide variety of items can be found, including furniture, home goods, appliances, building supplies, quality recycled paint, and so much more. The donation and shopping experience is made pleasurable by a dedicated staff, wonderful volunteers, and hard-working seniors with the Title V program. In this local partnership, the ReStore serves as a job training site where seniors learn new employment skills.

In another valuable partnership, the ReStore continues to work with Dr. Vince Magnini and students from his Longwood University marketing classes. One group of students spent the semester researching retail best practices, while another group focused



Delta Sigma Pi Business Fraternity

on assessing the ReStore's social media presence.

Speaking of social media, you can stay up to date up with new inventory and great deals on Facebook at Piedmont Habitat for Humanity ReStore and on Instagram at [piedmont_habitat_restore](#).

Whether you shop, donate, or volunteer at the ReStore, thank you for empowering the larger mission of Piedmont Habitat, as the funds generated help to serve the community through affordable homeownership and affordable repairs.

Pig Roast

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A Great Need

OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES continue to be in the midst of a housing crisis. The United Way has created a Household Survival Budget, the bare minimum income a family needs to meet the basic necessities each month. Across the region we serve, more than half of households do not meet this monthly budget. As a result, some spend only what they can afford on housing, which can result in renting substandard housing with a variety of health and safety issues. Some spend a greater amount of their limited income on better housing, which can leave less for other important necessities. Since housing costs are one of the largest monthly expenses, affordable



Application meeting

homeownership can drastically improve a family's living conditions and create the solid foundation that allows a family to thrive.

Many families are seeking these solid foundations. During the homeowner application period this year, hundreds of requests came in for applications.

Well over 100 people attended local information sessions to learn about the program. And 75 applications were submitted. While celebrating the fact that 11 new Habitat partner families were able to be selected, there is still a great need to do more.

There is also a great need for home repairs for those who already own their home, but cannot afford to pay full market rate to make these repairs. While this program is available for all who qualify, many who apply for this program have been seniors living alone on a limited income. With that in mind, the facts of an aging population and aging homes are creating an enormous need for affordable repairs.

A Great Solution

OVER 40 YEARS AGO, Habitat for Humanity International grew out of the pecan orchards of rural Georgia, as a group of compassionate individuals came together to do something about the need they saw. Today, Habitat works in all 50 states and over 70 countries worldwide, having helped over 39 million people build or improve the places they call home. Great things happen when neighbors work shoulder to shoulder to bless each other.

Thanks to local supporters, these same great outcomes are happening right here at home. Whether it is sharing financial resources, time,

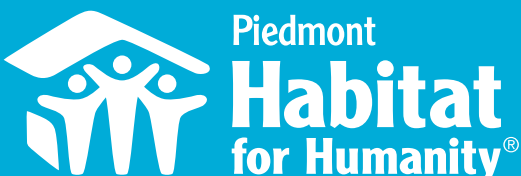


Longwood women's soccer team

or one's voice in advocating for the mission, the great solution to such a great need is the power of our communities and hearts set on the shared vision to love our neighbors through shelter. On behalf of all the families blessed by such great love, we sincerely say thank you!

Did you know ...

... that all Habitat Partner Families have: 1) A demonstrated need for an improved housing solution, 2) The ability to pay an affordable mortgage or affordable repair loan, and 3) Are willing to partner with Habitat in a variety of ways, including future homeowners investing hundreds of hours in volunteering? Your ongoing support makes it possible to continue to serve our neighbors with loving action. Thank you.



The mission is possible only with your help

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