



Keysville groundbreaking featuring our future homeowners, Rachel, Kasey, Shannon and Shana, with their friends and family surrounding them

Looking Ahead

LOOKING BACK ON ALL that was accomplished in 2024 — the homes completed, families moved in, and dreams coming true — we cannot help but imagine what this time next year will have in store for at least seven more families. We are believing in a God who can do great things, as it is promised in Ephesians 3:20-21: “Now to him who is able to do immeasurably **more than all we ask or imagine**...to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations.”

This past year four new homes were completed which symbolizes four new families unlocking a bright future! Four families who get to personalize their houses and transform them

into homes. Four families who will make memories that last a lifetime. Four families who begin their journey to more independence, free from being lifelong renters, to building a foundation of stability and strength.

Looking ahead, we are planning on completing at least seven homes in 2025. Construction has begun on the five-home development in Charlotte. We are in the preliminary phase for one home in Cumberland and one in Nelson. We are so blessed to be able to work alongside seven wonderful future homeowners who are all working hard to pursue their dreams of owning their homes.

We also plan on hiring a Director of Repairs this upcoming year so that we

can return to completing home repairs across our service area. Habitat’s vision is a world where everyone has a decent place to call home. For some, that means maintaining the current home they live in, while for others, it means moving out of a rental into a new home. Whichever route a family takes, our desire is for each person to live in a safe, decent, affordable home.

MISSION

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



New to the Neighborhood

PIEDMONT HABITAT DEDICATED three new homes in Nottoway County this year. Each of the celebrations were filled with love and support from family, friends and community members. The new homeowners, Latrice, Kayla, Gloria and her mother Kay, were recognized for their hard work in beautifying the three lots with homes for each of their families. All three partner families put in over 600 hours of sweat equity on the build site, in the ReStore and in the community. The impact of each of these families is felt far and wide.

Each ceremony included prayers, recognition of supporters, and housewarming gifts. At each home dedication, the importance of community support, volunteer efforts, and partnerships in helping families achieve affordable homeownership were highlighted. The celebrations concluded with well-wishes for all three families, and a ribbon cutting symbolizing the gift being “opened” by each new homeowner. After the ribbon cutting, a reception was held, sponsored by Blackstone Walmart and the Nottoway County Committee. A huge thank you to everyone who was involved in the building and funding of these homes, especially Cardinal Homes, Southside Homes, Virginia Housing, Commonwealth Regional Council and Centra, along with the generosity of many individual donors.



RIBBON CUTTINGS

Left, Latrice with friends and family

Below, Kayla with friends and family

Bottom, Gloria and Kay with friends and family



Meet Shannon

SHANNON IS A SINGLE MOM of two teenagers. She loves attending her children's sports events.

Her daughter, 17, enjoys hanging out with her friends. She will graduate from high school this spring, attend JMU, and then wants to go into the Army afterward.

Her son, 14, currently plays on the Prince Edward High School football team. He also wants to attend JMU to pursue a professional football career.

Concerning the homeownership application process, Shannon noted that it wasn't easy. "Nothing is given, everything is earned." Shannon had to work very hard gathering all the correct paperwork. At first she did not have enough income to pay for an affordable mortgage, but she got another job to make sure she would reach her goals. "I made it by myself!"



Right, Rachel and Shannon's daughter join Shannon, below, on the build site

Bottom, Shannon's family



Shannon had always been a person to doubt herself. "I didn't think I would have the job that I have. I didn't think I would have the car that I have. I didn't think I would get the house." When Shannon received the call that she had been approved, she was excited! "Owning your own home, to me, is very, very special."

Shannon has appreciated doing the sweat equity, the required hours of volunteering, because it has "helped me with growth, and work for the better things in life." She is sharing her belief of giving back to the community with her children. Her son and daughter have come out to the build site to work on someone else's home. Shannon is proud of her children who are working alongside her towards homeownership.

Nelson Home Dedication

PIEDMONT HABITAT HAD a wonderful home dedication for Kylene and Hunter! It was a special moment as Kylene saw her wind chimes hung on her front porch as a special memory of her dad, who passed shortly before the home dedication.

We are grateful for the partnership with the Nelson County High School's trades program and especially the teacher, Paul Connell. Nelson County High School has partnered with Habitat for Humanity and helped build twenty-five homes over the years! This partnership has allowed high school students to learn a trade as well as give back to the community in a huge way. We also partnered with the Building Goodness Foundation who not only helped fund this house, but also volunteered on the build

site throughout the various stages of construction.

We are honored to work with such amazing donors and supporters who made this build possible, especially the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission, Virginia Housing, Bridgeport Construction and many local churches and individuals.



Left, Tom Harvey hanging house-warming gift

Below, Kylene cutting the ribbon





Shana and sister



Shana and daughter next to foundation where their home is to be set



Shana on build site

Meet Shana

SHANA IS A LIFE-LONG RESIDENT of Charlotte County. After high school, Shana entered the work force and is employed as a ward clerk at a local nursing and rehab center. She has been there for sixteen years!

Shana’s daughter is 13 and is a typical teenager. She loves basketball, softball, the outdoors and plays video games. Shana’s daughter is very excited about becoming a Habitat homeowner. She can’t wait to have her own home where

she is comfortable going outside. She is eager to live in her own home so she can have a puppy to train and play with.

Shana always “wanted to own my own home.” She applied with Habitat because she was told that Habitat is very friendly and that Habitat helps people. So far, Shana can attest that it is true.

The application process has been just that — a process. Shana states, “I had to do my part” and she knew the

responsibilities were on her. When she got the call that she was being offered a partnership she shed “tears of joy,” but she also knew that was just the first step. Shana took the homeowner education courses and learned very important information about maintaining her own home as opposed to “nagging the maintenance guy.” Shana and her daughter are eagerly waiting for the day they get the keys to their first home that is all theirs!

Longwood University Student Projects

THIS PAST SPRING SEMESTER, Professor Alec Hosterman’s Communications Studies class made presentations about their research and each team recommended a unique fundraising project. We appreciate the degree of thought and creativity along with the amount of work the students devoted to the projects.

This fall semester, two sociology students did a research project studying the fiscal impacts of affordable homeownership on our local families. Their findings include but are not limited to: increase in credit scores, ability to set aside money and take



vacations, and no longer having to worry about moving frequently. We also learned some ways we can improve our program which will help us moving forward with our current and future homeowners.

LU students fall research project, left, and communication class, below



Meet Rachel

RACHEL IS A SINGLE MOM of one son, who is four years old and has Down syndrome. Even though he is non-verbal, their connection is beyond words. He is a lot of fun, and he and his mom have a lot of inside jokes.

Rachel was a teacher's aide for seven years at Charlotte County Public Schools, and this past year she became a nail tech after graduating from nail school. This is what she always wanted to do and currently works in a salon in Farmville.

While working at Randolph Henry, she saw a flier being passed out to the students notifying families of the Piedmont Habitat Homeownership application cycle. She did not pursue our program the first time, but she told herself if it comes up again, she would apply. The application process took a while as there was a lot to read and to gather together. She took the application to work and did it little by little, when she had breaks. When Rachel received the call that she had been accepted into the Homeownership Program, she cried, called her mom,



Left,
Rachel on
build site

Below,
Rachel
and son

her son's dad, and "everyone I know!" She was so excited!

Rachel has enjoyed the sweat equity requirement that every homeowner has to put in. She has learned a lot, especially with the Homeownership Education Courses. Her favorite part is the construction side of the sweat equity. The classes, as well as the construction, have prepared Rachel to become a first-time homeowner.



Cans and the Community

DURING A SEVEN-MONTH PERIOD, Novelis Inc. presented Habitat for Humanity affiliates nationwide with the potential of earning a \$2,500 grant if the affiliate could recycle at least 500lbs of aluminum cans. Many thanks to Hampden-Sydney College, FACES and our local community for partnering with us this year to recycle the cans. We went above and beyond our goal and recycled almost 600lbs of cans! It takes about 32 empty cans to make one pound, so that comes out to about 19,000 cans collected and recycled!



Cans from FACES



Cans from Hampden-Sydney College

Where we serve

WE ARE HONORED to be able to serve six rural counties in the heart of Virginia — Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Nelson, Nottoway and Prince Edward. Each of the counties has a dedicated county committee that attend community events and host various fundraisers throughout the year. The County Committee members have been busy this year attending health fairs, Juneteenth celebrations, Taste of Farmville, Heart of Virginia Festival and more!

We want to specifically bring to your attention the Nottoway, Nelson and Charlotte Committees who hosted groundbreaking and home dedications throughout the year. Many thanks to everyone who volunteers behind the scenes to make these events memorable!

Piedmont Habitat could not run without the incredible Board of Directors — John Miller, Sheri Almond, Cheryl Gee, Paula Totten, Lisa Gallimore, Pam Harvey, Barbara Johnson, Rhodes Martin, Douglas Randolph, and Chaquita Venable. Thank you all very much!

In addition to our dedicated volunteers, this mission depends on the generosity of many individuals, churches, businesses, and organizations including: Bama Works Fund, College Church, Community Foundation Central Blue Ridge, Counties of Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Nelson, and Prince Edward, Dominion Energy, Farmville Moose Lodge, Habitat for Humanity Intl, Jersey Mike's, Kyanite Mining Corporation, Melvin C. Draft Family Foundation, Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church, Nelson 151, Nelson County Community Fund, Pino's Ristorante Italiano & Grille, Rockfish Presbyterian Church, Rotary Club of Farmville, Twice is Nice, Virginia Housing Alliance, Walmart, Walter J. Payne Foundation, Watson & Duggan, and Windridge Landscaping Company.

Right, Buckingham Pino's fundraiser

Below, Charlotte and Prince Edward county committees hosted two bingo events



Above, Nelson Health Fair
Left, Taste of Farmville



Housewarming gift to Gloria and Kay



Housewarming gift to Kayla

Fall FUNdraiser

PIEDMONT HABITAT’S ANNUAL fundraiser was a huge success, thanks to a great community! We had more attendees, more volunteers, more sponsors and more money raised to support our mission of “seeking to put God’s love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope.”

A huge thank you to our sponsors on each level. We are grateful for those who volunteered before, during and after the event. Many thanks to

Longwood APO and Hampden-Sydney Tiger’s Serve — we couldn’t do this without your support!

This year we had JB and the Get Down Browns band play, food from the Fishn’ Pig and Grateful Fed and beer from Three Roads Brewery. Attendees were dancing the night away, and having a great time!

Mark your calendars now for next year’s night of fun — Saturday, September 27. We will see you there.



Fun at the Pig Roast!



Longwood University and Hampden-Sydney student volunteers

Pig Roast

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The Fishn’ Pig
Three Roads Brewing

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The Woodland

Home in Cumberland

BETTY EXPERIENCED A NIGHTMARE for homeowners, a house fire. In mere minutes, her home was destroyed, and she found herself seeking an emergency housing solution. She found a family friend to live with, but it was not a permanent solution, so she applied with Habitat. When Betty first received the call saying she was approved as a future homeowner, she felt that, “God answered my prayer. It felt like a mountain was moved.” As she works to rebuild her new home where her old one was, we are eager to celebrate with this family moving from tragedy to triumph.



At top, Betty’s house and yard; above, Betty with HSC volunteers

Second Home in Nelson County

A FOUNDATION IS READY for a new partner family to start building this upcoming new year! This home is going to be put together with products from members of the Structural Building Components Association (SBCA). SBCA “is the only international trade association that represents the manufacturers and installers of off-site structural framing elements including roof trusses, wall panels, and floor trusses.” These products have been showcased at the Innovative Housing Showcase on the National Mall in Washington, DC. We are so honored that SBCA chose us to donate some of their products to use on this house.

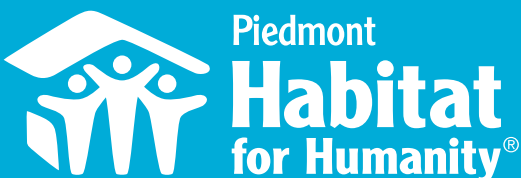
SBCA™



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?

The mission is possible only with your help



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