



Community Builder

Winter 2018



Building



People



ReStore



Ramps

Three Journeys – One Starting Line

Chris and Charlene Herrod applied for Habitat's home ownership program after Charlene's mom told her about it and encouraged them to apply. Demara, a single mother employed by the State of Illinois, dreamed of owning a home, but didn't qualify for a conventional bank loan. Kyla and Tim thought their dream of having a handicap accessible home was impossible. Each of these families is now a Habitat homeowner.

Habitat homes are not provided free. Partner Families in Habitat for Humanity's home ownership program must:

- Attend monthly budgeting and homeowner classes
- Build alongside Habitat volunteers and invest hundreds of "sweat equity" hours
- Save to make a \$500 down payment on their home
- Pay a zero-interest, affordable mortgage, which is invested back into Habitat's program to build more homes for other families in need. They also pay real estate taxes and insurance.

The journey with Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County's (HFHSC) Homeowner Program begins with an informational session to get the facts, gather information, and ask questions about the program's requirements. Information sessions are being held monthly through May. For more information, contact the Habitat Office at 217-523-2710 or visit www.habitatsangmon.com.

107th Family Home Sweet Home!

"We are so grateful for the opportunity Habitat has given our family," said Charlene. "This house has already changed our lives in so many ways and is giving our family security. I'm excited that we can have family gatherings here, build for the future and not have to worry about moving again. Our children will remember everything – from seeing us cry tears of joy when we were accepted, to hammering boards and painting walls alongside so many people who gave of their time and money to make our dream a reality."

Chris and Charlene Herrod, and their three children, became a Partner Family in Habitat's home ownership program three years ago. In November, they celebrated the holidays in their very own home.

Did You Know?

- Habitat homes are not free. Each Habitat homeowner pays a no-interest mortgage (up to 30 years), real estate taxes and insurance.
- ReStore's Chill & Build was featured on WAND-TV? Check out this feature and others in our News Archive at www.habitatsangamon.com.
- In Sangamon County, a newly constructed Habitat home costs approximately \$100,000 in resources.
- Generous community members and businesses who donate labor, money, and resources are making simple, decent, and affordable housing possible in partnership with Habitat.

Spring is just around the corner!

As you do your spring cleaning, please keep our Restore in mind for items to donate. The ReStore helps support Habitat homebuilding in Sangamon County. Items may be dropped off at the Donation Center or call the office to schedule a free pickup of larger/multiple items.

Save the Date!

Habitat's Drive-Thru Chicken Dinner will be held Friday, June 22nd

Need a Wheelchair Ramp?

Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County and King's Daughters Organization are working together to provide accessibility and keep low-income homeowners in their homes.

Applications and eligibility guidelines for the wheelchair ramp program are available at www.habitatsangamon.com/wheelchairramps or may be picked up at the Habitat office. Individuals may also call 217-523-2710 weekdays, 9 am – 4 pm, with any questions about the program.



Not Your Grandma's Bingo

March 10 – Gather Your Friends and Join Us For a Night of Hilarious Fun!

Habitat's Glo Bingo event is Saturday, March 10, at the Sangamon Prairie Reception Center in Chatham. Played under black lights, with glow-in-the-dark hats, dabbers, and cash prizes, this night is sure to be FUNTASTIC! Tickets are \$20 each in advance at www.habitatsangamon.com (\$30 at the door, if we have any left) and include 6 bingo cards, glow hat & glow dabber. Cash bar. Food, additional bingo cards, glow in the dark items, and raffle tickets will also be available. No one under 21 admitted. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Games start at 7pm. Proceeds benefit Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County.

Shop Habitat ReStore

Furniture, antiques, kitchen and bathroom cabinets, doors, windows, Pinterest and DIY supplies, tools, building supplies, and more!

**Tues—Fri, 10am —6pm
Sat, 10am — 5pm**

The Donation Center is open during ReStore business hours.

Check out Chill & Build: Bring your enthusiasm to build and repurpose items for the ReStore, 10:30am to 3pm, usually the 2nd Saturday of each month. Register online or visit the ReStore checkout counter.

Thank you for building houses and hope with Habitat!

One Habitat House: Two Stories of Achievement

In 2013, Sabrina Nudo purchased her Habitat home. Like all Habitat Partner Families, prior to taking ownership of her home she took classes that included budgeting, taxes, insurance, and home maintenance. Over the last five years, Sabrina's worked hard applying the principles she learned and has doubled her salary. Her focus and drive to succeed has made it possible for her to secure a traditional mortgage and move her family to a larger home.



Kathy Baxter and her daughter, Brionna, always lived in rental housing until Kathy's friend suggested she check out Habitat's home ownership program. It's been a three year journey, but they now have a place of their own, a simple, decent, and affordable home.



Habitat's home ownership program partnered with both of these families to achieve success.

"Because of our "pay it forward" mortgage payment and pay off system, Habitat was able to buy back this house and Dick Van Dyke Appliance World made a generous donation to help us make it ready for the next family," explained Executive Director Colleen Stone. This is a great example of two families achieving success because our community and generous donors were willing to provide a hand up when they needed it."

"It's hard to put into words how happy we are to be in our forever house and not having to worry about moving again." Kathy said.

"Because of our generous supporters families are escaping from unsafe, unhealthy living conditions," said Stone. "Your help is strengthening our communities and neighborhoods not just today, but for the long-term."

January Gathering Great! Everyone Encouraged to Share Campaign, Reach 75% of Goal by February 28th



Held at the ReStore, nearly 50 guests enjoyed an empowering and energizing evening. The evening included a challenge from HFFSC Executive Director Colleen Stone.

"Will you share the campaign with at least five people so that we reach 75% of our goal by February 28th?" asked Stone, "If everyone in this room reaches out to friends, neighbors and co-workers to join us, we can do this and pour the home's foundation this March."

1000 Women Strong-Habitat Sangamon is bringing women together to provide the funding and muscle to construct a Habitat house - and so far we've raised 60% of the resources needed. Sign up today at www.habitatsangamon.com/donate or by contacting Shayne Squires.