

**BUILDING SUSTAINABLE
COMMUNITIES WITH**
HOPE



Volunteers Building Hope



Message from our CEO

Despite another year of challenges and obstacles brought on by the pandemic, our organization continues to thrive, and because of your support and dedication, we are poised for some exciting growth opportunities in 2022 and beyond.

For starters, we're getting a new name! We'll no longer be Hartford Area Habitat for Humanity, but Habitat for Humanity of North Central Connecticut since we're expanding our service territory to include Tolland County. With this expansion, we are also adding a second ReStore in Vernon. This growth and development will allow us to fulfill our commitment of providing families in need with affordable housing, and allow us to serve more families. I am also pleased to share that this ReStore location will have program staff onsite as we introduce our mission to this new region.

- Our 2022-2024 priorities are to:
- Maintain our presence and commitment to Hartford County
 - Generate awareness and build trust within the Tolland County communities
 - Serve 50 families within our housing initiatives including new construction, rehabs, repairs and financial literacy training

Over the past eight years under my leadership, we have achieved the following milestones:

- Received the Hartford Courant's Best Place to Work award for the past seven years
- Maintained a 4 star rating with Charity Navigator

- Expanded our homeownership programs to include rehabs, sustainability, repairs and financial literacy, and increased the number we serve through this program. Previously it was 10 homeowners a year and now we serve 25 homeowners per year
- Created a work environment that our families, staff, volunteers, board of directors and donors are proud of and know their contributions are part of a bigger vision to end substandard housing

Your continued support will be needed more than ever as we navigate this expansion. I hope you will join me as we PRESS FORWARD into 2022, and celebrate the Grand Opening of the Vernon ReStore on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 9a.m.

In Partnership,

 KARRAINE MOODY
 Chief Executive Officer



Board of Directors

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Bildade Augustin, President | Donald Bates | Jennifer Guidry |
| Crystal Floyd, Vice-President | Monica Blanco | Steven Hernandez |
| Ellen Below, Treasurer | Jesse Carabase | Gary Jalbert |
| Anne Hamilton, Secretary | Sharon Cheeks | David Symonette |
| | Abhist Dwivedi | |

Deepen Community Engagement

We will invest resources to engage with neighbors and local businesses before building in a spirit of listening and collaboration.

We'll seek to build on the positive energy from construction projects by 'staying later' and engaging with community members about neighborhood issues.

We are growing community focused initiatives such as the Financial Freedom Center and Brush with Kindness projects.

We're focusing on supporting Habitat homeowners and volunteers as ambassadors and advocates to enhance community resources.

Engaging earlier and staying later allows us to create diverse ways to accommodate interested volunteers.

Key Components of Our Strategic Plan for 2022-2024



Our vision is that Habitat of North Central CT is moving beyond being a home builder only. We are an equity builder and neighborhood revitalization partner. We have been on this journey for several years, but our destination has never been clearer. Our goal for 2024 is that the communities within which we work, and organizations with whom we partner, will see Habitat as a necessary partner in a community based, family centered, catalytic economic strategy.

Together, we can fuse our volunteer constituencies that include homeowner applicants, counseled clients, board members, churches, companies, individuals, donors, to re-frame what's possible with a shared approach, talent, and resources, creating a community that families (not just Habitat's) desire to call home, developers seek to build, and community outcomes follow. Towards this vision:

- We will be investing in staff focused on community engagement.
- We will be partnering earlier and leaving later, participating alongside local community stakeholders and when helpful, convening them toward addressing neighborhood level challenges.
- We will be broadening the scope of our Financial Freedom Center as a conduit for community wealth and asset building and volunteer connections—beyond serving Habitat homeowners alone.

Scale of Engagement

Expand our reach further into how and where we engage with our audiences, putting more effort into awareness and building advocacy towards partners and members.

Opportunity for Growth (Least Engaged)
Build Awareness

Opportunity for Growth (Most Engaged)
Build Awareness



Engaging earlier and staying later allows us to create diverse ways to accommodate interested volunteers.

Invest resources to engage with neighbors and local businesses before building in a spirit of listening and collaboration.

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Support Habitat homeowners and volunteers as ambassadors and advocates to enhance community resources.



Mission Awareness
General Public, Potential Habitat Families and others

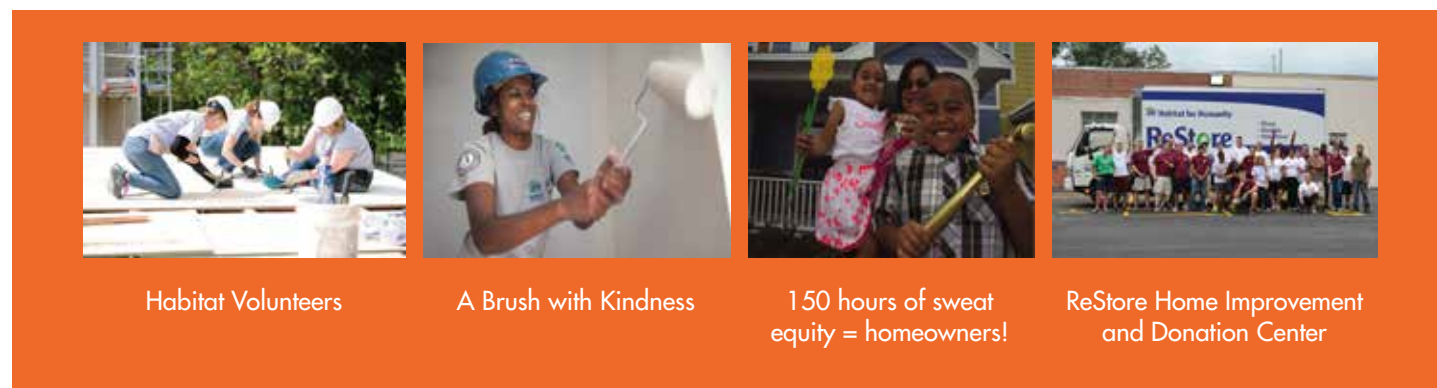
Organizational Following
Potential Habitat Families, Volunteers, Donors

Engaged Community
Habitat Families, Volunteers, Donors, Businesses

Habitat Advocates
Habitat Families, Donors, Businesses, Partners, Ambassadors

Strengthening Communities Through Homeownership!

SUPPORTING EVEN MORE FAMILIES!



YES, I want to help Habitat build homes and hope!
Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift of \$ _____
I wish to make a monthly contribution of \$ _____

My enclosed check is made payable to: Habitat for Humanity North Central Connecticut
 To give online please visit www.hfhncc.org/donate-now/

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

All contributions are tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations

- I am making my gift:
- ☐ In Honor of _____
 - ☐ In Memory of _____
 - ☐ My company will match my gift. (form will be forwarded)
 - ☐ I am interested in Volunteering.
 - ☐ Please send me information about Planned Giving.

Cost of Home

Habitat for Humanity's five-year Cost of Home campaign is finding solutions and helping create policies that will allow access to affordable homes for 10 million individuals.

Families across the United States pay too much for their home. Rent and homeownership costs are skyrocketing, and wages are not keeping pace. Everywhere you look — cities, suburbs, rural areas — the stability that home brings remains out of reach for too many families. Families should never have to spend more than 30% of their income on a home. Unfortunately, even before the COVID19 pandemic, over 18 million households were paying half or more of their income on a place to live. Now the pandemic is highlighting housing affordability challenges, and conversations about racial equity

Cost of Home's impact two years in

15 national organizations endorsed the campaign.

4.7 million people gained improved access to affordable homes through policy changes.

120+ policy successes were achieved by state and local Habitat organizations aligned with Cost of Home.

\$14.7 billion in government funding was accessed or allocated for home affordability.

87 grants were awarded to enable local and state policy efforts.

375 Habitat organizations from 46 states and Washington, D.C., advanced policies that will help families across the U.S. afford the cost of home.

complexities that surround the cost of home. We know the struggle, stress and pain that far too many families in our communities experience, and that those with the fewest resources are forced to make the hardest choices.

Now more than ever, we must work together to make the #CostOfHome something we all can afford.

Please reach out to advocacy@hfhncc.org for more information and resources!



Help make the #CostOfHome something we all can afford.

One in 6 U.S. households pay half or more of their income on a place to live. That is unacceptable. Habitat's five-year Cost of Home campaign is built on four areas of policy focus that will enable families to have greater access to homes they can afford — and to all of the opportunities that follow.

Cost of Home will improve home affordability for 10 million people by influencing policies and systems at the local, state and federal levels focused on:



Increasing supply and preservation of affordable homes



Equitably increasing access to credit



Optimizing land use for affordable homes



Ensuring access to and development of communities of opportunity

are making the multigenerational impact of discriminatory housing practices clear. It is more important than ever to enact policies and create systems that increase access to affordable homes.

Habitat for Humanity understands the

Where Are We Building 2022-2024

First Quarter of 2022

- Completion of 2 renovation projects 62 Vineland Terrace and 57 Risley Street in Hartford
- 75% completion of 2 new homes in East Hartford on 10 Chester and 192a Forbes St
- Start of 'Build with Strength' Concrete Home at 132 Cleveland Ave, Hartford

Starting in Spring/Summer 2022

- Historic Renovation of 315 Capitol Ave, Hartford
- 4 new Zero Energy Ready homes on Rainbow Rd, in Windsor

2022 and Beyond New Construction

- 2 homes on South St, in Manchester
- 4 homes on Nelson/Barbour, in Hartford
- 10 homes on Burnside Avenue, East Hartford
- 1 lot on Benham St, in Bristol



Ortiz Family at their home dedication in October 2021



Front Elevation Sketches



New House Designs

Habitat in the News

Commitment to Zero: CEO Karraine Moody Serves as Keynote Speaker for Connecticut Green Building Council's Awards Night



We are proud to report that we are fulfilling our promise that all new construction builds will be Zero Energy Ready Home Certified, and continuing to explore other sustainable construction models. This past year, we partnered with National Ready Mix Concrete Association (NRMCA) to build another concrete home. NRMCA, in coordination with Habitat for Humanity, donated insulated concrete forms, concrete and more to support this initiative throughout the country. We will dedicate our new Zero Energy homes in 2022, and hope you will join us to celebrate affordability and sustainable construction.



Keynote Speaker 10.7.21

Kris McKelvie, Director of Construction, Receives Hartford Business Journal's 40 under Forty



rehab and repair projects.

Kris McKelvie began working with Habitat for Humanity as part of the AmeriCorps Service program. He has overseen numerous single and multi-family home constructions, existing home

Four reasons why you deserve to be a 40 Under Forty:

- Love to teach and empower others around me to try a new skill
- Passionate about creating a work atmosphere that welcomes feedback, collaboration and respect for each other and those we serve
- Volunteered with Habitat in Guatemala building smokeless stoves and in Vietnam building clay brick homes
- Guarantees a fun and productive build day for volunteers and a high-quality, affordable home for Habitat families

What's been your biggest professional/work accomplishment so far in your career?

I led the design and directed the construction of Hartford Habitat's first Zero Energy Home. The project received numerous awards, the most notable being the National Grand Winner of the 2020 Department of Energy Housing Innovation Award in the Affordable category.

Volunteer Spotlight

Greetings Habitat Volunteers,

We are incredibly grateful for all of the service and support our community has shown us through the course of 2021! Throughout the year, we were fortunate to host volunteers on our new and rehab construction sites, in our ReStore in Bloomfield and within several areas of our operations.

As a community, we provided over 17,000 hours of service in support of the Habitat mission!

Many thanks to all of our new and returning Build Site Volunteers, Core ReStore Volunteers, Site Hosts, Crew Leaders, Family Partners & Mentors and Youth Advocates for making the dream of homeownership become a reality for our families! We look forward to another year of fun and engaging volunteer opportunities as we transition into our 2022 schedule. Check out our VolunteerHUB today to schedule your next Habitat adventure!

New to Habitat? Please visit us at <https://hfhnc.org> and click on volunteer to learn how you can make a difference in your community.

In Partnership,
Ryan Gorecki
Director of Volunteers & Engagement
volunteer@hfhnc.org



Lisa Coté
Build Site Volunteer
Crew Leader
Habitat Ambassador

My journey with Habitat began in 2014 when I participated in a Collegiate Challenge trip to serve with a Georgia affiliate, and I fell in love with the organization. I loved the purpose of the work we were doing, the impact of our work in the community, learning new skills, and getting to play with power tools.

When I moved back to CT in 2015, I got involved with Hartford Habitat, and since then, I've worked on builds and rehabs across the Greater Hartford Area. My love of Habitat was a frequent topic of conversation with my dad, who thought my love of the work, and especially the power saws, was a delightful surprise. After he passed away in April 2021, I decided to honor his memory by volunteering with Habitat more regularly. My dad valued craftsmanship, financial literacy, and doing good in the world - all things Habitat brings to the community. I figure my work with Habitat builds his legacy into affordable homes for deserving families - things he would have loved.

Without knowing it, the people I've met while working with Hartford Area Habitat have helped my heart start to heal and helped me honor my dad in such a meaningful way. I am so grateful for the community I have found here.



Helen Hoong
Youth Ambassador
ReStore Volunteer
Special Events
Volunteer

Hello! I'm Helen and I'm from Connecticut. Although I am somewhat new to Habitat, I am part of the Habitat for Humanity club at Conard High School. I enjoy volunteering at the Habitat ReStore and hope to volunteer for many other Habitat events.

Through my times volunteering at the ReStore, I've had the pleasure of meeting and working with astounding people. I can definitely see all of the effort and opportunities that Habitat brings to each and every community. I hope that my wonderful Habitat experiences encourage more people to support and give back towards their community!



Dan Fiske
Build Site Volunteer
ReStore Volunteer
Habitat Ambassador

My name is Dan Fiske and I've been regularly volunteering with Hartford area Habitat for Humanity since 2020. I'm a Connecticut native and currently a PreMed postbac student at Elms College.

I'm so grateful for the relationships I've made over the past 2 years at both the public build days and at the ReStore. I keep coming back because the people I work alongside with are so enthusiastic, kind and true believers in the mission of giving back to the community and enriching lives.

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world" - Mahatma Gandhi



Carol Bingham
Site Host
Habitat Ambassador
Women Build Volunteer

As a recent retiree from the financial services industry, I was looking for a fulfilling volunteer situation that would really make an impact in my community. I found it in Hartford Habitat! I love seeing the progress of a home coming together, and using my hands to build something of value. I've volunteered for many organizations in the past forty years and Hartford Habitat is the most efficiently-run group I've ever volunteered for. Everyone I've worked with has been outstanding, and it's been great to give back to the community I've been privileged to be a part of. And, it's fun!

"Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in". ~Author Unknown

Youth Advocacy + Engagement April 2022

Greetings Youth Community Leader,

We are pleased to announce that our annual Youth Advocacy & Engagement month has been scheduled to commence in April of 2022! We look forward to engaging our future leaders throughout the month of April through several in-person activities and events as well as a hybrid selection of virtual sessions. Our Youth Advocacy & Engagement Conference is scheduled to take place on Saturday April 30th and will be hosted at two locations simultaneously; Hartford & Vernon.

We will also offer virtual activity packets that your family can sign up to receive including; letter writing campaigns, virtual fundraising opportunities, and our Habitat Youth Ambassadorship guide.

Please visit our website at hfhnc.org or email volunteer@hfhnc.org for more information.



Women Build in May



This May, Habitat for Humanity of North Central Connecticut will host their annual Women Build, a month-long event that brings strong, passionate members of the community together to build responsible homeowners, sustainable homes and resilient communities. For over 10 years, Women Build has provided the opportunity for thousands of community members to take a proactive step in empowering women to attain homeownership.

Through their team comradery, financial support, and physical labor, Women Build and its supporters bring crucial awareness to women in need of a safe, affordable place to call home.

Our goal for Women Build 2022 is to engage over 400 women and raise \$100,000 to provide affordable housing, neighborhood empowerment, and financial education for families across our community. Ready to build? Contact Makenzie at womenbuild@hfhnc.org or at 860-541-2208 x2206.



Corporate Build Days

Looking for a way to connect with your coworkers in a way that benefits your community? From June – August, Corporate Build Days are private, team build days on our site for smaller groups looking to connect with their colleagues in a meaningful way.



Build-A-Thon

Build-A-Thon, a month-long event in September centered on volunteering, team-work and fundraising brings together local businesses to help build homes across our community. This building blitz event, taking place in September, offers the chance for local corporations to engage with their employees, develop synergy across departments, all while giving back to their community. The giveaways and marketing benefits aren't too bad either!

Donor Spotlight: The Power of a Tweet



Volunteer Miguel Benzan is on a mission. He has taken fundraising out of the box and brought it to a whole new level. With his passion for the Habitat mission and belief that everyone deserves a decent place to live, he is truly a Habitat champion. As an influencer on social media, he is using his Twitter handle to raise funds to sponsor a house.

He began by presenting his idea to crowdfund using his Twitter handle "patscap" in August 2020. With a two-year goal to reach \$120,000 he currently is at \$36,465.

Miguel is working to help lift a family up through homeownership. If you'd like to support his effort, take a look at his Twitter account, patscap, or his fundraising page: <https://igfn.us/vf/patscap>

Staff Spotlight: Rose Vigdal



Rose is the life of the party! Rose joined Habitat in 2006 and managed our Stanley store in New Britain for several years. She left Habitat for the Alzheimer's Association in 2014 to honor her mom. She was lured back to the mission in 2017 to head up our Women Build, Building on Faith and marketing efforts. Rose will be greatly missed but we are grateful for her support and commitment throughout the years! We wish her the best as she retires this year.



ReStore: New Store, Donations, Paint



Hartford Area Habitat for Humanity is now Habitat for Humanity of North Central Connecticut. We will be expanding into Tolland County, and not only will we be building in the area, a new ReStore will be debuting in Vernon. Smaller, but just as mighty, as the Bloomfield location, we are currently aiming for a grand opening on February 15th at 9:00am.

The Vernon ReStore will also have the same top notch inventory you're used to at the Bloomfield location, including the ever popular Recolor Paint. Made from recycled paint, using Recolor Paint reduces pollution and the need for raw materials, and also decreases landfill space and a project's carbon footprint. We look forward to offering it in Vernon as well.

Thanks to Dan Fitzgerald, the Director of Dealer Channel Sales of Recolor, we have a constant flow of the paint available. Dan has been instrumental in not only making sure we have paint stocked, he has also volunteered to speak with customers and give demonstrations on the paint.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page at facebook.com/hartfordrestore for updates not only on inventory, but also all the exciting updates as we get closer to the opening of the Vernon ReStore.



ReStore Volunteers

For the last seven years, the ReStore located at 500 Cottage Grove Rd in Bloomfield has served the community of Hartford County with great deals, amazing donors, and even better customers. Things wouldn't be possible, though, without our fantastic volunteers.



Gengras, led by Todd, has been volunteering at the store since day one! With their help, the ReStore was ready for its grand opening in just four months. Whether they're bringing inventory to the floor with Jahaira, or just simply sweeping, Todd and Gengras are without a doubt one of our best groups.



Led by Chris, and sometimes Bill, the men of FPC have been with us for the last six years. They're always here with a smile on their faces, and thanks to them, many trailers of Ashley Furniture, office chairs, and more have been unloaded in record time. There's a reason Kyle calls them his A-Team.



Let's not forget, though, the likes of Habitat Saints Roger and Nick, who have been with us since day one, and the mighty Susan, who while only with us for a short time so far, has proven to be a favorite among staff and customers alike. We'd also love to give shout outs to regulars Bill, Al, Sam, Jack, Rich, Donald, Gary, Carol and Dina. They've been with us anywhere from one to seven years, and they have been amazing every time they're here.

If you would like to join the volunteer family, please visit hartfordhabitat.org/volunteer to sign up on the Volunteer Hub, or contact our Director of Volunteer and Engagement Ryan Gorecki directly at volunteer@hfhnc.org if you have any questions.

ReStore

SHOP DONATE VOLUNTEER

SHOP THE STORE THAT BUILDS HOMES.

www.hfhnc.org

*Weather Date: February 17th 9:00am



JOIN US

Tuesday, February 15, 2022*
9:00am

GRAND OPENING

OF RESTORE VERNON LOCATION

369 Talcottville Rd.
Vernon Rockville, CT 06066
860-519-0828



ReStore

369 Talcottville Road, Vernon Rockville, CT 06066

SHOP **DONATE** **VOLUNTEER**

www.hfhnc.org

860-519-0828

**SHOP THE
STORE THAT
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JOIN US

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GRAND OPENING

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860-519-0828

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*Weather Date: February 17th 9:00am

Mortgage Burning Ceremonies



Mission Accomplished! One of the highlights of this great mission is celebrating with families, like the Garands, as they pay off their mortgage. In 2018, we observed our 30th Anniversary and since then we've had a number of mortgage releases. We send our best wishes to all of our families who have accomplished this mission.

Impact of Homeownership

Being chosen for the Farmington, CT Habitat House built in 1994 was a blessing! Working alongside Habitat volunteers was an experience I'll never forget. When we moved in, my children were only 5 & 8 year old and now they're in their 30s.

We paid off our mortgage in 2016! I can say now owning our home will always give my family a sense of security; and, knowing we will never have to rent ever again is the best feeling. We're extremely grateful to Habitat for our HOME.

God Bless,
The Garand Family



HARTFORD HABITAT SHARED VALUES

A SHARED WORK ETHIC BETWEEN
PARTNER FAMILIES, VOLUNTEERS
AND THE HABITAT TEAM

WE BELIEVE IN ACCEPTANCE AND
UNDERSTANDING THROUGH RESPECT
OF INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR NEEDS

THE
FOUNDATIONS
ON WHICH
WE BUILD

WE VALUE ALL PARTNERS OF
THE HABITAT COMMUNITY

WE ARE A HARD WORKING,
DIVERSE, INCLUSIVE AND
FUN-LOVING TEAM



Volunteer Management
Ryan Gorecki, Volunteer Manager

Construction Team
Kris McKelvie, Director of Construction
Len Turpin, Construction Supervisor
Tom McGowan, Construction Supervisor
Diana Gasca, Construction Supervisor



Administration and Volunteer Center
75 Charter Oak Avenue
Bldg 2 Ste 205
Hartford, CT 06106
860-541-2208

Karraine Moody, CEO (not pictured)
April Hansley, Operations Manager (not pictured)
Michael DeRoy, Director of Finance
Suzanne Feola, Director of Development
Makenzie Bahr, Corporate Engagement Manager
Kate Paulo, Grants Coordinator



Financial Freedom Center
780 Windsor Street
Hartford, CT 06120
860-541-2210

ReStore
500 Cottage Grove Road
Bloomfield, CT 06002
860-519-0828

Matt Boyne, ReStore Director
Robert Bologna, ReStore Manager
Kyle Schadler, ReStore Assistant Manager
Barbara Blanchfield, ReStore Donation Coordinator
Brendan Hyland, ReStore Customer Service Representative
Sean Isaac, Material Processor
Wilfredo Reyes, Material Processor
Jahaira Rivera, Warehouse Coordinator
Jose Colon, Material Processor



Family Services Team
Tracy Thomas, Director of Family Services
Janaya Lewis, Family Services Coordinator

PRESSING FORWARD

**Stay tuned for the official release of
“Pressing Forward: 8 Life Lessons
Learned at Habitat” by Karraine Moody.**

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