



Greater Springfield
Habitat
for Humanity®

2019

YEAR IN REVIEW



Together, we helped three more families achieve the goal of homeownership.





Pine Street, Holyoke
Home Dedication Ceremony
October 7, 2019



Leadership

- Anne Eisenman, **President**
- Justin Roberts, **Vice President**
- Robin Olejarz, **Treasurer**
- William Russo-Appel, **Clerk**
- Melvin Coleman
- William Dierkin
- Donna-Rae Kenneally, J.D., SHRM, SHRM-SCP
- Sara I. Mimoso
- Janet Rosenkranz
- Cynthia Wzolek

Staff

- Aimee Giroux, **Executive Director**
- Deborah O'Mara, **Homeowner Services**
- Jeff Lomma, **Marketing & Communications Manager**
- Sheri L. Green, **Construction Manager**
- Mark Rivard, **ReStore Manager**

Dear friends of Habitat for Humanity,

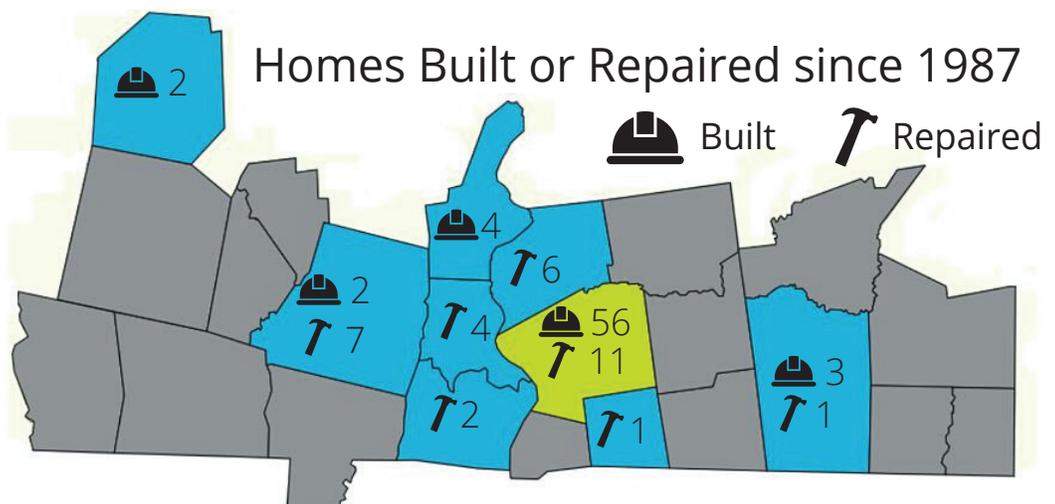
When I look back over the past year, I realize just how incredibly grateful I am to those who supported us as we worked to achieve our mission. The number of volunteers, donors, ReStore shoppers and community partners who came together to help us build and repair homes for deserving families in our community, is overwhelming. This support has allowed us to complete 3 homes and begin construction on 3 additional homes for this coming year -- all for local families in need of safe, decent, affordable shelter.

My original version of this letter highlighted the excitement I was feeling for things to come this year as I entered my new role as the affiliate's Executive Director. To be part of building new houses and dedicating them to families, new fundraising events and volunteer opportunities, to celebrate 5 years of business at ReStore, the staff had so much planned for 2020. Then suddenly, all of that came to a drastic halt due to the COVID -19 pandemic. Our Restore has been temporarily closed, volunteer support (which plays such an important part in all we do) has had to be canceled, and our learning partnerships with the students at Putnam Vocational Technical School and YouthBuild have also been stopped. This was not something any of us could have planned for.

While processing the fact that this will have a major impact on our work in the community, we gained a renewed perspective for what our mission is, and for our relentless commitment to meeting basic needs of families, even in these times of change. With minimal staff, we continue to work on our construction projects and provide resources to our partner families that have been economically impacted by the pandemic. We are looking at new programs and partnerships to help our homeowners with mortgage forbearance and loan modifications, and we even completed a home repair project! We realize that while there are a lot of unknowns out there right now, there is still much to celebrate and much to be done.

While I could tell you about all of the new and exciting projects I had intended for us to work on in 2020, instead, I ask that as you read this newsletter celebrating our accomplishments from last year, you also consider how you can help us continue our mission of service well into the future. I sincerely thank each and every past supporter of GSHFH. You are all vital to our work and I look forward to welcoming you back out to our job sites and into our ReStore. We continue to be committed to our mission and will keep working toward a world where every family has a safe, decent, affordable place to call home. Now, more than ever, this pandemic has shown us how important it is to have a home where we can keep our families healthy and safe. **Now more than ever, we need you.**

Aimee Giroux
Executive Director



OUR MISSION: Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity is a housing ministry dedicated to strengthening communities by empowering low-income families to change their lives and the lives of future generations through homeownership opportunities. This is accomplished by working in partnership with diverse people, from all walks of life, to build and repair simple, decent, affordable housing.



Thank you volunteers



You don't have to swing a hammer to help build a home! Help comes in many ways: providing lunch or snacks; working at the ReStore; or by volunteering on a committee or at an event. THANK YOU to everyone who helps make the dream of homeownership a reality.



2019 Stats



Volunteer Hours: **6,905**
(Construction, Office, ReStore)



Homeowner Sweat Equity Hours: **1,500**



Avg. Cost to Build a Habitat Home: **\$175,000**



Individual Giving: **\$71,020**



Corporate Giving: **\$170,990**



HUD/Municipal Support: **\$280,000**



Cars For Homes Program Income: **\$15,000**

Thank You 2019 Major Donors

Gifts of \$25,000+

MassMutual
Roger L. Putnam Technical Fund
Beveridge Family Foundation
Community Foundation of Western Mass



Gifts of \$10,000 - \$24,999

Bank of America
Richard Ellis-Kenny/Farley Foundation
Baystate Health
First Church of Christ in Longmeadow



Gifts of \$5,000 - \$9,999

BankESB
Anne and Tom Eisenman
William Fisher
Anonymous





Now more than ever, home is the key to safety and stability.

"We as a family are grateful for their sincere hearts. We will be good citizens who respect every creature from the smallest to the greatest. We will live well with our neighbors and respect their properties. I encourage my colleagues who are thinking of owning their own homes, to contact Habitat and request information about this program so they may benefit from this fruit as we have. God wanted my family to live here."

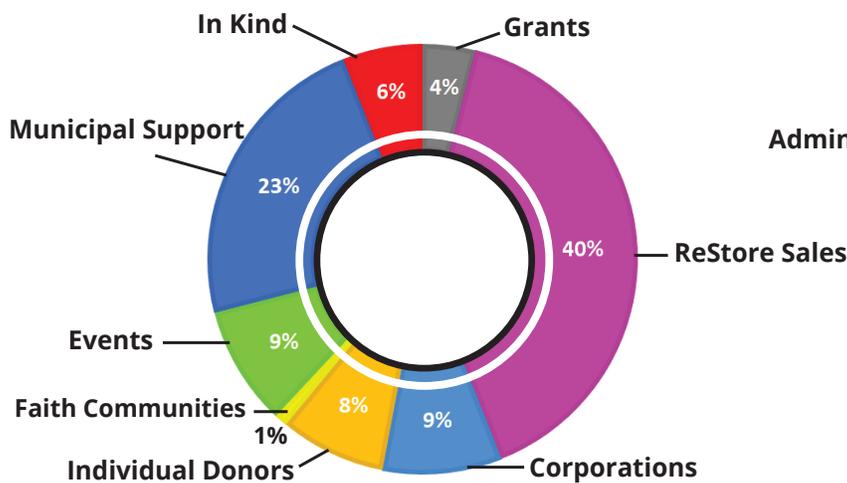
Ibrahim, Habitat Homeowner, Holyoke, MA



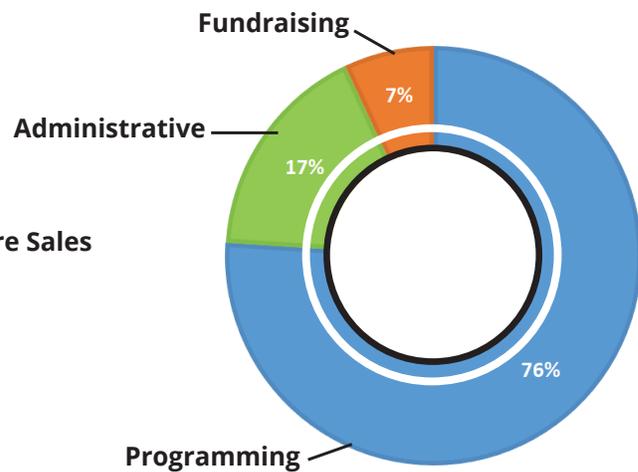
"We are happy to be able to provide a safe home for our kids and have enough room for Aiden's medical equipment."

Brandon & Sara, Habitat Homeowners, Springfield, MA

Sources of Funding Revenue



How Your Gift is Used



Moving into my new house was the high point in our lives. Everything else fell into place."

- Ruth, Habitat Homeowner



every hand

creates the opportunity for a better life.

Donate or volunteer today at habitatspringfield.org



Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity has a vision of a community where everyone has a decent place to live.

Homeownership is a crucial foundation for any family. By moving out of substandard housing and into Habitat homes, our Partner Family members become more likely to improve their health, attain an education, and increase their safety and personal wealth.

GSHFH builds and repairs homes with local families in need of safe, decent, affordable housing. With volunteer labor and donations of both money and materials, we help each qualified family obtain a home of their own with an affordable mortgage. A Habitat home is not a gift. In lieu of a down payment, every Partner Family must contribute “sweat equity”, or physical labor, toward the construction of their own home, other Habitat family homes, and special projects.



Youth Workforce Development

GSHFH launched its Youth Workforce Development Initiative designed to connect the next generation of builders with real-world work experience. By partnering with local youth-based volunteer organizations, vocational and trade institutions, and workforce development agencies, the GSHFH Initiative provides local students with practical work experience both on and off the build site. Students are given the opportunity to sharpen their skills by assisting with the construction of Habitat homes, by providing administrative support in our affiliate office, and by working with the retail manager at our GSHFH ReStore.



Student Testimonial

“Building a house was a major step in our curriculum. One challenge I found was keeping the pace of work going. It’s not always about what you’re working on, sometimes you have to drop your hammer to help your peers fulfill a task. Problems are solved more efficiently when working as a team. Looking back, I couldn’t imagine how gratifying and fulfilling it was to use our skills, knowledge and time to build a home for a family in need”.

Moises Ramos

2020

OUR MISSION CONTINUES



Orchard St., Springfield



James St., Springfield



Bloomfield St., Springfield

Now more than ever, we need you.

Our work has not stopped despite the challenges the health crisis has presented thus far.

When any disaster hits — a storm, a disease, a financial crisis — it is always those who struggle most who suddenly find themselves struggling even more. Habitat for Humanity knows that home is the key to freeing these families from financial instability, from stress and from impossible choices between essential needs. And we know that you will be the key to helping our neighbors and our communities build back.

Now more than ever, families need the security and stability of decent homes that they can afford. The uncertainty so many of us feel today, is what far too many families have felt for generations. We continue to do our work building houses for them. To support these efforts, please consider making a donation. No amount is too small.

Ways to support Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity

Donate Online

Donate Online

It's easy! Make a one-time gift or recurring gift at habitatspringfield.org/donate

Be sure to check with your employer about their matching gift policy. Many employers will match an employee's gift at a rate of 1:1, meaning you could double your impact at no additional cost to you!



Mail a Check

Make a check payable to:

Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity
268 Cold Spring Ave.
West Springfield, MA 01089

All contributions are tax-deductible!



Donate a Car

Do you have an old or unneeded car, truck, boat or other vehicle sitting in your driveway, or taking up space in your garage? Consider donating it to Habitat through Cars for Homes. Proceeds from all sales through Cars for Homes go to your local Habitat affiliate.

For more information visit habitat.org/carsforhomes or email carsforhomes@habitat.org



Donate to ReStore

Donations made to our ReStore are tax-deductible and 100% of the proceeds support Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity's mission. Plus, you'll be keeping good, reusable items in use and out of landfills. All donations are subject to approval.

For more information visit habitatspringfield.org/restore

Call us at 413-739-5503 for information on how you can **create a lasting legacy, donate constructions materials, donate real estate property, make a corporate contribution.**

habitatspringfield.org | 413-739-5503

We'd like to thank our ReStore shoppers, donors, and volunteers for a wonderful year, and we look forward to seeing you all again soon. Please check our website or social media pages for updates as to when we will reopen for business, donations and volunteer opportunities.

Shop



You never know what household treasures you will find at Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity's ReStore. Items range from brand new to gently used furniture, building materials, cabinets, lighting, and more - all at a fraction of the retail price! And, all proceeds from items sold at ReStore help support GSHFH programming.

Inventory and sales change daily, so be sure to visit often and look for special ticket items.

Donate



Remodeling, cleaning, downsizing or just getting organized?

Donate your excess household goods and building materials to GSHFH's ReStore. You'll get the satisfaction of knowing your donations helped support local families - and didn't end up in the landfill. All of your donations are tax-deductible.

Our courteous and professional staff helps make donating easy.

Call 413-642-8990 to schedule a donation.

Volunteer



ReStore depends on enthusiastic volunteers for everything from helping customers to arranging merchandise.

Contact us at 413-642-8990 or volunteer@habitatspringfield.org for current ReStore volunteer opportunities.



When you shop, donate or volunteer at ReStore, you are building homes and hope in your community.



268 Cold Spring Avenue
West Springfield, MA 01089

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Springfield, MA
Permit #1465



Over the next five years, we commit to mobilizing our partners, volunteers and community members across the county to find solutions and help create policies that will allow 10 millions individuals to access affordable homes.

1 in 6

Families in the U.S. pay half or more of their income on housing.

18 million

Households are severely cost-burdened.

In 2016, housing prices rose

twice as fast

as inflation in the U.S.

10 million

People will gain increased housing affordability through the Cost of Home campaign.

#CostOfHome

Families across the United States pay too much for their home. Rent and homeownership costs are skyrocketing, while 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, over 18 million households pay half or more of their income on a place to live. That means 1 in 6 families are denied the personal and economic stability that safe, decent and affordable housing provides. They are forced to make extremely difficult choices between having safe homes and having nutritious food on the table – or proper health care, access to good schools, reliable transportation, etc.

Habitat for Humanity understands the 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. We must take a stand and declare our commitment: Habitat for Humanity will work to ensure everyone can build the foundation for a strong, healthy future for themselves and their families – no matter where they live or how much money they earn. Building on our strong record of advocacy achievements throughout the U.S. and on the unparalleled reputation of Habitat's network of affiliates in all 50 states and more than 25 state support organizations, Habitat is engaging housing advocates; homeowners; volunteers; supporters; and federal, state and local policymakers to advance access to safe, decent and affordable homes through the Cost of Home campaign.

Help us make the #CostOfHome something we all can afford.