



Habitat for Humanity®

of Boone and Greene Counties, Inc.

Exciting Program Begins

Greene County to Receive A Brush With Kindness

Completely new in 2012 will be a program offering external home repairs to low income homeowners in Greene County.

This represents a significant new effort to reach out to a group in need of assistance that has not been the focus of Habitat for Humanity in the past.

Each Brush With Kindness project is anticipated to last a few weeks with a minimum of one project planned for each community of Churdan, Grand Junction, Jefferson, Paton, Rippey and Scranton. With local support and available families, more projects can be accepted.

Typical projects will include scrape and paint, weatherization, accessibility ramps, landscaping renovation and general repairs.

As with the Habitat house program, partner families are asked to contribute sweat equity and pay back the cost of materials with a zero-percent loan over a reasonable term of years. There is no charge for volunteer labor. Local groups may choose to sponsor projects, paying for the cost of materials leaving homeowners with no out-of-pocket expense.

Look for more information to come about this exciting initiative in Greene County for 2012!

Four Families Served in 2011

A year that started quietly at your local Habitat for Humanity affiliate ended in a flurry with four new families served – A Record!

Two Houses Recycled

501 Webster Street, Boone.

After a few months of cleaning, repairs, replacements and a bright new coat of paint, Mandy Stevens and her two young daughters, Taylor and Erika, took possession of their new home following a house blessing September 18th.

301 S. Cedar Street, Madrid.

This house was in very good shape, but needed a dividing wall, some paint and general cleanup to prepare for Heather Peterson and her son, Trevor, to make it their new home. After a house blessing on October 30th, they have been enjoying the experience that is owning a home.

(Habitat homes are considered to be recycled when accepted back from one partner family and prepared for a new partner family)

One House New

1317 Tama Street, Boone.

After well over a year since first coming into the Habitat housing ministry, Andres and Magdalena Palacio, along with their children, Andy, Candy and Josi, have been rewarded with a new home built and tested to far exceed Energy Star standards for efficiency. Their house dedication was held November 13th.

One House Rehabilitated

408 North Cedar Street, Jefferson.

Greene County volunteers got their hammers swinging again thanks to the gift of a house and grant dollars from the City of Jefferson through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP). The Greene County Community Foundation also supported the project through grant dollars. New homeowners Mike and Angela Hofbauer will begin moving their three young children, Dylan, Destiny and Bentley, in time to spend Christmas in their new home.



New Habitat homeowner Mandy Stevens and her daughters, Taylor (right) and Erika (center).

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER



Why I Love This . . .

As my second anniversary with the Habitat ministry approaches, I often field a common question. "Do you enjoy it?" Short and simple, the answer is yes. I really do enjoy my work with Habitat for Humanity.

I've come to know many wonderful people I might have only bumped with my shopping cart in the past. This not only includes our dedicated volunteers, but also the parents and children that make up our partner families. I especially enjoy the bright eyes of the children focused on a future filled with promise and opportunity.

In two years I've learned how to build a house (in theory anyway, they still won't let me loose with power tools). I've learned many funding sources have rolled up their welcome mats in the new economy. I've learned nothing beats the feeling of satisfaction and joy that comes when handing the keys over to another successful partner family.

What I haven't learned is how to ignore the countless number of hurting families Habitat is not able to help. Near daily conversations with parents truly desperate to do what they can to move their children to a decent home makes it unlikely I will forget the plight of so many in our communities. It also reminds me how blessed our Habitat partner families truly are.

Yes, I absolutely enjoy what I am doing with Habitat for Humanity. I also pray our volunteers and donors find joy in their gifts of time, talent and treasure, knowing we are truly making a difference in the lives of many.

With your continued efforts, 2012 will be a great year of helping many new families.

And maybe, just maybe, this will be the year I get to run the pneumatic nailer. Please?

God's Blessings to all in 2012,
Erich Kretzinger
Habitat Executive Director

2012 Comes into Focus for Habitat for Humanity

After a record-breaking year for new families served, your local Habitat affiliate isn't slowing down. 2012 promises to be another solid year of progress and achievement.

New Home Coming to Ogden

Brittany Hendrickson and her two young daughters, Madison, age 3, and Meredith, age 2, are looking forward to a new home to be built at 514 N.E. Fourth Street in Ogden.

An exciting new split-level home design will be a welcome change from the simple ranch models built in years past. Brittany has selected a craftsman finish.

Chad Thede of Ogden will take the reins as project manager with plans in place for recruiting several new site supervisors from the ranks of local construction contractors.

A \$35,000 grant has been secured through the Federal HOME Funds program with Energy Star version 3.0 building efficiency standards a requirement for the project. The recently completed house at 1317 Tama Street in Boone easily exceeded many requirements of these standards.

Ground breaking is anticipated for March, 2012.



Brittany Hendrickson with daughters Madison and Meredith.

Special Gift Helps Build Momentum

Leveraging public dollars with Habitat for Humanity has consistently been an efficient way for state and federal governments to make tangible improvements in low-income housing.

When the economy sours and political winds blow though, these dollars become scarce and gaps in funding arrive at a time when the need is greatest.

Alice Andrew of Jefferson certainly didn't have the current situation in mind when deciding upon final estate plans, but the timing and impact of her recent gift couldn't have been better.

Having accumulated wealth through discipline and astute management, Alice saw an opportunity to make a lasting impact when singling out Habitat for Humanity for nearly \$40,000 as a final gift.

Alice's three children; James O. of Jefferson, Jane of Des Moines and Karen of Ames, were pleased to learn of their mother's concern and care for those needing a safe, decent place to call home. They are proud of their mother's choice and hope others will follow her lead.

The gift was used almost immediately to purchase building materials for the house being completed in Jefferson with the Mike and Angela Hofbauer family.

One unique aspect of Alice's gift is a forward rolling benefit, much like an endowment. As the Hofbauer family makes mortgage payments to Habitat, the proceeds will be used to fund additional housing projects. This rolling forward will continue for generations to come.

Alice's gift is precious today and ensures a strong tomorrow for families in need of a hand up to stable, affordable housing. Please consider this unique opportunity Habitat for Humanity presents when making your estate plans.



Alice Andrew

Habitat Volunteer Spotlight



Gary Von Ahsen

So you enjoy a long successful career as part owner of a lumber yard and as general contractor on countless homes. As the sweet reward of retirement finally rolls around, what do you do?

If you're Gary Von Ahsen of Jefferson, you take guidance from your Christian faith, pick up a hammer and start building more houses.

This time around, his satisfaction comes from seeing local families leave inefficient, unsafe places for decent and affordable family homes.

No other volunteer in Greene County has distinguished themselves to the same extent as Gary these past few years. In addition to continuing service on the board of directors, his active involvement in leading the Construction Committee has been critical to Habitat's overall success.

Management of the current house project in Jefferson has shown Gary to be adept not only at construction excellence but also in leadership and volunteer recruitment. Doing it with a ready smile and encouragement for each worker is his way of making it a rewarding experience for all.

While volunteering with Habitat for Humanity does take time, Gary keeps a priority on spending time with his wife of 42 years, Judy, and visiting children and grandchildren spread across the globe from Sioux City to Italy. Gary and Judy travel often and rarely miss a home football game for the Iowa Hawkeyes, where they've had season tickets since 1979. Gary also serves as a member of the Jefferson City Council.

Thanks for all you do to make the efforts of Habitat for Humanity so successful, Gary. You are truly a blessing to others.

www.hfhbg.org

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Someone else's new beginning starts with YOU!

Yes! I want to help Habitat for Humanity of Boone and Greene Counties build and repair homes in our communities. Please accept my donation in the amount of:

_____ \$500 _____ \$250 _____ \$100 _____ \$50 _____ other

All contributions to HFH are tax deductible.

This is a qualifying 501(c)(3) organization.

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