



Habitat Happenings

fall/winter 2019

Real solutions to housing affordability

Cleveland Habitat kicked off its 5-year, 375-house campaign in a groundbreaking ceremony for ten new in-fill houses on vacant lots on Grandview Avenue. This is a key street in the Mayor's Neighborhood Transformation Initiative (MNTI).



"I still say it. 'Habitat is the best deal in town'. That's because of the work put in; financial support, volunteers and staff who work on houses."

Mayor Frank Jackson

Cleveland Habitat adopted a new 5-year strategic plan to help 375 families (125 houses for new homeowners, 200 repairs for existing residents and 50 houses in Zambia) and focus work in 2-3 city neighborhoods. The budget is \$16 million, of which half is pledged.

While new construction is at the center of its new plan, Habitat continues to rehab vacant houses as prospects become available. Buckeye/Woodhill on the city's east side and Clark Metro on the west side are neighborhoods of focus.

Cleveland Habitat has been working to revitalize the Greater Buckeye neighborhood since 2016. By the end of 2018, Habitat fully rehabbed 27 houses and assisted over 230 existing residents with minor or modest exterior repairs. Habitat houses appraised for an average of \$75,114 in this area, with an average monthly mortgage payment of \$386, taxes and insurance included.

Since 2014 Habitat has fully-rehabbed 105 homes in Cleveland, and has assisted over 400 existing residents with modest exterior repairs



New construction: By the numbers

Starting on 6 in 2019
1,359 square feet (living space)
4 bedrooms / 2 baths



Inside this issue...

NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION

- Area companies step up to advance affordable homeownership
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Cleveland rehab 2 houses in year 2
- Church of the Saviour breaks ground on Rich Hiles House

ROEHL AVENUE TRANSFORMATION

- First 3 homes completed; 3 to be finished by end of 2019
- MLB and Cleveland Habitat team up for All-Star Spuce-Up
- Apostles Build joins forces with Thrivent Faith Build

RESTORE

- New rugs, flooring tiles and more new items offered at ReStore
- ReStore East location expands and updates interior
- DIY projects, ways to donate and more

Letter from the president/ceo:

The idea of building a better future is really what Habitat is all about. By empowering families to eliminate barriers and create stable homes, we help build successes that impact others far beyond what we imagine.

Countless Habitat homebuyers tell us about their children who are the first in their families to go to college. Many tell us about new job opportunities and new leadership roles they have felt confident to take in the community. By helping to build a home of their own, those who partner with Cleveland Habitat also build self-reliance and pass along a new confidence for generations to come.

What type of Cleveland can you imagine for future generations?

Thank you, as always, for your support and dedication to our mission of providing affordable homeownership opportunities to hardworking Cleveland families.



John Habat, CEO



“Rich was well thought of without question and for good reason. I volunteered with him on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for nine years. I still miss him. I really do. He was just a good guy.”

Bob Layton, Co-Leader R&B Crew, COTS Member

IN MEMORIAM

Church of the Saviour breaks ground on Rich Hiles Memorial House

Cleveland Habitat lost one of our great volunteers, Rich Hiles, last year. Rich was the longtime co-leader of the R&B volunteer team, most of the members of which are Church of the Saviour congregants.

His church decided that the best way to memorialize Rich would be to help advance affordable homeownership. They raised the funds and now in partnership, they are ready to raise the walls on a house in his honor.



Cleveland Habitat staff members travel to Zambia

Cleveland Habitat is a sponsor of affordable homeownership in Zambia, one of the world's poorest countries. Currently, close to 64% of Zambians live on less than \$1.50 a day and even those who earn more barely make ends meet. 17% of the adult population have contracted AIDS and the country is also dealing with an orphan population explosion.

Due to the lack of affordable housing, about 70% of urban dwellers live in slums with inadequate access to water and sanitation facilities. The lack of decent housing exacerbates people's poverty.

Cleveland Habitat staff members, Jessica Morrison, Family Programs Manager and Brendan McCormack, Property Acquisitions Manager went to Zambia at the end of September to volunteer. “We were excited to make a lasting difference to the entire community and immerse ourselves in their culture,” stated Jessica and Brendan.

Companies, community organizations team up with Habitat to advance housing efforts

ROCK Family of Companies continue partnership spearheaded by house sponsorship, Neighborhoods Week Spruce-Up, material and cash donations

Since 2016, ROCK Family of Companies (Quicken Loans, Cleveland Cavaliers, Bedrock, JACK Casino, JACK Racino) have contributed over \$1.7 million in support of our affordable homeownership program.

This year alone, they donated \$126,500 for their fourth annual Neighborhoods Week, which is a four day spruce-up project that this year covered three streets in Buckeye/Woodhill. We completed 73 projects, which included assisting existing residents with porch and step repair, landscaping and debris removal.

Quicken Loans also committed to sponsoring one of the 10 homes to be constructed on Grandview Avenue. They have committed \$80,000 to the project.

“Cleveland Habitat is very grateful for the ROCK Family of Companies’ partnership with us to revitalize neighborhoods and touch the lives of more families,” said John Habat, president/ceo of Cleveland Habitat.

In addition to Neighborhoods Week and a full-house sponsorship, the Cleveland Cavaliers and Bedrock have donated materials and change.

This is no small change. Bedrock, which is housed in Tower City called Habitat at the beginning of summer and said that they would like to donate the change from their fountains. At the time of this newsletter’s printing, over \$8,000 in change has been cleaned and cashed in, with several more containers to go through.

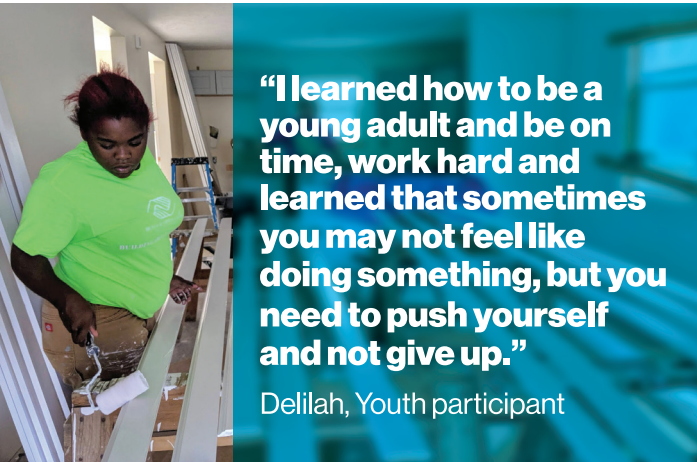
The Cleveland Cavaliers recently completed renovating the Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse (formerly Quicken Loans Arena). While the renovations were in process, they donated several pieces of furniture and flooring to the ReStore from their suites and other areas in the arena. Items were sold and proceeds help support our affordable homeownership program.

Bank of America

Cleveland Habitat has worked with Bank of America since 2015. This year BofA is sponsoring a new build on Grandview Avenue. “Our commitment to economic mobility is exemplified by partnerships with organizations like Habitat,” said Kerry Sullivan, president of the Bank of America Charitable Foundation. “Through this partnership, employees around the world have worked to revitalize communities by helping families in need of a safe and decent place to live.”



Photos Courtesy of Kayla Lupean Photography & Cinema



“I learned how to be a young adult and be on time, work hard and learned that sometimes you may not feel like doing something, but you need to push yourself and not give up.”

Delilah, Youth participant

Boys and Girls Clubs of Cleveland rehab houses in year 2 of summer youth training program

Fifteen teens from East Tech and John Adams high schools rehabbed two abandoned homes in Cleveland’s Buckeye/Woodhill and Fairfax neighborhoods as part of Building Great Futures. This initiative was launched by Cleveland Habitat, Boys and Girls Clubs of Cleveland, Youth Opportunities Unlimited and Cuyahoga County in 2018. Additional support from Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc., Electrical League of Ohio, National Electrical Contractors Association, Red Wing Shoes, Home Depot and Pride One.

The teens are BGCC members who since April have been learning the construction trades from experts at Associated Builders and Contractors – Northern Ohio Chapter. They have earned OSHA certification.

NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION

Roehl Avenue transformation nears completion

The first three completed houses of Cleveland Habitat's six-house transformation project were dedicated in August. The event celebrated the full-rehab of the homes formerly owned by St. Rocco Church and donated to Cleveland Habitat.

St. Rocco Church donated six houses to Cleveland Habitat, which saw potential to transform Roehl Avenue in the Clark-Fulton neighborhood. The total cost of fully-rehabbing six homes will be approximately \$750,000. Habitat anticipates completing the remaining three houses by the end of 2019. Families have selected all six houses and Roehl Avenue will be the new home to 21 additional children. Four houses were demolished to create a recreational field for St. Rocco School students.

The dedicated homes were sponsored by Habitat's Walk, First Federal Lakewood, WS Tyler, Mihaly Family Charitable Fund, Fred E. Scholl Charitable Foundation, and three anonymous donors.



Apostles join forces with Thrivent Faith Build to rehab 2 homes on Roehl Avenue

This year the Apostles Build Program blossomed into the Thrivent Faith Build thanks to an opportunity to partner with Thrivent Financial. This partnership allowed for rehabbing two larger houses on Roehl Avenue and serving two families with a total of six children.



4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud... 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

1 Corinthians 13:4, 7
New International Version

The project was dotted with homemade lunches, collections of books, blankets and welcome baskets to be shared with families.

We will complete both homes by the end of the year. We welcome your church to build with us in 2020. Contact Kim Pride at kpride@clevelandhabitat.org.

Phillina is a single mom who has raised seven children. Three of the younger kids, ages 16, 12, 9, still live with mom. Phillina selected her house with the input of her daughter, who liked the sun room where they can read.

Our second family for the Faith Build is Ebony. She has three young sons ages 16, 9 and 2. Ebony is goal driven and has two goals to reach by the time she is 40- owning a home and getting her degree. She is on her way!

Ebony explained that this home means peace, strength, love and joy. **"I'm excited. 'You can do all things through Christ that strengthens you.' That's what's on my heart right now. I would like to thank the volunteers working on the house. Their time and hard work is greatly appreciated."**

Thrivent Financial is sponsoring half of each build. Each church sponsored a portion of the total cost and volunteered on the build.

2019 Faith Build Partners

Brecksville United Methodist Church
Church of St. Dominic
Church of the Gesu
Church of the Holy Angels
Congregation of St. Joseph
Fairmount Presbyterian Church
Lord of Life Lutheran Church
Old Stone Church
Plymouth Church United Church of Christ
Solon United Methodist Church

St. Angela Merici Church
St. Basil the Great
St. Joseph Catholic Church
St. Mark Catholic Church, West Park
St. Mary Catholic Church of Berea
St. Mary of the Falls
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
St. Rocco Church
Strongsville United Methodist Church
The Church of the Covenant
The United Methodist Church of Chagrin Falls



sponsors house

In April, Majestic Steel began the process of rehabbing a home on Roehl Avenue. This is their first time sponsoring a home with Cleveland Habitat.

“We are grateful to partner with Majestic Steel on the Roehl Avenue house. This is a large house and the team is excited to get their hands dirty and turn this house into a home for Chelice and her family,” said Peggy Sobul, Sr. Director of Development and Marketing at Cleveland Habitat.

Chelice is a single mother with three children. She works at the Cleveland Clinic in healthcare. As a child, Chelice moved around a lot and owning a home was a dream.

Her children are looking forward to the house. Her daughter is excited to have bunk beds, a vanity and a “big dollhouse” in her room and her son is hoping for a Ninja Turtles-themed room. The older children share a room at the two-bedroom duplex they currently reside in and are elated to be having their own spaces.

Chelice is grateful for all of the hard work Majestic Steel volunteers have invested into her house. She excitedly drives by the house weekly to check the progress of her dream being fulfilled.



“I made a promise to myself that I would own a home so my family would have a stable place to call home.”

Chelice, Future homeowner



“We are so proud that Travelers allows us to give back to our communities in creative ways, which we find rewarding every year!”

Neal Casper, Travelers Claim Manager



Travelers Wall Build

On September 17-18, forty Travelers Insurance volunteers and over twenty Habitat volunteers gathered in the Travelers parking lot to build walls for a home to be constructed on Grandview Avenue.

This year marked the seventh year Travelers Insurance and Cleveland Habitat came together to build for good.

Volunteers cut wood, assembled walls and nailed it all together. The walls that were built in September will help make a home on Grandview Avenue for Megan and her daughters.

Interested in sponsoring a wall build? Contact Kim Pride at kpride@clevelandhabitat.org.



MLB and Cleveland Indians Sponsor All-Star Spruce-Up on Roehl Avenue

In partnership with Greater Cleveland Habitat, MLB and the Cleveland Indians hosted more than 100 volunteers in a neighborhood revitalization and sustainability project on Roehl Avenue.

The event provided for hands-on activities (e.g., landscaping, waste removal, tree planting, etc.), and incorporated environmental education. All-Star Green Team college students worked with youth to increase knowledge around environmental issues and best practices. Volunteers provided minor exterior repairs for existing residents.



Photo courtesy of mlb.com

Now available at ReStore: Floor coverings, tiles, paint and more

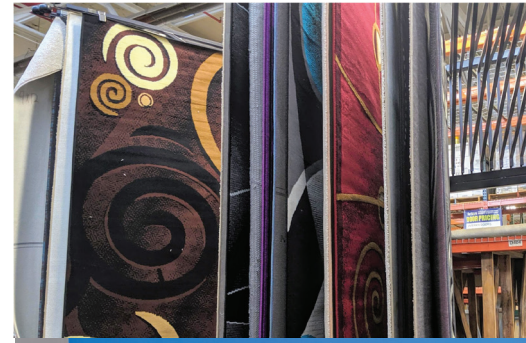
Paint/Paint supplies

For the past few years, we have offered Eco Paint, which is recycled paint and it starts at \$13/gallon with several shades available. Now we are proud to offer brand new paint brushes and paint rollers. So whether you are flipping a house, staging a house for sale or completing your next DIY project (see below), you are sure to find what you need at ReStore.

Floor covering/Flooring

This summer, ReStore began offering new flooring options. We now have large floor tiles, which can be purchased in bulk and are available in a range of trendy colors and sizes. They also can be used for other projects around the house.

We also are introducing new carpets/remnants for your home. We have designs for any style. We have fun designs and more traditional area rug designs. Available in different sizes and colors.



DIY Project: Geometric Walls

Materials:

- Painters Tape (2-3 rolls)
- Paint rollers*
- Paint*
- Creativity

* available at ReStore (may differ per location)

If you have been to our ReStore East location or our administrative offices recently, you will see that we are into geometric wall accents. You can do a softer version of this look and freshen up a bedroom, bathroom or den - with paint and supplies from ReStore!



Begin taping your wall: It helps to sketch it out on paper with a ruler and use that as a guide when applying painter's tape.



Take some tape and write the name of the colors then you are able to roll the colors onto the wall without having confusion.



Remove the tape and reveal your creative geometric wall design!

Shop and Save BIG

- appliances
- cabinets
- building supplies
- furniture
- tools
- hardware
- home decor
- lighting
- and more

Donate In-Store or Via Free Pick-Up

tue/wed/thu 8:30am-5:30pm
fri/sat 8:30am-3:30pm
(Note: different than store hours)

216.429.3631
clevelandhabitat.org/pickup



west location
2110 w 110th st.
cleveland, oh

east location
4601 northfield rd.
north randall, oh



Open Until 6pm
tue/wed/thu
10am-6pm

Open Until 4pm
fri/sat
10am-4pm



2019 Walk/Run/Mosey Recap

Presented by Cleveland Habitat Board of Directors

On June 15th over 600 people gathered at Edgewater to walk, run, or mosey to support affordable homeownership.

Together we did yoga, played tug o' war, patted dogs (ate over 60 dozen donuts) AND **raised over \$71,000**. YES! Not only was all that accomplished, but we also celebrated Pastor John Evans' 99th Birthday. Pastor John and his wife Mary are founders of the Walk and our longest running construction team.

Because of all the generosity, Madeline and her three children now have a safe, permanent affordable home. Their home was completed and dedicated in August.

Thank you, sponsors!

Block By Block



Home By Home



Family By Family

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff, LLP | Home Depot |
| Century Federal Credit Union | Javitch Block LLC |
| Covey Financial | KJK |
| Cuyahoga Land Bank | Kurtz Bros., Inc. |
| Cuyahoga Title Services Ltd | Saint Luke's Foundation |
| First American Title Insurance Co. | Debby and Jerry Smith |
| First Federal Lakewood | TeamLogic IT |
| Fluke | Tucker Ellis |
| | Zinner & Co. LLP |

We need your help!

If you would like to help with the 2020 Walk or have a question contact Kim at kpride@clevelandhabitat.org Help make the Walk even more joyful, more interactive for kids and more dog friendly. We welcome your know how.



Volunteer Spotlight

Jim Thomas

Jim Thomas began working with Habitat in 2008, after he retired from teaching chemistry for 43 years at Saint Joseph High School.

Jim installs electrical at many Habitat houses.

“It is nice to meet and interact with homeowners who will live in the homes we are working on. I find that part to be the most rewarding.”

Jim is proudly married to his wife, Margaret and has three sons in California. He enjoys biking.

Thank you, Jim. Your volunteer work helps families live better.

ReStore East: Remodeled and expanded

It's been a busy few weeks at ReStore East, located on Northfield Road in North Randall. It started with a hole being cut into a wall and 2,500 additional square feet of selling space added. More space for dining, tables and chairs, freeing up the existing store.

All of the hard work and preparation paid off and on Saturday, September 21st, a Grand ReOpening celebration was held and customers got their first glimpse of the expanded and remodeled store.

“We look forward to the store providing us with proceeds to help advance our homeownership program,” said John Habat, president/ceo of Cleveland Habitat.

