

# DOOR to DOOR



Habitat for Humanity of Eastern Connecticut Newsletter ■ Fall 2015

## Because of this house...

## Because of you...

What is your first memory of Habitat for Humanity? Perhaps tentatively walking onto a construction site even though you had no building experience. Or your first day volunteering at the ReStore, when you didn't know a soul there. Or perhaps it was at an applicant information session, where you hoped to learn how you could purchase a Habitat for Humanity home. Or perhaps when you met one of our friendly ReStore volunteers when they arrived at your home to pick up a donation. Or perhaps it was at a home dedication, where you watched a first time homeowner receive the keys to their home.

These moments may seem small, yet these moments are pivotal, and together these moments build a house. Because of this house, a family has a safe, affordable home. Because of this house, a family has more potential for health, advancement and success. And this house is only possible because of you. Without your time, without your donations, without your tenacity to build better lives, better homes and communities, homes would remain incomplete, and lives would remain unchanged.

For all you do to support Habitat for Humanity of Eastern Connecticut's mission, thank you. We hope you will take a moment to read inside about the affiliate's current and upcoming projects. All of this is because of you. Thank you.



## Board of Directors

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## Volunteer

It is now even easier to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity of Eastern Connecticut! HFHECT is now using an online volunteer orientation. View it at your own pace, complete a waiver and then sign up to volunteer on VolunteerUp, and you're good to go! To take the training, go to [www.habitatct.org/volunteer](http://www.habitatct.org/volunteer)



## Projects That Need Your Help

12 Western Avenue, Norwich

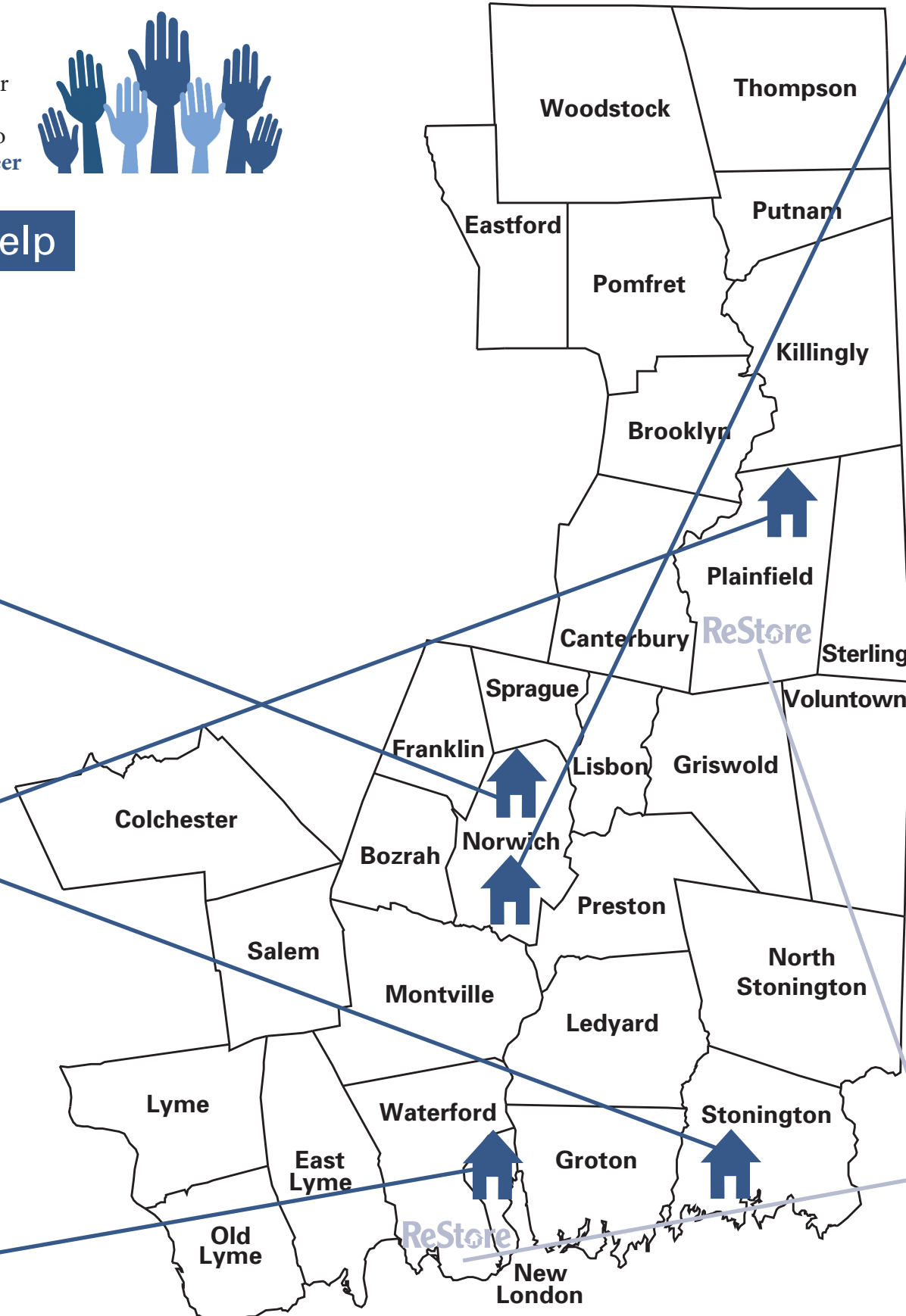


42 Shawondasee Drive, Stonington  
8-12 Winsor Avenue, Plainfield



*HFHECT is working to standardize its new house design which is more efficient and volunteer friendly to construct. Fireplace not included*

43 Summer Street, New London



## Hernandez-Luciano Family

51 Fairmount Street, Norwich

I am Rosa, mother of a 19 year old, Enrique, and an 11 year old girl named Lesly. We are a small but strong family. We moved to Connecticut in 2003 from Puerto Rico looking for a better health treatment for my daughter. Thankfully, it has been the best decision I have ever made for us.

My son graduated from high school in 2014. He is an Auto Zone employee at the moment. He loves basketball, video games and spending time with his girlfriend. My daughter started middle school this year as she goes on to seventh grade. She loves music, art, physical therapy and school. I am currently working at United Community & Family Services at the Norwich Health Center since 2012. I love my job and what I do; it has allowed me to help others and has helped me grow, not only professionally but as a person. My little family means the world to me; I love music, art and greatly enjoy reading and learning new things. I feel very blessed and grateful for all the things we've achieved as a family so far.

I found out about Habitat for Humanity through a flyer I had seen in the newspaper, and I was curious enough to go to the meeting. I was surprised when I learned about how Habitat works, and how this great organization helps



families to own their own home. I find it amazing how even families with low credit scores or low income can still participate and be a part of all this. I like the convenience of a mortgage without interest and little down payment for those who cannot afford much more. At that moment I thought, "This is my chance to own a house for my family".

Having a Habitat house will make our life better. The energy efficiency is one of the biggest problems in the house that I rent. Old windows and doors make the cost of heating too high. Habitat houses are constructed with good energy efficiency. Our family was pre-approved for a Habitat house and for us, this is a dream come true. It will be rewarding for me to know that I will be paying for our own house, for our family, for our home.



# ReStore

Whether it is in Plainfield or Waterford, the ReStores are the best stores around to shop, donate or volunteer! All proceeds from the ReStore support Habitat for Humanity of Eastern Connecticut's affordable housing programs.

### SHOP

The stores offer unique finds and great deals on new and gently used furniture, building materials, appliances for 50% of retail prices.

### DONATE

The ReStore accepts donations of new and gently used furniture, building materials and appliances, diverting thousands of pounds of usable goods from landfills. Best of all, we can pick up, and with a new team of Donation Associates, we will be even more efficient!

### VOLUNTEER

The ReStores welcome volunteers in a variety of roles, from accepting donations, to cleaning merchandise, to cashiering, and more! No prior skill or experience is required. We would love to have you join the ReStore team! Visit [habitatct.org/volunteer](http://habitatct.org/volunteer) to get started.

Waterford | 82 Boston Post Road | Waterford, CT | 860-437-3422

Plainfield | 808 Norwich Road | Plainfield, CT | 860-564-7507

Open Wednesday thru Saturday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm



**Habitat  
for Humanity®**  
of Eastern Connecticut

860-442-7890

[www.habitatct.org](http://www.habitatct.org)

[facebook.com/habitatct](https://facebook.com/habitatct)

**Mission:**

Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope.



Habitat for Humanity of Eastern Connecticut is proud to be an Equal Opportunity Employer that supports and encourages diversity.



**Habitat  
for Humanity®**  
of Eastern Connecticut  
377 Broad Street  
New London, CT 06320

Non-Profit  
Organization  
US Postage Paid  
New London, CT  
06320  
Permit No. 94

**Many Thanks!**

After 12 years as the head of the Habitat construction department, Lee Watrous will be stepping down. Before taking the job with Habitat, Lee spent many years as a volunteer. Since being hired to work with Habitat, Lee has personally served 40 families out of our total 69 homes completed.

Lee will be stepping down to be a construction site leader. This position will allow him more time to spend with family while still being able to work with volunteers and Habitat families building homes. Lee will be stepping into this new role as of September 1st, 2015.

We are grateful for Lee's years of hard work and leadership. HFHECT would not be where it is today without him!



**Welcome!**



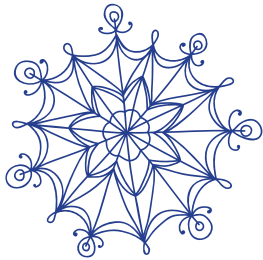
HFHECT would like to welcome Dino Tudisca to the role of Director of Construction Services. With nearly 30 years in the construction industry, and a great heart for the community, we know Dino will be a great addition to the HFHECT team! Welcome, Dino!





# Holiday Cards

Make a difference with a gift that lets hope shine.



Every community, every home, every heart  
... especially yours.

A donation has been made to Habitat for Humanity of Eastern Connecticut in your honor to help fulfill a family's need for a safe and decent home.

Make a donation to Habitat for Humanity of Eastern Connecticut and we will provide you with attractive, full color, professionally printed holiday cards. You may use these cards to tell a friend, co-worker, client or relative that they inspired you to make a gift in their honor to support a family's dream for simple, decent shelter.

Please complete the order form and send it with your tax-deductible donation. There is no limit to the number of holiday cards you can order; however, a minimum donation of \$5.00 per card is suggested.

Upon receipt of your donation, your cards and envelopes will be sent to you immediately, giving you time to personalize and send them. **Deadline for all orders: December 5, 2015.**

*We, along with our home buyer families, wish you a happy holiday season!*

## Holiday Card Order Form

Enclosed is my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me # \_\_\_\_\_ holiday cards.

Please send me # \_\_\_\_\_ "In Your Honor" gift card inserts.

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_



**Habitat**  
for Humanity®  
of Eastern Connecticut

Please remit payment and order form in the enclosed envelope

# Habitat for Humanity® Cars for Homes™

To date, Habitat for Humanity of Eastern Connecticut (HFHECT) has received 150 cars, which have contributed over \$43,000 to creation of homes in eastern CT! HFHECT is grateful to each and every donor who considered donating a car, truck, boat, RV or motorcycle to this program! It's truly helping make a life-changing difference. To donate a vehicle, call 1-877-277-4344 or visit [www.carsforhomes.org](http://www.carsforhomes.org).



## Children's Book Reading and Wreath Raffle

at Raymour & Flanigan  
917 Hartford Turnpike, Waterford, CT

**Saturday, December 5**  
**12 – 4 p.m.**

Check our website for more details at  
[habitact.org](http://habitact.org)

## Support through the Carpenter's Club!

The Carpenter's Club is a monthly giving club that provides a consistent and reliable source of funds for the work of Habitat for Humanity. Benefits of the Carpenter's Club include:

- You can set the donation to any amount you choose
- Hassle-free monthly donations
- Automatic donation from your credit card, if you so choose
- Knowing your donation is put to work immediately
- Complete statements for tax purposes
- The ability to change or suspend your donation at any time

To enroll in the Carpenter's Club, please fill out the enclosed remittance envelope, visit [habitact.org](http://habitact.org), or contact Nell Bourgojn in the HFHECT office at 860-442-7890 x 204.

## Too Much Mail from Habitat for Humanity?



We sometimes hear from folks who feel frustrated by how much mail they are receiving from Habitat for Humanity. Habitat for Humanity of Eastern Connecticut (HFHECT), your local Habitat affiliate (that's us), generally mails five pieces annually including two newsletters, event announcements and one donation appeal. If you are receiving more than five pieces of Habitat for Humanity mail annually, you could be receiving materials from Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI) in addition to mail from us. HFHI supports Habitat for Humanity operations worldwide. To give locally and to support international projects through our tithe, please direct your donation to Habitat for Humanity of Eastern Connecticut. Contact our office today at 860-442-7890 if you have questions about your local Habitat affiliate, HFHECT and HFHI.

## Looking for a tax break? Applicant deadline Oct. 1st

A tax credit - 100% - under the Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) tax credit program may be earned by businesses that make donations to Habitat for Humanity of Eastern Connecticut, an approved NAA program participant. Any business entity authorized to do business in Connecticut may be eligible. Some restrictions may apply. Contact HFHECT today to learn more. Applicant deadline Oct. 1st, 860-442-7890, ext. 204.

