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DOOR to DOOR

Habitat for Humanity of Eastern Connecticut Newsletter ■ Spring 2015

Building More than Houses... Building Momentum

In spite of frigid temperatures and feet of snow this winter, work at Habitat for Humanity of Eastern Connecticut has been progressing steadily, thanks to the steadfast commitment of volunteers and donors.

Four homes have been dedicated since October. These homes represent safe, decent and affordable housing for six adults and thirteen children. That's 13 local children who now have a home where it is safe to play outside. That's six local parents and caregivers who now have a home that is affordable and efficient for their family.

These 19 lives changed speak to the dedications of Habitat for Humanity's volunteers who wake up early on a frigid day off to swing a hammer or work at the ReStore. They speak to the donors, who keep a place in their heart for Habitat's mission. They speak to the ReStore donors, who think to reuse and recycle. They speak to you and your commitment to help your neighbors. For all you have done, thank you.

But the work is not done. HFHECT's work will not be done until every family in eastern Connecticut has a safe, decent home they can walk into with dignity. Please take a moment to read HFHECT's recent accomplishments and future project, and learn how you can keep the momentum building. For all you do, thank you.



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This fun event will feature a live auction of contractor services, live entertainment, a basket raffle, a silent auction, refreshments and more!

Date: Friday, May 1, 2015
Time: 6:30pm
Location: The Waterford ReStore
 82 Boston Post Rd, Waterford

Tickets: \$10 and may be ordered using the enclosed order form, going online to www.habitatct.org or at the door (subject to availability).

All proceeds support the creation of homes in eastern Connecticut.

How can you help make the Bid to Build a success?

- Provide an item or basket for the silent auction or basket raffle
- Become a sponsor. Sponsorship information is enclosed
- Order tickets to attend

Construction That Needs Your Help

Habitat for Humanity of Eastern Connecticut is continuing to work on rehabilitating homes, and also beginning a new home construction. We look forward to turning vacant houses and lots into energy efficient, vibrant homes for families! We would love to have your help on these projects.

To volunteer, please go to:
www.habitat.org/volunteers.



12 Western Avenue, Norwich



43 Summer Street, New London



8-12 Winsor Avenue, Plainfield

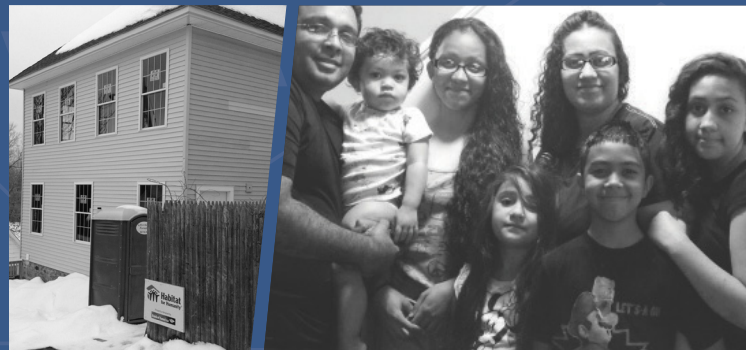
Dedicated Homes



90 Van Den Noort Street, Putnam - Robidas Family



18 Cape Ann Court - Marshall Family



6 Clairmont Court, Norwich - Rosado-Gonzalez Family



76 Mechanic Street, Killingly - Diamond Family

Meet the Families

Diamond Family



My name is Linsey Diamond. I'm the mother of two incredible young men named Daron and Devin. I work third shift providing personal care to a gentleman that has a traumatic brain injury. I also work as an on-call employee, providing care to adults with developmental delays. I attend Quinebaug Valley Community College part time. I'm working on my Associates degree in Human Services.

I work very hard to provide for my children - they are my world. Daron is 16 years old and attends Ellis Technical School's electrical program. He's an excellent student, loves sports, and is always willing to help others out. He's my rock. Devin is 13 years old and attends Putnam Middle School. He loves music and plays in the school band. He also enjoys reading and volunteers setting up for the lunch program at Putnam Library. In addition to my two biological children, I also foster a young boy. He is 8 years old and so full of life. He plays on the soccer and basketball team. I have been a therapeutic foster parent through Waterford Country School for over four years now. Prior to that, my family lived in Rhode Island and fostered children through an agency called Mentor.

Being a single mother of three boys is not easy but thankfully I have the love and support of my mom, Paula. She's been living with us for the last few years

due to some health problems and has proven to be as much help to me as I am to her.

With a family of five, I was unable to find an apartment that contains enough bedrooms and space for us all to be comfortable. I ended up having to rent both floors of a two family home. This has proven to be very costly. I pay a monthly rent along with two electric bills and two gas bills. My living conditions were not perfect; there's extensive mold in the basement, doors and windows in need of repair and a bulkhead that provided access for animals to get into the basement. With the undesirable living conditions, bills and high rent cost, I've had trouble making ends meet. I wanted desperately to save money to buy a home I could call my own.

I saw an ad posted in the Bargain Buyer about an upcoming informational session that explained how Habitat for Humanity worked, I decided to attend. At the time I did not realize my decision to attend this meeting would change my life in such a positive way. I filled out applications, sent in paperwork, and had a home visit. The further along that I got in the process the more excited I became. The day I received the phone call letting me know my family and I had been chosen to become a Habitat for Humanity family I was overjoyed with excitement. The great thing about Habitat for Humanity is it's an organization that not only helps people find suitable housing, but also shows that there are good honest people who are willing to donate their time and sweat to help others. I'm proud to be able to be part of that.

This is an amazing opportunity for my family and I; we are honored.

Foley Family



My name is Kathee Foley. I am a hardworking mother of a six year old boy named Julius. I am so blessed to be given the opportunity to own my own home due to Habitat for Humanity. I heard about Habitat for Humanity from one of my friends and I decided to give them a call so they could send me a paper stating when and where there next meeting will be held. I went to the meeting and filled out the application they gave me and sent it in. Not too long after that I received a phone call saying they wanted to come and look at my apartment and they did. Soon after that I received the phone call saying I was approved for a house. I was so happy and I could not believe it.


My son and I have been living in low income housing for most of our lives, where you have to depend on someone to fix things you need fixed in your apartment. They tell you what you can do in and around your apartment, and the living environment is not that safe.

We are so thankful to say that soon we will have a home that we can call our own. My son has always wanted a dog but we were never allowed to have one in the apartments that we have lived in. But now that we will be owning our own home soon we will be able to have one. Thanks to God and Habitat for Humanity anything is possible!

Interested in Volunteering?

Habitat for Humanity of Eastern Connecticut has a volunteer opportunity for everyone! Whether it is on the construction sites, at the ReStores, in the office or on a committee, HFHECT welcomes volunteers of all abilities—no experience required! HFHECT welcomes volunteers with all ranges of availability as well, whether you would like to volunteer once a week, once a month or once a year!

HFHECT does ask all new volunteers to attend a one hour Training and Orientation, which is held twice a month.

To register, go to www.habitatct.org and click on the  icon in the top right corner.



Leaving a Legacy of Home

If you have swung a hammer, volunteered on a committee, donated materials to the ReStore, made a gift of funds, or helped share Habitat for Humanity's work with others, you have made a life changing difference for families, and helped change the face of local communities. Thank you.

You can continue to change the lives of local families and give new life to local communities by remembering HFHECT in your will or as a beneficiary of your IRA, life insurance or other asset. Your planned gift will help local families for years for come.

Is HFHECT already included in your will or estate plans? Thank you very much! Please let us know about your plans. If you would like to learn more about including HFHECT in your estate plans, please contact:

Amy D'Amico at adamico@habitatect.org or 860-442-7809 x204.

As always, your gift can remain anonymous if you wish.

Faith Engagement

HFHECT would love to get to know your congregation. Please let us know if you would like to learn more about how your congregation and HFHECT can work together.

Contact Amanda Shanks: 860-442-7890 x201 or mission@habitatect.org.

Carpenters Club

Join the Carpenter's Club!

The Carpenter's Club is HFHECT's monthly giving program. By choosing to make a monthly gift to Habitat for Humanity of Eastern Connecticut, you can help create a consistent income stream for the affiliate, while enabling you to break up your gift into smaller, more manageable installations. HFHECT is happy to help set up monthly gifts through your credit card to make monthly giving as convenient and effortless as possible.

To enroll in the Carpenter's Club, please fill out the Carpenter's Club portion of the enclosed remittance envelope, or contact Amy D'Amico in the HFHECT office at 860-442-7890 x 204.

Team Build Day and Sponsorship Opportunities

Habitat for Humanity has many opportunities for your congregation, business, civic group or other organization to partner with HFHECT. From a team build day to a partial or full house sponsorship, HFHECT has opportunities for your group to build camaraderie while building homes. For more details about team build and sponsorship opportunities, please visit www.habitatct.org/donate or contact Amy at 860-442-7890 x204 or adamico@habitatect.org.



It has been a year since the northern ReStore celebrated its grand re-opening in Plainfield in April 2014. Since that time the store has had some wonderful volunteers, shoppers and merchandise pass through its doors. Thank you to all who have helped make the first year a success!

SHOP

Working on a project around the house? Redecorating? Is your dishwasher on its last legs? The ReStores are a great place to find quality gently used and new building materials, furniture and appliances at deep discounts! The merchandise changes regularly, so be sure to stop by often for unique finds!

Both of HFHECT'S ReStores invite you to shop, donate or volunteer!

DONATE

The ReStores accept donations of new and gently used building materials, appliances, and furniture. Donations may be brought to either ReStore during store hours, or if you need help transporting your donation, the ReStore will come pick it up in our box truck! To arrange a pick up call: 860.437.3422

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

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

VOLUNTEER

The ReStores are always looking for volunteers to help process donations, run the cash register, clean merchandise, pick up donations, and much more! To get started volunteering visit: www.habitatct.org/volunteers

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

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Amy D'Amico in the HFHECT office at 860-442-7890 x 204.

