



Habitat

HERALD

Vol. XXXIII #3 Fall 2022



“This home
**saved
my life.**” 6-7

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DeAngela
Homeowner
since 1997

Photo by Paul Dinndorf

Dear Friends,



Chris Coleman
President & CEO
Twin Cities Habitat for
Humanity

Nothing makes me happier than getting out on a Habitat build site. It's a joy to spend time with the incredible people coming together to change a family's life through homeownership. If you've volunteered with Habitat, you know what I'm talking about.

One memorable recent event was a construction kickoff in Minnetonka (you'll read more about it on page 8). A church donated the land to Habitat for what will soon be the first new affordable single family home in Minnetonka in over 20 years. More than 100 community members showed up to celebrate—neighbors, church folks, volunteers, elected officials. It warmed my heart to see everyone coming together to say *yes, we want all our neighbors have safe, stable, affordable homes they love.*

That's what Habitat is all about.

I've been with Twin Cities Habitat for more than four years now. I can honestly say there's never been a more exciting time to be part of the Habitat community. And as a member of this generous community, **you should be so proud of the work we're doing as we build forward together.**

When reading this issue, I hope you understand that all this is possible because of you.

With gratitude,

Chris Coleman

a year of transformation

Annual Report | July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

AT A GLANCE:

677
families
partnered with us

6,594
volunteers
gave of their time

\$15,037,384
given by 6,896 donors

As a member of the big-hearted Twin Cities Habitat community, you have set the stage for us to grow and transform—together. See the full impact of your support in our Annual Report at tchabitat.org/transformation.





Tori (above center, white shirt) celebrated her bachelorette party with a Habitat volunteer day. They played traditional party games in-between painting a home – and everyone loved it!

Celebrate with Habitat

Habitat volunteer days are the perfect way to bring your loved ones together to celebrate any occasion in your life. Just ask Tori Vogel—she recently brought her bachelorette party crew out for a day of home repair work with Habitat!

Tori grew up learning the value of giving back, and she's always been passionate about housing access. So, as she approached her wedding day, Tori knew a Habitat volunteer day would be the perfect activity—both meaningful and fun!

Tori knew a Habitat volunteer day would be the perfect activity—both meaningful and fun!

For this free-spirited bride, the Bachelorette Build was a win-win: Tori got to spend time with close friends who had traveled far and wide to celebrate her matrimony, all while making a difference in her hometown community. It just so happened that the project was to paint the home white—a very bridal color indeed.

“Volunteering was the perfect way to segue into the weekend and was a great way to spend time with a smaller group of people.”

For this bride, the *Bachelorette Build* was a win-win!

Volunteer with Habitat for a corporate event, church outing, birthday, retirement, reunion, or even a pre-wedding festivity! Opportunities are available year-round. Learn more at tchabitat.org/groups



Vote for Home

Across the country, all members of the House of Representatives and some Senators are up for re-election. So are all Minnesota State Senators, Representatives, and candidates for statewide office. Whoever is elected on November 8 will make key decisions as our communities tackle the housing crisis.

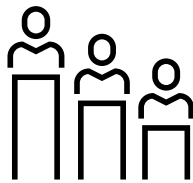
It's a big election year. **Are you ready?**

Choose Your Voting Path

Visit our Elections Resource Center

Get all the info you'll need to vote this year.

tchabitat.org/elections



Research Your Candidates

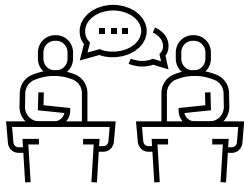
Find out who's running in your community by checking your sample ballot on the Secretary of State's website. See where candidates stand on issues you care about, like housing.

myballotmn.sos.state.mn.us

Check Your Registration Status

With just a few clicks, you can confirm you're registered to vote at your address. If you're not registered, don't sweat it! In Minnesota you can register the same day you vote—you'll just need to bring a few things with you.

mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/VoterStatus.aspx



Vote Early (through Nov. 7)

You can vote early in person at your county election office(s)—different from the polling place you go to on election day. Hours vary by county, so check the hours before you go!

**[sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/
find-county-election-office](https://sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/find-county-election-office)**



Vote on Election Day (Nov. 8)

Polls are open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. throughout Minnesota. Find your neighborhood polling place online and decide when you'll vote.

pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us

We're raising walls, one pint at a time!

Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity is bringing the collaborative spirit of the craft brewery community together to build something great. Local breweries will team up to sponsor the construction of a new home, raising funds for the home and mobilizing the volunteers it will take to build it. Will you join us for our fifth *House that Beer Built*? From donating and volunteering to visiting partner breweries, there are many ways to support *the House that Beer Built*.

Cheers to Homeownership

Creating and preserving homeownership for our neighbors—we'll drink to that! Visit our *House that Beer Built* partner breweries to enjoy *Home Improvements*, a limited-edition collaborative beer. Proceeds from these beers support the *House that Beer Built* and Habitat's work creating and preserving homeownership in the Twin Cities.

Explore the list of breweries at tchabitat.org/htbb.



Scan to join the project Facebook group and get the latest updates.



An incredible 25 local breweries joined forces for Habitat's the House that Beer Built in 2022. We're grateful for their support!



Since writing her Habitat story in 2019, DeAngela has crossed a huge milestone: she fully paid off her mortgage in 2021! All that equity she's built up is now fully hers to pass on to the next generation. Through the uncertainty of the last several years, DeAngela's gratitude for her safe and stable home has only grown.

What My Home Means to Me

[In her own words, DeAngela shares how her Habitat home has impacted her life. Written in 2019.]

Hi, my name is DeAngela Flournoy, I was blessed with my home in 1997 through Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity. It was the first Habitat home to be built in Bloomington, MN.

Back then I guess what home meant to me was a place to live, something nice to have your family own and be in. It wasn't till ten years later and now, that you really understand what a HOME really means.

Now, I can say my home is my children's LIVES, it's a part of us. I can never forget the day I applied for a home, the night I got the phone call, and the day we sat on our porch for the ceremony.

I remember times I just wanted to give up my home and just deal with certain things in life, but I realized that my home was a blessing in disguise. It's weird, but I felt my home had a heart and it did not want me to give up. Life can take us through so many problems or difficulties.

Home is more than just an investment, a place

for your kids, it's part of you. What you put into your home is what your home will give you.

Take care of your home, and it will take care of your family. I have remodeled, and kids were born in the home. Family members who needed places to stay for a minute who were homeless were welcomed to my home. I had kids from after Hurricane Katrina coming to stay with me.

My home was a refuge, love, security, a blanket, a shelter. I am so blessed and thankful now that I went through Habitat for Humanity and how they chose me, when sometimes I thought I did not deserve it. Now this home is my family, part of my life, and I would do anything for it. Protect it with my life, because I made sacrifices for it, I took time to understand the true meaning of what a home meant. Life, love, unity, blessings, a future. People will sometimes ask me after you buy your home, would you stay. Yes, building this home from the ground

"My home was a refuge, love, security, a blanket, a shelter."

up was like bringing a child into this world. I felt that really. I have so much to do around the yard, in the house. I can even picture growing old in this home. This home has saved my life, and gave me hope. So why would I give up something so precious?

Again, thank you Habitat for Humanity, the staff that has gone through some ups and downs with me. To the Volunteers who took time to build my home, and currently I would volunteer, because it's always good to give back to the community. I love helping and blessing others. It's like now you are understanding what Habitat for Humanity is also all about. Saving families' lives. ♥



Left: DeAngela and her kids moved into their Habitat home 25 years ago.

Right: Today, her kids have kids of their own! And DeAngela shares how much her Habitat home means to her every chance she gets. She told her story to hundreds of Habitat supporters at a recent event.



"I am very proud of the fact that Habitat is back in our city. That's a big deal. And it's important to me, and it's important to our residents."

Brad Wiersum

Mayor of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Love Makes Room

It's late morning on a gorgeous September day. Uplifting music mingles with the sounds of a Habitat build site: table saws, hammers, and laughter. Delicious treats brought by church members are laid out on a table. And there's a current of excitement running through everyone gathered for an important reason:



This is the construction kick-off for the first newly built single-family affordable home in Minnetonka in more than twenty years.

More than 100 people from across the community are here because Mills Church is teaming up with Twin Cities Habitat to develop unused land on church property. The first affordable home is getting underway and we're making plans to build 12 more homes on the property—homes where families can grow and thrive.

But this beautiful vision isn't guaranteed—there are still some hurdles to cross. So, on this beautiful fall day, partners are coming together to launch Love Makes Room to educate the community about affordable housing and how we all benefit from a diversity of housing options. Plus, Love Makes Room provides opportunities for supporters like you to raise your voice in support of the proposed townhomes in the coming months.



Stay in touch with this project and become a Love Makes Room neighbor at lovemakesroom.org



Donation Wishlist

- Doors
- Kitchen cabinets
- New windows
- Tools
- Unused building materials/remodeling supplies



Donating is as easy as 1-2-3

Review items we accept for donation

We accept donations of new and gently used items, following our donation guidelines.



Load your items into your vehicle

If your items don't fit in your vehicle, you can schedule a free pickup.



Drive to your nearest ReStore

Once you arrive at one of our locations our friendly team will help you drop off your donation.



Donations to our ReStore Home Improvement Outlets are tax-deductible, and proceeds support Twin Cities Habitat's mission. Plus, you'll keep items out of landfills!



Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity

restore.tchabitat.org/donate

Two Metro Locations:

510 County Road D West, New Brighton, MN 55112

2700 Minnehaha Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55406

Tuesday through Friday: 10–6 | Saturday: 10 – 4

Thanks, 2022 Sponsors!

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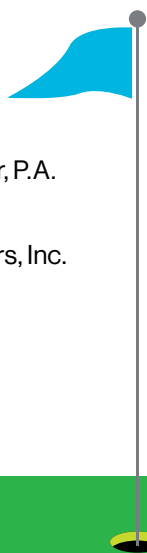
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- Receive free healthcare, childcare, housing stipend, an education award, and more
- Develop transferable skills applicable to a future career



Whether you're a new graduate, retired, between jobs, or taking a gap year, AmeriCorps at Habitat could be perfect for you!

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Xcel Energy



Photos speak for themselves—
you can't miss this!

Hard Hat & Black Tie Gala

Saturday, May 20, 2023
The Depot – Minneapolis

A little less formal, a lot more fun!





1954 University Avenue West, St. Paul, MN 55104

We're gearing up for **Give to the Max**, Minnesota's annual give-together!

Your gifts to Twin Cities Habitat will be **matched dollar-for-dollar, November 1 – 17!**



Your gift—
doubled!

Your gifts are urgently needed to fill a funding gap for our largest Minneapolis project ever. Help us reach our goal, and **17 families** will be able to buy affordable Habitat townhomes in the Harrison neighborhood, starting in 2023. **All that's needed is you!**

[**tchabitat.org/max**](https://tchabitat.org/max)