# Building COMMUNITY, Building IMPACT





# **Charleston Habitat for Humanity**

Building strength, stability, self-reliance and shelter since 1989

## **Our Vision**

A world where everyone has a decent place to live.

## **Our Mission**

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

## What We Do

Charleston Habitat for Humanity staff work with corporate partners, volunteers and individual supporters to strengthen the Charleston community by building new homes in existing neighborhoods. We provide a hand up—not a handout—and a pathway to home ownership for candidates who meet our application criteria.

Our work enables local residents to participate in the revitalization of their community, bringing new life to places such as Rosemont and the East Side in Charleston, as well as Chicora-Cherokee and Joppa Way in North Charleston.

## Who We Help

Charleston Habitat for Humanity assists Lowcountry families through the construction of new homes and critical home repairs of their current homes. Our partner families:

- Have significant housing needs such as overcrowding, excessive monthly costs, and/or substandard living conditions.
- Meet the family income level criteria, between 35% and 60% of Charleston's area median income, adjusted for family size (between 35% and 80% for veterans).
- Are United States citizens or permanent residents.
- Commit to completing 'sweat equity' hours volunteering with CHFH and assisting with the construction or repairs on their home.



# 🐨 Habitat for Humanity\*

## **OUR MISSION, VISION AND PRINCIPLES**



a decent place to live.

## PRINCIPLES

- 1. DEMONSTRATE THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST.
- 2. FOCUS ON SHELTER.
- 3. ADVOCATE FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING.
- 4. PROMOTE DIGNITY AND HOPE.
- 5. SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE AND

TRANSFORMATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

Charleston Habitat for Humanity's action plan builds squarely on the organization's mission, vision and principles. The plan will come to life in our area and worldwide as people from all sectors of society unite to address the urgent need for adequate affordable shelter.

#### **OUR MOTIVATION:** Putting God's love into action

Motivated by the belief that each of us is called to 'act justly, love mercifully and walk humbly with our God,' CHFH seeks to be a partner and catalyst in building communities where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

#### **OUR METHOD:** Bringing people together

CHFH believes that no one lives in dignity until everyone can live in dignity. When the broad community is engaged in addressing the urgent need for affordable housing, we all become less vulnerable and more resilient. In bringing people together, Habitat practices a philosophy of 'a hand up, not a hand out,' and builds on existing community assets: financial, physical, natural, human, social and spiritual.

#### **OUR IMPACT:** Homes, communities and hope

In seeking truly transformed communities, Habitat views bringing people together not only as a way to deliver a product – improved housing – but as an essential process for building hope and belief that healthier communities are achievable and beneficial for all. When we work together, statistics become faces with names, stereotypes are broken, and everyone has the opportunity both to give and receive. Only then is lasting change likely to occur.

## **Our Model**

- ⇒ Build and sell simple, affordable and energy efficient homes at no profit to low to moderate income families who have a need for better housing, ability to pay and a willingness to partner.
- $\Rightarrow$  Provide and hold no interest mortgages for our Partner Families.
- $\Rightarrow$  Offer Critical Home Repairs for extremely low to moderate income homeowners.
- ⇒ Required education and sweat equity prepare Partner Families for successful homeownership.
- ⇒ Mortgage payments plus net ReStore proceeds cover operating overhead costs prior to putting families into houses.

## **Our Impact**

- $\Rightarrow$  91 new homes built.
- ⇒ 22 major renovations and home repairs completed.
- ⇒ 47 homes built in Honduras through tithing to Habitat for Humanity International.
- ⇒ Our homeowners contribute more than \$25,000 in property taxes annually to the cities of Charleston and North Charleston.



# **Over 600 lives improved through homeownership!**

## **Partnering with Habitat**

Corporations, faith-based organizations, civic groups, committed individuals, or community foundations may enter into one of a variety of partnerships with Charleston Habitat for Humanity!

Becoming a partner with Charleston Habitat for Humanity is an excellent way to engage your organization in the Charleston community and make a lasting difference in the lives of fellow residents. When you support Charleston Habitat for Humanity through gifts of time, talent and treasure, you invest in our mission to improve the quality of life in our local community by making the dream of home ownership an achievable goal.



### **Home Sponsorship**

Home sponsorships are available at a variety of levels. Sponsor donations and product donations help to subsidize the cost of supplies and materials used to build our Habitat homes. Volunteer opportunities are built into all levels of partnership and provide a rewarding team-building opportunity for involved organizations. Habitat homeowners build alongside sponsor volunteers, allowing participants from your organization to gain a greater understanding of the need for affordable housing and to see how partnering with Habitat enables sponsors to transform lives.

## Volunteering

Every year, more than 1,000 individuals volunteer over 4,000 hours per house to support our mission. Charleston Habitat for Humanity is able to build safe, affordable and sustainable homes for workforce families by empowering volunteers to assist with the construction of our homes. Volunteer labor reduces the cost of the homes we build by 50%, allowing the partner family the ability to afford homeownership when they would not otherwise qualify. This manpower is a key component of our model and allows us to deliver our mission in a sustainable fashion to the hardworking families of the community who need it most.









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*"We hope our efforts will raise not only walls but awareness of the power we each have to create significant and substantive change."* 

President Jimmy Carter

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