



A Newsletter for Friends of Habitat for Humanity CFC

August 2015

Greetings!

I write this just as I complete my second month here at Habitat CFC. Some days I feel as if I have just arrived, while other times I am astounded at all that I have learned. During the past eight weeks I have had the opportunity to witness the sense of accomplishment when a family proudly completes 500 hours of service, building their future home and participating in classes intended to help them be successful homeowners. I have seen the joy on children's faces when they take you by the hand through a half built house to show you where their bedroom will be, knowing that their current room may well be part of a pull out couch in a crowded living room. I have observed the satisfaction on the faces of Habitat volunteers building alongside families and our small able staff, knowing that what they are helping to create is worth every ounce of sweat and exhaustion. I have participated in the celebration when a family receives the key to their new home with the sense of pride that comes from knowing that they earned and truly deserve this opportunity. It is clear that we are building much more than simple structures. Thank you for making it possible!



Sincerely,

Stuart D. Adelberg
Chief Executive Officer

News

Habitat CFC Awarded \$1,725,000 by CT Dept. of Housing to Build 23 Affordable Homes!

Habitat CFC has been awarded two grants from the State of Connecticut for a combined total of \$1,725,000 toward the creation of twenty three homes in the City of Bridgeport. These funds represent approximately 50% of the total costs related to the acquisition of the properties and construction of these new homes. Habitat CFC must still raise considerable funds through private sources in order to fully cover the costs related to the creation of these homes. The homes that

will be constructed as a result of these grants will all be purchased by first time homeowners with annual earnings under 60% of the area median income. It is anticipated that the homes will be completed by the end of 2017.

Habitat CFC is honored to have been selected by the State of Connecticut for these extremely competitive grants. We view this accomplishment as a testament to the organization's reputation as one of the state's most effective affordable housing and community building organizations. We also believe that this major investment in the City of Bridgeport is a vote of confidence for all of the work being done to revitalize this community, and it is our privilege to be recognized as a major contributor in these efforts.

Habitat CFC is looking for Core Volunteers!

Core Volunteers are individuals who are willing to make a commitment of volunteering regularly at Habitat CFC. Core Volunteers are the backbone of Habitat CFC's volunteer base and without them, we can't build as many homes each year.

Can you give one day a week? Are you interested in learning new skills and coming out on a regular basis to help lead other volunteers? If so, you may be Core material!



Contact Eileen Bakos at volunteer@habitatcfc.org to learn more.



Habitat for Heroes' Initiative Receives Matching Grant

Habitat CFC's 'Habitat for Heroes' initiative has raised over \$50,000 in the last month to go towards their next Veteran-owned home. Trumbull Rotary, Habitat for Heroes' founding sponsor, announced at the annual Our Mission Continues fundraising event that they would match funds donated to the Habitat for Heroes program. Contributing partners to this match include Port 5 National Association of Naval Veterans of Bridgeport, as well as, the Wilfredo Perez Jr. Memorial Fund of Norwalk, Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation of Stratford, Partner RE of Greenwich and others.

The Habitat for Heroes' program works with several Veteran and civic organizations throughout Fairfield County to raise money and build homes for Veterans and active service members of all military branches. The money is raised by supporters so that a Veteran and their family can partner with Habitat CFC to become owners of their own home. Like with other Habitat homeowners, after contributing 500 hours of sweat equity, they are able to sign a 30-year, 0% interest mortgage and then move into their new home.

Youth United Activity Days for Young People

Habitat CFC's Youth United program gives young people, ages 5-25 years old from different backgrounds, faiths and organizations, the opportunity to work together to raise money and to build a house for a Habitat CFC family. This program enables young people to invest directly in the community while learning more about the impact of community service. Recently Youth United had a very



Xavier and Jael participate in

successful workday and managed to paint 121 pieces of siding in 3 hours! For anyone interested, Youth United has more events scheduled:

[Youth United's craft session.](#)

- Aug 18 from 9am to 12pm - Workday with Habitat, Join Habitat at our construction warehouse to work on age-appropriate activities.

- Aug 24, 2 shifts morning or afternoon - YU members build bookcases with Sacred Heart University students. These bookcases will be filled with donated books and given to new Habitat CFC families at their house dedications!

- Sept 8 - 7:30pm - Youth United Meeting at Habitat CFC, Learn more about YU by attending our next meeting (parents welcome!)

Contact Phyllis Machledt at pmachledt@gmail.com to participate. For recent workday photos click [here](#).

Women Build

Watch Regina Miolene, Core Volunteer, and a member of Women Build, explain why she has volunteered for Habitat CFC for over 11 years!



Featured Builds in Progress

Stratford House Under Construction

Excavation is underway and construction will begin soon on Evelyn Street in Stratford, the future site of a home for the Morales family! As is our tradition to include all members of the community in our Builds, Habitat CFC is reaching out to businesses of all sizes across the Town of Stratford. We are seeking their support both through hands on and financial participation with us, 'the muscle and money', as their investment and advocacy for affordable housing in Stratford.



If interested in helping, please contact Jocelyn Keith at jkeith@habitatcfc.org.

Upcoming Events



22nd Annual Golf Benefit Outing

Tues. September 15th - Habitat CFC's 22nd Annual Golf Benefit Outing at the Country Club of Fairfield.

[More information](#)



18th Annual Run for Home 5K

Sat. October 10th - Habitat CFC's 18th Annual Run for Home 5K at Seaside Park in Bridgeport.

[More information](#)



Aitoro Gourmet Tasting and Fundraiser

Thurs. October 29th 6-9pm - presented by Habitat CFC's Women Build! Join us for a fun night out.

[More information](#)

Habitat CFC Wall Raisings

Join us as we lift the walls at the following build sites. Help by volunteering or come to watch as some heavy lifting turns a foundation into a house!

Youth United House - Sat. August 15th, 10am

The Pope Francis House - Tues. Sept. 2nd 11am

Call (203)333-2642 to RSVP.

[See photos from Habitat CFC's Annual Picnic](#)

More Ways to Get Involved



[DONATE](#)



[VOLUNTEER](#)



[APPLY](#)

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)



Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County | 203-333-2642 |

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1542 Barnum Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06610

Downsizing? Renovating? You Donate, We Pick Up!



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