



We're Building Homes for the Holidays and So Are Our Youth United Members!

December 2015

Greetings!

Since joining Habitat for Humanity, I have wondered why this amazing organization has such an unusual name. A habitat is simply a place, a location in which one lives. Humanity essentially applies to people, members of the human race. As I have thought about this, I have come to understand that those who named this wonderful organization were much more thoughtful and purposeful than I realized.



It would not be inaccurate to define Habitat for Humanity as meaning "houses for people," but that would be a terrible underestimation of the unique value and special importance of what we do. In fact, habitats are homes - family gathering places that sustain life. Humanity is not just about the human race, but rather the unique qualities that make us human - kindness and compassion.

So the next time you think of Habitat for Humanity - don't think merely that we build houses for people, but think instead of the special value of volunteers giving their time to create family gathering places that sustain life with kindness and compassion. That's what we're about and our name says it all!

Thanks to you, thousands of our neighbors will experience the true meaning of being home for the holidays. With your end-of-year gift there will be even more homes next year. Wishing you all the joy of the season with our very best wishes for the coming New Year!

Sincerely,



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Stuart D. Adelberg
Chief Executive Officer

News

We Hit a Great Milestone- Our 200th and 201st Homes!



The Hanson Family



The Hershiser Family

With much excitement, Habitat CFC held a Double Dedication Ceremony in late November. It is a fitting time to celebrate as we complete our 30th year building houses in the area. With these houses, we mark our 200th house milestone and also look to the future. Our CEO, Stuart Adelberg led the dedication for two hardworking families in Fairfield County. The Hershiser family and the Hanson family will live next door to each other on Beach Street in Bridgeport. Within the coming months they will "close" on their 0% mortgages, be ready to move in and start their new lives!

A Full House for Habitat CFC's Youth United Annual Gingerbread House Building Party!



A fun night was had by all on December 11th as Youth United members and their parents took over the Habitat CFC offices to create whimsical candy-covered houses.

Young participants built and decorated their houses with as much thoughtfulness and expertise as our adult volunteers (more info. on volunteering [here](#)) and Habitat CFC building staff who build the Habitat CFC houses in our neighborhoods. These budding architects and builders can get their opportunity to build on real building sites when they turn 16.

If you know of children who may be interested in joining Youth United, please check our website [here](#) for more information and a list of upcoming Youth United events!

A Thanksgiving with Family and Friends . . .

This Thanksgiving, Habitat CFC staff, along with Steve Boyle of State Farm, once again made sure that Habitat families were able to be truly thankful in their own homes. Steve has been helping us feed local families on Thanksgiving for over 15 years, and this year was no different, without his help and the hard work of his son, we could not have been able to prepare bags full of turkeys with all the fixings for our families in the most need. Steve's generosity is so appreciated!



"Thank you Habitat for Humanity for allowing us to share the evening with you and the Habitat CFC families," Steve said. "Big thank you to Beth (Habitat CFC's Accountant) and the staff for doing the shopping and getting the best deals out there."

A Volunteer Day is Not Only About Building, it is Also About Bringing People Together to Make a Difference



We rely on volunteers to help build Habitat CFC houses. Without the 7,000+ individuals who join us on site each year, we would not be able to create new energy-efficient homes for hardworking families in Fairfield County.

What's exciting is that so many different types of organizations create build teams, such as corporate groups, schools, and faith based groups. When you volunteer as an individual, you will often be building alongside groups, individuals and the future homeowners themselves!

In the last two months, we have hosted the following groups: **GE; JP Morgan Chase; Notre Dame High School; United Methodist Coalition; Tomlinson School; Sacred Heart University; St. Anthony of Padua; SIOR; CBRE; Community Bridgebuilders Coalition; Fairfield University; People's United Bank; Greenwich High School; First Church of Christ, Congregational; Sikorsky; Holy Rosary; Our Saviour's Lutheran Church; University of Bridgeport; Sound Coalition; and Spinnaker Real Estate Partners. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered this year, we hope to see you again soon!**

If your organization is interested in creating a Build Day, or you would like to sign up as an

individual, we would love to have you join us. Check [here](#) for more information on how to schedule your volunteer day.

Upcoming Events



Plans are underway to make this Habitat CFC Benefit our best to date... with the delectable foods of *OnTheMarc*, contemporary country sounds, the incredible venue of the Fairfield Theatre Company Warehouse, and our online auction, you won't be disappointed!

More Ways to Get Involved



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Downsizing? Renovating? You Donate, We Pick Up!



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