



A Newsletter for Friends of Habitat for Humanity CFC

September 2015

Greetings!

Three months ago, I joined the Habitat CFC family, enthusiastic about becoming part of an organization that had earned a 30 year reputation for being one of the most effective developers of affordable housing in Fairfield County. Though I like to think of myself as someone who does his homework, I confess that I truly did not know just how much this amazing organization does! "Developer of affordable housing" does not even come close to describing all that we do and the impact we make.



In just the past few weeks, we dedicated a new home for a veteran and her family, and raised the walls on two additional houses - one completed by a huge team from JP Morgan Chase and the other by local students honoring the Pope. We launched Sacred Heart University's fall semester by helping students make meaningful Community Connections, and we connected with home designers as the beneficiary of Moffly Media's A List Awards. We hosted a record number of foursomes in our sold-out golf outing at the Country Club of Fairfield while solidifying the plans for our upcoming 5K Run and our Women Build Aitoro Gourmet Tasting event. We continue to grow - so be on the lookout for information about the expansion of our Stratford ReStore and recent acceptance of our next three homeowners!!

Anyone who thought that September signaled a gradual end to the summer and a slide into the fall has not had any experience with Habitat CFC. There's so much good going on - and we'd love to have you to join us!

Sincerely,

Stuart D. Adelberg
Chief Executive Officer



New Home for Vet's Family!

We held a Habitat for Heroes Dedication Ceremony on September 18th for the Todd family at their future home on Barnum Avenue in Bridgeport. The house is one of Habitat CFC's Habitat for Heroes Veteran Build Home projects in Bridgeport.

Habitat CFC and House Sponsors MBIA Inc., Bank of America, Rotary Club of Trumbull and the National Association of Naval Veterans, Port No. 5, gave remarks, followed by the giving of gifts and a special presentation of an American flag. After the ceremony, the family welcomed attendees into their new home for a meal they had prepared. Read the CT Post cover story on the Todd Family and their Habitat for Heroes Dedication Ceremony [here](#).

Pope Francis House Walls Raised!



With the Pope's arrival in the United States this month, Bridgeport has marked this momentous occasion with a Wall Raising for a house named in his honor. On September 2nd everyone came together to do some heavy lifting to turn our Habitat CFC Pope Francis House's foundation into a house! Students from local educational institutions such as Sacred Heart University, Fairfield University, Notre Dame and University of Bridgeport worked alongside Habitat volunteers and families to make it happen.

The Pope Francis House is partially sponsored by an anonymous donor who has been inspired by Pope Francis' dedication to social justice, equality and peace. The donor and Habitat CFC hope to inspire others by inviting volunteers from local churches and schools to participate in not only the construction of this home, but also help with the remaining financial support necessary to complete the build. By building this house, we are making it possible for the Zepeda family to purchase an affordable home and are further assisting with our efforts to revitalize Bridgeport neighborhoods! Volunteers and donations are still needed to complete this project, learn how you can be part of the Pope Francis House build [here](#).

Connecting with Sacred Heart University

What a week we had with Sacred Heart's Community Connections Freshmen! Students jumped right in to help Habitat CFC homeowner families with projects and assisted other non-profits throughout the City of Bridgeport.



Community Connections is a special week-long immersion program for incoming freshmen who are interested in service. The program places forty to sixty incoming freshman at two church sites in the city of Bridgeport. There, they are delegated to work on various projects at sites all throughout the city. Upperclassmen serve as site leaders for the week along with faculty and

staff.

A Perfect Day for Golf!

Our 22nd Benefit Annual Golf Outing took place on September 15th at The Country Club of Fairfield. The SOLD OUT event was a huge success thanks to all of our participants! Thank you to our generous Sponsors, George Keith, Chair of the Golf Committee, and Committee members for making this event possible. The weather was perfect and made for great golf. In the evening we held a reception which



included Rosalynn Hershiser, our 200th Future Homeowner, talking about why she applied for a Habitat home. The Live and Silent Auctions raised money to help build Rosalynn's and other families' Habitat homes!!! Thank you to our generous Sponsors for making the event possible. Check out more photos [here](#).



athome A-list Awards

Moffly Media's *athome* magazine presented their 6th Annual A-List Awards on September 10th. Regarded as Fairfield County's premiere home and design competition, the gala event was held at The Palace Theater in Stamford. A portion of the proceeds from

the event benefited Habitat CFC! Thank you Moffly Media!!! More information on the event is available [here](#).

Habitat CFC and JPMorgan Chase & Co. Team Up!



JPMorgan Chase employees helped raise the walls on a new Habitat CFC home on September 16th at 917 Wood Avenue in Bridgeport. This year JPMorgan Chase is supporting 14 builds across the country as part of their nearly \$1 million commitment to Habitat for Humanity. The company has been a longtime supporter of Habitat CFC.

"Cities around the world are grappling with how to provide affordable, reliable housing and economic opportunities to community members in distressed neighborhoods," said David Short, Executive Director of Corporate Client Banking for JPMorgan Chase.

The future homeowners will be Kimberly and Jeymar Soto and family. Kimberly and Jeymar grew up in Bridgeport and became friends in 6th grade. After graduating from Bullard-Havens Technical School, Jeymar applied for a temporary job at a Bridgeport manufacturer. They soon brought him on staff full-time. Kimberly works part-time as a Certified Nursing Assistant and cares for their four children after school. They have completed their 500 sweat equity hours and future homeowner educational workshops and can't wait for their home on Wood Avenue to be complete!

Watch What Happens On A Women Build

Habitat CFC's **Women Build** program challenges women to address the issue of substandard housing and encourages them to get involved by taking the lead on construction of new Habitat homes and helping more women become homeowners. Watch a video on Women Build below:



[Women Build Video](#)

We invite you to join our coalition of Fairfield County women who are addressing the critical shortage of affordable housing by volunteering their time to raise funds for and build homes here in their own community. Please contact Eileen Bakos at ebakos@habitatcfc.org for details on volunteering and contributing.

Upcoming Events

18th Annual Run for Home 5K... It's Our 200th Home Run!!



Enjoy a Run/Walk Along the Sound at Seaside Park in Bridgeport

Saturday, October 10th, 2015

Seaside Park, 1 Barnum Dyke, Bridgeport 9 AM Start, Rain or Shine

Free Kid's Dash starts at 8:30 AM, medals for all children!

Start getting your team ready now! Register Now!

Join Habitat CFC for a great race and help build decent, affordable housing in Fairfield County.

All ages/levels of runners and walkers welcome!

To [Register Now!](#) or for more information [click here.](#)



Aitoro Gourmet Tasting and Fundraiser

Thursday, October 29th

6-9pm

Aitoro

401 Westport Avenue

Norwalk, CT

Back by popular demand, Habitat CFC's Women Build is gearing up for our 7th Annual Gourmet Tasting Event featuring celebrity chef Silvia Baldini, the first woman in Fairfield County to be the Food Network's *Chopped* Champion. Funds raised from this well-attended and very special evening will support the building of a brand new home for a deserving, local family in need. We hope you will join us for a fun night out at the Aitoro showroom. Sample fantastic foods from area chefs/restaurants while enjoying great wine and conversation! [More information here.](#)

More Ways to Get Involved



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

habitatcfc@gmail.com |

1542 Barnum Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06610

Downsizing? Renovating? You Donate, We Pick Up!



1785 Stratford Ave., Stratford, CT 06614

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