Habitat for Humanity® Central Arizona

Builder's Bulletin

Spring 2018

Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that seeks to put God's love into action **by bringing people together to build homes, communities and hope.**

Find us online @habitatcaz

Neighborhood Revitalization

Central City South

Habitat Central Arizona announces long-term commitment to Central City South Neighborhoods in Phoenix.

Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona has announced an approximate five year commitment to building new, affordable single family homes and working with current homeowners to make major improvements to hundreds more existing residences throughout the neighborhoods that comprise the Central City South area just south of downtown Phoenix including: Grant Park, Central Park, Matthew Henson and the 7-11 Neighborhood.

Partnering with City of Phoenix

The initiative, which has been in the planning phase since the spring of 2017, took a major leap forward in December of last year when the City of Phoenix awarded the local Habitat for Humanity affiliate 30 vacant lots in the Matthew Henson and 7-11 neighborhoods, on which it has agreed to build 31 new affordable homes and work with other homeowners in the area to do renovations to 80 more existing homes that surround them by the end of 2022.

Warehouse District Business Owners Commit to Funding

In addition to the agreement Habitat has entered into with the City, it has also forged partnerships with two neighborhood area business leaders who have committed private funding through charitable gifts to Habitat to help with renovation costs for existing homes in the Grant and Central Park neighborhoods where the median income for many residents is prohibitive

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building affordable housing
revitalizing neighborhoods
improving communities

Why do we do what we do? **We believe everyone needs a place to call home.** A decent, affordable home builds strength, stability, self-reliance and gives families the security they need to grow and prosper. That has been Habitat's mission here in Arizona for more than 32 years. I'd like to share a story that reflects so well what Habitat is all about. Julia and her 3 children, two of them teenagers, were living in one room of their crowded parents' home with 7 other people. She works for another area non-profit and heard about Habitat from a co-worker. **She qualified for our program and has been working alongside both of her teenage children and many other dedicated community volunteers to build her home; a journey to homeownership that took nearly two years.** She was so grateful for the opportunity to partner with Habitat to improve her living conditions that she offered to be a spokesperson to others about our program. Julia recently shared her story at a Wall Signing Ceremony at DC Ranch after a Community Build Day and her thankfulness and sacrifice touched the hearts of all those there.

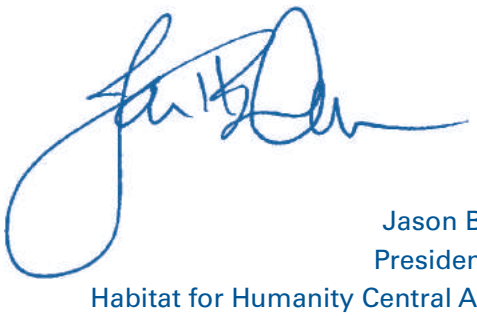
At Habitat, we pledge our continued commitment to provide local families with a hand up to an affordable home, not a hand out. In fact, the average Habitat homeowner will stay in their homes for approximately 23 years because they have such strong buy-in to the mission of Habitat. They have an affordable mortgage, with a payment that does not exceed 30% of their income. They also contribute a minimum of 400 "sweat equity" hours on their own home or other Habitat projects. Think about that…that's 10 full 40 hour weeks working for their dream.

As you will read, the **City of Phoenix recently awarded Habitat 30 empty lots in Central City South neighborhoods** which we will build on. With the generosity of the City, and future sponsors, we will eventually have 31 new homes and working families in this community, making it a win-win for the City and for Habitat. And to think, this project will have no cost to the City, or the taxpayers! **Through these efforts, we hope to help stabilize neighborhoods and positively impact these communities.** We have a long waiting list of hard-working families in Maricopa County looking to fulfill their dream of home ownership.

If you know of someone who might consider donating land to Habitat, or large parcels, we would love to hear from you. We have built 13 neighborhoods in all (639 homes total) throughout the Valley. The largest donated parcel was South Ranch in South Phoenix which is now a wonderful community of 195 homes!

We're so grateful to all our wonderful community partners, sponsors, donors, faith groups and volunteers who bring this vision of a world where everyone has a decent place to live, to life.

Thank you for your interest in our mission, your support, your prayers and well wishes.



Jason Barlow
President/CEO
Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona

neighborhood revitalization (continued)

in terms of being able to afford the cost of a new roof, or the replacement of old and energy inefficient windows. “As a local family business, with property in the neighborhood, our family wanted to help provide seed funding to Habitat so it could bring its expertise in Neighborhood Revitalization and Human Services to the assistance of our neighboring residents who work hard but are simply not earning the incomes required to keep their homes in top condition “said **Mike Cowley, President of The Cowley Companies, a Phoenix based Real Estate Develope**r. “We don’t want the development of downtown Phoenix to displace second and third generation families the way it has occurred in other cities” said Cowley, in reference to places like Seattle and Portland where gentrification has ruled the day. “Rather, we want to do what we can to help all of our neighbors stay in their homes and get a hand up in improving them.” Not only did Cowley and his families’ foundation commit the first privately donated funding to the Habitat initiative, but he felt compelled to encourage others to join in the effort. “The Warehouse District is near and dear to our hearts at WebPT -- it’s where we’ve grown up and expanded our roots,” said **Dr. Heidi Jannenga, PT, DPT, ATC/L, co-founder and President of WebPT,** the leading rehab therapy software platform. “After learning about this project from Mike and how it would directly impact the families in our neighborhood, the entire WebPT team was instantly on board to support. Giving back is en grained in our culture -- it’s one of our culture commitments -- and we’re looking forward to being able to serve a neighborhood that has done so much for the economy and community. The Warehouse District represents a special time in Arizona’s economic history, and with its business resurgence, it’s important we come together to ensure we’re raising the tide for all in this community -- especially the families.”

“After learning about this project... and how it would directly impact the families in our neighborhood, the entire WebPT team was instantly on board to support.”

Heidi Jannenga, President of WebPT

Mike Cowley, President of The Cowley companies

More Donors and Volunteers Needed

While Habitat and the neighborhoods have received amazing encouragement and support from the City of Phoenix and its first two funding sponsors, it is just embarking on the first steps of a five year journey that will require millions more dollars and thousands of volunteers. “If we are to achieve what we envision over the next five years, it will require some $7 million dollars in charitable contributions and several thousands of volunteers, both individual and corporate. **It’s a big job, but we believe that it will gain a lot of momentum as other leading philanthropists and businesses become aware of the opportunity to be a part of what we believe will be life changing for residents of the Central City South neighborhoods”, said Jason Barlow**, President and Chief Executive Officer of Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona, with offices in Peoria and just south of downtown at the corner of Central and Watkins. “We invite everyone in the valley to be a part of something bigger than themselves that will leave a lasting impact on our community for many years to come” stated Barlow.

For more information on how to get involved contact Roger Neuhaus at rneuhaus@habitatcaz.org or call (602) 451-5126

there's still time to claim your 2017 Arizona state tax credit

The state of Arizona offers its taxpayers the opportunity to make contributions to qualifying charitable non-profit organizations that can reduce the amount of tax owed to the state. Different from a deduction, this is a dollar-for-dollar credit that comes right off any state taxes owed. There is **no net cost** to you the donor, and local families in Central Arizona benefit greatly.

Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona is a qualifying charitable non-profit organization with an unwavering commitment to helping those in need build and repair a decent place to call home.

The Arizona Tax Credit Program allows couples to donate up to $800 (filing jointly) and single taxpayers up to $400 each year to Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona and **receive a dollar for dollar tax credit.** Your donation will be used to build affordable housing, revitalize neighborhoods and positively impact communities. Best of all, it costs you nothing! **Donations must be received by April 15, 2018, to count for the 2017 tax year.**

For more information go to habitatcaz.org/tax-credit

newest homeowners

Campos - Peoria

Helms Briscoe

City of Peoria HOME Investment Partnership Program

Garza - Peoria

American Express

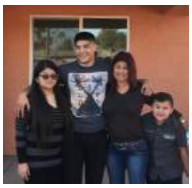
City of Peoria HOME Investment Partnership Program

Lemus - Glendale

Friendly House YouthBuild

Total Transit

City of Glendale HOME Investment Partnership Program



Mejia - Chandler

AZREIA

Bank of America

East Valley Christian Coaliton

Musse - Tempe

City of Tempe HOME Investment Partnership Program

Lutherans Building for Christ

SRP

Mohamed - Tempe

City of Tempe HOME Investment Partnership Program

St. Anne Roman Catholic Parish

Silicon Valley Bank

Wells Fargo

Cisco

Valentin - Avondale

West Valley Presbyterian Coalition

Since 1985:

1114 Homes Built / Renovated

2861 Families Served

782 Total NR Projects

1071 Emergency Home Repairs (combined)

built to last legacy society

Why do we support the Built to Last Legacy Society? It's simple. "**We have both witnessed the difference that a decent home makes in the life of an individual, family, and community."**

As a public educator for over 35 years, Brenda has seen children excel when given a stable home environment. A vital component to academic achievement is home involvement and support. Children need a place to grow, a place to enhance their learning and practice the new skills they learn in school. Children need a home base, a place to center their growth in physical, emotional and academic areas. **A child's academic success increases, socialization skills are enhanced, and quality of life soars when there is a home base.** The Habitat model is structured to reinforce family bonds, joining together with others to address a need, and the betterment of one's life. Our children benefit exponentially, and Habitat greatly helps in creating a sense of home base for our children.

"Long story made short, an abandoned plot of land was eventually transformed into an 18-home subdivision which became the first ever totally solar subdivision in Arizona..."

Habitat for Humanity® Central Arizona

built to last est. 2017

Legacy Society

Roger and Brenda - Legacy Society Members

Also a public servant, Roger has worked 18 years for a local municipal government, bringing in additional resources to address community needs. His first experience with Habitat dates back to 2005 when he contacted Habitat about building in this community. There was a lack of decent, affordable housing in the community and Habitat seemed like a likely partner. **As it usually happens when dealing with Habitat staff, creative and fun Ideas were tossed around** and it was decided that a Builders Blitz would be staged. In the fall of 2006, Blandford Homes, Camelot Homes, and Morrison Homes all agreed to participate in a good-natured competition to see who could complete their home the fastest.

Long story made short, an abandoned plot of land was eventually transformed into an 18-home subdivision which became the first ever totally solar subdivision in Arizona thanks to the support of SRP. Along the way, 18 new families moved into the community and are **supporting local schools and businesses. The neighbors are ecstatic** about the improvement in their neighborhood, and elected officials are justifiably proud of their support for the project.

Most memorable for Roger, however, was the first resident of the subdivision. **As a single mom, she went onto to raise her family, finish her college degree, begin a masters program, start a successful business, and become active in the community**. Because she wanted to give back, the young lady sits on two city boards and lends her energy and creativity to a number of community projects.

For more information on how to get involved contact Jim Wilkerson at jim@habitatcaz.org or call 602-268-9022

habitat on the hill

Camille Perez, Vice President of Habitat Young Professionals and Gabriel Jaramillo, Community Development Coordinator

In December, Camille Perez was awarded an Emerging Leadership scholarship, provided by State Farm, to attend this year's **Habitat on the Hill.** The annual event, held in Washington D.C. provides the opportunity to learn, network, engage with colleagues and spend an afternoon meeting with legislators and their staff on Capitol Hill to advocate for affordable housing policies and federal funding. These visits with our state representatives are an **important step in building strong and productive relationships and emphasize that housing needs in our state cannot be ignored**. When asked, Camille stated the two most impactful quotes overheard at the conference were "Hope is not a strategy" and **"The reward for doing good, is the ability to do more."**

Those interested in learning more about Habitat Young Professionals should contact **micaela@habitatcaz.org**.

jonathan reckford visits

In a recent visit to Arizona as part of a lecture series put on by the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Institute of Sustainability at ASU, Jonathan Reckford, CEO of Habitat for Humanity International addressed local donors and supporters.

Reckford asserted that since the recession, incomes have not kept up with rising housing prices and it is simply unsustainable.

"Phoenix is right on the edge of being designated 'severely unaffordable,'" he said.

That affects not just low-income families but service workers, firefighters, teachers and entry-level government workers who are unable to live near their jobs and face long commutes.

Reckford also spent a day connecting with local Habitat donors and staff in communities we serve by touring local Habitat worksites and getting an overview of our various neighborhood revitalization projects.

"Cities have to start looking at new models for making sure people can have a safe, affordable place to live."

Joanthan Reckford, CEO, Habitat for Humanity International with Connie and Dick Luebke at Tempe Center for the Arts

left to right: Franklin Jacobs, Todd Buckner, Steve Horst, Jason Barlow, Jonathan Reckford, Gabriel Jaramillo

Habitat for Humanity® Central Arizona

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Anthem, AZ 85086

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9133 NW Grand Ave
Suite 1
Peoria, AZ 85345

Phoenix ReStore
115 E Watkins Street
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Habitat for Humanity® Central Arizona

ReStore

Through the sale of new and gently-used furniture, home goods and building materials, **our four Valley discount home stores are supporting the Habitat for Humanity mission** of building affordable housing, revitalizing neighborhoods and improving communities.

Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona Corporate Office
9133 NW Grand Avenue
Suite 1
Peoria, AZ 85345

habitatcaz.org
623-583-2417

Did you know you can direct your **United Way** gift to **Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona**?

Our designation code is **0095**.

Reasonable accommodations will be made upon request.

We proudly work with Arizona Relay Service (TTD) 711 to provide access to the hearing impaired.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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