Habitat in Action

Spring 2026

Habitat for Humanity® Central Arizona
40 YEARS

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Together we build homes, communities, and hope.

habitatcaz.org

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Dear Friends and Supporters -

As we prepare for summertime in Arizona, I want to take a moment to express my **heartfelt gratitude** for the **incredible support** and generosity you have shown to Habitat for Humanity of Central Arizona. We couldn't do this important work without you, and your commitment truly makes a difference in the lives of families across our community.

I'm excited to share that we have recently welcomed **25 wonderful families** into their new Habitat homes in **Alta Vista Ranch!** This new community is a shining example of what we can achieve together, and seeing the smiles on the faces of these families as they step into their new homes reminds us of why we do what we do.

As we wrap our **40th anniversary celebration**, I'm pleased to reflect on four decades of serving the Valley and I can confidently say that we're just getting started! Your ongoing support is essential not only for building homes but also for amplifying our advocacy efforts. We are dedicated to influencing policies that expand access to affordable housing, and I'm thrilled to report that our efforts are making significant strides.

Also recently, we had the joy of hosting a **Faith Community Breakfast,** bringing together many of our church coalitions who faithfully support our mission. It was a wonderful reminder of how our faith partners put their beliefs into action, helping us serve those who need it most.

Looking ahead, I'm excited to announce the return of our **Fore the Build golf tournament in September!** This event promises to be a fantastic day of fun and camaraderie, while also supporting families in need of affordable housing. We hope to see you there!

Thank you for **believing in our mission** and for your **unwavering commitment** to building homes, communities, and hope. Together, we're making a remarkable difference, and I'm grateful to have you as part of our Habitat family.

Gratefully,

Todd A Rogers

Todd Rogers
President & CEO
Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona

Celebrating the Completion of Alta Vista Ranch Community

Habitat for Humanity of Central Arizona recently **celebrated the completion of the Alta Vista Ranch community on March 7, 2026**. This milestone event marked the culmination of a project that began in October 2024, **bringing safe, affordable housing to 25 families, including 63 children** in South Phoenix.

During the Homecoming Celebration, Habitat for Humanity CEO Todd Rogers highlighted the significance of the project and its impact on local families. “Today, **we honor the families** who have worked tirelessly to make this dream a reality,” Rogers said. “These homes represent more than just structures; **they are the foundation for futures filled with hope and opportunity.”**

The event also featured remarks from **key leaders, including Kate Brophy McGee, Chair of the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, and Vice Mayor Kesha Hodge Washington of the City of Phoenix**. Their presence underscored the critical importance of community collaboration in addressing the affordable housing crisis. Brophy McGee emphasized the roles that public-private partnerships play in making such initiatives successful. **Habitat thanks Maricopa County and The Arizona Department of Housing for their tremendous support** in funding this development.

Families moving into Alta Vista Ranch not only gain new homes but also join a supportive community. By working alongside each other throughout the construction process, **they forged lasting connections** that will help nurture a thriving neighborhood. Studies show that stable housing environments contribute to better educational outcomes, and this community is no exception - **children in Alta Vista Ranch are more than twice as likely to pursue higher education opportunities.**

As Habitat for Humanity looks to the future, **projects like Alta Vista Ranch reflect a continued commitment to providing affordable housing solutions** in Arizona. With a growing population and escalating housing costs, the organization advocates for policies that promote sustainable and inclusive communities.

New homeowners, volunteers and staff enjoying the Alta Vista Ranch Homecoming Celebration on March 7th

Thank you for the generous support of the following:

All Saints of the Desert Episcopal Church
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Scottsdale United Methodist Church
Southeast Valley Lutheran Coalition
SRP
St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Faith Community
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St. Barnabas on the Desert
St. Luke Lutheran Church
St. Mark’s Episcopal Church
St. Matthew United Methodist Church
St. Matthews Episcopal Church
St. Patrick’s Catholic Community
St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church
State Farm
Sun Lakes United Methodist Church
Tempe First United Methodist Church
US Bank Foundation
The Verdes’ Habitat for Humanity Project
Voya Foundation
Weis Builders
Wells Fargo
Wells Fargo Alumni
Wesco International
Willscot
Wood Partners

Newest Habitat Homeowners

Ali/Jama Family

Bruggenwirth/ Martinez Family

Cervantes Family

Herbert Family

Jones Family

Kazinguvu Family

Mosley Family

Muaraga/Gebremariyam Family

Nava Family

Rivera Family

Saidi/Niyotwagira Family

Sandoval Family

Warsame/Abdi Family

Weldesilassie Family

Since 1985, Habi
Central Arizona

1,257 homes built

2,869 affordable repairs

Elmi/Nugal Family

Fikresilassie/Muareta Family

Gray Family

Marquez-Montano Family

Mohamed/Aden Family

Mohamed/Ali Family

Noor/Omar Family

Omar/Mohamed Family

Pena-Perez/Leal-Carrillo Family

Sotelo Family

Tesfay/Zekarias Family

Velarde Yepiz/Chavez Family

itat for Humanity a has provided:

1,881 emergency home repairs

5,968 families served

Wondimagegnhu/Adisu Family

Zamora Family

30 Years of Faith-Fueled Service

Since 1995, the **Southeast Valley Lutheran Coalition** has been a beacon of faith-driven action for Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona, building not only homes but also hope for families across the Southeast Valley.

Through the years, **coalition members have built 30 homes, raised more than $1.6 million and logged over 20,000 volunteer hours** — a testament to the enduring power of faith in action.

For **Judd Hunemuller, of Mountain View Lutheran Church,** this journey began decades ago with a simple but powerful message from his pastor: "Go out and do something for someone other than yourself." When his church stepped up for its first Habitat build, Judd was quick to volunteer and soon found himself leading teams on site.

"For me, the primary motivators to keep building houses are the self-satisfaction of building a quality home, the camaraderie with some of the best people you will ever meet, and the gratitude of the homeowners," Hunemuller said.

A moment that stuck with him occurred during a home dedication. "One elderly family member told me it was the first time she ever had her own room," he recalled. "The difference between my own life experience and hers remains with me as a motivator to keep building homes."

Jim Gisselquist, from Esperanza Lutheran Church, also echoed the profound joy of seeing the impact firsthand. He recalls the excitement in the eyes of a five-year-old, arms spread wide, marveling at her "big house." "It's heartwarming. It's fun to walk through the house with the children and see their excitement as they see their new bedrooms and homes," Gisselquist said.

Both leaders see their faith inseparable from their work. "Faith without service is just a Bible study," Hunemuller said. For Gisselquist, "God calls us to help bring His kingdom here and now—by our deeds, love and actions."

Thanks to supporters like you, the Southeast Valley Lutheran Coalition continues to lift up families and build stronger communities one act of faith at a time.

Habitat for Humanity®
Central Arizona

FORE THE BUILD
GOLF TOURNAMENT

September 11, 2026
Camelback Golf Club
7847 N. Mockingbird Lane • Scottsdale, AZ 85253

PRESENTED BY

MILLCREEK
PEOPLE · PLACES · RELATIONSHIPS

Housing in Arizona and Beyond

A year ago, it seemed like affordable housing was fighting for attention amid a busy legislative landscape. But as prices rise and more families struggle to find an affordable place to call home, housing has suddenly found itself at the center of policy discussions - here in Arizona and across the nation.

This legislative session, Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona has been hard at work to make sure our lawmakers know what's at stake, and how they can be part of the solution. Our efforts began in January with **Habitat's Day at the Capitol,** where staff, volunteers, and affiliate partners met face to face with state senators and representatives to discuss expanding access to affordable homeownership. Our presence was even recognized from the gallery - proof that our message is being heard.

Just a day later, we hosted our first-ever **Red & Blue Build,** a unique event that brought together policymakers from both sides of the aisle for a morning of building - literally "hammering out their differences" for a cause that matters to every Arizonan. The event received positive media coverage and enthusiastic feedback from participants, laying the groundwork for future collaborations that transcend politics.

A key project of our state advocacy committee was helping draft language for **HB2926, the Workforce Housing Accelerator Act**. This bill aims to make construction of workforce housing easier and more affordable by streamlining permits, reducing tax burdens, speeding up building timelines, and supporting rural developers. If enacted, HB2926 would directly address some of the challenges facing Arizona families and the builders who serve them.

Our advocacy efforts didn't stop at the state line. In February, members of our leadership team joined affiliates from across the country at **Habitat on the Hill** in Washington, D.C., to urge Congress to protect and strengthen funding for critical housing programs at the federal level. We're also watching closely as Congress considers bipartisan legislation like the **21st Century Road to Housing Act** - which, if passed, could open new doors to affordable homeownership nationwide.

Why are policymakers listening now? For many, the crisis has become impossible to ignore. Hardworking families are being priced out, and business leaders and elected officials alike are feeling the pressure to act. Housing is having a moment, and Habitat is making sure to meet this moment.

We know there's much left to do, but the momentum is real. Thank you for supporting our mission - your generosity and advocacy are helping ensure every Arizonan has a decent, affordable place to live. If you'd like to get involved in our advocacy work or reach out to your elected representatives about the importance of affordable housing, we encourage you to contact us or visit **habitatcaz.org/advocacy** for more ways to take action.

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From the Cover

"Owning a Habitat home will provide me and my family with a strong sense of community and home ownership."

~ The Mosley Family