



Habitat for Humanity®

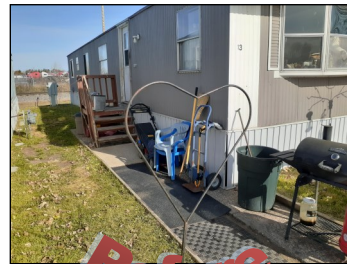
Wisconsin Rapids Area Habitat for Humanity

Spring 2021



What Would We Do Without our Volunteers?

Recently three of our fabulous volunteers, Ed Kreckler and Jim Zwicke along with one of our Board Members, Chuck Green, partnered with Love INC to build a ramp at Beverly Boyd's home. It came to Love INC's attention that Beverly was in need a better way to navigate getting in and out of her front door, but how to make that happen was the question. Chuck brought the idea of collaborating with Love INC to our Habitat board to build the ramp for Beverly. The board unanimously agreed that partnering with Love INC was a wonderful solution. So, on April 15th and 17th of this spring, Ed, Jim and Chuck poured a concrete ramp and Chuck built a railing to go along with the ramp. Now Beverly has a safer and much easier pathway to her front door thanks to these three Habitat for Humanity volunteers. Thank you to Ed, Jim and Chuck for giving of their much appreciated talents and time. A special thanks to Jim Zwicke who has been volunteering for the last twelve years to include seven houses. Not to be outdone, Ed is working toward catching up on Jim's record by having at least six years under his work belt.



Before



After

The Benefits of Volunteering

As you can see from the first article, volunteering does make a difference in the lives of others and our communities. We, here at the Wisconsin Rapids Area Habitat for Humanity, know that we are helping others through our volunteer service on the board. We work towards accomplishing our mission to build affordable homes for qualifying families in the area, but our volunteer work also benefits each of us personally. You are aware of the feeling that you get when you have helped someone. It really gives you a strong positive feeling.

Studies have shown that volunteering has a variety of benefits for us.

- We can gain confidence by giving us an opportunity to try something new.
- We can meet new people and make new friends.
- We can become part of an extended community.
- We can learn new skills and gain experiences.
- We can challenge ourselves to try something different and discover hidden talents.
- We can make a difference in our community.



We are extending an invitation to you to join us in building these affordable homes. Help us to grow our volunteer base. If you, or someone you know, would like to know how you can help, please contact us at the WRA Habitat for Humanity number: **715-422-1925**.

Meet Our Newest Board Member

The Board of Directors of WRA Habitat for Humanity, in early January, was delighted to welcome our newest board member, Christine Kinzel. When asked about the opportunity to serve on the Board, Chris shared her reasons:



Why do you want to serve on the HfH board?

Everything about the mission of Habitat speaks to me. To spread the love of God by serving others is something that I have strived to do throughout my life. Habitat for Humanity provides such a wonderful service by assisting so many in our community who need safe and secure housing as well as to promote their self-worth. I am hoping that I can be of some assistance to this great team that is already in place, by helping to strengthen and expand this wonderful organization.

How did you hear about Habitat?

Several years ago, my son helped on a Habitat housing project. I did some research and was very impressed with the process and the opportunity it provided him, as well as the family that would be the recipient of the home. I kept this in the back of my mind and had always planned to volunteer to help this worthy organization. When a coworker became very involved in our local organization, I saw the joy and satisfaction she received from her service. I felt this was another sign that the time was now to stop thinking about it and to make the move to get involved. I'm looking forward to what lies ahead!

Thank You for Your Support

The Board sincerely thanks the following individuals, families, and businesses for their generous support towards helping us to accomplish our mission: ***Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope.***

- Joyce Durrant
- Sand Valley, LLC
- Russ & Karen Rifleman
- Bill Dachel
- Tisbet Philanthropy
- Solarus
- Bob & Mary Wright
- Betty Knorr



- Bill & Walaiporn Mohn
- Don & Judy Pelot
- Betty Ann Potter
- Patrick Anhalt, Dairy Queen
- In memory of Don Nickel
- Charles Hanson
- Joe & Guadalupe Ancel



Decluttering or Redecorating?



We want to invite you to contact the Mauston ReStore at **1-608-847-2000**. The ReStore is open Tuesday - Saturday from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. The ReStore does provide by appointment free pickup service.

Your donation is tax deductible, and your donation to the ReStore benefits our Wisconsin Rapids Area affiliate.

Another worthy option for donations is Love INC in Wisconsin Rapids at **715-424-5683**. Their connection center hours are Tuesday – Thursday from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Seeking Applicants for our Next Habitat Home

The Family Selection Committee is seeking applicants for our next Habitat house. Due to COVID we were unable to build this year. However, we are looking forward to building our 19th house in the near future. For application information contact us at 715-422-1925 or check out our website: wrahf.org where an application can be downloaded.

Application Process:

- Every family must complete an application for home ownership.
- Any questions about the application should be directed to WRAHFH at 715-422-1925.
- The application is reviewed by an established Selection Committee who personally meets with and interviews prospective homeowners.
- A criminal background check of family members is required.
- Selection takes place only as land, funds, and materials for building the house are available.
- The house is sold to the homeowner at no profit, and no interest is charged over the term of the mortgage.
- Each adult family member is required to provide 250 hours of labor toward building a WRAHFH house. This "sweat equity" helps build ownership in the house.

Once selected, adult family members must agree to attend financial counseling, arranged and paid for by WRAHFH.

Applicant Qualifications:

Current Living Conditions

This is not limited to, but may include unsafe structural conditions, plumbing, heating, overcrowding, etc. of rental property.

Financial Need

The applicant may not be eligible for a conventional mortgage through a private lending institution, but eligible through WRAHFH.

Income

The applicant must have a steady income to make monthly mortgage and escrow payments. The maximum yearly family income ranges from \$29,450 for a family of two to \$48,600 for a family of eight.

Personal Traits

The applicant must demonstrate dependability, responsibility, care and concern for the maintenance of a home, and the ability to work well with others.

Criminal Activity

An applicant convicted of a drug offense within the last 4 years may not be eligible. A convicted sexual offender or a parole violator is not eligible.

Residency

The applicant must be a legal resident of the U.S. and preferably a resident of the Wisconsin Rapids area for a minimum of two years.



Board of Directors:

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Guadalupe Ancel:
Vice President

Brenda Walczak: Secretary

Larry Turba: Treasurer

Dennis Gaskill: Webmaster

Charles Green: Building
SuperintendentMembers at Large:

Mary Rebhan

Beatie Brandt

Christine Kinzel

Mary Wright: Financial
Secretary**A hand up –
not a hand out.*****Habitat for Humanity
Mission Statement***

Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope.

**Join Us to Streamline Our E-Newsletter**

We need your help in creating a digital Habitat newsletter. We understand that not everyone on our mailing list has a computer or that not everyone enjoys reading digital newsletters. With that said, we still would love it if you could help us achieve our goal by joining our free newsletter emailing list:

The process is quite easy:

- **Go to our website: wrahfh.org**
- **Type your name, as you wish it to appear on a mailing label; type in your email**
- **Click on "Subscribe Now"**
- **You will receive a confirmation email asking if you subscribed**
- **Confirm the email**

**And, you're done!**

Our marketing company, AWeber, respects your email privacy and will not sell your information. The Habitat for Humanity board thanks you for your assistance with our goal.

We appreciate your ongoing financial support.

Please send your **tax deductible** contributions to:

Wisconsin Rapids Area Habitat for Humanity

PO Box 1134

Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495-1134

Phone: 715-422-1925

Email: webmaster@wrahfh.org

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Thank you for your support!