

### **Community Impact Report 2018**





As we celebrate our 32<sup>nd</sup> year, Habitat Greensboro has placed over 490 families into affordable homes in our community and 450 internationally, building homes, community and hope. We are awed by every homeowner, the challenges they have overcome, and their resolve to have a safe place to raise their children.

This past year brought amazing accomplishments for Habitat Greensboro outlined in this report. We went from highs to lows as we celebrated the opening of the Housing Hub with Governor Roy Cooper and then a month later devastated by an EF2 Tornado in East Greensboro. Those two events helped solidify our relationships with other housing nonprofits in our community and brought us all closer together as we worked to assist homeowners and displaced families impacted by the many storms of 2018.

We celebrated the opening of our second ReStore in the Lawndale Shopping Center. The addition of this store will increase our capacity as we build, repair and renovate homes for low-income families.

This year, we celebrated our 2<sup>nd</sup> Bankers Build and our 5<sup>th</sup> Building on Faith Habitat House - with 26 congregations joining, including Jewish, Muslim and Christian working together – an interfaith partnership!

We now look forward to 2019. In May, we will initiate our inaugural Greensboro Habitat "Women Build" with women leaders of our city raising all the funding and providing the volunteers. We continue to support our 25 years of building homes in Honduras with a trip in September. In November, we will collaborate with the Greensboro Builder's Association for Raising Roofs, building 5 homes in 5 days, a partnership since 2003. Raising Roofs will be in White Oak Heights, a new neighborhood for us.

We are grateful for our corporate, business and congregational funders and individual donors, for over 5,000 volunteers, our incredible staff team and dedicated Board of Directors, and our non-profit partners. Most especially, we appreciate every Habitat homeowner and a community that supports affordable housing - because we know every family needs a decent place to call home.

In Partnership,

Robby

Maria

# **Greensboro Housing Hub**

Collaboration is a part of Habitat Greensboro's DNA; sharing warehouse space with Community Housing Solutions, partnering with Greensboro Housing Consultants on foreclosure prevention, joining forces with Partnership Homes to renovate apartments for transitional housing are just a few examples. Habitat Greensboro brought together 5 housing nonprofits to dream of a collaborative home where those seeking assistance with affordable housing could find help all in one location. In March of 2018, the Greensboro Housing Hub officially opened, a one—stop shop for affordable housing in Greensboro. City, County, State and National Dignitaries were on hand to deliver greetings with Governor Roy Cooper delivering a keynote address:



Brett Byerly, Greensboro Housing Coalition; Maria Hanlin, Habitat Greensboro; Governor Roy Cooper; Sofia Crisp, Housing Consultants Group; Scott Jones, Tiny Houses Greensboro; Gene Brown, Community Housing Solutions (not pictured Partnership Homes)

"Fair, safe, and affordable housing is the first step toward prosperity, but it's out of reach for too many North Carolinians," Gov. Roy Cooper said. "Greensboro Housing Hub is an encouraging example of the kind of collaboration that can help address a range of issues across the state, from housing challenges to workforce development. It's a complex problem," Cooper said, "but the Greensboro Housing Hub is offering innovative solutions."

"From the start, this process has been a community effort," Greensboro Mayor Nancy Vaughan said. "From the Council Members and city staff encouraging this idea to the nonprofits who worked diligently to create this dream project to the funders who generously gave support for the concept, I applaud the hard work of everyone involved. We are so happy to see this project come to fruition."

In an exceptional example of public/private financing, the city of Greensboro and the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro worked together to provide the funds required to upfit the building. Qorvo and Simmons Office Supplies donated the office equipment, and Bonitz-Co of Carolina, Inc. donated the carpet. Located at 1031 Summit Avenue, the Greensboro Housing Hub is open Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm. Come by and visit!

# **Disaster Recovery**

On April 15<sup>th</sup>, an EF2 tornado hit East Greensboro causing catastrophic damage to over 500 structures. From the beginning, Habitat staff and volunteers were on the ground, tarping roofs, cutting up downed trees and securing homes with broken windows. This effort was matched by many local and national relief organizations, as we all worked together to get residents the services they needed. Habitat worked with Greensboro Housing Coalition to help tornado victims secure housing, find resources and navigate government disaster services. Habitat and Community Housing Solutions began work on home repairs to fix Habitat and non-Habitat homes.

This included people like Bobby. Bobby grew up in his home in East Greensboro. Now in his 70's, Bobby's home has needed repair for several years but his health and low-income kept him from doing much maintenance. The tornado ripped off part of his roof and damaged the siding. Habitat stepped in to repair the roof, as well as, replace rotted fascia board and siding. Volunteers from Westover Church helped renew his home with a fresh coat of paint. Now Bobby's home is dry, safe and sustainable. "I never could have done this without the help of others. My home is so important because my parents worked hard to buy this house. Now I can have family members come over again. It feels so great! Thank you so much." Community Foundation, United Way and Wells Fargo along with many others helped fund this ongoing project.

785

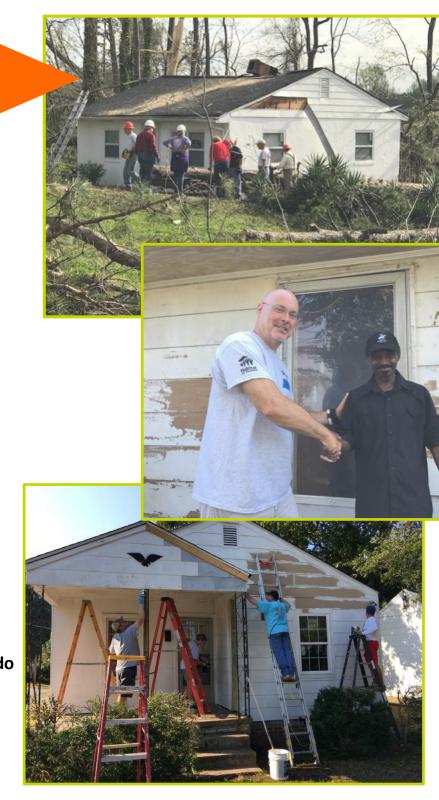
structures damaged in April 2018 Tornado

65+

homes tarped, debris removed

18

homes repaired









In June of 2018, Habitat Greensboro opened a second ReStore at 2190 Lawndale Drive. Our two stores are the premiere resellers of gently used furniture, appliances and building materials at deeply discounted prices. Now, the ReStore also features the sale of new items, including mattresses, sheets, laminate flooring and rugs and most recently, scratch and dent appliances. Last year, Habitat ReStore contributed over \$300,000 to support the mission of Habitat Greensboro. The name ReStore says it all...we are committed to keeping usable items from the landfill and helping them find new life in someone else's home or business. The new store increased our capacity for donations. Last year, our trucks travelled over 40,000 miles picking up items from homes, businesses, churches and many other locations. Call us today at 336.851-2929 to arrange a pickup. Your donations turn into dollars for homes.

### ReStore—the store that builds homes!





# \$350,000 paid

### **20 Homeowners Pay off Mortgages**

in property taxes in 2018



Each year, Habitat celebrates the success of our homeowners at our annual Mortgage Burning Ceremony sponsored by Bank of America. This year, due to an early snow storm, the Mortgage Burning became a shredding event! One of the homeowners who attended this momentous occasion was Reggie Jones. Reggie purchased his Habitat home in 2003 and paid off his mortgage this year. A US Army Veteran, Reggie has had serious medical issues including triple bypass heart surgery. After his surgery, he was unable to work and fell behind on his mortgage payments. Habitat helped Reggie enroll in the North Carolina Foreclosure Prevention Fund. The program provides targeted aid to families hit hard by the economic and housing market downturn a decade ago.

"We had to do some homeowner classes – all Habitat homeowners do, and I learned about ways you could get help if you get behind. With me having so many surgeries before my triple bypass, I was able to get hardship approval after being out of work for so long and losing all my medical coverage. That got me in the program, and I was eligible to have my house paid off. I'm real thankful for that." Reggie Jones "It feels great. I mean, you really can't explain it, but it's a great



feeling," "I call it a Christmas gift." Now in good health and with no mortgage payment, Reggie plans to make some improvements to his home. We congratulate these 20 homeowners who now own their homes free and clear!



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### **Building on Faith**

Since our beginning, Houses of Faith have been the cornerstone of our organization. From donating office space to recruiting volunteers to providing funds for home building, Greensboro's Faith Community has answered the call to action. As our mission statement says, *Putting God's love into action, Habitat brings people together to build homes, community and hope.* We seek to be the hands and feet of God by serving our community and building homes for families. Five years ago, Habitat launched Building on Faith—A program that brings together the faith community to fund and build a home every year. This year, Building on Faith became an InterFaith build with the addition of Temple Emanuel and the Muslim community. As always, we hold our faith as central to our organization and the driver for all that we do.



### **Volunteers in Action**





### Rock the Block

Staying connected to our families throughout their life as Habitat homeowners is important to our program. We offer post purchase classes that include maintenance, budgeting refresher, nutrition and many important life-skills topics. Additionally, Habitat has worked with neighborhood leaders to conduct home improvement projects with volunteers. Revitalizing neighborhoods is key to keeping homes safe, viable and affordable. This year, Cone Health and Columbia Forest Products came out to help paint and rebuild porches, landscape and install new mailboxes.

### 5,200 Volunteers gave their

time on the construction site, at the ReStore, in the Classroom, in the boardroom, and just about anywhere Habitat needs assistance!

### **Voices of Women**

With a grant from Habitat International, we launched this leadership training program focused on female Habitat homeowners. This program is designed to create new leaders for neighborhoods and our community. Empowering women to achieve at their highest potential and to engage them in serious conversations about issues in our community today, Voices of Women is a year-long program that will have a life-long impact.



### **Build it Forward**

"When I heard about the Build It Forward Legacy Society, I knew I wanted to make a commitment and have made plans to include Habitat Greensboro as a beneficiary in my estate plan. During the years I helped build Habitat homes, my greatest joy was interacting with Habitat families and especially their children. They would share with pride their bedroom and how it would look. It's a blessing to know I'll leave a legacy that brings so much hope and promise to a family's future and to the generations that will follow."

During 2018, Habitat was blessed with several bequests totaling \$175,000 These gifts ensure more Greensboro families are blessed with the transformative experience of living in a safe, secure and affordable home. The Build It Forward Legacy Society was launched in 2018 to recognize the important role our donors play in continuing our mission of providing homes, communities and hope for more Greensboro families.

Click <u>here</u> to connect with one of our development professionals to learn more about how you can Build It Forward through a legacy gift. You can also read more about the Build It Forward Legacy Society on our website by clicking here.



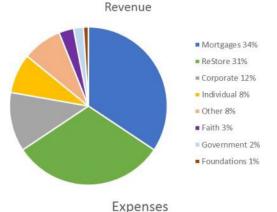


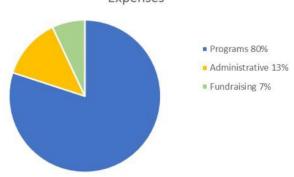
On a beautiful and cool August evening, over 400 people came together at Summerfield Farms for Habitat's Summer Bash. Titled One Night – One House, the event was a huge success raising funds for a new home for Safa and Almois and their 5 children. Current homeowner, Gail shared words of encouragement and her Habitat story,

"When I was living in public housing, I saw so many families that literally had generations who had lived in public housing. I want to tell everyone that with hard work and dedication, you can break that cycle of public housing living. Habitat taught me how to become a homeowner and it changed the way I see myself as a part of this community."

The Summer Bash will return in August of 2020!

### **Habitat Greensboro's Budget**





- ♦ \$4.4 million operating budget.
- Funded through Donors: Individuals, Businesses, Faith Communities, Foundations and Civic Organizations.
- ReStore sales and mortgage income underwrites all administrative expenses.
- ♦ 100% of contributions go toward building, renovating and repairing homes for low-income families.





We are propelled by a vision of a world where everyone has a decent place to live. We devote ourselves to creating that world because we believe everyone — every single one of us, regardless of who we are or where we come from — deserves a decent life and deserves the opportunity for a better future.

Believing is not enough. So we build. Homes, Communities and Hope.



everyone needs a place to call home



**Community Impact Report 2018** 

**Moving Forward** 

