

Winter 2020 Newsletter

Admin. Office

1210 Oak Patch Rd.
Eugene, OR 97402
Phone: 541-741-1707
info@habitatlane.org
Mon-Fri 9:00-4:00
www.habitatlane.org

Board of Directors

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Jennifer Lindsey

Vice President:

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Kristin Sidman

ReStore

1210 Oak Patch Rd.
Suite A
Eugene, OR 97402
Phone: 541-344-4809

Store:

Tuesday-Saturday
10am-7pm

Donation Door:

Monday-Saturday
10am-7pm

Our Mission

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

Welcome, New Future Homeowners!

Meet the Habitat partners who will become the first three homeowner families in our new Fischer Village development in Springfield.



Eugene resident Niki is a single parent of twin boys. She is looking forward to becoming a homeowner in Fischer Village, where she can get to know her neighbors and where her kids will have the opportunity to play with and grow up around other children.

"I hope to someday tell my children that Mommy built this house for them. It's something that is ours, that no one can take away from us," says Niki.



Vanessa is a single parent living in Section 8 housing with her daughter. She has dreamed for a long time of being a homeowner, but it always seemed financially out of reach.

"I just want my daughter to know that anything is possible if you are dedicated. This will be a lot of work – volunteering and working full time – but the end result will be worth it," says Vanessa.



Tiburcio and Griselda are excited to become homeowners for the first time. They want to own their own home so that they can build equity towards their future. They are currently living in a small apartment with no yard. Originally from Guatemala, the parents love to garden and plant flowers. Their daughter Jessica is an only child, and is she looking forward to getting a dog.

Home #73 Rachel moves in!

On November 17th, we celebrated the completion of our Women Build home! Rachel and her son Daniel had been living in subsidized housing while she worked and attended the University of Oregon. Daniel was diagnosed with a cognitive disability requiring special education, so Rachel turned to Habitat planning for a future where he may need to live with her well into adulthood.

In addition to moving into her home, last year Rachel also graduated with a bachelor's degree in Family and Human Services with the goal of becoming a counselor. Way to go, Rachel!

At the dedication we heard from the Homeowner Support Committee and Habitat staff members. Rachel expressed her gratitude for the home and for all of the volunteers who made her dream possible.



Thank you to our sponsors, including Eugene Eye Care, Lifetime Eye Care, US Bank, and Homes for Good, and to our volunteers and "regulars" who put in so much care and hard work making this home a reality.

Home #74 Groundbreaking for Leah and family

In December we broke ground on a home for Leah, who is the permanent guardian for her two nieces and a nephew. Some special superhero guests from Poolie's Angels and Excelsior Entertainment came to help us celebrate. The house will be under construction this spring, with lots of opportunities for volunteers.

"A Habitat home is a life-changing opportunity that gives me hope for the future. I have seen how stability has transformed the kids' ability to flourish academically, and this home is going to provide security for them to focus on their goals in high school and college. I hope that someday I will be able to align my career with supporting affordable housing to more residents of Lane County," says Leah.

This house is being funded by the Million Dollar Club of Lane County. Thank you also to our house sponsors Re/Max Integrity, Guild Mortgage, Peak Mortgage, Summit Funding, and Windermere Real Estate



Fischer Village : Infrastructure Groundbreaking on New Twelve-Home Neighborhood

Located in Springfield, Fischer Village will be our largest-ever development and will create a neighborhood of Habitat families! Thank you to the many community members who came to the groundbreaking and to our speakers: Mayor of Springfield Christine Lundberg, President of the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce Vonnie Mikkelsen, Wendy Werner with Banner Bank, Jane Fall with Springfield Rotary, Habitat Executive Director Kellie DeVore and Habitat Board President Sarah-Kate Sharkey.

Thank you to our infrastructure sponsors: The Autzen Foundation, Gray Family Foundation, Meyer Memorial Trust, Oregon Association of Realtors HOME Foundation in Association with the Springfield Board of Realtors, Oregon Community Foundation, and the Robert D. and Marcia H. Randall Charitable Trust.

And to our house sponsors: Bank of America, Banner Bank, Oregon Association of Realtors HOME Foundation in association with the Springfield Board of Realtors, and the Springfield Rotary.



A message from our Executive Director, Kellie DeVore

January 2020 marked the beginning of Habitat for Humanity of Central Lane's 30th year. Thirty years of dedication to the belief that all people deserve a decent, affordable place to live. Thirty years of bringing people together to support families by building homes, communities and hope. When I think about an anniversary I always find it interesting to look up the "traditional" anniversary gift. Thirty years is the pearl. The pearl is said to symbolize wisdom gained through experience, generosity, integrity and loyalty; qualities that are indicative of the people connected to Habitat for Humanity.

In thirty years, Habitat has grown from our beginnings as a small, grassroots, all-volunteer labor of love. We not only build homes and bring together volunteers, but also contribute to the community in ways that you

maybe haven't thought about before. We employ 15 people across the ReStore and the affiliate. We have worked with the City of Eugene to clean up the Amazon watershed behind our building. We participate annually in the Springfield Clean-Up. We provide an environment for 4J students to gain work experience. We stay involved with our Habitat homeowners after construction is complete, supporting them to access programs when they have a hardship that threatens the stability they have found as a homeowner. In thirty years, an organization like this can make quite an impact.

If my time at Habitat has taught me anything, it might be that change is the only constant. For every success story or strategy that has worked in the past, those strategies will eventually show diminishing returns and need to be adapted to meet the future. We are in

a period of change now as we face challenges in the form of increasing costs of construction, outdated funding models that relied heavily on our monthly self-financed mortgages but can't keep up with increasing costs, misperceptions that Habitat "gives away" homes, and an ever-more-heightened awareness that access to affordable housing is at a crisis point. With the continued support of the community, we will meet and rise above these challenges.

Building homes, changing lives, none of this would have been possible without the support we have received from our donors, dedicated volunteers, and partner homeowners. To each of you, thank you.

As we celebrate our past, we look forward to framing our future.

Home Repair Program Now Open

Habitat is currently accepting applications for our Minor Home Repair Program. To be eligible, the house must be owner-occupied, the homeowner needs to live within our service area (Lane County, excluding Junction City and Florence areas), have income between 30% and 60% AMI, and be willing to partner with Habitat to complete 5-15 hours of "sweat equity" volunteer work. Work is limited to projects with a material cost of \$2500 or less, and projects must adhere to the scope of repairs that Habitat offers. For more details or to apply, please visit our website at habitatlane.org/home-repair or stop by our office.

For more information, please call **541-741-1707** or visit **www.habitatlane.org**.

To qualify for home repair, the applicant must meet our financial eligibility requirements and the home must meet the following criteria:

Residency:

The home must be an owner-occupied, single-family house or mobile home, and the primary residence of the owner.

Location:

The home must be located within the Habitat for Humanity of Central Lane service area (call 541-741-1707 with questions about whether your home falls within the service area).

Repairs Needed:

Projects must be limited to minor exterior repairs including exterior painting, accessibility ramps, fence repair, deck and stair repair, and brush removal.

Feasibility:

The project must adhere to the scope of repairs Habitat for Humanity of Central Lane offers. Total cost of materials and supplies can not exceed \$2,500.





ReStore

Habitat for Humanity of Central Lane

by Chris Miller, Donation Procurement

Do you feel that, folks? Take a moment and a deep breath to let it wash over you. There. Right there. Do you feel that? It's the promise of a coming spring. Why, around the ReStore we saw the sun nearly four whole times last week, and it got us thinking of home-improvement season a bit early. Sure, there's undoubtedly plenty of winter weather remaining in Central Lane County before we're out of the woods, but when the time comes for you and yours to return to your personal slice of the great outdoors in the coming months, we'll be right here to help you with whatever's on your agenda.

We'll be here, and I'd like to invite you to join us. As the weather improves and business ramps up around the ReStore, we're in need of volunteers to help us keep things running smoothly on the sales floor and in our warehouse. We ReStore staff will be the first ones to tell you that we couldn't come close to fulfilling Habitat for Humanity's mission without our wonderful donors and volunteers. If you've ever had

the urge to get involved with a good cause here in town, we've got a wealth of opportunities available and a number of ways that our volunteers contribute every day to our ReStore operation. Whether you have an interest in old tools, a knack for interior decorating or any skill set in between, we'd love for you to attend a volunteer orientation at the Habitat for Humanity affiliate offices attached to the ReStore at 1210 Oak Patch Road to learn a little more about what we're all about.

We work hard here at the ReStore to help customers affordably improve their living spaces, and in doing so we all contribute to providing safe, decent and affordable housing right here in Central Lane County. If that sounds like your kinda shindig, come on down to the ReStore and sign on up for a volunteer orientation or talk to our staff about how you can help. We'll keep an eye out for ya while we focus our gaze toward the coming spring.



12 Episodes and counting.

Have you subscribed to the ReStore's YouTube channel? Well, if you want to know what's going on at the store and the affiliate plus have a giggle or two, join Chris Miller and Annie Seay as they adventure around the ReStore each week. Look for the Eugene Habitat ReStore YouTube channel.

SAVE THE DATE

The ReStore turns 10 this year. Please keep an eye out for more information about the coming anniversary celebrations.

ReStore plants trees to help Long Tom Watershed Council and City of Eugene Park & Open Spaces

In November, volunteers came out to the ReStore for a project partnering with the City of Eugene Parks and Open Space and the Long Tom Watershed Council. We worked together to plant trees and clean up this section of Amazon Creek to help restore and cool it down so that native fish can return to their natural habitat.



SAVE THE DATE

Can you believe it? Habitat for Humanity of Central Lane has been serving this community for 30 years! Our history includes over 73 new homes built, dozens of home repairs, and a merger. We're excited to take a moment to celebrate our past and gear up for what's coming next. We hope you will join us for our

**30th Anniversary Gala
September 17, 2020
at Venue 252**



Sponsorships opportunities will be available for this event, please call 541-741-1707 to learn more.

Honor Cards



Many donors choose to make a gift in honor or in memory of a loved one. In the past, Habitat has sent a letter informing the recipient. Starting last year, we created cards to let your family, friends, or business associates know about the special gift you gave in their name.

Whether it's a gift for the holidays, birthdays, or some other special occasion, consider giving the gift of home.

Meet Our Americorps Members

**Jason Knight,
Construction Crew Leader**



Jason is a Eugene native with two amazing children. He has been self-employed as a glass artist for the last eighteen years. The opportunity to serve his community while building skills in the real estate industry is very exciting to him, and he is thrilled to be a member of the Habitat team! He volunteered on the build site last year so he might be familiar to some of you already.

**Jamie Shalvey,
Community Outreach Coordinator**



Jamie came to Oregon for the first time in September to start a yearlong position with Habitat. After working in affordable housing in Boston and then Utah, she was excited to move to Eugene to continue working in the field and to learn more about Habitat! She has been a major help particularly with events and our social media and communications.



Volunteers of the Month

February Volunteer of the Month

C. Brent Ellifritz

We greatly appreciate the work that Brent does to support Habitat, both as a member of the Board of Directors and with the Construction Committee. As the Vice President of Operations for PG Long Floorcovering, Brent has directed donated products to Habitat for many years, including in the ReStore, for our Habitat homes, and for our 2018 office remodel. You may also see Brent volunteering at a Home Show, or filling tables for one of our benefit breakfast events. Thank you, Brent!

January Volunteer of the Month

Loree Thompson

Loree has worn many hats as a Habitat Volunteer. She first became involved in 2016, volunteering at tabling events, at the construction site, and in the office. She has been serving on the Homeowner Support Committee for a few years as a Homeowner Advocate to Habitat's newest homeowner, Rachel! Thank you, Loree!

Loree says, "My favorite part of volunteering at Habitat is getting to know the future homeowners, watching their lives transform as they work hard on their journey to building and owning their first home and feeling a sense of how life in a community should be...all working together for the common good with camaraderie and teamwork while having fun."

December Volunteer of the Month

Tony LaMarche

ReStore volunteer Tony LaMarche is one hardworking guy! Tony spends two days a week in the receiving area, and has taken the lead on our metals recycling program, breaking down items for scrap. In the 2018-2019 fiscal year, we earned nearly \$12,000 in recycled metals, and Tony played a huge role in making that happen. As a small nonprofit, those funds are incredibly helpful, and we appreciate his dedication to this difficult project. In 2019 he put in more than 600 volunteer hours with Habitat, and his lifetime volunteer hours total more than 3200. Thank you, Tony!

November Volunteer of the Month

Roger Kahane

Roger has been supporting Habitat for more than a decade through his music. For almost 12 years, Roger organized monthly open mic fundraisers in Cottage Grove that brought the community together and raised thousands of dollars to support Habitat. You may also have seen him playing his guitar in the background at one of our Habitat events. In 2015, Roger was honored with a letter from Jimmy Carter thanking him for what, at the time, was 100 months of service. Thank you, Roger!

"The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention."

~Oscar Wilde

October Volunteer of the Month

Cody Rogers

Cody began his journey at the ReStore in July of 2017 and has since volunteered over 900 hours! You will see Cody bouncing about the ReStore at the cash register, on the truck, and helping customers load their cars. We are very happy to have him as part of the Habitat family. Thank you, Cody!

September Volunteer of the Month

Prince Griffin

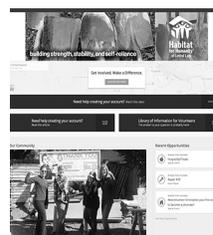
Prince began volunteering June of 2017 and has served more than 120 hours with Habitat. His can-do attitude and consistent willingness to be a part of the build site, rain or shine, is a testament to his spirit of giving back to his community. Thank you, Prince!

Prince says, "Demonstrating altruism gives me purpose, and I've come to find it reflects a significant component of my identity. There's satisfaction in taking part of the construction of a house and elation in witnessing a deserving homeowner take their first steps into their new home. But the motivation and inspiration I derive from helping others is unquantifiable and I'm grateful for the privilege of being able to devote my energy, sweat, and time to such worthy cause."



We've Upgraded to Galaxy Digital

New volunteer management software is live! We have partnered with Galaxy Digital to manage volunteer data and scheduling. This new system makes it simple for volunteers to personalize their profile detailing their interests, impact, and history. Volunteers will now be able to sign in/out, watch safety videos, and sign required forms all from their home desktop or mobile. They can find a list of volunteer needs that are curated with their interests in mind, and will be automatically notified of new opportunities that match their interests. Check out the new site at www.habitatlane.galaxydigital.com.



Upcoming Volunteer Orientations:

March 9
March 23

2019 by the numbers:

Over 18,100 total hours
600 volunteers
28 group builds



We Love a Parade!

We had a blast riding in the Springfield Christmas Parade this year. It's the first time Habitat Lane has ridden in the parade since 2010, when the Springfield/Eugene Habitat float won first place! Accompanied by two of our new homeowner families, Habitat staff and volunteers passed out candy to crowds along the route and rode on a float built by our construction supervisor, Doug, and decorated to fit the holiday theme.



41st Annual Lane County Home Show Improvement Show March 12-15, 2020

It's the time of year again, when Berg Productions takes over the Lane Events Center to showcase various home improvement concepts and exhibits from more than 300 vendors. Be sure to stop by the Habitat booth where there will be information, sweet treats, special surprises, coupons, and a chance to win a gift certificate to the ReStore. We look forward to seeing you there!

41st Lane County Home & Garden Show
Thurs, Mar 12-Sun, Mar 15, 2020



Women Build Finale Party

On December 12, we had a chance to party with our Women Builders and Construction Regulars. We wanted to celebrate the incredible accomplishment building the home, and raising the funds to make it happen. Thank you for all your hard work!





Habitat for Humanity of Central Lane
 1210 Oak Patch Road
 Eugene, OR 97402

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Go Paperless!
 email info@habitatlane.org

Include Habitat in Your Estate Planning

Over the years, Habitat for Humanity of Central Lane has received generous gifts from donors who included us in their estate planning. These funds are often what allow us to grow, to take that leap into starting a new development, to purchase a needed piece of equipment, or to undertake a repair project. Planned gifts vary widely in amount, but taken together they have been critical to our growth, and we are so thankful to the donors who thought to include us in a bequest or charitable remainder trust.

What legacy do you want to leave in our community? Making a planned gift to Habitat is a long-term way to help local families access safe and affordable housing. There are a variety of planned giving options available. If you'd like to learn more about making a planned gift to Habitat, please contact Esther Pomeroy at 541-741-1707 or esther.pomeroy@habitatlane.org, or speak to a financial advisor.

Planned giving can include gifts of:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Real Estate | Stocks |
| Life Insurance | Property |
| Investments | Beneficiary Proceeds |
| Cash | Mutual Funds |
| Annuity Proceeds | |

Benefits of planned giving include:

- Leaving a legacy in your community
- Giving more than your current income allows
- Giving an asset other than cash
- Receiving tax benefits
- Receiving income for a set number of years or for life

