

blueprint

The newsletter of Habitat for Humanity
of Greater Memphis



WINTER 2016 • memphishabitat.com/blueprint



Through shelter, WE empower



A WORD FROM OUR CEO

Dear friends,

Here we are, in a new year, filled with new possibilities, but we can't move forward without taking a moment to look back at the past year. And what a year it was!

Last August we had the honor of hosting a former President and First Lady, a couple of country music stars, and hundreds of volunteers from across North America during Habitat's weeklong Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Work Project. And in the months that followed, we worked together to finish 21 homes in the Bearwater Park neighborhood. You made all that happen.



I am amazed at what we've accomplished together. And I'm thankful for our successes and for the opportunity to continue this important work that is so close to my heart.

I grew up in a rickety little house in Somerville where the conditions were not just uncomfortable; they were harmful. They were harmful to my physical health, as it was often hard for me to breathe, and to my emotional health, as I was ashamed to invite friends over. While my grandmother, mother and aunt filled that little house with love, we all know the fire that burned down the house when I was 16 actually saved us from continuing on in those conditions.



Dwayne (bottom center) at age 4.

Because of this experience, my passion for this cause runs deep and I believe every child, every person deserves a decent and affordable place to live, and it is my professional and personal mission to make that possible for more Mid-Southerners.

What we have achieved together is nothing short of remarkable, and I know our most impactful years are still to come. The Memphis Habitat board, staff and I are excited about 2017 and are ready to embrace the work ahead to help more families build strength, stability and self-reliance through shelter. I hope you will join us.

In partnership,

Dwayne Spencer
President & CEO

P.S. If you'd like to learn more about my path to Habitat, please visit <http://memphishabitat.com/dwaynesstory>.

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WHAT DOES MEMPHIS HABITAT DO?

Memphis Habitat partners with people in our community to help them build or improve places they can call home. We not only partner with families to help them build and buy their first homes; we also do critical repairs and beautification projects with existing homeowners, and even home modifications to help seniors live in their own homes longer.



Homebuying Program

We don't give away new homes. Families who qualify for our new homebuying program have a mortgage just like any other homeowner. To qualify, future homebuyers must demonstrate a need for decent and affordable housing, be willing to partner with us, and be able to pay the monthly mortgage note. To date, Memphis Habitat has helped more than 480 first-time home buyers secure affordable mortgages.



Neighborhood Revitalization

We believe it's important to not only create new homeownership opportunities, but also to empower existing homeowners to remain in their homes and anchor their communities. We do this through our critical home repair and beautification efforts. We launched this initiative in Uptown in 2012, with a promise to improve 100 properties in the community. That commitment will be fulfilled early this year.



Aging in Place

Our Aging in Place Program completes accessibility enhancements, energy efficiency improvements and critical home repairs to help Shelby County senior citizens continue to live in their own homes longer and maintain their independence. Since 2015, we have worked with more than 250 seniors and look forward to continuing to help local seniors in need of this program's services.



New! Health and Housing Partnerships

This is our newest effort to expand our impact and serve more families. Research has shown that many doctor and hospital visits can be prevented through efforts within patients' homes, such as replacing roofs to eliminate leaks, adding lighting to prevent falls, or repairing plumbing to decrease mold and mildew issues. Continue to watch as these partnerships and efforts begin to grow and develop in 2017!

Our Mission & Values

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Memphis welcomes all people to partner in helping families achieve the strength, stability and self-reliance they need to build a better life for themselves and their families. Working in our community and around the world, Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian organization.

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

Habitat's Vision: A world where everyone has a decent place to live.

Habitat's Mission Principles: Demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ; focus on shelter; advocate for affordable housing; promote dignity and hope; and support sustainable and transformational development.

Neighborhood Update – Trinity Park

Trinity Park was our first contiguous neighborhood and we're happy to report they're doing well! They participated in National Night Out again this year, bringing neighbors, area police officers and the local fire department together. We talked with them about crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) and they will receive additional outdoor security lights thanks to a grant from the Wells Fargo Housing Foundation. They also held another Trunk or Treat event, with their biggest turnout to date! Congratulations to homeowners in Trinity Park for continuing to flourish and maintaining such a great neighborhood!





“The reason Habitat for Humanity works so well is because it’s a solution. You’re not just feeding an immediate need. You’re feeding a lifetime need.”

– Colleen Dudley, executive director, Habitat for Humanity of Tennessee



“You know, at times there’s so much need in the world you have a tendency to throw up your hands and go, ‘There’s nothing I can do.’ If you come out here and work with a homebuyer and see what you can do for a family, you figure out, ‘You know what? I can make a difference, one life at a time.’”

– Ed Clark (right), donor, volunteer and treasurer of Memphis Habitat’s Board of Directors

ReStore Volunteers

601 volunteers
2,773 shifts
11,327 hours
\$236,960.84 value
That’s equal to more than two Habitat homes!
(\$20.92 per independentsector.org)

Homebuying Program

21 New homes built
28 Mortgage closings
30 Homebuyers completed financial literacy course
\$45,554 City and county tax revenue generated by new homeowners in Bearwater and Uptown



Aging in Place Program

- 1/3 of AIP clients with breathing problems state that their breathing conditions have improved since receiving repairs.
- 84% of AIP clients have reported monthly utility savings. Of those, 40% have savings as high as \$100 per month and 60% have savings as high as \$50 per month since receiving the repairs and weatherization training.
- When asked where the repair assistance might have come from if AIP had not been available, every AIP client surveyed reported that they would not have been able to address the problem because they did not have any options.
- 1/3 of AIP clients stated that they would have had to move out of their homes had it not been for the AIP repairs. 33% said that it would have likely been immediately, 50% said that it would have likely been in the next 3 years.



“What I’ve told our friends at Habitat and any number of places in Tennessee is you build more than houses. You’re buildings homes, you’re building neighborhoods, you’re building communities, and as you do that you’re building a better life for the families that are going to raise their children, and the ripple effect of that is going to be felt generations from now. That’s the kind of work that we like to be involved in, and we were proud to step up and support.”

– Ralph Perrey, executive director, Tennessee Housing Development Agency



“Where do we go from here? How are we going to continue to make a difference in this community? By being honest in realizing there’s more work to do. By being open to new opportunities, resources and collaborations. And by being willing to continue to make this work happen.”

– Steve Shular, public affairs officer, Shelby County Government



*Statistics above are for January - December 2016.

Months of planning came together in August as we hosted President and Mrs. Carter, several VIP guests and hundreds of volunteers from across North America during Habitat's Carter Work Project. All that work came to a close on a cool Saturday in early November with a ceremony to dedicate the 21 new homes built in the Bearwater Park neighborhood. During the ceremony, sponsors and volunteers came together to celebrate the hard work local families put forth to build and buy their first homes. During Habitat's Carter Work Project volunteers also completed 10 beautification projects nearby and built six ramps for senior homeowners around Shelby County. We're happy to report that all 21 families had closed and were either completely moved or moving in by the end of 2016.

Carter Work Project by the Numbers

841 local volunteers
6,728 hours worked
\$140,749.76 value
(\$20.92 per independentsector.org)



"I love my neighbors already. I love the fact that we're going to take the potential in this community and make it better than what it is."

– Shamine

"I am just overjoyed to be able to say 'that's mine.' To say that this is my family's home."

– Marandow



"It's an honor to have President and Mrs. Carter here, recognizing the good work the city of Memphis and Habitat's doing, that they felt like they could make what was good even better."

– Jim Strickland, mayor, City of Memphis



"My motto is 'Just try.' Because you never know what can happen. So I tried, and now here I am today, a huge step, building my own home."

– Deven

"My kids are so happy. They'll look back 10 years from now and say, 'Hey, we built this house.'"

– Timeka



"We know our neighbors, we know that we're all safe, we can sit on the porch with each other, we can talk to each other, and it is a true blessing because you build that relationship going into the program, before you even live out here."

– Bjorna



"This house is going to mean stability for my family. My boys will be able to have their own rooms. They've never had their own rooms, and they're in middle school."

– Rakisha

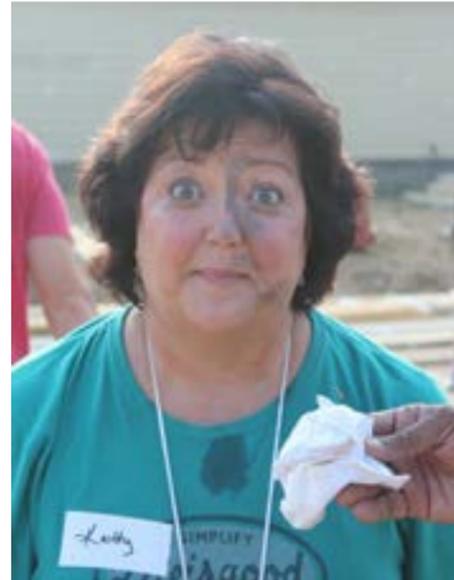
HEROES BUILD

Mid-South active-duty, reserve and retired members of the military, first responders and AutoZone employees spent a September morning helping future Habitat homeowners build their homes in the Bearwater Park neighborhood. Volunteers stayed busy putting up siding on three homes. The morning began with a short program, featuring a rendition of the national anthem by local singer Evvie, who grew up in a Habitat home; a few words from Hannah Zachary, manager of community relations at AutoZone; keynote remarks from Bill Graves, Executive Vice President of Mexico, Brazil, IMC and Store Development, Customer Satisfaction at AutoZone and a U.S. Army veteran; and a few words from a future Habitat homeowner in Bearwater Park, Jasmen, who is also a U.S. Army veteran. We first launched Heroes Build Day in 2013 as a way to observe Patriot Day, the annual National Day of Service and Remembrance held in memory of those lives lost in the Sept. 11 attacks.



GRIT. GRIND. BUILD.

Even the Memphis Grizzlies wanted to get in on the Habitat action this fall! Members of their entire organization, including players and coaches, helped future Bearwater Park homeowners build their homes. If the basketball gig doesn't work out for some of these guys, they have a bright future in homebuilding!

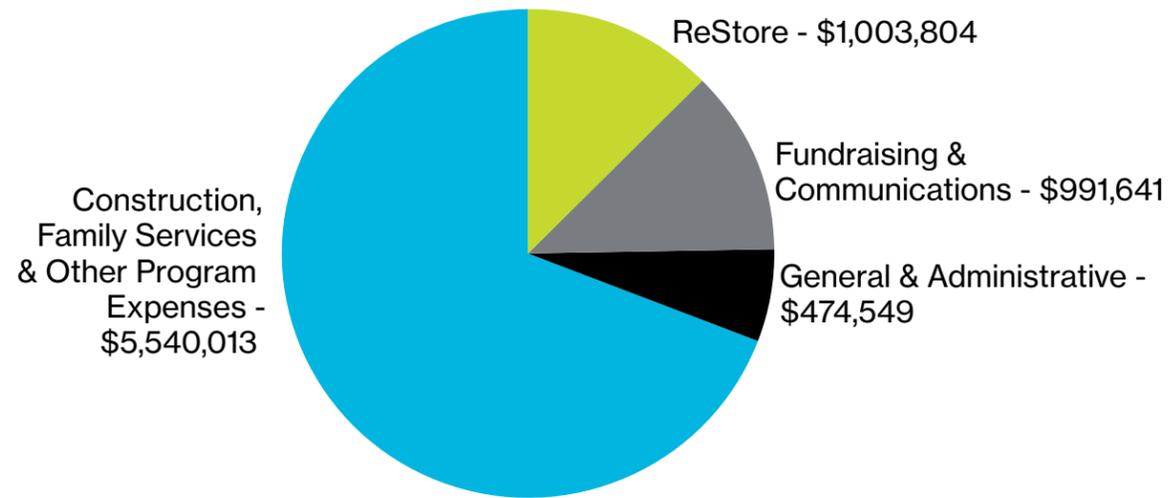


EXECUTIVE BUILD

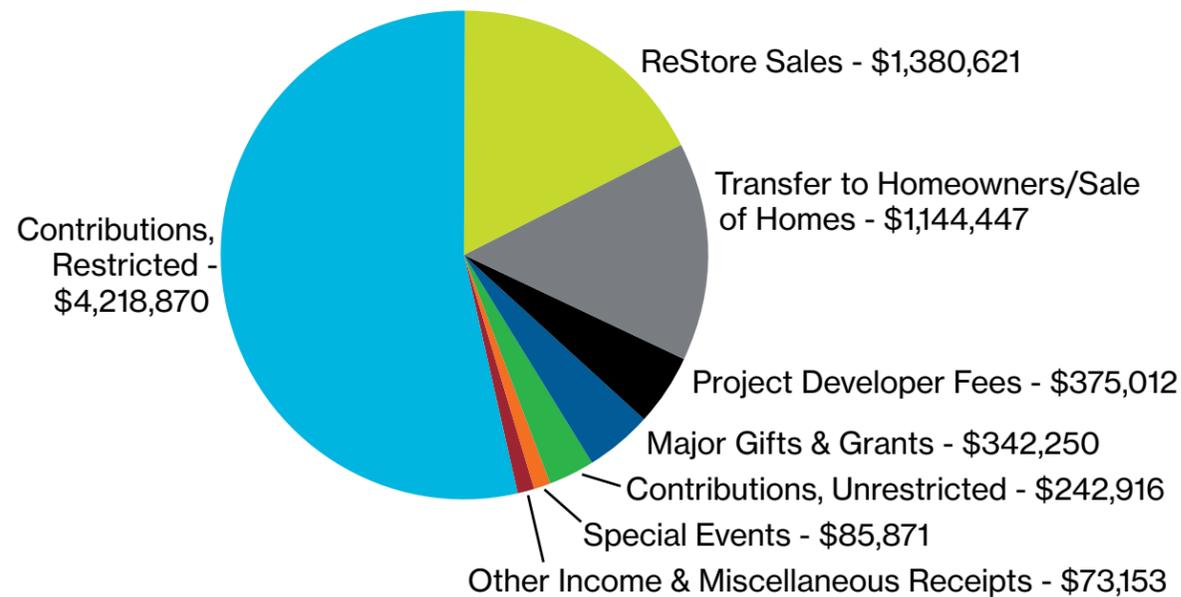
On Sept. 16, a group of local executives and business professionals left the comfort of their offices and joined us for a day on the build site. After hearing about Memphis Habitat and how our homebuying process works, the group helped future homebuyers install siding, windows and doors. To learn more about this unique build opportunity, visit www.memphishabitat.com/executivebuild.



Expenses Total: **\$8,010,007**



Revenue Total: **\$7,863,140**

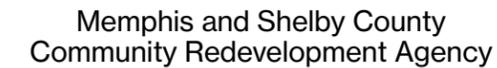


Memphis Habitat's current General & Administrative (G&A) expense is 5.9%. This means that 94.1 cents of every dollar raised goes to support Habitat programs, such as building new homes, revitalizing existing structures, and helping seniors with mobility modifications.

The financials detailed on these pages are from Habitat for Humanity of Greater Memphis' audited financials for fiscal year ending June 30, 2016. Please note that some revenue generated during fiscal year 2015 was earmarked for use in fiscal year 2016. Past audits and 990s can be found at www.memphishabitat.com/annualreport.

Thank you to ALL of our sponsors and partners who made our work in fall 2016 possible!

2016 Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Work Project Sponsors



Altisource; AutoZone; City of Memphis, Division of Housing and Community Development and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati; First Tennessee Bank; Hope Church; Nissan North America; Oasis of Hope; Wells Fargo Housing Foundation; Ed and Sue Clark; Owens Corning; Simpson Strong-Tie; ABB Inc.; Cisco; Schneider Electric; BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Health Foundation; Germantown Presbyterian Church; Germantown United Methodist Church; Jerry and Bobbi Gillis; LEO Events; Memphis Redbirds; Transamerica; 84 Lumber Company; A. O. Smith; American Snuff Company; Michael Aycock; Bank of Bartlett; BNP Media; Briggs Equipment; Downtown Memphis Commission; International Paper; Pinnacle Financial Partners; Pyramex Safety Products; The Peabody Memphis; Raymond James; Stratas Foods LLC; and Henry and Lynne Turley

Fall 2016 Build Sponsors

Cummins, Inc; Daimler; Georgia Pacific; Idlewild Presbyterian Church; Inventory Locator Services, Inc.; Lichterman Loewenberg Foundation; Memphis Grizzlies; SSR; St. Luke Lutheran Church; Temple Israel; Thomas & Betts; Top Rx; Tower Ventures; Valspar; Whirlpool; Yale Lock

Fall 2016 Special Support

Classic American Hardwood, BRIDGES, Bill Courtney, Chick-Fil-A Union Avenue, Christ the King Lutheran Church, Cougar Chemical, Divine Destiny Worship Center, East Memphis Kiwanis, Marrs Inc, Moe's, P&G, and Pleasant Green Baptist Church



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Join us! Upcoming Events and Projects

Bluff City 10K

**Saturday, May 13, 2017, 8 a.m.
Overton Square**

Join us for the 3rd annual Bluff City 10K benefiting Habitat for Humanity of Greater Memphis!

Run a scenic route through Midtown Memphis and then meet us back in Overton Square for your medal and a party with live music and local food and beer. Your participation will help more Mid-Southerners build or improve places to call home. For more information about sponsoring or registering, go to <http://bluffcity10k.racesonline.com>.

Neighborhood Revitalization and Aging in Place projects

Coming Soon!

We're working on creating more opportunities for you to help your neighbors in our community. For more information on these opportunities, go to www.memphishabitat.com/volunteer and sign up for our volunteer email list.



We are pledged to the letter and spirit of the U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin. Habitat for Humanity is an equal opportunity employer.