



BUILD HOMES. BUILD HOPE.
VOLUNTARY TAX CONTRIBUTION FUND

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TURN YOUR STATE TAX RETURN INTO HOMES & HOPE FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

*Help Habitat for Humanity East Bay/Silicon Valley Build Homes this Tax Season
with a Voluntary Tax Contribution*

[OAKLAND, CA] – Habitat for Humanity East Bay/Silicon Valley is asking California tax filers to build homes and hope through their state tax returns this tax season and help the many families and veterans in need of a decent place to live.

With as little as \$1, California tax filers have the opportunity to make a tax-deductible donation to the *Habitat for Humanity Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund* on their 2017 California tax return by April 17, 2018. Donations generated through this fund make homeownership a reality for the many California children, families, and veterans who are caught in the housing crisis and unable to afford a safe, stable home.

“We see, over and over, the strength and empowerment that children and families experience when they have a home of their own, and the way homeownership transforms communities,” said President & CEO, Janice Jensen. “Every dollar of support makes a real difference in the lives of these families, and we are grateful for every California taxpayer who is willing to share a portion of their tax return to build homes and create change.”

The Habitat for Humanity Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund is line 437 on the California Resident Income Tax Return Form 540. Detailed steps on how to contribute – whether you file taxes on your own or receive assistance from a tax preparer – as well a donation reminder form can be found at www.habitatca.org/taxfund.

The Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund has generated more than \$360,000 to support families across the state, helping Habitat to build stable homes here at home. Contributions received from California tax filers in Alameda, Contra Costa, and Santa Clara counties are distributed to Habitat East Bay/Silicon Valley to make an impact on the housing crisis in our own neighborhoods and communities.

The families supported through Habitat for Humanity California see lasting change. In a recent Social Impact Study, Habitat East Bay/Silicon Valley commissioned a broad-based survey of its homeowner families, and found dramatic improvements in areas like health and safety, financial outlook, and education. For example:

- Issues with asthma, allergies, and accessibility have been virtually eliminated.
- Doubling of families with at least \$5,000 saved toward retirement, and a doubling of families with at least \$10,000 in household savings.
- An 87% high school graduation rate, which bests the national average.



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About Habitat for Humanity East Bay/Silicon Valley: As an independent affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, Habitat East Bay/Silicon Valley believes in a world where everyone has a decent place to live. We create opportunities for families to transform their lives, gaining the strength, stability, and self-reliance they need to build a better future. Working together as a community, we build homes with affordable mortgages, repair and renovate existing homes, counsel first-time homebuyers, and revitalize neighborhoods in Alameda, Contra Costa, and Santa Clara counties. For more information, please visit HabitatEBSV.org or call 866.450.4432.

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