# every one can build hope.

Hunde's Story After 10 years searching, he found a home with Habitat. You helped!. 2

Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity®

HERALD XXIX - Number 3 Fall 2018

#### PLUS

You can build a house by the pint!.....**7** Hear from new CEO Chris Coleman ......**6** 

Hunde New Homeowner in 2018

Photo by Andrea Cole Photography



Photo by Andrea Cole Photography

ABOVE: Hunde inspired Habitat supporters when he spoke at the Minnesota Capitol for the 2018 Habitat on the Hill advocacy day.

**BELOW:** Hunde's family is loving their Habitat home in Lakeville.



# **Finding hope with Habitat**

#### Hunde tried to find a home loan for ten years. Then he found Habitat. Your support made his dreams possible.

Hunde's family moved to the United States from Ethiopia in 2008. Soon he began dreaming of buying a home.

"I've never been happy—I've never felt like a full human being, not being able to provide a house for my family," Hunde said. "I wanted to feel the pride of owning a house."

He visited every bank he could in hopes of obtaining a mortgage. But time after time, he was told no. He was denied because of his credit history, or because he switched jobs to provide for his family. Often, he was working two or even three jobs at once.

Hunde and his wife Martha had two children, and when they were expecting a third his search grew more urgent. At the time they were living in a small one-bedroom apartment. His daughter would sometimes study in the bathroom—the only place she

could find some quiet.

One day, Hunde walked into Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity and asked if he could buy a home.

Here's where you come in. Your support means we don't have to turn away families like Hunde's.

First, we directed him to our trusted Referral Partner Model Cities, where he received the financial literacy training he Your support means we don't have to turn away families like Hunde's.

needed to be prepared for homeownership. Then, we encouraged him to come back to Twin Cities Habitat for his homeownership classes and mortgage prep.

"Everywhere I went, Habitat staff felt like my big brother and sister," Hunde said. "Everybody is family. Everybody is welcoming."

Finally, Hunde was qualified to buy a home of his choice with Habitat on the open market—kept affordable with your support.

"Now, I feel the pride of owning a home," Hunde said. "I finally feel like I'm a full citizen of the United States."

#### Make more homes possible! Give today at *tchabitat.org/donate*

Photo courtesy Hunde



"I urge everybody to stand with Habitat for Humanity. I too will stand with Habitat for Humanity."

Habitat Homeowner Hunde Speaker, Habitat on the Hill 2018

Hunde photographed with his Minnesota State Representative, Jon Koznick, during Habitat on the Hill in St. Paul.

Photo by Dennis Chick

# **V** Your voice matters

## Make your voice heard and make candidates focus on affordable housing

This fall, when political candidates call you or knock on your door, be sure to ask them to support affordable housing. When you invite your policy makers to be part of the solution, we'll get more done. Here are three simple things you can do when a candidate contacts you:

- Ask: More than 1 in 4 Minnesotans spend more than 30% of their income on housing. **What will you do to increase affordable** housing options so families can focus on work, school, and health?
- 2

Ask: Statewide, we're more than 90,000 affordable housing units short for Minnesotans at the lowest incomes. **What local, state, or federal resources will you target to address Minnesota's affordable housing shortage?** 

Share why affordable housing matters to you in your community! You can share a Habitat story, a personal story–whatever inspires you most.

#### Be ready to vote!

#### At *mnvotes.org* you can

- Register to vote; early voting begins September 21
- Find your polling place
- See who's on your ballot
- Encourage family, friends, and colleagues to vote on November 6









# Building Community

Twin Cities Habitat is all about people like you coming together from all walks of life to make a difference in the community. Here's a few highlights of your impact this summer.

#### Jordan Week of Kindness

We're proud, long-time partners of the Jordan Neighborhood of Minneapolis. Through our Neighborhood **Revitalization program** we support residents in sharing and implementing their vision for their block.

This summer we celebrated our third annual Jordan Week of Kindness with home repairs, a neighborhood cleanup, and a celebration of community. There were flower plantings, Ghanaian drums, speeches from public officials like Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey, and tons of fun.



Photo by Ashley Rose

#### **Celebrating the Memory of a Loved One**

Volunteers all have different reasons for volunteering. For the Baller family, it's to celebrate Jim. Jim Baller was an avid Habitat volunteer who died unexpectedly eight years ago. His wife Charleen organized a Habitat build in his memory for the entire family, and each summer they still come together to share tears and laughter.

This summer site supervisor Ashley Rose had spare lumber, so the family used it to build an Adirondack chair in memory of Jim. They'll pass on the chair - and some extra love - to the family who will buy that home.

You can give a gift in honor or memory of a loved one. Visit tchabitat.org/honor



Photo by Erin Ahlstrom

#### Women Build



The 2018–19 season of Women Build is off to a great start. Already, 37 women-led groups have put in 45 volunteer days on a home in St. Paul. and the second Women Build home is set to begin on September 17.

Visit tchabitat.org/womenbuild to volunteer or to donate.

### **Raising the Roof**

Our annual golf tournament, Raise the Roof, was a hole-in-one this August. The event raised over \$158,000 – a record-breaking amount for affordable homeownership. Many thanks to the sponsors and golfers who made it happen. Special thanks to Title Sponsor, Reuter Walton Companies!



Photo by Dennnis Chick

#### Habitat Herald - Fall 2018



Chris with Rahel, Amanuel, and their children at their new home's dedication.

Dear friends.

What a summer it's been! I've had the pleasure of getting to know many of you who make up this remarkable Habitat community, and I've learned about the impact we make when we work together.

I've been reflecting on memories of my own childhood home. It brought me such a sense of comfort and safety. It's the place where my family celebrated holidays and where I learned values of kindness, integrity, and care for others.

At a recent home dedication, I met homebuyers Rahel, Amanuel, and their two young children. Above is a photo of us together—you can see the excitement in their eyes for the memories they'll make in their new home.

There's still a lot for me to learn about Habitat, but there's one thing I know for certain: home is the foundation for everything.

Thank you for building that foundation where families can create memories and stability that last for generations.

Gratefully,

Chi Coleman

**Chris Coleman** President & CEO Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity



Photo by Andrea Cole Photography

Lynnisha will share her story of growing up in a Habitat home at the luncheon.

#### WOMEN OF HABITAT

## Hope Builders Fundraising Luncheon

Monday, October 8 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Hilton Minneapolis

Join us for the annual fundraising event, generating support for families to build brighter futures for generations to come. Chris Coleman, Habitat's new President & CEO, will facilitate a panel discussion on how affordable housing is a crucial building block for stable, healthy neighborhoods.

Visit *tchabitat.org/luncheon18* for information and to purchase event tickets.



SAVE the DATE

THE 20<sup>™</sup> ANNUAL Hard Hat & Black Tie Gala Saturday, May 4, 2019

a little less formal, a lot more fun.

# every house

is built with love ... and sometimes with beer



Volunteers cut lumber and raise walls at the House that Beer Built kickoff event.

Photos this page by Jared Laabs

On August 13, volunteers raised the first wall on Minnesota's first-ever home built entirely from beer. Figuratively speaking, of course.

Max Filter and Tim Kessler, Co-Owners of Dual Citizen Brewing Co, a new brewery in St. Paul, believe beer can be a force for good. That's why they've teamed up with Twin Cities Habitat as lead sponsor on The House that Beer Built. Many other local breweries have joined the cause, contributing money and volunteers.

"Many breweries have a strong sense of connection to the neighborhoods they inhabit and the communities they serve," says Chris Coleman, President & CEO of Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity. "Breweries are, after all, community gathering places. They thrive because the community views them as an asset and in turn they want to give back and help strengthen their community."



#### Make your mark on the *House that Beer Built:*

- Sign up to volunteer
- Attend an event at a
- local breweryJoin our Facebook
- group for news

Visit our website at tchabitat.org/beerbuilt

#### **OTHER WAYS TO VOLUNTEER**

- Ride along in the ReStore truck to pick up donations that will be sold to fund Habitat home builds
- Host open houses at Habitat homes so future homebuyers can get a feel before they buy
- Answer homebuyer questions through our Program Information Center
- **Come out for a day** on a build site, repair site, or at one of our ReStore Home Improvement Outlets

Visit tchabitat.org/volunteer for all the ways you can make a difference.



Celebrate 11 years in the Twin Cities and start your next project with the ReStore Home Improvement Outlets and save BIG! Plus, purchase proceeds make Habitat homes affordable for families.



everything in store on Saturday, **September 15** -OR- save 30% on one item before **November 3**.

Valid at 510 W. County Rd. D, New Brighton or 2700 S. Minnehaha Ave., Minneapolis ReStore locations. Not good with other offers. Limit one per customer. Valid through 11/3/2018. CODE: **11YEARS** 



Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity 1954 University Ave. W., St. Paul, MN 55104