

Twin Cities
Habitat for Humanity®

Habitat

HERALD

XXX - Number 1 Spring 2019

LaShonda's Story

You made sure LaShonda has a place for everything and everyone **4-5**

LaShonda and Family
Homeowner since 2018

Photo by Dennis Chick



everyone

deserves choice and opportunity

PLUS

Join the ReStore VIP Club for special perks! **7**

You've unlocked homeownership for **165 families** since 2016.

Thank you!

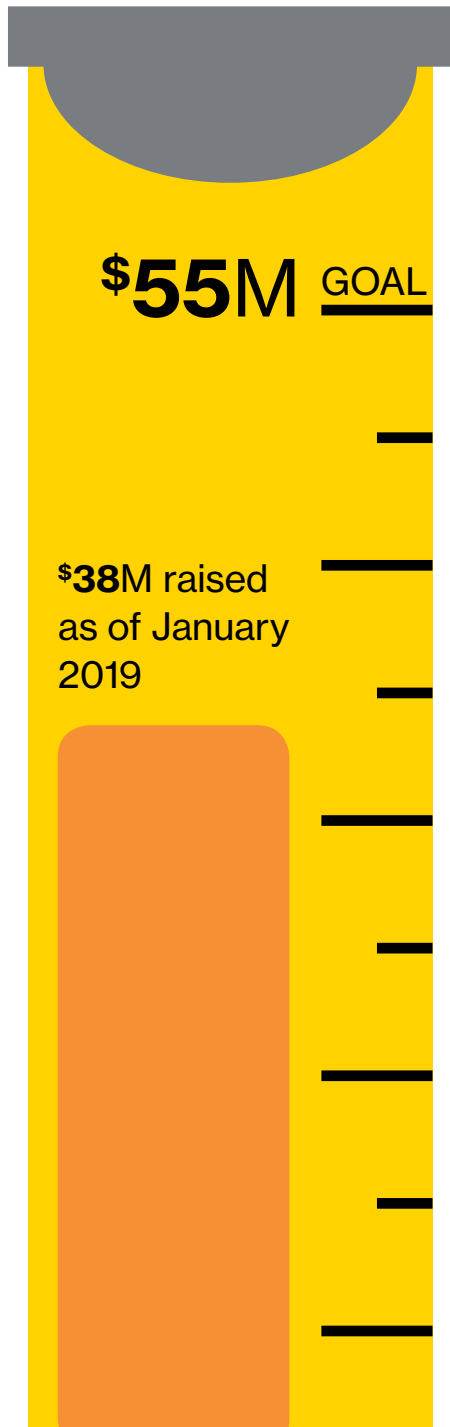
We recently launched our five-year, \$55 million fundraising campaign *Multiplying the Impact* to double homeownership opportunities for families living in the Twin Cities.

Already, you've unlocked homeownership for 165 families since 2016. That's 484 children with safe places to study, play, and grow. We've also completed critical home repairs for 169 families and launched an Age in Place home modifications program to keep older homeowners safely in the homes they own and love.

Thank you for making this happen.

To truly turn the tide of the Twin Cities affordable housing crisis, more people need to pitch in. Throughout this issue of the Herald, you'll see many opportunities to partner with Habitat. There's strength in numbers, so grab some friends, make your plans, and get to work for local families.

When you work together with your neighbors, you can create an impact that multiplies for generations. Together, we will build a Twin Cities region with strong families and thriving neighborhoods.



Multiply *YOUR* Impact

- Advocate 3
- Donate..... 5
- Volunteer 6
- Attend an Event 8

Learn all the ways to get involved at tchabitat.org/multiply

MULTIPLYING THE

impact

#StrengthInNumbers



Habitat on the Hill - MN

Monday, April 29

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Minnesota State Capitol
L'Etoile du Nord Vault Room

Register now at tchabitat.org/hill »

Photo by Dennis Chick

Habitat on the Hill 101

On Monday, April 29, Habitat supporters just like you will come together at the State Capitol to raise our voices for affordable housing. Your passion for Habitat's mission is all you need to make a difference. Here's what you can expect:

You'll be well prepared

In the morning you'll learn the basics of our legislative agenda. You'll hear from Habitat advocates, and legislators, and get materials to share with your legislators as well.

Your legislator wants to hear from you

Habitat on the Hill is a perfect introduction to advocacy, because Habitat for Humanity is highly respected, and affordable housing is a priority on *both* sides of the aisle. Legislators are happy to hear from you, their constituent. They don't expect you to be an expert.

There will be strength in numbers

When you visit with your legislator, you'll be with a small group from the same district. It's likely that others have done this before. It's always easier to advocate as a team!

Habitat on the Hill is completely free to participants. You will be provided a light breakfast, boxed lunch, and as our gift, Habitat swag including our colorful "Homes for All" scarf.

See you on the Hill!

Habitat homeowner Hunde met with his legislator at Habitat on the Hill - MN in 2018. He encouraged everyone to stand for affordable housing.

A PLACE FOR
**everything
 & everyone**

LaShonda was in a bind. With her good job as an x-ray technician, her income was too high to qualify for food or housing assistance – but wasn't high enough to afford homeownership: until Habitat.

Wilder Research found that 92% of homeowners say their lives are better since moving into their home. LaShonda and her kids are loving it.



Donate to build strong families and thriving neighborhoods where everyone can live.
tchabitat.org/donate

All photos this spread by Dennis Chick

More and more people are left on the sidelines in this affordable housing crisis. Rents and housing costs keep going up and up while wages stay flat. Even steady jobs like LaShonda's can't provide the income for homeownership anymore. That's why your support is needed now more than ever. After her divorce in 2009, LaShonda lived in an apartment with her two children. The Great Recession was in full swing, and every time LaShonda tried to buy a home it felt just out of reach.

Finally, she heard about Habitat from a coworker. She was surprised to learn she qualified. Habitat Homeownership is designed specifically for those striving to get ahead—like LaShonda. "I was excited," LaShonda says. "It gave me some real hope." She took Habitat's homeownership classes, worked on her credit, and eventually she was able to buy a home with Habitat in Cottage Grove. It was a perfect fit. When LaShonda finally received her keys, she was overwhelmed—in a good way.

"I felt like I finally made it. It felt like that race to the finish line – it was tiring, mentally and emotionally – but I thank God that I'm here!" Her kids love having their own rooms, and LaShonda loves doing whatever she wants with her own space. Around the same time LaShonda was partnering with Habitat, she took another big step: she started her own home organizing business called *A Place for Everything*. Now that she's settled into her own home, she'll be able to put more energy into her business.

"My dreams for my home and my family are that we continue to be thankful and humble with what we have," LaShonda says. "And that we continue to grow and love each other in this home." When you support Habitat, you join Habitat homeowners in creating homes that are filled with love and peace. You build places to study, places to grow a business—and a place for everything.

DONATE

Habitat homeowners, including LaShonda, work at local companies you know and love:

- MSP Airport
- Ameriprise Financial
- Children's Hospital
- Minneapolis Public Schools
- HealthEast Roselawn Clinic
- United States Postal Service
- Costco
- Metro Transit
- Minneapolis VA Healthcare System
- US Bank



Join AmeriCorps

- Earn an education award
- Receive a living allowance
- Learn new skills & make friends

Serve for a year or a summer—in the field or in the office.

Learn more at tchabitat.org/ameriCorps



Group Volunteering

Make your plans for a summer build day now! Round up a group of 10–13 people and sign up.

Visit tchabitat.org/volunteer and click on “volunteer groups” to start.

There are plenty of individual volunteer opportunities too!



JORDAN KINDNESS

WEEK OF

Saturday, June 1

Habitat is partnering with the Jordan Area Community Council in North Minneapolis for a celebration for all, including:

- Local food and entertainment
- Health and housing resource fair
- Planting and home repair projects
- Kids’ activities

Learn more at tchabitat.org/nr

Photos by Dennis Chick and Paul Dimndorf



Your Declutter and DIY Headquarters!



Join the ReStore VIP Club!

Become a VIP any time before **April 11**, and you'll immediately receive a **30% discount good until April 18, 2019!** You'll receive one to three texts a month about ReStore sales and insider deals.

TO JOIN, SIMPLY TEXT:

RESTOREVIP

(ALL CAPS, NO SPACES)

to **51555**

and receive a welcome text with your 30% OFF discount code.

Dear Friends,



Photo by Erin Ahlstrom

Chris Coleman

You've heard about the affordable housing crisis we're facing right now in the Twin Cities.

Soaring rents, flatlining wages. It's harder to afford a home now than at any other time in

recent memory. When you volunteer, donate, and advocate with Habitat, you're taking a step to turn the tide. Thank you.

Here's something else you should know: odds are that, right now, you know someone who could buy a home with Habitat. Know someone who rents? **One in three Twin Cities renters face housing challenges and would qualify for Habitat's homeownership program.**

Think about your networks. Maybe a friend or family member needs to hear about Habitat. Maybe it's a medical professional, like LaShonda, your hairdresser, your child's teacher, or your pharmacy technician. Maybe it's *you*.

Word of mouth has always been the strongest source of referrals to Twin Cities Habitat. Our Homeownership Program has expanded and changed, so we need your help to reach a broader audience.

Send people to ***buywithhabitat.org***, and they can quickly find out if they qualify.

Gratefully,

Chris Coleman, President & CEO
Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity

Hard Hat & Black Tie

20th ANNIVERSARY EVENT

Saturday, May 4, 2019 at Hilton Minneapolis

Join us for our biggest night of the year! Enjoy fabulous live and silent auctions, splendid dinner, and an after party featuring live music by *Free and Easy Band*.

Tickets available at tchabitat.org/2019hhbt »



Photo by Dennis Chick

**SPECIAL GUEST & HOST,
T. MYCHAEL RAMBO**



Photo by Jeff Schad

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