

Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity®

HERALD XXIX - Number 2 Summer 2018

deserves a home they love

Kera's Story

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PLUS

A message from *new CEO Chris Coleman*...6 Get involved in unique ways this summer!....2

Kera and Thalia Homeowner family since 2017

Photo by Andrea Cole



Volunteering

Stay cool as an office volunteer this summer! Our ReStore locations and Homeownership Program also have opportunities available.

tchabitat.org/featuredroles



Women Build

Come together to build and repair homes. Bring a group of women to volunteer or sign up as an individual! tchabitat.org/womenbuild



Raise the Roof

Support Habitat as a golfer or volunteer at our 23rd Annual Raise the Roof Golf Tournament on Monday, August 6, at the Minneapolis Golf Club.

tchabitat.org/raisetheroof

Habitat 500 Bike Ride

Bike to raise money for Habitat. Ride for a full week July 15–21, join a 3-day ride, or sign up as an event volunteer.

habitat500.org

MOST Habitat Summer



Jordan Week of Kindness

Join us the last week of June in the Jordan Neighborhood of Minneapolis for a community celebration, resource fair, and more.

home.tchabitat.org/NR

Young Professionals

Join a group of young adults in their 20s and 30s for Habitat social events, volunteer opportunities, and more.

tchabitat.org/hypn



Photos by Andrea Cole, Dennis Chick, Paul Dinndorf, and Emily Isakson.







Photo courtesy of Jack Griffin.

Jan Pederson (second from left) and women of the Holy Hammers coalition volunteering on a build site.

every volunteer makes a difference



Jan Pederson volunteered for decades with the Holy Hammers coalition. She provided delicious lunches for the other volunteers and was passionate about helping immigrant families through her church. Her friends said she was one of the most caring and giving people they had ever known.

Jan passed away on All Saints Day in November 2016. Many were shocked when it was discovered that she left more than one million dollars to Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity for the building of homes.

Jan's mantra was "All I can do is the best I can do." Her legacy will live on in the lives of the many children who will grow up in stable, affordable homes built because of her remarkable generosity.

Learn more about planned giving at *tchabitat.org/legacy*

Twin Cities Habitat Volunteer Store Open for Business!

We're saying thanks to volunteers with Habitat swag-hats, hoodies, tool bags, socks, and more! Here's how it works:

- 1. Sign up to volunteer.
- 2. Show up to your volunteer day and sign in to earn points automatically.
- 3. Log in to the store and redeem your points. You can also pay any balance after your points are redeemed.

Questions about the points system or online store? Call 612-305-7114 or contact *volunteer@tchabitat.org* Redeem your volunteer points at *tchabitat.org/volunteerstore*



At 9:00 a.m. on a weekday in May 2017, Kera saw the house pop up in her online search.

By 9:05, she was talking to her realtor and Angelo, her boyfriend, to see if they could get a tour. At 11:00 a.m., they showed up at the home for a tour. They loved it. Soon, they would put in an offer.

"The stars aligned!" Kera says.

Because of Kera's hard work and determination, and your support of Habitat's Homeownership Program, she knew she was set up for success.

Kera is among the first to buy a home on the open real market using a Habitat mortgage*. And it's your generosity that makes her mortgage affordable. Like all Habitat homebuyers, Kera completed important mortgage and homeownership education. But our recent Homeownership Program expansion gave Kera the option to work with a realtor of her choice, and it turned out to be perfect for her.

"My impression of Habitat was people volunteering and building houses," she says. "Learning about the open market was really exciting, and perfect for my situation."

After working on her finances with Project for Pride in Living, a trusted partner of Habitat, Kera was ready.

Your gifts ensure Kera could work one-on-one with a Financial Empowerment Coach to prepare for her mortgage. You also fund Habitat's homeownership classes, where Kera enjoyed learning things like landscaping, conflict management with neighbors, and fire safety (to this day she keeps a fire extinguisher close to the fireplace).

And, her offer on that home she loved? Accepted.

"Habitat's putting you in this amazing position to succeed, so you will!" she adds. "It will be good for you, good for your family, good for your finances. You will be successful. It will lay the foundation for whatever you want to do!"

Learn more about Habitat homeownership at home.tchabitat.org

Buying with Habitat

"Habitat's putting you in this amazing position to succeed, so you will!"

Kera New Habitat Homeowner in 2018





All photography used in this spread by Andrea Cole.

You're the reason Kera could buy a home she loves with a mortgage she can afford.

Your support allowed us to innovate by offering families the chance to buy a home on the open market with a Habitat mortgage. With your help, we can *double* the number of families who can buy a home with Habitat.

Support more families. Give now at tchabitat.org/donate

* All Habitat mortgages are originated by TCHFH Lending, Inc., which is Habitat's wholly-owned nonprofit mortgage company.



Habitat Herald - Summer 2018



Photo by Erin Ahlstrom.

Dear friends.

I am so excited to join the Habitat team and the mission that you support! It's an honor to lead an organization that has such great impact-for families, children, and our entire community.

As I considered this opportunity, I thought of you. You give generously, volunteer often, and advocate loudly. You make Habitat's work possible and you inspired me to join the effort. Together, we can ensure everyone has a safe, stable place to live. Together, we can break cycles of generational poverty and close the dismal racial gap in homeownership.

I look forward to meeting you in the coming months. I hope you'll get engaged in our work this summer. When you support Habitat, you create rooms where kids play, yards where parents garden, and homes where families make memories.

Thank you for all you do to strengthen neighborhoods and transform lives with Habitat.

Gratefully, Chris Coleman

More about new President and CEO Chris Coleman at **tchabitat.org/chris**



Photo by Dennis Chick.

Vice President Walter Mondale with President Jimmy Carter, and then-Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak during the 2010 Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Work Project.

50 Years of Fair Housing

As a Senator in 1968, Walter Mondale co-authored the Fair Housing Act, which President Lyndon Johnson signed a week after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated. We sat down with Mondale on the 50th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act.

"There's evidence today that where kids grow up together, without racial separation, they do much better," Mondale says. "With that realization I hope we will get something done now... I've been for trying to get politicians to speak out on this. But we need everyone. We need the realtors. We need the

"Where kids grow up together, without racial separation, they do much better."

Walter Mondale Former U.S. Vice President

lenders. The way Bremer Bank is working with Twin Cities Habitat to help people buy homes in the communities they choose is great. We need more of that."

Today, wide racial gaps in housing persist across America, and Minnesota's are among the worst: 75% of white families in the Twin Cities own homes versus 23% of black families. Mondale says the act was a good first step, but elected leaders too often ignored it and today's leaders must do more to enforce it. He worries about how housing segregation negatively impacts our entire community. Twin Cities Habitat is dedicated to reducing racial gaps in housing and 90% of our homebuyers are households of color.

Thank you, Hard Hat Sponsors

The 2018 Hard Hat & Black Tie Gala on April 7 was the most successful event ever for Twin Cities Habitat! Nearly **1,000 people** together **raised over \$940,000** for families to buy safe, affordable Habitat homes. Plus, everyone had a ton of fun.



Photo by Jeff Schad.

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Your record-breaking support is already paying off.

Since the gala on April 7, more than 20 families have had a dedication ceremony for their Habitat homes!



Homeowner Buffy (center) and her family and guests owned this photo op at the event's photo booth.

Photo by Dennis Chick.



Win Cities Habitat for Humanity® ReStore Home Improvement Outlet

When you shop or donate at Twin Cities Habitat ReStore Outlets, you build strength and stability alongside families. In the last year, more than 48,000 shoppers and 14,000 donations made a huge impact on Habitat's mission.

Thank you.

Customer Appreciation Sale



everything in store on **June 23** -OR- get 30% off a single item with this coupon by **September 2**

Valid at 510 County Rd. D West, New Brighton or 2700 Minnehaha Ave., Minneapolis ReStore locations. Not good with other offers. Limit one per customer. Valid through 9/2/2018. CODE: **<3SHOPPERS**



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