

Habitat

HERALD

XXVIII - Number 4 Winter 2017

every one

can thrive in a
stable home.

Simone's Story

Your generosity impacted three generations of a family through one Habitat home

6

PLUS

Your newest volunteer gig

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Top 10 ways for you to maximize your charitable holiday giving

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Photo by Andrea Cole Photography

More than 25 Twin Cities business leaders joined our 16th Annual **CEO Build** in St. Paul, including (left to right) **Jay Lund** of Andersen Corporation, **Sue Haigh** of Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity, **Bert Colianni** of Pohlad Companies, and **Dave Kvamme** of Wells Fargo Minnesota.

Dear Friends,

What a fall it's been! Many thanks for showing your generosity on build sites, at our ReStores, and during events like the Women of Habitat Hope Builders Luncheon, CEO Build, Senior Pastor Build, and Give to the Max Day. And a very special thank you to our partners locally and globally who have supported Habitat's disaster relief efforts following the devastating hurricanes in Puerto Rico, Florida, and Texas.

With the first frost, I was reminded of the coziness of winter: it's a time to slow down, snuggle in, and be at home with family. My daughters will travel home for a few special days together. As we prepare and serve meals together, my kitchen will fill with the sounds of slicing, dicing, and chopping (and some good-natured teasing and a lot of laughter). I can almost smell the freshly baked cookies—just like my mom's kitchen back in Owatonna. Despite December's chill, the house will be warm as we recall old memories and create new ones.

These are simply the very best moments in life, and they all start at home. I hope you will share moments like these with your family this holiday season.

Unfortunately, too many families in our community don't have the comfort and safety of a good home.



But because you share your time and resources with Twin Cities Habitat, together we can create home for more families. Nearly 1,200 Habitat homeowners have now created winter memories with their own families, just like I do with mine and you with yours. Thank you for partnering to make this happen.

On page 6, you can read about Simone, who grew up in her mom's stable Habitat home. Because of generous supporters like you, she had a warm place to make winter memories with her mom and sister. She had a foundation on which she could build a bright future—a strong education, her dream career, and her very own home for her family.

That's the generational impact your partnership has for families in our community. Thank you for giving generously to Twin Cities Habitat this year.

Gratefully,

Sue Haigh

Sue Haigh
President and CEO

Unlock the power of our groundbreaking partnership with Bremer Bank to create affordable homeownership opportunities for 500 families.

***your
gifts in
action***

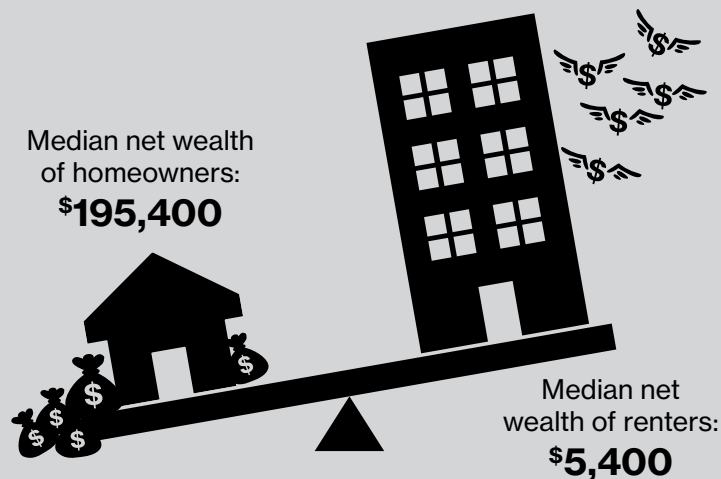
Muktar and Esniya were the first family to partner with Habitat to purchase their home on the open market. *Their boys love their new home.*

Photo by Andrea Cole Photography

Homeownership is a game changer for families!

Your support makes homes affordable, leading to economic independence so families can truly thrive.

Habitat homebuyers work one-on-one with a financial coach to improve credit, pay off debt, and increase savings.



Homeownership contributes
\$9–10k
in wealth creation
each year



Photo by Andrea Cole Photography

Thank you to the 16,000+ people who volunteered with Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity this year! Your partnership enables local families to build greater strength, stability, and self-reliance.



new volunteer opportunity!

Interact with potential homebuyers with our new Program Information Center. Answer questions and direct calls to play an integral role in the homebuying process. We're seeking outgoing people with customer-service skills who can volunteer regularly. Interested?

Email volunteer@tchabitat.org



Photo by Andrea Cole Photography

Twin Cities Habitat ReStore recently won the MN Retailers Association's Social Responsibility award. A record 4,100 volunteers served at ReStore this year.

every americorps member

gets things done for Habitat



Your advocacy makes a difference!

Thank you Housing Heroes for saving the AmeriCorps program from funding cuts by contacting your policymakers!



Photo by Andrea Cole Photography

AmeriCorps member **Kenzie Lund** got to show his parents, **Jay and Gail Lund**, a thing or two when they volunteered at this year's **CEO Build**.

"I love what I get to accomplish every day and the difference I know I am making. There is so much more that can happen when a family has an affordable, stable place to call home. It's not about just building and repairing homes—it's about providing the foundation from which families can improve every aspect of their lives."

Kenzie Lund

*Year-long AmeriCorps Servicemember,
Construction Volunteer Facilitator*

Join the AmeriCorps Team

- Pay for your education
- Receive a living allowance
- Learn new skills
- Create a positive difference
- Serve for a year or a summer

More information is available at
tchabitat.org/ameri-corps



**New AmeriCorps
members being sworn in
for the current build year.**

Photo by Blake Mackenzie

every success story starts at home

Your support impacts generations. You provide the firm foundation that gives local families the chance to write their own success stories—like Simone's.

"My mom, being a Habitat homeowner, gave me that stability—becoming a mom myself, I knew that's what I wanted to give my kids. Because I saw my mom own a home, I knew that I could."

Simone is passing on that stability to her kids. She's enrolled them

in schools that are best for them—whether that's to nurture a daughter's love of Spanish, or provide support for a son with special needs.

Simone has also been able to pursue a career she loves and give back to her community.

"I'm a social worker so I know about the need that's out there. Habitat is a special program. We know that when people have a stable place to go, it's a foundation for success."



"Because I saw my mom own a home, I knew that I could."

Simone

Grew up in a Twin Cities Habitat Home



A divorce left Simone's mom, Betty, struggling to make ends meet for her two daughters. They moved every few months in search of a stable, affordable place to live.



Betty partnered with Habitat in 1991. Working alongside volunteers she rehabbed and purchased her North Minneapolis home when Simone was nine.



The stability of Betty's home meant Simone could stay in one school and build strong friendships. She went on to earn a Master's degree in social work.



After years of careful planning and saving, Simone bought a home of her own. She and her four kids are now thriving in their North Minneapolis community.



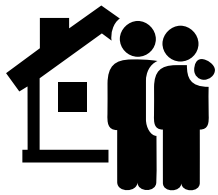
Her sister Lynnisha also bought a home nearby, where she hosts a weekly family brunch. Betty paid off her Habitat home, where she still lives, in 2007.



Photos by Andrea Cole Photography

Thank you for strengthening your community by supporting Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity.

Thrivent Financial is our **#1 all-time sponsor**, contributing more than **\$9.7 million** over the last 25 years. Here's what that support looks like:



84
families
welcomed
home

159
repair projects
completed



40k
volunteer hours
contributed

\$1M
pledged to
disaster relief



THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®



Thank you, home sponsors!

Legacy Sponsors \$150,000+

Andersen Corporate Foundation
Entrepreneurs House
Ryan Companies
Thrivent Builds
Wells Fargo
Women Build (Hugh J. Anderson
Foundation & Wells Fargo)

Keystone \$100,000+

3Mgives Habitat Project
Delta Air Lines
General Mills Foundation
Target

Cornerstone \$75,000+

Holy Hammers
Travelers Foundation

Sustaining \$50,000+

AdvisorNet Financial
Ameriprise Financial
Bank of America
Cisco Systems & Optum
Technology
Ecolab Foundation
Prime Therapeutics
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
United Properties



Photo by Andrea Cole Photography

Special thanks to Andersen Corporation for sponsoring the *Women of Habitat Hope Builders Luncheon* this fall.

Andersen and Habitat have partnered for more than 20 years to build quality, affordable homes with families throughout the Twin Cities, across the country, and around the world, including in recent disaster relief areas.



NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION FOR 2018

Twin Cities
Habitat for Humanity®

Hard Hat & Black Tie

SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 2018 AT

THE *Depot*
EST. 1899

GO NUTS AT THE GALA

that's a little less formal, a *lot* more fun.

Contact us at events@tchabitat.org for more additional information about this year's event or for sponsorship opportunities.



Photo by Andrea Cole Photography

Habitat on the Hill

Join us on Thursday, April 26, 2018
at the state capitol building.

- Meet with your legislators.
- Make collective impact for housing.
- **Be a Housing Hero!**

Visit tchabitat.org/advocacy for more information.
You can sign up for email alerts on how to contact decision-makers at key moments.

TOP 10 TIPS

Maximize your charitable holiday giving

1. Join the Carpenter's Club with a monthly gift
2. See if your employer matches employee giving
3. Make a gift of stock
4. Give from your 401(k) or IRA
5. Give from your donor-advised fund
6. Put Twin Cities Habitat in your will or estate
7. Donate your old car at carsforhomes.org
8. Give new and gently used items to a ReStore
9. Make a gift of property or donate a home
10. **Give before December 31!**

Find details on all these ways to give and more at tchabitat.org/donate

every donor makes a difference



Thank you to the 7,000 donors this year who make Habitat homes affordable!

See how your gifts impact our mission in our annual report, online at tchabitat.org/ar



Sharlene is a local Realtor who donates a percentage of every home sale she makes to Twin Cities Habitat.

"I think of home as a sanctuary. Comforting, welcoming, warm, where you can be yourself. Home should be nurturing to the soul. A house is just a house, but the people in it make it a home."

Sharlene Hensrud
Donor

every gift

creates new
beginnings

Your gifts fund so much more than nails and lumber. Your gifts make homes affordable for families, so they can build brighter futures for their kids.

This holiday season, give the gift of home. You'll make an impact that continues for generations.



tchabitat.org/give