

Footprints on Our Community 30 Years of Impact

*Unless the Lord builds the house,
its builders labor in vain.*
- Psalms 127:1





Dave Emerson
Executive Director

Welcome and thank you for your help in serving the communities of the St. Vrain and Estes Valley. We are very pleased to present our 30th anniversary impact report! It is absolutely amazing that what started in 1988 with a simple concept – working in equal partnership with the community and future homeowners – has grown exponentially through each decade. As we think of our progress and impact, it is encouraging to remember the thousands of community members who have been part of our success – as volunteers, as donors, as partner families, and as advocates. We thank you for your support and we look forward to the impact this good work will have on you and those we serve.

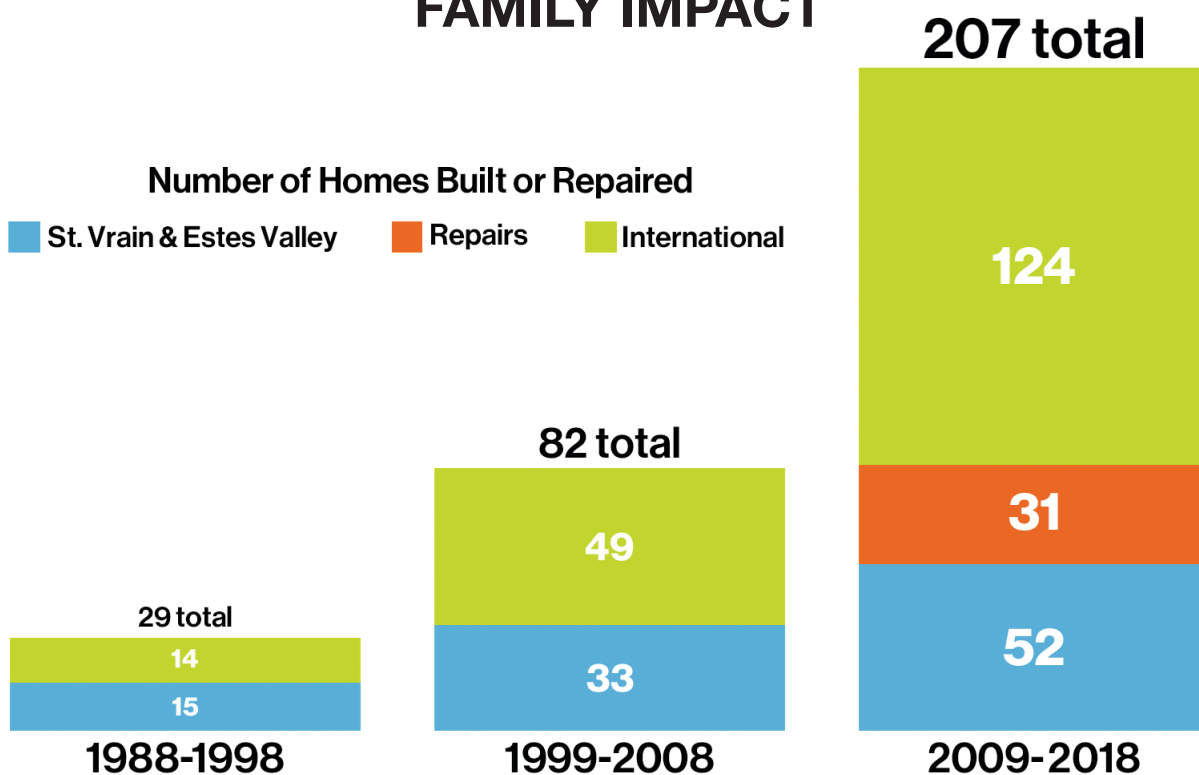


Bob Wettergren
Board President

Our Mission:

Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope.

FAMILY IMPACT



individuals served



1988-1998: 63
1999-2008: 119
2009-2018: 196

locally overseas*
63 42
119 157
196 372
*estimate



87 out of 100 homes still owned by original family

21 mortgages paid off in full



ECONOMIC IMPACT



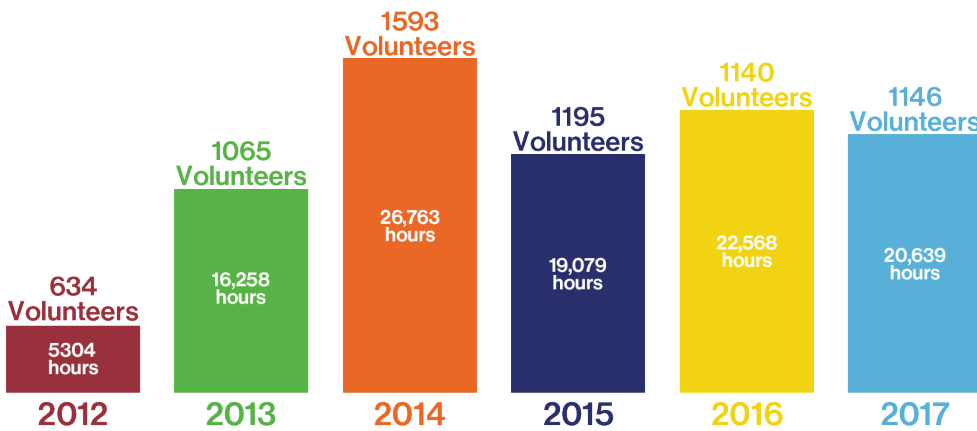
total assessed value of homes:
\$23.2 million

cumulative property taxes paid by Habitat homeowners:
almost \$1 million



sales taxes collected by ReStore
cumulative Longmont sales taxes: **\$212,485**
cumulative Colorado state taxes: **\$307,253**

COMMUNITY IMPACT



material kept out of landfill by ReStore:
3,039 tons repurposed

Our Vision is a world where everyone would have a decent and affordable place to live.



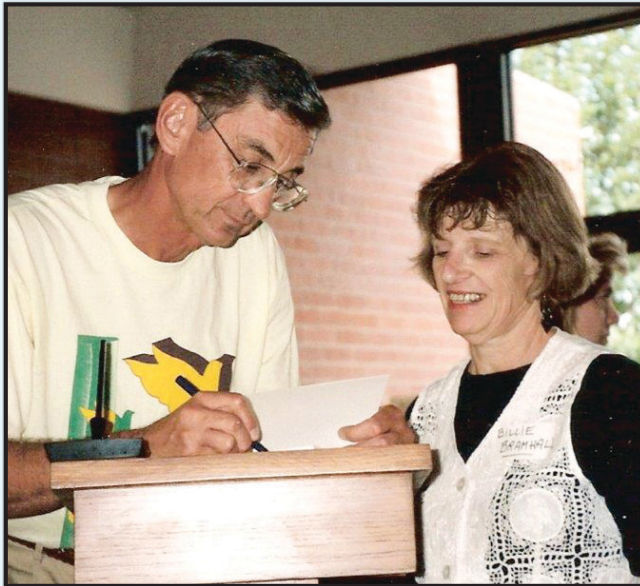
187 homes built internationally

Decade 1 (1988 to 1998)

Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans. - Proverbs 16:3

Beginnings

The idea that became Habitat for Humanity first grew from the fertile soil of Koinonia Farm, a community outside of Americus, Georgia, founded by farmer and biblical scholar Clarence Jordan. At Koinonia, Jordan and Habitat's eventual founders Millard and Linda Fuller developed the concept of "partnership housing." The concept centered on those in need of adequate shelter working side by side with volunteers to build decent, affordable houses. The Fullers went on to start Habitat for Humanity in 1976.



Millard Fuller visits Longmont in 1983

By 1983, Habitat was growing rapidly, and Millard Fuller came to visit Longmont. Community and church leaders met with him at the First Congregational United Church of Christ. The simplicity of the model was striking – people helping each other, sharing the work together, and the concept of donating to build a home and then using the payments to build more homes. The attendees were inspired to begin a Habitat affiliate in Longmont.

On August 15, 1988, Habitat for Humanity of the St. Vrain Valley came into existence as the 435th Habitat affiliate in the United States. These visionary volunteers acquired two properties, a home in need of rehabilitation and a building lot for a new home. The rehab was finished in November of 1990 and the first new home was completed in December of 1992.

Today Habitat for Humanity has over 1400 affiliates in the United States and serves in 70 countries around the world. St. Vrain Habitat now serves 25-30 families a year and will complete its 100th home this year. The vision of a few people to provide decent, affordable housing leaves a continuing footprint on the community because thousands of generous donors and volunteers choose to carry the legacy to build families with strength, stability, and self-reliance.



8/15/1988

Habitat for Humanity of the St. Vrain Valley Founded



11/18/1990

Completed First Home in Longmont (Rehabilitation)



12/1/1992

Completed Second Home in Longmont (New Construction)



Thank You Isn't Enough

When her duplex sold and her family needed to move, Juana Mendoza did not know what to do. She did not want to move neighborhoods and force her kids to leave their school. A friend recommended Habitat, prompting Juana to apply for the program.

Juana was amazed by the level of financial and labor support from the community, especially by people she did not know. Her Habitat house was sponsored by Target Corporation, and fifteen young professionals from Nebraska came to help with the build. "Thank you isn't enough," Juana says to all the people who helped fund and construct her home.

"Because of a stable home, my kids were able to graduate from the same school."

Inspired by the generosity of Habitat donors and volunteers, Juana strives to be a 'giver' to this day, helping others however she can, even if only to offer her phone number to a young mother on the street who may need encouragement. For 29 years, she has worked for Boulder County, currently employed in early intervention services. In November 2008, she paid off her Habitat home. Juana explained she understood "the blessing of a Habitat home" as she burned her mortgage in joyous celebration.

"Because of a stable home," Juana explains. "My kids were able to attend and graduate from the same school," a school Juana, herself, attended. Ezekiel is married with two children, obtained an MBA, and works as a city revenue manager for Arvada. Socorro is married with two children, works as a lunch lady for Alpine Elementary, and recently purchased her own home with her husband. Miguel graduated with an Associate's Degree in graphic design and works for Chick-fil-A.



Juana Mendoza
burning her mortgage

International Impact

Since its formation, St. Vrain Habitat has supported the construction of homes internationally. We tithe 10% of our unrestricted funds. To date, we have built 187 homes overseas. Today we partner with 5 countries – Paraguay, Armenia, Cambodia, Ethiopia, and Lesotho – sending our tithe and a Global Village team to build with them. In 2015, St. Vrain Habitat was recognized with the Malachi 3:10 Award for contributing \$500,000 to Habitat's international work. St. Vrain is also one of the top 10 tithing affiliates nationally among communities of our size.



3/15/1993

Habitat for Humanity of
Estes Valley Founded



4/8/1994

Completed Fourth Home,
First in Frederick



10/27/1995

Completed First Duplex
in Estes Park



Decade 2 (1999 to 2008)

You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what He has promised. - *Hebrews 10:36*

Retail With A Mission – Expanding Our Footprint

The St. Vrain ReStore offers an inviting place for people to learn about Habitat's mission and work. Customers experience the satisfaction of supporting the Habitat mission. Every purchase helps St. Vrain Habitat build more homes. Donors provide the product to sell within the store. Volunteers receive the unique opportunity to serve in a "retail with a mission" environment. Together, these three groups help the ReStore provide low-cost home improvement goods to the public and



financially support the building of Habitat homes.

In early 2004, the affiliate began to explore starting a ReStore and searching for a storefront. Two years later, St. Vrain ReStore opened its doors. The first store manager, Tara Nichols, describes the early days as a "grassroots movement." As the only paid employee, Tara relied heavily on word-of-mouth promotion and temp workers. Within

five months, the ReStore was "in the black," with profit contributing to home builds, both locally and overseas. In early August 2009, the ReStore relocated to 1351 Sherman Drive. As part of a team-building exercise, the Longmont High School football team camped out in the old building and helped move the ReStore to its new home. A store expansion in 2013 allowed the ReStore to offer more products to the community and increase sales.

Today, the ReStore employs 14 full and part-time staff, and volunteers contribute approximately 3,780 hours per calendar year. Sales have contributed almost a million dollars to construction. Recently, we expanded our shopping experience to eBay, offering unique, collectible items online. As the ReStore continues to grow, it is our hope that every customer, donor, and volunteer who passes through our doors would know a little bit more about Habitat and experience the satisfaction of supporting affordable housing.

New Partners

As St. Vrain Habitat continued to serve more families, new partnerships were key to its success. None was more important than Thrivent Financial which not only brought new volunteers and churches into the Habitat family, it helped fund 11 homes in the community. We are thankful for this amazing partnership.



8/1/2002

Alan Erickson hired as first Executive Director.



4/28/2006

Completed 25th home in Longmont



9/7/2006

First Thrivent Builds Home Completed



Family First

When Rebecca Pepper began the path to Habitat homeownership, she was a single mother of three in her early twenties. Although she had a good job and a car, she did not have enough bedrooms and slept on a couch for three-and-a-half years. Raising her kids became increasingly difficult without help as she did not know if they would be able to continue living in the same place. While she was able to pay all of her bills month-to-month, Rebecca found it was impossible to save and plan for their future without extra income.

Rebecca describes the Habitat homeownership process as “confidence building,” because people believed in her. “I didn’t realize how much I liked to learn nor did I know what community meant until Habitat,” she explains. Enthusiastic from the start, Rebecca poured herself into “every aspect” of her home, blessed by the love and kindness of strangers. Habitat helped Rebecca acquire valuable knowledge and a deep appreciation for hard work as she worked on her own home and other future homeowners’ homes.

“Habitat gave me the confidence and the tools to maintain stability.”

Today, her oldest daughter Shantel (19) has a son, Gracen (2). Rebecca is grateful she could provide a safe place for Shantel to stay and finish high school. Hailey (17) is active in Girl Scouts and sports, works two jobs, and bought her own car. Dominick (15) participates in sports, band, and volunteers with his mom at bingo.

In the course of building her Habitat home, Rebecca met her husband, Jason. When they were married, he brought his own son, Trenton (now 13), into the family. Together, they have a daughter, Ella (now 7). Jason is a veteran and served in the Marines. He is an engineering tech at Vestas and is working toward a Bachelor’s degree in engineering. Because of the stability a Habitat home provides, Rebecca is able to be the primary caretaker for her stepson with special needs, and be more available for her own children.



Giving back is a huge priority because of what Habitat gave Rebecca and her family. She is passionate about serving veterans and volunteers with Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, Longmont Food Rescue, and her kids’ schools. Rebecca is proud to put “family first,” hosting all family events in their home. She loves the ability to be present at her children’s activities and events. “I didn’t know how much the home would provide for me,” she says. Habitat provided a sense of comfort to Rebecca, knowing she could afford a mortgage on her own, and gave her the “confidence and the tools to maintain stability.”



10/11/2006
ReStore Opens
in Longmont



7/3/2007
Completed 10th Home
in Estes Park



11/20/2008
Dedication of 1000th Habitat
Home Built in Colorado



Decade 3 (2009 to 2018)

My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, in secure homes,
in undisturbed places of rest. - Isaiah 32:18

Discovering What Community Means

Community is “family,” according to Doris Crespo, a Dacono resident in The Glens. When St. Vrain Habitat adopted Neighborhood Revitalization in 2015, the affiliate faced the difficult task of building trust and defining this fuzzy word – “community.” Neighborhood Revitalization began in 2010 as an initiative created by Habitat for Humanity International. The program is designed to fulfill Habitat’s missional component of building communities, serving more families in a holistic way.

Never one to shy away from a challenge, Nicole Stanek, our first Neighborhood Revitalization Manager, sought to develop community among residents in The Glens. Working to understand what residents wanted and needed, she attended city council meeting, met with local businesses, and engaged in “listening conversations” with residents. St. Vrain Habitat facilitated community building activities such as a block party and ice cream social to provide a place for neighbors to gather and to heighten awareness about Habitat’s work.

“This started by us just sitting around having a conversation about our community,” Kathy Wittman, a homeowner in The Glens explains. Today, 26 residents form a coalition, The Pride of The Glens, to identify neighborhood aspirations and tangible projects to

inspire vibrant community. St. Vrain Habitat has completed 8 homes, 7 home repairs, and hired a repair manager. Through strong partnerships with the City of Dacono and businesses such as Lowe’s and Wells Fargo, neighbors are able to see progress on resident-identified projects such as a mural celebrating Dacono’s history and new landscaping in Clem Du Four Park.

By developing cross-sector partnerships, Neighborhood Revitalization seeks to build sustainable, safe, and engaged neighborhoods. The “only way” to develop community is to work together, Doris states. Neighborhood Revitalization provides the structure for residents to define community, identify neighborhood concerns, and share their gifts. When neighbors draw together through a sense of pride, empowerment, and possibility, amazing things can happen. “We are making things beautiful,” Kathy says. “...like when you redecorate your home. The simplest things can breathe new life.”



8/10-12/2009
ReStore Moved to Present Location



8/30/2009
Completed 42nd home.
First Home in Dacono



2/13/2010
First Apostles Build Home Completed



8/28/2011
Completed 50th Home in Longmont



11/12-19/2011
First St. Vrain Global Village Trip to Cambodia



Inside These Four Walls

Carmen's story is one of perseverance. Her journey to Habitat homeownership started long before her move-in date. A single mom of two, Carmen Mireles applied three times for a Habitat home. Never deterred, Carmen kept applying, choosing to use each rejection as an opportunity to learn.

A recipient of the first Apostles Build, Carmen and her children appreciate the value of working toward a long-term goal because of their Habitat home, thanks to the generosity of 10 local churches. Carmen regularly reminds her children, **"No matter what is going on in the outside world, inside these four walls, you are safe. You are home."**



Carmen completed her pharmacy technician certification and worked in the field for several years. Today, she works as a legal assistant for an immigration law firm and a part-time bilingual funeral director. She also serves on her HOA board. Carmen has married, and her husband, Jose, works for Otterbox. Alessandra, 21, will graduate from the University of Northern Colorado with a degree in criminal justice. Angel, 16, is a junior at Niwot High, and is working toward a mechanics certificate.

Flooding of Biblical Proportions

It started with much needed rain on September 9th but it just kept coming. The flood of 2013 destroyed 119 homes in Boulder County and damaged hundreds more. Lyons took a major blow. Longmont was split in half by the river, at times cutting new paths through the community.

As the area began its recovery efforts, St. Vrain Habitat's donors and volunteers responded to the need for repairing homes and rebuilding lives. Habitat for Humanity International sent one of their experts to help guide our efforts. The Longmont Community Foundation and United Way provided funding allowing us to hire a full-time repair manager and purchase materials to repair homes. Individuals and churches provided donations above and beyond their traditional giving.

Dozens of corporations volunteered. Organizations like All Hands, the Mennonite group Christian Public Service, and Lyons Volunteers worked with Habitat on both repairs and new home construction. Habitat partnered with the community to provide housing and support.

Flood recovery is by its nature a long process. St. Vrain Habitat has built new homes with 8 families who were affected by the 2013 flood. Another 6 homes are currently under construction in Lyons for families who previously lived in the community. ReBuild, the St. Vrain Valley repair program, restored 23 damaged homes. St. Vrain Habitat's donors and volunteers turned the challenge of the flood into new opportunities to serve the community.



9/9-12/2013
St. Vrain River Flood



3/28/2014
ReStore Expansion
Dedicated



2/13/2015
Completed 73rd Home.
First Home in Lyons



5/1/2015
Neighborhood Revitalization
Program Begins in Dacono



1/1/2017
St. Vrain and Estes Valley
Habitats Merge



Decade 4 (2019 to 2028)

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap,
if we do not give up. - Galatians 6:9

Imagine the Possibilities

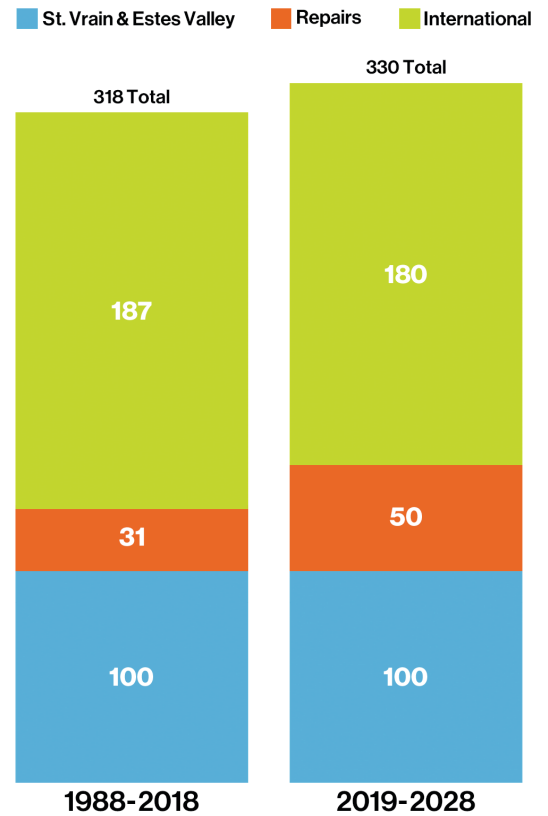
While it is incredibly inspiring to reflect back on the last 30 years, we are even more excited about the possibilities for the next decade. In the last 30 years we impacted 318 families – we believe we can more than double that over the next 10 years. At the heart of all we do is empowering families by partnering with them in homeownership. With a growing number of families in our program, our volunteer momentum and commitments, and the team we have in place we believe we can build another 100 homes, repair another 50, and finance the construction of an additional 180 homes internationally through our Tithe. That's another 330 family partners whose lives will be permanently impacted and through their commitments back will help serve even more families.

Opportunities and Challenges for Decade 4

- Acquisition of Land for New Construction
- Grow the base of Financial Support
- Build Volunteer Support in the Carbon Valley for Neighborhood Revitalization
- Strengthen existing faith relationships and engage new congregations
- Re-establish a strong presence in Estes Park

When we say our Partner Families are as much a part of our success in building and repairing homes - we really mean it! Their mortgage and repair payments now represent nearly 46% of our annual cash flow. That means that any donation of time or money is leveraged tremendously by the homeowner commitments already in place. At Habitat for Humanity, those we serve are equal Partners in what we do.

Doubling Our Footprint

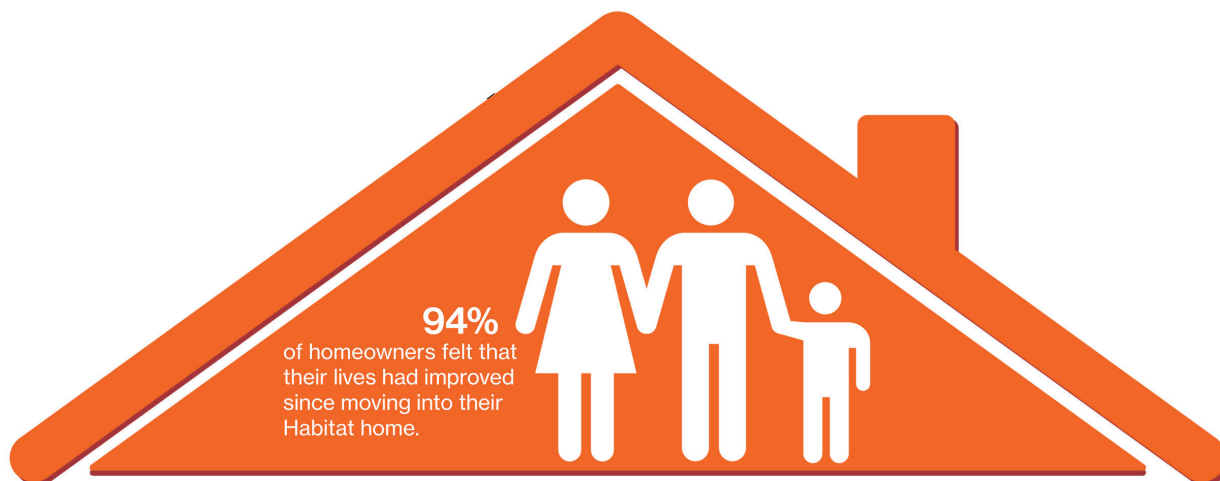


“the partner family will gradually free the initial capital to build houses for others... Even as all are benefited, so should all share. If, as Jesus says, “It is more blessed to give than to receive”, then even the poorest should not be denied the extra blessedness of giving”

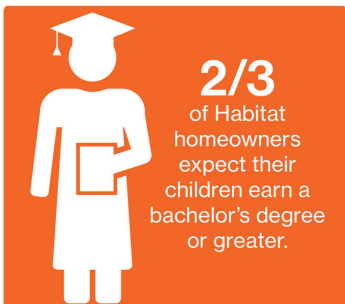
-Clarence Jordan, Spiritual Founder of Habitat for Humanity, explaining the Fund for Humanity (current day mortgages) in 1968



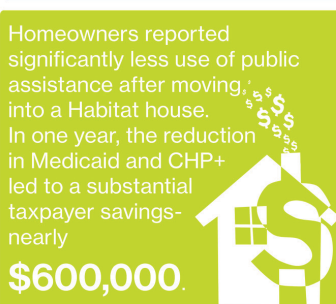
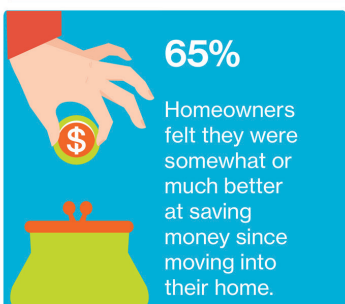
There's no better way to describe the impact of a Habitat home than the image below. Habitat for Humanity of Colorado completed a research study with hundreds of Habitat families. The benefits of living in an affordable home became readily apparent with improvements in health, educational attainment and safety.



"...this has helped us be a better family together as well as being supportive of each other individually, including school and future education aspirations."



"I think I am healthier and happier as I do not live with stress about finances, or landlords."



"I don't have to work two jobs to afford housing; I can work a normal work week and be present as a parent for my children."

Shtivelband, A., Runnels, A. M., Spahr, K. S., Wisman, M., & Herian, M. N. (2018). 2018 Impact Study. Report prepared for Habitat for Humanity of Colorado by Research Evaluation Consulting.



Leave a Footprint



deserves a decent place to live

Donate

- Donate as an individual.
- Donate via a matching gift with your workplace.
- Plan a legacy gift.
- Give the gift of stock.
- Donate your car for a home.
- Donate in honor of a loved one.
- Donate your gently used household items or building supplies to the ReStore.
- Make an in-kind contribution of building supplies.

Volunteer

- Volunteer on a construction site.
- Bring a group from your workplace to volunteer on our construction site or at the ReStore.
- Participate with your church in an Apostles Build.
- Volunteer at the ReStore.
- Volunteer in our administrative office.
- Utilize your trade skills on a worksite.
- Travel with Habitat on a Global Village Trip.
- Serve on our Board of Directors.

Shop

- Purchase low-cost home improvement goods at the ReStore.
- Shop online via the ReStore eBay store.
- Participate in Amazon Smile and designate St. Vrain Habitat as your nonprofit organization.

Advocate

- Be a spokesperson for affordable housing.
- Share Habitat posts on your social media.
- Urge your government representatives to make affordable housing a priority.



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