

HABITAT NEWS

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Sacramento Habitat enters the Final Phase of Indian Lane



struction began in 2013, the project has hosted close to 2,000 volunteers who have put in over 26,000 hours helping on the project.

Sacramento Habitat is still looking for home sponsors for 2 of the remaining 5 homes on Indian Lane.

If you are interested in being a part of this historical and ground-breaking project, contact Laine Himmelmann at:

*LHimmelmann@shfh.org
(916) 440-1215 ext. 1108*

It was nearly a decade ago when planning first began for Sacramento Habitat's ambitious Indian Lane project—a transit-oriented, LEED development which would feature 14-single family homes for Habitat families.

After acquiring the land in 2006 for roughly \$25,000 through the city's negotiated tax lien sale program, it would take Sacramento Habitat several years to raise the necessary sponsorship funds to actually start building. In 2011, after a successful capitol campaign, Sacramento Habitat finally broke ground on the infrastructure.

Says CEO Ken Cross, "After spending over 6 years of planning, raising money, grant funding, and working with the city...[walking the newly paved streets] gave me goose bumps."

This year, Sacramento Habitat will enter the final phase of Indian Lane and complete the remaining 5 homes of the 14 unit development.

The project, says Sacramento Habitat, has been a true community effort with sponsorship funding coming from everywhere from banks to law offices to churches. As for the labor, since home con-



UPDATE! Introducing Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento

Merger between Sacramento Habitat for Humanity and Habitat for Humanity of Yolo County is complete—
NEW website, NEW name, NEW larger service area.

Visit www.habitatgreatersac.org for more information

CEO CORNER with Ken Cross



Sacramento Habitat for Humanity (SHfH) just completed our 29th year serving low-income families in the County of Sacramento.

A few 2014 highlights:

Merger – SHfH successfully merged with HFH, Yolo County. Our new name is *Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento (HFHGS)*. Our service area will include both Sacramento and Yolo counties.

Homes built - Completed a record 13 homes in calendar year 2014. On Dec. 5th, we dedicated our 109th home built in Sacramento.

Global Mission - Hosted 3 Global Village Trips to Nicaragua with a total of 51 team members in 2014. Team donations and willing hands funded and built 5 homes for Nicaraguan families. Tithed from our unrestricted funds to build another 20 homes for a total of 25 Nicaraguan homes built in 2014. Our 25-year partnership with HFH Nicaragua has created homeownership for 242 families.

Families served - Our 38 homes built/families served worldwide in 2014 is a new affiliate record that allowed over 150 people to have the opportunity for a safe, decent place to live. Our 351 homes built worldwide in 29 years have given over a 1,000 children a “step up” to help break the cycle of poverty.

Volunteers – A record 2,500 plus volunteers and 112 groups provided almost 40,000 hours of volunteer labor working side-by-side with Habitat future homeowners to give them a “hand up, not a hand out” in achieving the American dream of homeownership.

Green building – HFHGS is continuing to build LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified homes with the US Green Building Council. To date we have built 21 LEED-certified homes with another 8 homes pending approval.

Indian Lane Project – The affiliate has completed 9 of our 14 LEED homes on Indian Lane. This project is a first for Sacramento as a LEED, transit-oriented development (TOD) across the street from the Florin Road Light Rail Station, dense at almost 20 units per net acre and homeownership for families at 40%-60% of the area median income.

Stewardship – HFHGS continues to be a good steward of the donor dollars entrusted to us with an annual “unqualified audit” by our independent financial auditing firm of William & Olds CPAs. More than 88% of each donor dollar was spent on programs and services to help support our vision of “A world where everyone has a decent place to live.”

On behalf of the HFH Greater Sacramento board of directors, staff and Habitat homeowner families, thank you for your continued support with your time, talent and treasure. Please know that you have significantly helped our mission of “Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope.”

More than just a House...

A recent survey shows the ripple effects of Sacramento Habitat homes on families and neighborhoods

For years, supporters of Sacramento Habitat for Humanity have noticed the positive ripple effects of Habitat for Humanity homes on the lives of the children who live in them and the neighborhoods where the houses are built, but recently Sacramento Habitat for Humanity was able to quantify those effects through surveying the first 100 families to receive Sacramento Habitat homes.

The results of the survey, which were later published in Habitat World Magazine, Habitat for Humanity International's Worldwide Publication, quantified what many have been seeing for years.

Since receiving their Habitat home...

- 76% of families with school-age children have seen an improvement in study habits and school
- 69% of families have had at least one family member start or complete higher education or job training programs
- 69% decrease in welfare and food stamp program usage.
- 57% of families have more savings
- 48% of families feel more connected to the community.

potential

Having helped more than **100** families make a fresh start in decent housing, Sacramento Habitat has begun to measure the paths paved by those new beginnings.

"This country, this home, this is a foundation for growth and the opportunity to work for our dreams."

A RECENT SURVEY OF SACRAMENTO HABITAT HOMEOWNERS REVEALED THAT:

- 76% of families with school-age children have seen an improvement in study habits and school.
- 69% of families have had at least one family member start or complete higher education or job training programs.
- 69% of families have more savings.
- 57% of families have more savings.
- 48% of families feel more connected to the community.

View the latest issue and subscribe to Habitat World at habitat.org/magazine

You can't take it with you when you go — DPR Employee leaves behind a Legacy for Single Mom and her two children



John Kramer, a 14-year DPR employee, may have passed away in September of 2013, but his legacy will forever live on through 2748 Oakmont Street—a new 3-bedroom Habitat home for single mom, Mizan Tsegay, and her two children.

In honor of their beloved colleague, a strong supporter of Habitat for Humanity, DPR has donated \$21,000 in Kramer's honor to partially sponsor Tsegay family's new home.

In addition to helping fund the project, DPR employees are also participating in what they are referring as "the John Kramer Memorial Build" by providing labor for the project as well.



Says Rodman Marquez, who is spearheading DPR's community

initiative efforts in the Sacramento region along with Megan Valles, "There's a pretty big, gratifying feeling you get from taking a sack of raw material and turning it into a wall that will be a home for someone to live in...Mizan has a lot of challenges as a single parent with a special needs child. She is very excited to be getting to move out of an apartment and into a home of her own."



From building the walls to various other stages of construction, DPR employees have been coming out strong to pay honor to the memory of their former colleague and help provide Mizan and her children with a safe, decent place to live.

Mizan and her children are currently living in a 1-bedroom apartment

from which Mizan also runs a business as a hairdresser.



Mizan is especially excited for what the move from their over-crowded apartment to their Habitat home will mean for her daughter, Dena, who suffers from severe autism.



Says Mizan, "Dena wants to play, but in a small apartment it's hard. I'm so happy I'm going to own my home for my kids."

Mizan just recently completed her required 500 hours of sweat equity, no small feat for a single Mom raising two children and working full time.

The home, which Habitat has made special alterations on to ensure that it is a safe place for Dena, is expected to be complete this February with a dedication date TBD.

For more information on how you can leave your legacy and make dreams come true for a family in need, contact Anne Gambino at AGambino@shfh.org or (916) 440-1215 ext. 1416

Making a Difference Locally AND Globally— Sacramento Habitat planning 3 Global Village Trips to Nicaragua in 2015



In 2015, Sacramento Habitat will continue to expand on its tithe partnership with Hábitat para la Humanidad Nicaragua by hosting 3 more Global Village Trips.

Since 2012, has sent over 80 local volunteers to Nicaragua, Sacramento Habitat's sister tithe affiliate, to help build homes for families in need.

According to CEO Ken Cross, interest in the Global Village Trip program, a 9-day build where volunteers provide both the labor and funding for the project, grows every year.

Says Cross, "Volunteers come home with a renewed sense of

appreciation for life here in the States."

Sacramento Habitat is currently hosting orientations and signing up volunteers for the 2015 trips. Each trip can accommodate up to 24 volunteers.

If you are interested in joining one of the 2015 Global Village Trips, visit www.habitatgreatersac.org and click on the "Global Village Trip" tab to sign up for an upcoming orientation.

Questions? Contact Sacramento Habitat CEO Ken Cross at KCross@sfhh.org or (916) 440-1215 ext. 1105

2015 Global Village Trips:

- **April 4th-12th**
- **May 9th-17th**
- **November 14th-22nd**

Building the HYP! Habitat Young Professionals group continues to grow through Membership Builds and Happy Hours

The HYP is building for Sacramento Habitat's first ever Habitat Young Professionals Group which in a few short months already boasts over 30 members and has hosted over 200 Young Professionals between the various HYP Mixer Events and Builds.

The HYP group, which hosts quarterly build days and happy hours,

is made up of young professionals, age 21-40, who believe in supporting the Habitat mission. Whether you enjoy swinging a hammer or swigging back a beer, this group has a fun way for everyone to give back and network.

If you would like more info on HYP contact Laci Dewater at (916) 440-1215 ext. 1109 or LDewater@shfh.org





Get your "Hard Hats and High Heels" Ready for Sacramento Habitat's Annual Gala

Last April, Sacramento Habitat premiered its first ever Fundraising Gala to a sold out crowd of 228 guests.

Following last year's success, Sacramento Habitat looks forward to making its Gala an annual event and will be hosting the 2nd Annual Gala, themed "Hard Hats & High Heels", on April 9th, 2015 at the Sacramento Scottish Rite Temple.

This year, with the venue change, Sacramento Habitat hopes to host 350 guests and double the amount of support from last year.

The Gala, Sacramento Habitat's only fundraising event for the year, will once again include a 5-Course "Farm to Fork" Wine Dinner and Live Auction led by renowned Auctioneer David Sobon with Monica Woods from Channel 10 as the Emcee.



Says Sacramento Habitat CFO, Anne Gambino, "It should be a great night!"

Tickets for the dinner and auction to support building Hope and Homes for families in need are now on sale for \$100 per person. Tables for the event seat 10.

For more information on how to be a part of this years "Hard Hats & High Heels Gala", please contact CFO Anne Gambino by email at AGambino@shfh.org or (916) 440-1215 ext. 1416

UPCOMING EVENTS

21st Annual Hammy Awards Dinner

February 4th, 2015

The Center at 2300

2300 Sierra Blvd
Sacramento

5:30-7:30 pm

Tsegay Home Dedication

February TBD, 2015

Home Dedication

2748 Oakmont Street
Sacramento

10am

"Hard Hats & High Heels" Gala Fundraising Event

April 9th, 2015

Scottish Rite Center

6151 H Street
Sacramento

5:30-8:30pm

BIG Day of Giving

May 5th, 2015

www.givelocalnow.org

Midnight-11:59pm

Sacramento Habitat 30th Anniversary

September 11th, 2015

Visit our new website at www.habitatgreatersac.org for more information about all of Sacramento Habitat's upcoming events!

Save the Date

Annual Gala Fundraising Event
Thursday, April 9th, 2015
5:30-8:30pm

Sacramento Scottish Rite Temple
6151 H Street, Sacramento, CA 95819

Champagne Reception
5-course "Farm to Fork" Wine Dinner
Engaging and Inspirational Program
Live Auction led by Renowned
Auctioneer David Sobon

Tickets available for \$100/person
Visit www.habitatgreatersac.org or contact
AGambino@shfh.org or (916) 440-1215 ext. 1416



Fix the Block, Fix the Neighborhood

Sacramento Habitat rolls out its first Neighborhood Revitalization program with “A Brush with Kindness” in the Noralto Neighborhood



With disappearing State and Federal funding available due to the loss of Prop1C funding, Sacramento Habitat has been looking for creative ways to stretch resources and still serve as many families in need as possible.

According to Habitat CEO Ken Cross, the decision to start doing Neighborhood Revitalization was simple.

Says Cross, “I figured if you build one house and five fall down around it, are you really making any pro-

gress?”

Sacramento Habitat will be premiering its pilot “A Brush with Kindness” program in the Noralto neighborhood of Del Paso Heights in the coming months. The pilot project has been funded through a \$25,000 sponsorship provided by JPMorgan Chase who is also partially sponsoring two new construction projects in the same neighborhood on Forrest Street.

The A Brush with Kindness program will include painting, light exterior repairs and landscaping for owner-occupied homes who fall within the income guidelines. Homeowners will pay only a percentage of the total cost of repairs on an income-based sliding scale.

A Brush with Kindness homeowner partners will also be required to perform a certain number of hours of sweat equity based on the scope of work being done on their homes.

Says Cross, “This is still a hand up, not a hand out program, but this is giving us an opportunity to make a real difference in these neighborhoods for families who really need it.”

Sacramento Habitat hopes to eventually garner the support to expand its Neighborhood Revitalization program to other focus areas including Yolo County, South Sacramento, and Oak Park. But that will take time and sponsorship.

If you would like more information on how someone qualifies for low cost exterior painting or repairs through Sacramento Habitat for Humanity’s A Brush with Kindness Program, please contact our Family Services Manager Molly Gautreaux at MGautreaux@shfh.org or (916) 440-1215 ext. 1111

For information on how to become a partner sponsor for A Brush with Kindness project, contact Anne Gambino at AGambino@shfh.org or (916) 440-1215 ext. 1416

Sacramento Habitat to Celebrate 30th Anniversary this Summer

This September 11th, Sacramento Habitat for Humanity will be celebrating its 30th anniversary as a local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International.

The affiliate, founded in 1985 by a dedicated group of volunteers, has come a long way from its humble roots of building 1-2 homes a year.

In March of 2013, the local Sacramento affiliate was 1 of 7 affiliates out of nearly 1,500 to be recognized as one of Habitat for Humanity International’s “Affiliates of Distinction”.

A few months later, Sacramento Habitat completed its 100th home.

Then, in July of 2014, Sacramento Habitat went through its first merger with Habitat for Humanity, Yolo County and doubled its service area.

Says Sacramento Habitat Corporate Development, Officer Laine Himelmann, “Sacramento Habitat may be small, but we’ve proved that we are mighty. I can’t wait to see what will happen in the next 30 years.”

30 YEARS

- 109 local families served
- 250 families served overseas through tithing
- 1,000+ Children provided with a safe, decent place to call home
- Over 20,000 Volunteers
- Nearly a Million Volunteer Hours
- 0 Foreclosures

When is the last time you “ReStore’d”?

Sacramento Habitat for Humanity ReStore celebrates a record breaking year



If you haven't been to the Sacramento Habitat for Humanity ReStore before or it's been awhile since your last visit, it's time to stop by.

The ReStore, which sells new and used donated building supplies and furniture at 20-70% off retail, is located at 819 North 10th Street and is open to the public 9am-6pm Tuesday-Friday and 10am-5pm on Saturdays. Proceeds from the ReStore go towards building Habitat homes for families in need.

The ReStore, thanks to the valiant efforts of ReStore Manager Byron Watkins, Receiving Coordinator Jim Griffin, and the rest of the warehouse staff, had a record breaking year in sales for 2014.

Watkins attributes the success to the ReStore's surge in large corporate material donations and volunteer efforts.

This past year, the ReStore received its largest donation to date via a 63,000 square foot warehouse of model home furniture which it will be slowly rolling onto the floor over the next few months. Additionally, ReStore volunteers put in over 6,000 hours in 2014 helping clean, organize, and assemble product - nearly a 40% increase from hours in 2013.



The ReStore hopes to bring in even more donations and volunteers in 2015.

Says Griffin, who works directly with the volunteers, “How successful we are in the ReStore really all depends on product donations and volunteers. The more donations and volunteers we get, the more homes we can help build for Habitat families.”

What will YOU Build?

Sacramento Habitat looking for Home Sponsors for 2015

It costs roughly \$170,000 to build a Habitat for Humanity home for a family in need. Almost half of that \$170,000 is raised through Home Sponsorship.

Says CEO Ken Cross, “Without Home Sponsorships, we wouldn't be able to build.”

Sacramento Habitat is currently looking for organizations to help with home sponsorships for the coming year. Sponsorships can range from a mini home spon-

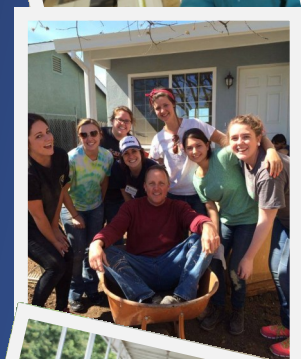


Tai Mamea handing the keys to the Thao/Yang family's new home which was sponsored by JPMorgan Chase.

sorship of \$5,000 to a full home sponsorship of \$75,000.

Sponsors receive multiple marketing benefits, team building days on the jobsite, and the chance to make a real difference in their community and for a family in need.

LET'S GET SOCIAL



TAG YOUR HABITAT PICS WITH #IAMHABITAT FOR A CHANCE TO BE FEATURED IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER!



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