



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Laine Himmelmann
Corporate Development and PR
Office: (916) 440-1215 ext. 1018 Cell: (916) 502-3248
LHimmelmann@HabitatGreaterSac.org

#PopeFrancisHouse

Twitter: @SacHabitat Instagram: @SacHabitat

Facebook: [/habitatgreatersac](https://www.facebook.com/habitatgreatersac)

Anonymous Individual donates \$60,000 to Habitat for Humanity to build a home in honor of Pope Francis.

Building has begun on Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento's first ever "Pope Francis House" following an anonymous \$60,000 donation.

SACRAMENTO, CA – Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento (HfHGS) was struggling to find ^ Sponsors for the final home of its ambitious 14-unit Indian Lane Development in South Sacramento when HfHGS CEO, Ken Cross received a unique, unsolicited phone call. The call came from an anonymous individual wanting to donate \$60,000 to help build a home in honor of Pope Francis.

Says Ken Cross, "The affiliate was stuck and at wits end trying to find the last home sponsorship for our 14-home Indian Lane Project. Then Monday morning, January 12th I received a call from a fellow Habitat Executive Director on the east coast. He said I have a home sponsorship opportunity, from an anonymous donor, in honor of Pope Francis. It was like an answer to our prayers."

The donor, who wants to remain anonymous, wishes to engage the local Catholic community by challenging local Catholic churches, schools, individuals, and organizations to raise an additional \$15,000 in funds (it costs \$75,000 to sponsor a Sacramento Habitat home ^) and the volunteers needed to complete the home in Pope Francis's name.

The donor states the purpose of the house is threefold:

- To honor Pope Francis and his commitment to social justice & reinvigorating the Catholic Church;
- To provide a unifying, celebratory opportunity for both Catholic and non-Catholic volunteers to work together towards a common goal (as Pope Francis says, "Work confers dignity."); and

- To further Habitat's mission of building and preserving homes

The first matching donation for the Pope Francis House was made by the Elk Grove Knights of Columbus. To date, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento still needs to raise another \$14,000 to complete the house.

Construction on the Pope Francis House began on April 22nd and is expected to last over the next several months.

Donations for the Pope Francis House can be made directly to Habitat at www.habitatgreatersac.org

For more information on how to get involved or volunteer on the Pope Francis House: Contact Laine Himmelmann at LHimmelmann@habitatgreatersac.org or (916) 440-1215 ext. 1108 or visit <http://habitatgreatersac.org/support-us/pope-francis-house/>

About Habitat for Humanity for Humanity of Greater Sacramento: Established in 1985, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento is a 501(c)3 nonprofit local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International. Habitat for Humanity's mission is to put love into action by bringing people together to build homes, communities, and hope. www.HabitatGreaterSac.org ##