

# Build for Unity

## Faith Relations Toolkit



[www.HabitatGreaterSac.org/BUILDforUnity](http://www.HabitatGreaterSac.org/BUILDforUnity)

**Learn how you can join your community by building for unity and making a stand against cultural intolerance.**



# #BUILDforUnity

**“Seeking to put God’s love into action, Habitat brings people together to build homes, communities and hope.”**

**-Habitat Mission Statement**

## **What is #BuildforUnity?**

Over the past year there has been a growing national rhetoric against our Muslim friends and neighbors. In an effort to come together and make a statement against this growing cultural intolerance, the Build for Unity initiative was born—a monumental interfaith project bringing together members of the Muslim and various interfaith communities to fund and build homes and make a stand of togetherness. Drawing from the Habitat mission, the Build for Unity project will bring people together of all different faiths and backgrounds to put aside their differences and build HOMES, a STRONGER COMMUNITY, and HOPE for a better world that celebrates all backgrounds and faiths.

## **Sacramento Launch**

Piloted in the nation’s most diverse city, the Build for Unity project was formally announced on January 19th, 2016 where more than 200 community members of all faiths and backgrounds joined Habitat for Humanity to hear from the Catholic Auxiliary Bishop, Congresswoman Doris Matsui, two local Imams, and two families whose lives have been changed by Habitat for Humanity. Between the Christian blessing and Muslim call to prayer, Sacramentans stood united and pledged their support for the effort, signing their names and well wishes onto the pieces of plywood which will eventually be built into the homes.



# #BUILDforUnity

In Sacramento, the Muslim and interfaith communities will work together to fund two Habitat homes. The homes will be built next door to each other in North Sacramento as a permanent representation of unity within our community.

## The Challenge

At the Build for Unity kick off, Sacramento voiced a bold challenge to communities across the nation—  
Join us and let's sponsor 100 Build for Unity homes across the country to help families in need and showcase our shared values of diversity, inclusion, and community.

Habitat for Humanity affiliates can be found in communities across the country and all around the world. If you believe in a UNITED States of America, help pilot and organize a Build for Unity effort in your community and join the movement to help reshape the national narrative about who we are and who we want to be.

**It takes a community to build a community.**

**Together, we can change lives and be the foundation to building the love and unity our community needs.**



# Faith Toolkit

## I want to get involved, now what?

First, are you looking to get involved as an individual or are you looking to get your faith community involved?

### To get involved as an individual:

**Step 1:** Pledge your support for the Build for Unity project by visiting [www.HabitatGreaterSac.org/BuildforUnity](http://www.HabitatGreaterSac.org/BuildforUnity) and making an [online donation](#). If you would like this donation to be attributed to a specific place of worship or faith community, please note that in the comments.

**Step 2:** Sign up to be a Build for Unity volunteer by clicking the “[volunteer](#)” button on the side of the screen and creating a volunteer profile. Be sure to select “Build for Unity” as an interest when creating your profile. Once build days are posted this May, you will receive a notification and a special code to sign-up for Build for Unity build days.

**Step 3:** Get others involved!

Spread the word by posting a photo of yourself holding the “I will #BuildforUnity” [sign](#) and post it on social media.

Visit our crowdfunding page at [www.fundly.com/build-for-unity](http://www.fundly.com/build-for-unity) and share the link on social media. Sign up as a supporter to receive updates.

Share the [Build for Unity video](#) on your social media channels with the hashtag #BuildforUnity.



## **I want to get my place of worship involved:**

**Step 1:** Talk to those in charge at your place of worship and share our Build for Unity packet with them. Decide who will be the team lead or main point of contact for your place of worship (you, your faith leader, someone else?). You may want to have multiple team leads (one for organizing donations, one for organizing volunteers), but decide who amongst you will be the main contact for Habitat. Whoever this person is, put them as the main contact on your pledge sheet.

**Step 2:** Please fill out the commitment form and include a “pledge level” for your place of worship (pledge levels range from \$1,000-\$75,000). Select a pledge level that you feel confident that your members can achieve. Please fill out the form and return it to Leah Miller at [LMiller@HabitatGreaterSac.org](mailto:LMiller@HabitatGreaterSac.org)

**Step 3:** Talk to your congregation and/or members about “Build for Unity” and encourage them to get involved.

**Ideas for how to spread the word include**, but are not limited to:

- Asking for faith leader if you can play the [video](#) and/or share a few words about Build for Unity at an upcoming service.
- Asking your faith leader if they would share a few words about the Build for Unity project at an upcoming service.
- Setting up a table with build for unity materials outside your place of worship
- Ask your faith leader to include information about Build for Unity in an upcoming newsletter, pamphlet, or publication.
- Ask your faith leader to share information about Build for Unity on your place of worship’s website and/or social media pages.
- Ask your faith leader if you can take a second offering or put up a donation bucket for Build for Unity.



## What to ask for?

When talking to your fellow members and/or congregants, here is what you can ask their support for:

- Prayer for the home, future homeowners, and all you will help build it.
- Helping raise XXX of the \$75,000 needed to build a home. (Insert your pledge amount where the XXX is).
- Recruiting congregants to help build the home.
- Educating your congregation about the need for affordable houses in Sacramento and around the world.

**Step 4:** Once your pledge sheet has been received, you will be contacted by Habitat Greater Sacramento.

If you are planning to receive pledge donations via check or cash (i.e. as part of an offering) and wish to receive marketing materials (video, pamphlets, envelopes) - we will make them available upon request. Please make sure all donations are properly marked to be designated for Build for Unity and from your specific place of worship.

If you wish to receive donations online \***RECOMMENDED** (i.e. through crowdfunding), please email Laine Himmelmann at [LHimmelmann@HabitatGreaterSac.org](mailto:LHimmelmann@HabitatGreaterSac.org) and she will make you an easy to use team fundraising page to solicit and accept donations. Through your team page, you will be able to monitor the amount of donations received and how close you are to your pledge goal. You will also receive updates on the overall Build for Unity home and campaign progress.

The Build for Unity crowdfunding page is easily accessible at [fundly.com/build-for-unity](https://fundly.com/build-for-unity) and is easily sharable on social media including Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.



During your fundraising, if you would like members of your faith community to have the opportunity to sign the Build for Unity walls, requests for the walls can be made directly to Habitat through Nicole Turriaga at [NTurriaga@HabitatGreaterSac.org](mailto:NTurriaga@HabitatGreaterSac.org) or (916) 440-1215 ext. 1104

You will need to reserve the walls ahead of time through Nicole. You are responsible for transporting the walls to and from Habitat (you will need a large truck). The walls are available for up to one week periods and can be picked up Tuesday-Saturday from 7:30am-3:30pm.

### **Step 5: Gather Volunteers!**

Depending on your level of support, you will receive the opportunity to engage your fellow members in the building of the homes. Construction will begin in July. Contact Laine Himmelmann at [LHimmelmann@HabitatGreaterSac.org](mailto:LHimmelmann@HabitatGreaterSac.org) with any questions related to build days.

### **Step 6: Celebrate with us at the Home Dedication**

Following the completion of the homes, we will be hosting a largescale Home Dedication Ceremony. Once the date is announced, please spread the word within your place of worship and attend the special event to see the families receive the keys to the home. Depending on your level of support, you may also be asked to participate in the dedication ceremony.

**Thank you for your support and helping us through this  
monumental interfaith effort!**

**Questions? Contact Leah Miller, Development Director at  
[LMiller@HabitatGreaterSac.org](mailto:LMiller@HabitatGreaterSac.org) or (916) 440-1215 ext, 1131**





## “BUILD FOR UNITY” FAITH PARTNER—COMMITMENT FORM

*Build for Unity is a monumental interfaith effort which will bring our interfaith community together to build homes and unity.*

*Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento Build for Unity Faith Partners are anchored by the conviction that everyone deserves a safe, decent place to call home. Build for Unity faith partners dedicate themselves to the mission of seeking to put God’s love into action by bringing people together to build homes, communities, and hope.*

*Habitat Greater Sacramento is incredibly grateful to our Build for Unity Faith Partners in joining us in this incredible journey and enabling our ministry to succeed. The following “Commitment to Support” represents a working agreement between the Build for Unity Faith Partners and Habitat Greater Sacramento, confirming our partnership to build unity, complete homes, and serve families together.*

### The Build for Unity Faith Partner will (check all that apply):

**1. Pray:** Lift Habitat Greater Sacramento up in prayer for this journey, as we seek to put God’s love into action by bringing people together to build unity, homes, communities, and hope.

**2. Give:** Support Build for Unity by making a financial commitment of:

\$10,000     \$5,000     \$2,500     \$1,000    \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (other)

Method of Payment (check one)

Check enclosed (payable to Habitat Greater Sacramento)

Will be made online at [www.HabitatGreaterSac.org/BUILDforUnity](http://www.HabitatGreaterSac.org/BUILDforUnity)

Send us an invoice

Charge credit card VISA/MASTER CARD/AMEX (circle one)

CC # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ 3-Digit # \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Volunteer:** Engage the congregation in build-day volunteer support to help build homes.

**4. Lead:** Encourage congregants to take on leadership roles to help oversee the relationship between your place of worship and Habitat Greater Sacramento in relaying information and updates and encouraging members to participate in your place of worship’s partnerships with Habitat Greater Sacramento.

**5. Advocate:** Outreach and encourage other local faith, business, community and government leaders to prayerfully consider partnership in Habitat Greater Sacramento’s work by engaging them in prayer walks, builds, informational meetings, and/or helping lead a coalition of faith partners working in collaboration.

**6. Outreach:** Help find low-income families who are in need of decent, affordable homes.

Faith Partner Name (Place of Worship): \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*All pledge sheets must be received by February 28th to be included in the Build for Unity newspaper insert publication.*

**Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento—819 North 10th Street Sacramento, CA 95811**

Please contact Leah Miller, Director of Development at (916) 440-1215 ext. 1131 or [LMiller@HabitatGreaterSac.org](mailto:LMiller@HabitatGreaterSac.org) with any questions. Habitat for Humanity is a 501(c)3 and our taxpayer ID is 68-0085804.

All gifts are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowable by law.

**#BUILDforUnity**



Let's work  
Together!

welcome  
home!

# DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND COMMUNITY

LOVE  
+  
SUPPORT!

**What:** Build for Unity

**Who:** Habitat for Humanity Greater Sacramento, local faith groups and engaged community members

**When: Jan 2016:** Build for Unity launch & fundraising drive

**July 2016:** Funding complete, building begins

**Dec 2016:** Home dedication

Join us to support Sacramento's Build for Unity, an interfaith collaboration through Habitat for Humanity of Greater Sacramento. The Build for Unity brings together members of the Muslim and interfaith communities to fund and build two homes for local families in need. In light of today's political climate and national rhetoric, we are making a statement about our shared values in Sacramento: diversity, inclusion, and community. Since the launch of this exciting project here in Sacramento, we have challenged communities across the country to sponsor their own Build for Unity homes.

**Build love, not fear—stand with us against cultural intolerance.**

## How YOU Can Help!

- **Show your support** by posing with the sign on the back of this flyer and post to social media using the hashtag **#BUILDforUnity**
- **Donate** to Build for Unity by visiting [habitatgreatersac.org/donate](http://habitatgreatersac.org/donate)
- **Volunteer** with Build for Unity by visiting [habitatgreatersac.org/volunteer](http://habitatgreatersac.org/volunteer)
- **Spread the word** and become an ambassador in your faith community



[www.HabitatGreaterSac.org/BuildForUnity](http://www.HabitatGreaterSac.org/BuildForUnity)

Questions? Contact Leah Miller at  
[LMiller@HabitatGreaterSac.org](mailto:LMiller@HabitatGreaterSac.org)  
(916) 440-1215 x 1131



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# I WILL #BUILDforUnity





**For more information on how to become involved,  
please contact:**

**LEAH MILLER**

Director of Development, Habitat for Humanity of  
Greater Sacramento

(916) 440-1215 ext.1131

LMiller@HabitatGreaterSac.org

Or

**ELENA RUIZ**

N&R Publications

(916) 498-1234 x1319

elenar@newsreview.com

**[www.HabitatGreaterSac.org/BUILDforUnity](http://www.HabitatGreaterSac.org/BUILDforUnity)**

**#BUILDforUnity**