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Habitat HIGHLIGHTS

MISSION VISION

A world where everyone has a decent place to live.

MISSION STATEMENT

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

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Spring 2016

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THE FOUNDATION TO HABITAT'S LIFE CHANGING WORK?

Spring is so close we can almost taste it! This time of year it is easy to long after the time when we will be able to trade snow shovels for spades and start planting seeds in the ground. For Habitat partner families, spring marks the time, long awaited, to break ground and start preparing the foundations of their homes.

Our partner families often tell stories of how many times they have had to move from one apartment to the next to try to find a space that is affordable and adequate for their families. Often times they move into a place only to find unsafe and unaffordable conditions forcing them to immediately start looking for that illusive "better place".

Can you imagine being a kid and moving from one place to the next every six months or so? As a parent you know your children have a hard time adjusting to the constant moving, feeling the instability of where they be living next. Will their friends be close by? Will there be friendly neighbors this time? Will this place be warmer than the last? Thanks to your financial support, volunteer labor and prayers, five families will be picking up shovels to dig a foundation this year.

They will be putting down roots. They will be establishing a permanent address. They will be home. As North St. Louis County Habitat for Humanity supporters, you provide the foundation to Habitat's life changing work. Thank You!



The Habitat board, construction and family support committees are all busily working to finalize the 2016 building season for the year. It is shaping up to be a busy, fulfilling and life impacting year. Our first home, a rehab project in Virginia, MN has already begun since we do not have to wait for the ground to thaw out!

June will be focused on pouring a foundation in Hibbing and in Aurora. Framing for the second

home will begin in July in Hibbing. We are excited to announce that the Habitat 500 bike ride is coming to the Range. Bike riders will help frame up the first walls on the home in Hibbing in mid July.

In August, a group of traveling volunteers, RV Care-a-vanners will assist in the exterior framing of our third home in Aurora.

The fourth and fifth homes for the 2016 building season will start in September and be built with school partnerships. The Hibbing and Chisholm high schools will be building a home in Hibbing. The Mesabi Community College's carpentry class will build a home in Virginia. Both home's electrical systems will be provided by Hibbing Community College's electrical students. These two student built homes will be in construction throughout the school year and be completed in May of 2017.

Together we are building homes, communities and hope.

Nathan Thompson
 Executive Director

GIVE IN MEMORY OR IN HONOR

North St. Louis County Habitat for Humanity will honor all donations made in memory or honor of individuals and groups with a card announcement mailed to your designee. To designate your donation, please complete the information below and mail it in to the office. Call us if you need additional donations envelopes, we'll send them to you!

_____ In memory _____ In honor

_____ Other (please specify): _____

Name of honoree: _____

Please mail acknowledgment card to:

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Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Donation by Credit Card:

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Card Number: _____

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Donation by Check:
 Mail your check with this form filled out to:

**North St. Louis County
 Habitat for Humanity
 PO Box 24
 Virginia, MN 55792**



MEMORIALS AND GIFTS IN HONOR

David & Rosemary Zlimer in Honor of Pat & Kathy Bastianelli's 50th Wedding Anniversary

Essentia Health in Honor of Christy Gettle

Alfred & Rosemary Mazion, Robert & Colleen Lepper, Timothy and Lori Tomsich all in Honor of Marge McPeak

Nick and Anne Jagunich in Memory of Nancy Claviter

Bette Holmes in Memory of Scott Thomas

Lorraine Chiabotti in memory of Don Erickson

Mara & Herb Sellers in Memory of Caroline Falcone, Marge McDonald, Jean Stainiger, James Rhude, Bob Newberg, and John Charter, Jr.

THE MANY WAYS TO VOLUNTEER WITH HABITAT



Without our dedicated volunteers, Habitat for Humanity would not have been able to build a single home here in North St. Louis County. In fact, some of our volunteers have been nailing 2x4's together with Habitat since it started in 1995! We are always looking for new people to help us achieve our vision: "a world where everyone has a decent place to live". There are many ways to help us achieve that vision. One great way to help is to provide lunch for our volunteer builders! Something as simple as a tray of sandwiches and a

pot of soup will make you the most popular person on the build site! Habitat even provides the plates, napkins, cups and utensils and we always have water on the site. Not a cook? How about joining a group of our supporters for a day of companionship and conversation as we prepare our quarterly newsletter? It's a fun way to catch up with fellow Habitat supporters, to make new friends, and to enjoy coffee and a hot lunch as well!

Maybe you would be more interested in helping by serving on one of our very active committees. We have several committees that meet monthly that help keep Habitat running. Some of the committees are Family Selection, Family Support and Funds Development. Each committee is committed to helping families end the cycle of poverty by helping them into a new home. If you want to know more about what each committee does, you can call the office at 218-749-8910 or email us at habitat@nslchfh.org.

Some other ways to help out are: volunteering in the office for the day, creating your own fundraising event, joining the Habitat 500 bike ride or volunteering at the event, and forming a group to help on a build site. Let us know how you can help by calling Susan at 218-750-2611. We look forward to hearing from you!



HELP WANTED—FAMILY SERVICES SPECIALIST

North St. Louis County Habitat for Humanity has received a capacity building grant from the Northland Foundation, allowing the organization to add a full time family services specialist. NSLCHF is seeking an individual to assist our partner families by ensuring that partner families are selected in a timely manner and supported before, during and after home construction. This position will also be responsible for expanding awareness and understanding of NSLCHF's mission and how it works and for providing administrative support for the executive director, community resources manager and construction manager. The ideal

candidate will have a commitment and passion for Habitat for Humanity's Christian ministry and a proven record of accomplishments with prior employers. A bachelor's degree or equivalent training and/or experience is also required, as well as a demonstrated work ethic, the ability to work successfully on a team, strong leadership and organizational skills and a demonstrated ability to build relationships and work effectively with people of diverse social and economic backgrounds. This position also requires strong writing and public speaking skills. Experience in graphic art and design, the use of Microsoft Office software, the use of databases, online tools

and office equipment are also required as is personal integrity and confidentiality. Interested candidates may apply online at www.nslchfh.org. If you or anyone you know has these skills and abilities and wants to join the Habitat team, please let us know. For more information please contact Nathan Thompson at 218-750-7443.



VOLUNTEER SITE SUPERVISOR NEEDED IN HIBBING



We are building a home in Hibbing with community volunteers! We are seeking an individual to help us make this "community build" a success. The site supervisor will communicate with Habitat's construction manager, Steve Burgess, and community resources manager, Susan Garrett, to coordinate the days that volunteers will be on site and the tasks that need to be completed on those days. Duties will include welcoming volunteers, having them fill out the Volunteer Waiver Form, signing in and giving the morning safety talk. The site supervisor will provide construction supervision and coordination for the duration of the volunteer workday and work to facilitate a

positive and supportive atmosphere for volunteers. Due to the special skills required and the responsibility that this position carries, North St. Louis County Habitat for Humanity can offer the site supervisor a stipend of \$100/day. Please contact executive director Nathan at 218-750-7443, or email at habitat@nslchfh.org for more information on the position.



JOIN THE TEAM ~ HABITAT 500 BIKE RIDE FUNDRAISER SET FOR JULY 10-16

The Habitat 500 bike ride fundraiser is a great way to enjoy the sport of biking while making a great difference in a person's life. Do you want to join our biking team, meet new people, take on new challenges, have fun AND help a family in need of a home? The Habitat 500 may be for you.

This event is not a race, it is a ride. There are rest stops every 20 miles along the way with food, water and anything else you might need to keep you on the road. This year the event will be held, for the most part, on the Range. We will start in Proctor, go to McGregor, proceed to Grand Rapids and then spend two days in Hibbing and one in Aurora before heading to Two Harbors and back to Proctor.



We typically have 10 to 14 riders from this area on our "North St. Louis County Habitat for Humanity team." The more riders we have the more impact we will have on families in our area. The registration fee for the ride is \$275 and each rider commits to raising \$1,000 from friends and family for Habitat. Our team of experienced riders would be more than willing to visit with you and help you with training and fundraising advice.

Believe it or not, riding 500 miles in seven days and raising funds for homes in our community is very doable! If you are the least bit interested, don't let the spring get away from you without registering. Contact us as soon as possible to find out how you can take part in this great adventure. It may just change your life and those of a family in need.

SPRING BRINGS CLOSE TO 2015 BUILDING SEASON AND 5 NEW HOMES FOR 2016

Join us on Sunday, April 24th at 1:30 p.m. at 518 17th St. N. in Virginia to dedicate the fifth and final home started during the 2015 building season. Jessica Axleson and her family have worked hard to make their dream of home-ownership come true. "There aren't words to express the

gratitude my family and I feel towards all who have had a part in building our new home. So many have come together for our family, from complete strangers to family and friends. It brings tears to my eyes every time I think about this experience!! We have been given the experience of a lifetime, that will last our lifetime. We can't say "Thank You!!" enough. I have learned so much through this experience. I've learned carpentry, roofing, all the steps of a building process, but most of all I've been shown true love of neighbor. To feel this love and kindness from complete strangers is one of the most awe inspiring experiences that I will cherish

in my heart forever!!! Through this building process I've gained new friendships and have a deeper closeness to the friends and family who have been by my side, being a part of whatever they could help with. With heartfelt gratitude and tears of joy in my eyes, I thank everyone who has had a part of this and Habitat for making it all possible!! Be proud of making a mom's dream a reality!" ~ Jessica Axleson



A kick off celebration will follow at 2:30 with the Dow family's rehab project at 922 14th St. N in Virginia. The 2016 Building Season begins!

SAVE THE DATE!

April 15th 4:00 PM ~ RSVP deadline for Hibbing Breakfast "Funds for Foundations"

April 24th 1:30 PM ~ Axleson Home Dedication, 518 17th St. N. in Virginia, MN

April 24th 2:30 PM ~ Dow Rehab Home Project Kick Off, 922 14th St. N. in Virginia, MN

April 27th 6:15 AM ~ Hibbing Breakfast "Funds for Foundations" event at Hibbing Park Hotel

April 29th 4:00 PM ~ Deadline to join team "NSLCHF" for the Habitat 500 Bike Ride Fundraiser