Sacramento Habitat for Humanity®

Sacramento Habitat for Humanity Quarterly Publication

Habitat News

### Volume 3, Issue 1

July 2013

#### Did you Know...

- Sacramento Habitat for Humanity has built 96 homes in Sacramento County
- Sacramento Habitat is currently looking for qualified families!
- Sacramento Habitat will complete its 100th home this year!

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# No Tool Left Behind

Official Tool Drive may be over, but Sacramento Habitat is still accepting donations



The Official Sacramento Habitat for Humanity (SHFH) Father's Day Tool Drive may be over, but SHFH will continue to accept new and used tool donations throughout the next several months at the Sacramento Habitat for Humanity ReStore located on 819 North 10th Street Sacramento, CA 95811.

The idea for Sacramento Habitat's 1st ever Tool Drive, which was held over a course of 8-days from June 8th-15th at various participating Home Depot locations, was sparked after a large tool theft in February from a jobsite which resulted in the loss of nearly \$3,000 worth of tools. With the current supply of Sacramento Habitat's tools being old or in disrepair, the idea to throw a Tool Drive to obtain much needed replacement of the affiliate's stock of hand and power tools was born. Sacramento Habitat had hoped to obtain enough tools to sustain construction of the ambitious 14-unit Indian Lane Development which is set

to raise walls in July.

"We got some good stuff from the Drive, but there's still a lot of tools on our list that we still need for Indian Lane", explains SHFH Director of Construction Dan Wilson.

As for the tools they still need, Dan replied, "Well, it's a big list ranging from small to larger items, but I'm definitely still waiting on someone to surprise me and drive up to Habitat with the CAT tractor!"

See the entire list of tools needed at www.shfh.org and click "View the Tool Wish List".

Tools can be dropped off at the Sacramento Habitat for Humanity ReStore during normal operating hours Tuesday-Friday from 9am-6pm of Saturday from 10am-5pm.

Questions? Call (916) 440-1215 ext. 1108



#### HABITAT NEWS

Cisco, US Bank, Intel, United Surgical Partners, and Energizer make dreams come true for the Woldegebriel/ Nigusse Family

On Saturday, June 22nd over 100 volunteers, elected officials, donors, Habitat employees, and neighbors gathered to watch the Woldegebriel/Nigusse Family receive the keys to their new Habitat home on Presidio Street. The new LEED-Certified home was made possible through the generous home



Jennifer Bain from Cisco, one of the home's sponsors, presents the family with bread during the Home Dedication's "Gift Giving Ceremony"



Woldehana Woldegebriel, Aynalem Nigusse, and their son Abraham.

sponsorship from Cisco, US Bank, Intel, United Surgical Partners, and Energizer, as well as the efforts of hundreds of local volunteers.

"We had always hoped someday we'd own our own home, " says Aynalem, "...You always hope, you're just never sure if it'll be more than that"

It was that hope that drove Aynalem Nigusse and her husband Woldehana Woldegebriel to the Habitat Homeowner Orientation nearly one year ago.

Originally from Ethiopia, Aynalem and Woldehana came to the United States through the lottery. They were living in a one-bedroom apartment with their son when Aynalem who works as a housekeeper ,and Woldehana, a former priest in Ethiopia, who now works as a parking attendant, discovered Aynalem was pregnant with their second child. The couple soon began looking for opportunities to move into their own home, but simply could not afford it on their limited income.

"Having our own home," says Aynalem, "it's a dream come true".

Aynalem and Woldehana worked hard alongside volunteers to build

their home, putting in together over 500 hours of "sweat equity".

"The sweat equity was a lot of fun", chuckled Aynalem, "Woldehana he likes it too, he just can't communicate very well, so they just try to show him what to do."

Though Woldehana may have had trouble communicating on site, on the day of his Home Dedication he had little trouble bringing many in the crowd to tears with his heartwarming speech.

After receiving the keys to his family's new home, Woldehana proudly and eloquently took to the microphone to thank all those whose hard work and generosity helped build this new life for his family. Clad in traditional priest garments, Woldehana raised his hands in the air triumphantly and concluded "God Bless this house and God Bless America!".

If your organization is interested in making dreams come true through a home sponsorship for a family like the Woldegebriel/Nigusse family please contact Anne Gambino at (916) 440-1215 ext. 1416 or at AGambino@shfh.org

### Sacramento Habitat says farewell to an Amazing Team 2012-2013 AmeriCorps Term comes to an end

In September of 2012, Sacramento Habitat for Humanity welcomed 5 new AmeriCorps into the Sacramento Habitat Family. Over the past 10 months, Jim Griffin, Brendan Marris, Genna Mittie, Mike Godina, and Molly Gautreaux have whole heartedly served the Habitat mission by helping us build homes, schedule volunteers, and find qualified families for our program. With their term soon coming to an end, we wanted to take the opportunity to highlight some of their achievements and wish these incredible individuals well in all their future endeavors.



### **James Griffin**

James "Jim" Griffin has spent the past 10 months as an Ameri-**Corps** Construction Crew Leader, training and working with SHfH construction volunteers and families. During his term, Jim worked with 50 teams on site and over 500 volunteers. With a passion for service, having served two years with the US Peace Corps, two years as an AmeriCorps. member, and a degree in Global Studies, Jim is currently looking for a position at a nonprofit.



### **Brendan Marris**

Brendan has spent the past 10 months as an AmeriCorps **Construction Crew** Leader, training and working with SHfH construction volunteers and families. During his term, Brendan has worked with and trained over 1,000 volunteers. With a B.S. in Architecture from the University of Buffalo and two years of AmeriCorps experience under his belt. Brendan is currently looking for a position in the Architecture field or construction industry.



### Genna Mittie

Genna has spent the past 10 months serving as an Ameri-**Corps Construction** Crew Leader. training and working with SHfH construction volunteers and families. During her term. Genna worked on remodels. new LEED construction, and helped coordinate SHfH's weatherization program. Genna is currently looking for a part time job where she can put her expertise in construction and welding to work while continuing her education.



### Michael Godina

Michael Godina has spent the past 10 months serving as the AmeriCorps Volunteer Services Coordinator, managing SHfH's individual volunteer program. Mike has helped bring in and orient over 300 new volunteers and has assisted in the scheduling of over 1,600. Mike holds an ardent interest in politics and has experience working for numerous political campaigns and politicians. He is currently looking for his next position.



### Molly Gautreaux

Molly Gautreaux has spent the past 10 months serving as the AmeriCorps Family Services Coordinator, helping SHfH find qualified partner families. During her time here, Molly has secured 10 families for the SHfH program and provided information orientations to nearly 1,000 interested individuals. At the end of her AmeriCorps term. Molly will be joining the SHfH staff as the Manager of Family Services.

### Apply Now to Join the 2013-2014 SHFH AmeriCorps Team!

SHfH is currently recruiting for their 2013-2014 AmeriCorps team.

Host Site Manager Miriam Lim, a former AmeriCorps member herself, testifies for the program. "If you are interested in spending the next 10 and a half months serving your community , learning all the aspects of construction from the ground up, and receiving a stipend and educational award at the end—this can be a great opportunity!" Interested applicants should send their cover letter and resume to SHfH Host Site Manager Miriam Lim at MLim@shfh.org or call (916) 440-1215 ext. 1103

### Sacramento Habitat to host November Global Village Tour

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▲ his November of 2013, Sacramento Habitat for Humanity will host its 3rd Global Village Tour to Nicaragua.

Team Leader Michael Gordon, a former participant on Sacramento Habitat's first Global Village Tour back in March of 2012, is looking forward to getting his team together for the 9-day build in Latin America.

The November tour, which is scheduled for November 9th-17th, will consist of a team of 12-24 volunteers who will spend 9 days building a home for an impoverished family in Nicaragua. The trip, explains Sacramento Habitat CEO, Ken Cross, "combines hands on service

building a home side-by-side with a family, learning about the Nicaraguan culture and people, and a chance for rest and recreation".

Volunteers are expected to pay their own way,

though meals and accommodations are included in the cost of the tour.



So far, Team Leader Michael has 10 participants confirmed, but he will

be able to take up to 24 participants if there is interest.

> As for those who might be on the fence, Michael explains, "I would highly recommend it. It's hard work,

but it will be a fantastic experience for all that decide to go". If you are interested in participating in the Sacramento Habitat for Humanity November Global Village Tour, please contact Team Leader Michael Gordon at Michael@h2ghomes.com or at (916) 715-9171

Or go to www.shfh.org and visit the Global Village Tour tab for more information

Volunteers - the not so secret backbone of the Sac Habitat ReStore



UC Davis Challenge for Charity strikes a pose while volunteering at the Sac Habitat ReStore

I t should be no secret that the Sacramento Habitat ReStore has long depended on volunteers to keep their doors open.

Byron Watkins, Manager of the Sacramento ReStore, explains, "Imagine if you were in a Home Depot and there were only 3 people running the entire warehouse...well, that's us without the volunteers". This past month, the Sacramento Habitat ReStore has hosted 8 different groups from various organizations and over 100 volunteers.

"We could easily use double that number", remarks Byron, "...we could really use the help".

If you or your organization would like to volunteer in the ReStore please contact Laine Himmelmann at LHimmelmann@shfh.org or (916) 440 -1215 ext. 1108

# Phase I Construction of Indian Lane in motion, Sacramento Habitat looking for Sponsors for Phase 2



W ith the first 5-home phase of Indian Lane set to begin construction any day now, Sacramento Habitat is hard at work looking for home sponsors for phase 2 of the 14home development.

"The first phase of Indian Lane was covered by a Capital Campaign we did way back in 2007. But the remaining 10 homes will need to be covered by home sponsors if we want to be able to build them ", explained CFO Anne Gambino.

"A Home Sponsorship", explained Gambino, "for a home can range from a mini home sponsorship of \$5,000 to a full home sponsor-

ship of \$75,000".

The second phase of Indian Lane, the city of Sacramento County's first ever LEED-Certified, Transit Oriented Development, will need 5 home sponsorships, the equivalent of \$375,000 in sponsorship funding.

"It's quite a bit of money we need to raise", says Gambino, "But we need to raise it if we want to provide homes for these families" Single Mom of two, Repeka Wilson is one such family.

"When my husband passed away," recalls Wilson, "I was scared. We had no money, no place to live, I had no job experience, but I kept telling myself, I'm going to get us out of here. I found a job, I found Habitat, and now I'm no longer scared because I know my children are going to be ok, because they'll have a home".

Interested in home sponsorships for Phrase 2 of Indian Lane construction? Contact Anne Gambino at AGambino@shfh.org or (916) 440-1215 ext. 1416

Visit www.shfh.org and click "Sponsor a Habitat Home" to view the sponsorship and benefits packet.

### SHfH Volunteers step up to become first ever Volunteer Crew Leaders



Volunteer Crew Leader Steve Mathias teaches two volunteers new skills

With the start of construction on the 14-unit Indian Lane Development quickly approaching, and only 1 site supervisor, Robert Sexton, scheduled to oversee the entire project, Sacramento Habitat realized something–Robert was going to need some help.

"We decided to solicit a few of our invested, regular volunteers to see if they would be interested in taking on more of a leadership role on site as a Volunteer Crew Leader, trainnew volunteers, overseeing construction, etc." recalls Laine Himmelmann, Manager of Communications and Volunteer Services for SHfH, "We were hopeful, but we weren't sure if anyone would say yes".

By Wednesday, June 25th, the first day of OSHA training for the pilot Volunteer Crew Leader program, Sacramento Habitat had 15 Crew Leaders .

"All of us on staff were really overwhelmed with the response we got. These Volunteers", says Himmelmann, "they have really stepped up in a big way to help make Indian Lane possible. "

Special Thanks to the new SHfH Volunteer Crew Leaders: John Altieri, Jim Bakker, Manidipa Basu, DJ Chapman, Jim Englander, Richard Johnson, Cathy Kester, Steve Lawrence, Rick Leibold, Allen Lowry, Steve Mathias, Marilyn Morris, Rosemary Mundhenk, James Reilly, Don Walker, and Gary Young



John Altieri, Jim Englander, and Richard Johnson are 3 of 15 of Sacramento Habitat's new Volunteer Crew Leaders .

# Bank of America donates foreclosed home to Sacramento Habitat and gives the Mironov Family the keys to a new life



The Mironov family has long wanted to move out of their overcrowded 2-bedroom apartment in North Highlands, but simply couldn't afford it.

"It's tough," says oldest daughter Yuliya, "it's overcrowded. My Dad sleeps on the couch".

Mother of 4, Lyudmila Mironov admits, "I never thought we'd be able to own a home, but it has been my dream".

On May 18th, thanks to the gener-

osity of Bank of America and their new initiative to donate 2,000 foreclosed homes to various Habitat for Humanity affiliates across the nation, Lyudmila's dreams came true.

"This house means a lot to us", said a tearful Lyudmila as she received the keys to her new home on dedication day, "it's our first house and you can't imagine how proud and happy we are to move into such a beautiful home".

Lyudmila and her husband Slavic put in 500 hours of "sweat equity"



Kathie Sowa, West Region Executive for Bank of America presents Lyudmila Mironov with the keys to her new home.

working alongside volunteers to build their new remodeled home.

"Working alongside volunteers was a good experience for us", says Lyudmila, "We made new friends and met lots of new people. We felt so happy coming here every day, you could feel the happiness and love".

Now, in their new home, the Mironov family could not be more happy about their experience.

"Habitat gave us a chance to own our own house", says Lyudmila, "and thank you to Bank of America for being our sponsor...we are so happy now and we will take care of this house as it is now our home".

If your organization is interested in making dreams come true through a home sponsorship for a family like the Mironov family please contact Anne Gambino at (916) 440-1215 ext. 1416 or AGambino@shfh.org

## Sacramento Habitat will dedicate 100th home this year

This year, in Sacramento Habitat's 28th year, Sacramento Habitat will complete it's 100th home in Sacramento County.

"It's been a very busy year for us, we've already dedicated 5 homes and it's only July! That's the same number of homes we did all of last year alone!", comments Director of Construction Dan Wilson.

With the start of the multi-unit Indian Lane Development, Sacramento Habitat is scheduled to complete anywhere from 12-15 homes this year, nearly tripling the number of homes completed from 2012. "The need is great", says SHfH CEO Ken Cross, "We just try our best to attack it one home and one family at a time".

\*Sacramento Habitat estimates their 100th home to be completed sometime between early to late Fall.

#### HABITAT NEWS

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"We all had a great time and learned some new skills. We agreed we would definitely do it again!" - Dorothy Meehan, Birthday Build Participant

# Foregoing balloons and cake for Shovels and Hammers —

Birthday Build offers participants a way to celebrate their next Birthday by giving back in a substantial way

O n June 1st, 2013 Dorothy Meehan gathered friends and family to commemorate her Birthday by giving back through a Sacramento Habitat for Humanity "Birthday Build" - 1 day of building on a Habitat jobsite for up to 10 participants that includes a t-shirt and lunch as well as a \$1,000 donation to Habitat to sponsor the build day,

"One of the key reasons for sponsoring a team ", says Meehan, "is that my husband was in construction and died 9 months ago unexpectedly. In retirement he had hoped to build houses for the poor ... "

Dorothy and her team spent her Birthday Build building fences around the new 14-unit Indian Lane Development.

"We all had a great time and learned some new skills. We agreed we would definitely do it again!", says Meehan.

If you are interested in participating in a Birthday Build or Team Build, please contact Laine Himmelmann at LHimmelmann@shfh.org

### The Search continues for qualified partner families for Indian Lane

With over 300 registrants for family orientations over the past month, it's hard to imagine that Sacramento Habitat still doesn't have a waiting list.

"We may have 100 interested families attend an orientation. If we're lucky, one might qualify", commented Manager of Family Services Molly Gautreaux.

Sacramento Habitat is currently looking for families for its Indian Lane Development. These families need to be making between 40-60% of AMI (Area Median Income) and have a need for adequate housing as defined by currently living in sub-

### Special Thanks to ...

### 2013 HOME SPONSORS TO DATE:

\*Home sponsors sponsor a Habitat home through a \$5,000-\$75,000 sponsorship donation

SPONSORS: Bank of America, Chase, Cisco, Citi, Coldwell Banker, Energizer, Intel, SHRA, Thrivent also be willing to partner with Sacramento Habitat by putting in 500 hours of "sweat equity" building their home and purchasing their home through a 0% 30-year mortgage.

"The mortgage", says Gautreaux, "is capped at 30% of their current monthly income. Most of our families pay less on their mortgage which includes taxes and insurance, than they paid on their rent".

Sacramento Habitat is specifically looking for qualified families for the new 14-unit Indian Lane Development in South Sacramento. "I think a lot of people just don't know about it or think they might not qualify." says Gautreaux regarding the homeownership program, "The majority of our families are recommended by other Habitat families, but if you know someone who might qualify, please tell them about our program—it's an incredible opportunity".

Visit www.shfh.org and click "Own a Home" to learn more or contact Molly Gautreaux at MGautreaux@shfh.org or (916) 440-1215 ext. 1111

Financial for Lutherans, US Bank, United Surgical Partners

### 2013 TEAM BUILDS TO DATE:

\*Team Builds are teams which sponsor their day of building through a \$1,000+ donation TEAM BUILDS: Aerojet, Bank of the West, Bullseye Leak Detection, Cooks Collision, CoreLogic, Dorothy Meehan, Dunhumby, eRepublic, Folsom Asset Management Inc., Frontier Wind, Johnson Controls, Modern Farmhouse, Travelers Insurance, TriCorp Hearn Construction

#### SACRAMENTO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

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Sacramento Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit 501c(3), private, nongovernmental, ecumenical housing ministry based on Christian principles and a local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International.

Sacramento Habitat for Humanity is completely supported by the local Sacramento community and people like you

# What will YOU Build?