Sacramento Habitat for Humanity Quarterly Publication



Habitat News

#### Volume 2, Issue 1

March 2013

#### Did you Know...

- Sacramento Habitat for Humanity has built 93 homes in Sacramento County
- Sacramento Habitat hosts bi-weekly one-hour "HabiTours"
- Sacramento Habitat is looking for qualified families!

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# Paving a Dream

#### Indian Lane project takes off and is looking for families



O n Thursday, February 28th, Sacramento Habitat for Humanity (SHfH) paved the 14-Unit Indian Lane Development that has been over 6 years in the making.

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

The long anticipated South Sacramento Indian Lane project is SHfH's largest home development to date.

The transit-oriented development (TOD), located directly across from the Florin Road Regional Transit Light Rail Station, will feature 14 3-bedroom and 4-bedroom two-story LEED certified singlefamily homes.

With the wall raising of the initial 5-home phase set for Summer of 2013, Sacramento Habitat is currently actively looking for qualified families to purchase these homes at cost with a 0% interest mortgage.

SHfH currently has 3 families assigned to the unit.

Single mother of two, Repeka Wilson, is one of the future Indian Lane Homeowners.

Repeka struggled to support her family after her husband passed away.

After first securing a job, Repeka set out to find a home for her family. She is currently 150 hours into her required 500 hours of sweat equity to receive her Habitat home. When asked how

she feels about the sweat equity process, Repeka proudly replied, "You have to work hard for things if you want them - I tell my children that every day".

Sacramento Habitat homeowner qualifications and Family Orientation dates, are available at www.shfh.org under the "Own a Home" tab.

Upcoming Orientations are scheduled for April 15th at 5:30pm and May 4th at 10:00am at SHFH offices 819 North 10th Street Sacramento, CA 95811.

To rsvp for an orientation or for general inquiries, please Molly Gautreaux at (916) 440-1215 ext. 1111 or FamilyServices@shfh.org

## Bank Gives Back! JPMorgan Chase helps build a home for the Thao/Yang Family



home", says Mai Kao, "But in Thailand you can't own property and here in the United States. we couldn't afford it". The Thao/

Yang's heard about Sacramento Habitat through an

or Sacramento Habitat for Humanity's newest homeowners, Chula Yang and Mai Kao Thao, February 16th is a day they will remember forever.

The Thao/ Yang family is originally from Thailand. They moved to the United States in



November of 2004 in hopes for a better quality of life.

"In Thailand", explains Mai Kao, "there is no way to better your life. No way to get work. We moved here to give our children a future".

Chula currently works for a publishing company and Mai Kao works for Unitron. Prior to their Home Dedication on February 16th, they were living in an over-crowded two bedroom apartment along with their three young children and Chula's mother Ia Vang.

"We always wanted to own our own

existing Habitat homeowner and applied. After being accepted into the program, Chula, Mai Kao, and Chula's mother Ia Vang all put in 500 hours of sweat equity building their home.

Their home, located in the heart of Oak Park on 36th Street, was made possible through a full \$75,000 home sponsorship by JPMorgan Chase.

"Full home sponsorships", admits Sacramento Habi-

tat for Humanity CEO, Ken Cross, "are not something we see very often these days."

In addition to sponsoring the build, JPMorgan Chase employees contributed over 300 hours of volunteer labor helping build the new home for the Thao/Yang Family.

Various representatives from the community and JPMorgan Chase participated in the dedication ceremony, offering gifts to the family. But it was Tai



Mamea, Senior Lending Manager for JPMorgan Chase, alongside his daughter, who would present the Thao/Yang family with the greatest gift of all-the keys to their new home.

In a moving speech during the key handoff, Tai Mamea told attendees, "We are proud to be affiliated with and sponsoring this home. It gets thrown around a lot that it's the American Dream, but it truly is....I grew up about 4 blocks from here so to be able to be a part of this is a tremendous honor both personally and professionally"

Mai Kao, was visibly overwhelmed upon receiving the keys, "Thank you, thank you to everyone. Thank you to the volunteers, to Chase, to everyone".

Now happy in their new fourbedroom LEED-certified home. Chula and Mai Kao will be able to enjoy significantly reduced utility bills, fresh fruits and vegetables in their backyard, and, most importantly, space for their children to grow and live.

The Thao/Yang's home is located on 3833 36th Street Sacramento, CA

## **Stopping the Cycle** Limerick Family creates a new life for themselves and their family

Brian and Ashly Limerick were both raised by addicts and fell into the drug and alcohol culture at a young age.

With the birth of their first child, Faith, Brian was faced with a choice – jail or rehab. He choose rehab and with Ashly still struggling with her addiction, raised Faith on his own for the first 10 months of her life.

Ashly recalls, "Thank God that he gave Brian the strength to take care of our daughter".

When Ashly became pregnant with their second child, Christopher, she decided that the time had come for her to make a choice too.

"I realized that I didn't' want my children to have to live without their mom- I was going to die if I didn't clean up".

Christopher was born with a crushed lung and has to be fed through a feeding tube. Looking back, Ashly admits, "If I hadn't quit, he wouldn't have survived and I couldn't have lived with myself"".

Brian currently works as a steel man for American Metals while Ashly stays home to take care of Christopher. They admit that money is a struggle, but they are grateful for what they have.

"Life was like a revolving door", says Ashly, "We never had a stable place to live. Our kids will never have that and we're so grateful".

The Limerick's currently live in an over-crowded 2-bedroom apartment which also suffers from mold and dry rot.

"Christopher needs to be in a moldfree environment with insulation", says Brian, "...his health suffers, but we can't afford to move".

The Limericks found Habitat through Brian's sponsor, a current Habitat homeowner.

"As soon as we walked in," says Brian, "I felt at home. I just had to smile because I knew this was where we were supposed to be".

Ashly and Brian put in over 500 hours building their new home.

"When we're working with these volunteers," says Brian, "just to see someone giving their time to do such hard labor for someone else, it really restores a lot of hope that you've lost in humanity".

The Limerick Family Home Dedication is open to the public.

Saturday, April 13th at 10:00am at 3136 Academy Way Sacramento, CA 95815.



#### Volunteer steps up to help after a Thief hits a Habitat Jobsite

When Sacramento Habitat for Humanity volunteer Erik Owens heard about the recent theft of \$2,800 in tools from a Sacramento Habitat for Humanity jobsite, he immediately set out to help.

The \$2,800 in tools that were taken, including a newly purchased Yellow 6000W Generator on wheels valued at \$2,100, were being kept in a locked storage container behind a locked fence on 1017 Frienza Ave.

"I was stunned anyone would steal

from an organization like HFH or any charity!", says Owens.

Owens , who regularly volunteers for Sacramento Habitat, upon hearing the news, marched down to the Sacramento Habitat offices to make an immediate cash donation to help in replacing the tools.

"If I could ," says Owens, "I would buy all of what was stolen and replace it. There is no reason these homes should be postponed. I know Habitat will put this donation to good use"

Sacramento Habitat is still working on replacing the stolen tools.

If you would like to join Erik and help in replacing or donating to replace the stolen tools, please contact CFO Anne Gambino at (916) 440-1215 ext. 1416 or AGambino@shfh.org

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#### How do you measure a year? I 9th Annual Hammy Awards Dinner has attendees looking forward to the future

**F** rom the eyes of Hammy Award winner Cliff Popejoy, honored for his outstanding commitment to the Sacramento Habitat Electrical Crew, "This was one of the best Hammies ever!". A sentiment, echoed by many of the attendees and Habitat staff members following the well-attended event on February 21st, 2013.

This year's Hammy Awards, themed "how do you measure a year", boasted nearly 250 attendees

for the two-hour awards ceremony and dinner commemorating the work of outstanding Sacramento Habitat supporters over the past year.

The evening be-

gan with a slideshow of 2012 projects followed by a heart-wrenching speech by 2012 Habitat homeowner Ayanna Fabio.

"I knew that our lives would probably be changed when we got our keys", Ayanna

reflected, "However I never anticipated that the change would begin during the build."

Ayanna concluded her speech look-

ing about the room and remarking, "This is what happens in a community. Friendships are made, children are encouraged, and its members gather to celebrate and improve the lives of all who come through.

Habitat has made these things possible for our family".



2012 Hammy Award Winners Include:

Andersen Logistics, Bank of America, Cisco, Capital City Drywall, Cathy Kester, Chi Delta, Cisco, Cliff Popejoy, Costco, CRC

Construction Technology Program, Doug Veerkamp General Engineering, Easter Seals-Fils Program, Francis Moore, Gordon Herscher, HD Supply, Homewood Lumber, Jim Reilly, Jenny Nguyen, Joan Hendricks, John & Miriam McCormack, John Brannen, JPMorgan Chase, Ki Gifts and Custom Framing, KMAX, Lawrence & Arlinda Menard, Lupton Excavation, McGeorge School of Law, Murphy Austin Adams Schoenfeld, NARI, Nissan, NSSE, Porter Scott, Rancho Cordova Grocery Outlet, Rick Leibold, Roberta Walker Landscape Design, Safelite Autoglass, Sally Weinland, Sarah Stokes, Seyfarth Shaw, Steven Mathias, United Surgical Partners

#### April Showers bring May Dedications Mironov Family to move into their new remodeled Home in Del Paso

Lyudmila and her husband Veyascheslva "Slavic" Mironov won't have much longer to wait until they move into their new remodeled Habitat home.

Their new 4-bedroom home on Del Paso Boulevard was made possible through a national home donation partnership program between Bank of America and Habitat for Humanity International.

"I never thought we'd be able to own a home, but it has been my dream", says Lyudmila. The Mironov family is originally from Ukraine. They currently live in a 2-bedroom apartment in North Highlands.

Their oldest daughter, Yuliya admits, "It's tough. The boys all sleep together, my little sister sleeps with my mom, and dad sleeps on the couch".

The Mironov's have long wanted to move from their overcrowded apartment, both because of the extremely crowded conditions and the [unsafe] neighborhood. With Lyudmila working every day and Slavic joining her on Saturdays, the Mironov family is already nearly halfway through their 500 hours of sweat equity. They, along with their four children, will be moving into their new remodeled Habitat home on 2963 Del Paso Boulevard this May 2013.

As for how she feels, 15-year old Yuliya could only smile, "I'm just so proud of my Mom and Dad".



## IT'S HAMMER TIME— SHfH Team Building Program continues to Grow



There's only one way to get your hands on the SHfH "It's Hammer Time" Team Build T-Shirt and that's by doing a Team Build.

The Team Building Program is an option for volunteer groups who are looking to make an even more substantial contribution. In addition to a day of building, teams that participate in the Team Building Program provide Sacramento Habitat with a \$1,000 donation for up to 10 participants, receive a gourmet brown bag lunch on Habitat ,and receive, the infamous, Hammer Time T-Shirt for their participants.

"This was the best team building exercise ever and so fulfilling! We're a team that gives back!", says Team Building Program participant Folsom Asset Management, Inc.

Modern Farmhouse founder and owner, Beth LaDove, opted to participate in the Team Building Program as a way of commemorating her birthday.

"It was a wonderful day", recalls Beth, "We all had a fantastic time and it was a very memorable birthday for me".

Team Building opportunities take place Wednesday through Satur-

days throughout the year and are subject to availability. Team Building participants to receive priority scheduling at our build site.



The workday is from 7:30am-3:30pm and volunteers are requested to make a full day commitment.

To receive more information or schedule a Team Building

Day for your business or group, please contact Laine Himmelmann at (916) 440-1215 ext. 1108 or LHimmelmann@shfh.org

#### **Do you RESTORE?**



O ff of Richards Boulevard on North 10th Street lies one of Sacramento's best kept secrets - the Sacramento Habitat for Humanity ReStore.

The ReStore, a retail outlet that sells donated new and used building materials, fixtures, and home furnishings, is open to the public Tuesday-Saturday at 819 North 10th Street.

Says Sacramento Habitat CEO, Ken Cross, "We're always looking for customers and for product donations". The ReStore is a revenue source for Sacramento Habitat for Humanity, helping assure donors that all financial contributions received go towards building hope and homes.

819 North 10th Street Sacramento, CA 95811

Open Tuesday-Friday 9:00am-6:00pm

Saturday 10:00am-5:00pm

## Attorney Build 2013 Sacramento Habitat to host 2nd Annual Attorney Build



**F**ollowing the success of last year's Attorney Build for the Nguyen Family on 32nd Street, Sacramento Habitat for Humanity has decided to once again invite law offices all over Sacramento to participate in a 2nd Annual Sacramento Habitat for Humanity Attorney Build.

Last year, John M O'Brien,

McGeorge School of Law, Porter Scott, Seyfarth Shaw, and Murphy Austin Adams Schoenfeld all stepped up to lend Sacramento Habitat their best and brightest to put down their suitcases and pick up their hammers to help build a

Habitat home for a local low-income family.

Last year's Attorney Build raised \$22,500 towards a full \$75,000 home sponsorship. This year, however, Sacramento Habitat for Humanity has even loftier goals for their Attorney Build—setting the sponsorship goal at a full \$75,000 home sponsorship.

Attorney Build sponsorship benefits include team building days on the Sacramento Habitat jobsite, buildable hours t-shirts for participants, firm logo on the Home Sponsorship Banner which will be hung at the build site for the duration of the construction process and retired permanently at the Sacramento Habitat for Humanity (SHfH) ReStore, recognition on the SHfH Website and Facebook, participation and recognition at the Home Dedication Ceremony, recognition at the Annual Hammy Awards Dinner, commemorative plaque to display at your office, and a one of a kind team building experience. A minimum Attorney Build Sponsorship is \$5,000.

If you are interested in hearing more information about the SHfH 2013 Attorney Build and getting your firm involved, please contact CFO, Anne Gambino, at (916) 440-1215 ext. 1416 or AGambino@shfh.org

# Sacramento Habitat to host 2 Global Village Tours to Nicaragua in 2013

I t's no secret that Sacramento Habitat is making a difference here in our community, but few people know of the difference this local affiliate is making overseas. For over 20 years, Sacramento Habitat has been tithing to Habitat para la Humanidad Nicaragua.

To date, in addition to the 93 homes completed here in Sacramento County, SHfH has also built 189 homes overseas and tithed nearly three-quarters of a million dollars from unrestricted funds towards helping needy families in less fortunate countries realize the dream of homeownership. In March of 2012, SHfH hosted their first ever Global Village Tour to Nicaragua, sending 12 volunteers on a life changing 9-day journey to build hope and homes for families in the second poorest country in Latin America.

This March and November 2013, SHfH will be sending two more teams of 12-24 on two more 9-day journeys to help create a world where everyone has a safe, decent place to call home. If you are interested in joining the November tour from November 9-17th, 2013 please contact team leader Michael Gordon at (916) 715-9171 or Michael\_gordon09@comcast.net



## LEED. Follow. Or get out of the way SHfH is leading the way in Green Building

S acramento Habitat for Humanity joined the US Green Building Council in (USGBC) and, with 17 gold and platinum LEED certifications under their belt, has never looked back.

Khan Nguyen, a recent Habitat homeowner who moved in to his Habitat home in June, has yet to pay a monthly utility bill over \$10 (taxes).

Dan Wilson, Director of Construction for Sacramento Habitat and LEED builder believes, "Building LEED is all about sustainability for our families. It doesn't get more energy efficient than this!"

For more information on LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) visit the USGBC website at www.usgbc.org





#### Are you an "Internal Champion"?

66 Many people think that it's the person at the top of an organization or the pastor at the church or the president of an association that is the reason someone sponsors a Habitat house", says Sacramento Habitat CEO, Ken Cross, "...but I tell you, time and time again it's someone that I like to call an internal champion that rings that bell and gets people excited about what we do."

It takes \$150,000 on average to

build a Sacramento Habitat for Humanity house. \$75,000 of that cost is met through home sponsorships which range from a full \$75,000 home sponsorship down to a mini home sponsorship at \$5,000.

This year, Sacramento Habitat saw a wide range of different sponsors, ranging from banks, grocery stores, and even individuals.

"You never know", says Cross, "who that internal champion might be". If you or an organization you belong to is interested in helping sponsor a Sacramento Habitat for Humanity house or would like more information on the 2013 sponsorship levels and benefits please contact Sacramento Habitat for Humanity CFO Anne Gambino at (916) 440-1215 ext. 1416 or AGambino@shfh.org

#### The Little Engine that Could— Sacramento Habitat affiliate awarded "Affiliates of Distinction Award for 2013-2015" from Habitat for Humanity International

O n Tuesday, March 12th at 12:30pm Sacramento Habitat for Humanity was awarded the "Affiliates of Distinction Award for 2013-2015" along with 6 other US Habitat Affiliates at the 2013 Habitat for Humanity National Affiliate Conference. The 6 other US affiliates to be receiving this award include Habitat for Humanity Affili-

ates Austin, Charlotte, East Bay, Greater Los Angeles, Monroe County, and Seattle.

"The Affiliate of Distinction award is a coveted prize for affiliates in the U.S. network and not lightly bestowed" wrote Larry Gluth in his letter to Sacramento Habitat for Humanity notifying us of the award. The U.S. network of Habitat for Humanity affiliates currently exceeds over 1,500 affiliates, 7 of whom were chosen to receive this award.

"It's a huge honor for us to be included amongst this strong group of larger affiliates", says Sacramento Habitat CEO, Ken Cross.

#### SACRAMENTO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

819 North 10th Street Sacramento, CA 95811

Phone: (916) 440-1215 Website: www.shfh.org 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?





