



Habitat
for Humanity®
of Pinellas &
West Pasco Counties

The Community Builder
WINTER 2022 | VOL. 9



**inside
this
edition:**

**a note from
the CEO**
page 2

**tax check
presentation**
page 3

**development
updates**
page 7

A Note from Mike Sutton, President & CEO



Dear Habitat supporters – you are receiving the ninth edition of a monthly newsletter we’ve created, specifically designed for you – our Advisory Board Members, Board of Directors, Emeritus Trustees, Legacy Society Members, Community Builders Society Members, and major donors. The goal of this exclusive communication piece is to keep you better informed of current projects and future initiatives.

The month of February has been transformational in terms of community partnerships for the Habitat organization. Between Government Officials, local CEOs, and top organizations, partners have rallied together to provide more opportunities and growth for our homeowner families.

Thanks to the support from our community and hardworking homeowner partners, our affiliate presented a check for over \$1 Million, representing the taxes paid by Habitat homeowners. This number proves the impact that the Habitat program makes not only on these families, but on the community as a whole. When an individual becomes a homeowner, they become a source of stability for generations to come. With the support of all of you, we can make a significant increase in this number by building more homes in years to come.



Our impact as of today:

932

families served

731

homes built

201

a brush with
kindness projects

607

homes funded
overseas

Thank you for your ongoing partnership. Together, we will continue to move the mission forward to build homes, communities and hope.

Sincerely,

Mike Sutton, President & CEO
Habitat Pinellas and West Pasco



our mission

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

Affiliate Success

Homeowner Tax Check Presentation

This past month, Habitat presented a check to the Pinellas County Government Board of County Commissioners, symbolic of the **\$1,051,000** that our Habitat homeowners paid in 2021. Thanks to our partnership with the County, we were able to serve a record number of families and help them achieve the dream of affordable homeownership last year.

2019 | \$858,837

2020 | \$959,888

2021 | \$1,051,000



Affiliate Growth

Habitat ReStore New Port Richey Grand Opening

Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas and West Pasco Counties will be celebrating the grand opening of its relocated New Port Richey Habitat ReStore on May 13th and 14th. The New Port Richey shopping center will provide a central donation and retail hub for the community.

The Habitat ReStore – New Port Richey location will be located at 6431 US Highway 19, located in a visible plaza space shared with Harbor Freight and Wing House of New Port Richey.

Habitat ReStores are retail centers where new and gently used building materials and home furnishings are sold at discounted prices. "Shoppers can feel good about their purchases. Proceeds from our ReStores support the home builds of families in the Habitat homeownership program," said President & CEO, Mike Sutton. "So when you purchase that great set of kitchen cabinets or a new couch at the ReStore, you are directly impacting a local family."

**GRAND
OPENING
WEEKEND**

MAY 13TH & MAY 14TH

**6431 US Hwy 19 N
New Port Richey**
Next to Harbor Freight



learn more

habitatwp.org/restore



NEW PORT RICHEY



shop the store
that builds homes.

Pinellas County Volunteers

On February 4th, Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas and West Pasco Counties hosted a volunteer build day for the Pinellas Board of County Commissioners. Members of the Board and their team joined forces to build a better future for a Pinellas County family.

President & CEO, Mike Sutton, kicked off the build day with some background on two Largo-based communities built by Habitat. The Greater Ridgcrest and Dansville areas are home to over 40 Habitat families. Between framing, caulking, and cleaning, the Pinellas Board of County Commissioners put another family one step closer to this dream of homeownership.

Later in the month, Pinellas County Government Housing Department was out on a build site, landscaping on the Mitchell Family home.

We appreciate the County staff joining forces to move the Habitat mission forward through these volunteer efforts, and throughout the year as we build more homes for families in need.



Staff Recognition

Staff Promotion & New Hires!

As our affiliate continues to grow and develop, we work to bring more opportunities for our staff in order to support our goal of serving more families. We are excited to have approached 70 employees who are dedicated to advancing the Habitat mission.

Join us in welcoming a new staff member to the Habitat team:



Shakila Collins
Accountant II

Join us in congratulating three recent promotions on the Habitat team:



Keila Martin
Mortgage Servicing Coordinator



Joe Sioch
Field Supervisor II



Danielle Hodges
ReStore Associate II

Community Partnerships

CEO Build Begins

In an effort to bring community leaders together for a common cause, Habitat launched the CEO Build, where leaders will work together to build homes, communities, and hope.

This month, we kicked-off the build with a reception at The Cordova Inn in St. Petersburg. In partnership with Habitat, honorary chairs Bill Brand, CEO of Rue21, and Mindy Grossman, CEO of WW, gathered local leaders to celebrate the Middlebrooks family.

Following the kick-off reception, two build days have taken place for participants of the CEO Build to volunteer on the Middlebrooks home in Tellor Estates. A third build day is scheduled for Friday, March 4th. Twenty committed leaders spent their morning landscaping, installing cabinets and doors, cutting trim, and installing hurricane shutters. Volunteer efforts were followed by a discussion around the work that has been done in the neighborhood, and community as a whole. We thank each and every participant of this build for helping Jasmine reach her dream of homeownership.



Committed Leaders include:

Mindy Grossman
President & CEO of WW (Honorary Co-Chair)

Bill Brand
CEO of Rue21 (Honorary Co-Chair)

Marc Banning
CEO of Banning Lumber

Ronde Barber
General Chair of Copperhead Charities

John Barrett
President & CEO of First Citrus Bank

Bridgette Bello
CEO & Publisher of Tampa Bay Business & Wealth Magazine

David Bennett
CEO of Pinellas REALTOR® Organization & Central Pasco REALTOR® Organization

Ravi Chari, MD
President of HCA Healthcare West Florida Division

Jason Clement
Founder & CEO of The Sports Facilities Companies

John D. Couris
President & CEO of Tampa General Hospital

Susan Crockett
President & CEO of Ruth Eckerd Hall

Thomas J. Del Zoppo
Partner in "New Hotel Collection" group

Doug Dieck
President of Southeast Region of Ryan Companies

Elodie Dorso
President & CEO of Evara Health

Dan Doyle, Jr.
CEO of DEX Imaging

Ed Droste
Chairman of Provident Management

Lisa Faller
President of FKQ Advertising & Marketing

Ray Ferrara
CEO of ProVise Management Group

Scott Fink
CEO of Fink Automotive Group

Jeffrey Fishman
President of Investors Title

Stephanie Fischer
CEO of Global Retail Marketing Association

Wendy Gattis
CEO of DITEK Corporation

Bill Goede
Tampa Bay President of Bank of America

Robert Glaser
President & CEO of Smith & Associates

Leo "LJ" Govoni
CEO of Big Storm Brewery & Distillery

Russ Hallenbeck
CEO of Tibbetts Lumber Company

Kevin Hawkins
CEO of MidAtlantic Finance & Owner of Crown Automotive

Howard Heckes
President & CEO of Masonite

Keri Higgins-Bigelow
Founder & CEO of livingHR

Cor Hoekstra
Co-Founder & CEO of Amicus.io

Patrick Hwu, MD
President & CEO of Moffitt Cancer Center

Tommy Inzina
President & CEO of BayCare

Neil Kiefer
CEO of HMC Hospitality Group

David Kenny
CEO of Nielsen

Anthony Leo
CEO of First Home Bank

Brooke Miranda
President & CEO of Sunshine State Economic Development Corporation

Robin Moch
Partner at M.E. Wilson Company

Jessica Muroff
CEO of the United Way Suncoast

Frank Musolino
CEO of Power Design

Karl Nurse
President of Bay Tech Label

Amanda Payne
President & CEO of Amplify Clearwater

Christine Quinn
Owner & CEO of My Family Seasonings, LLC

Steve Raney
Chairman & CEO of Raymond James Bank

Chip Reeves
CEO & President of Beach Bank

Steve Riordan
CEO of Kozuba & Sons Distillery

Elliott Ross
President of The Ross Realty Group, Inc.

Melissa Seixas
Florida State President of Duke Energy

Jay Stroman
CEO of USF Foundation

John Strong
Chairman & CEO of Bankers Financial Corporation

Mike Sutton
President & CEO of Habitat Pinellas and West Pasco

Lorna Taylor
President & CEO of Premier Eye Care

Brian Van Slyke
Regional President of Kolter Urban LLC

Randy Ware
Founder & CEO of WestCMR

Tracy West
Tournament Director of Valspar Championship

Cup of Joe with the CEO

Our Cup of Joe with the CEO is making its way through New Port Richey. Community members have been joining together with President & CEO, Mike Sutton, to learn about the impact Habitat is making in our service area. Great discussion is being made around innovative ways to get the community involved in every pillar of Habitat. This monthly meet-up is open to all, but space is limited. Interested in joining? Contact Robyn Liska at rliska@habitatpwp.org for our next event, with details below.



Tuesday, March 22nd | 8:30 am
Oasis Coffee Spot
9213 Little Road
New Port Richey, FL 34654



Community Builders Hours



Learn how you can make affordable homeownership dream come true!

Join us at any of our Community Builders Hours for networking, followed by a one hour program to learn more about how Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas and West Pasco Counties is addressing the problem of affordable housing in Pinellas and Pasco Counties. Hear from a Habitat homeowner about the impact that a safe and affordable home makes and learn how you can help make homeownership a possibility for those in need in your community.

New Port Richey

Thursday, March 31st | 7:30 am
 Spartan Manor

St. Petersburg

Thursday, April 28th | 7:30 am
 Hilton Carillon

Clearwater

Thursday, May 12th | 11:30 am
 Ruth Eckard Hall

interested in becoming a table captain? contact Jenny Gonzalez-Bohnert at jgonzalez@habitatpwp.org or 727.536.4755 ext 220

current community builders society members

Alfredo Anthony
 Aubrey Posey-Hitchcock
 Barbara Wilhite
 Bruce Terwilliger
 Carlos Yepes
 Carol Hague
 Carolynn Rosse
 Charles and Mary Franckle
 Chuck Warrington
 Craig and Jan Sher
 Craig and Joan Conrad
 Dana and Charlene Mayo
 David and Nancy Ridenour
 Dean and Diane Gobo

Don Cadle
 Doug and Gwen Campbell
 Dr. Fred and Emily Gurtman
 Dwight Miller
 Elizabeth Sellers
 Ellen Hirsch de Haan
 Elodie Dorso
 Eric Seidel
 Frank Starkey
 Gaby Camacho
 George and Carolyn Cretekos
 Heather Ford
 Jaime Girgenti
 Jarrett Dixon

Jeff and Brandy Fishman
 Jim and Allie Cantonis
 Joe and Angelina Jimenez
 Jordan and Melissa Myers
 Karl Nurse
 Ken and Kelly Ginel
 Ken Rush
 Kevin Hawkins
 Linda Cliborne
 Mark and Mary Roberds
 Marlene Spalten
 Matt Erickson
 Mike Sutton
 Morgan Brochetti

Pamela Lee
 Patrick Blyeth
 Patti Templeton
 Randy Ware
 Robert and Priscilla Hoag
 Robin Waugh-Castle
 Ronice Barlow
 Scott and Julie Klavans
 Sean and Ellen Bunner
 Steve and Cathy Collins
 T J Haynes-Morgan
 Todd St. John-Fulton

Pelican Place | St. Petersburg

Habitat's most recent development proposal was for a multi-family development in St. Petersburg. If approved, this three-story townhome project Pelican Place will be home to 44 new homeowners. St. Petersburg leaders are currently considering several plans for the area, with Habitat's proposal being the only one that focuses on a homeownership model.



Martin Luther King | Largo

Our affiliate is working on a proposal to build an affordable 60-home townhome development in Largo. The concept is to have a mix of two to three-bedroom homes with a modern style with a total square footage of roughly 1,200 square feet. The overall project is estimated to cost \$12 million, including the land acquisition.



Betty Lane | Clearwater

Our affiliate is working with the City of Clearwater to build 25 townhomes on a 2.5-acre plot of land.



Little Road | New Port Richey

Habitat is excited to advance homeownership efforts in Pasco county through the purchase of an almost 5 acres site, conveniently located off Little Road. While we are still in the initial planning phases, we are planning for this development to provide 30 to 40 new affordable homeownership opportunities for the residents of Pasco County. This will be over a \$6 million investment into the area and provide increased property tax revenues for decades to come.



Fair Housing Act

A Series for Black History Month

As a part of our celebration of Black History Month, Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas and West Pasco Counties created a blog series on the history, need and impact of the 1968 Fair Housing Act (FHA).

Born out of the 1960s Civil Rights Movement, the Fair Housing Act was landmark housing legislation to prohibit housing discrimination. This legislation was especially impactful for people of color and other marginalized groups, as the FHA banned many of the actions that had grown to deny people housing. Civil rights icons such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Thurgood Marshall, Whitney Young, John Lewis and many more fought to end housing discrimination, having an impact on the passage of the FHA. We will honor the legacies of all who put their lives on the line to ensure people had access to safe, decent, and affordable housing by bringing you this series on the fight for fair housing.



Fair Housing Act - The Chicago Freedom Movement

One of the first significant movements and subsequent victories against housing discrimination was the Chicago Freedom Movement. The movement was led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., James Bevel, Al Raby and a 25-year-old Rev. Jesse Jackson to contest systemic segregation and discrimination in Chicago.

→ habitatpwp.org/fair-housing-act-part-2

Fair Housing Act - Final Passage

On April 10th, less than a week after King's untimely death, the Fair Housing Act was passed by the House of Representatives by a 250 to 172 vote. A day later, President Johnson signed the bill into law.

→ habitatpwp.org/fair-housing-act-part-3

Fair Housing Act - 1968 to Today

We have come a long way since the days of housing discrimination being explicit policy, standardized, and socially acceptable, yet there is always work to be done! We tip our cap to all that have come before us and salute those still fighting for Fair Housing today.

→ habitatpwp.org/fair-housing-1968-to-today



Dedications & Events

Tuesday, March 22nd @ 8:30 am
Cup of Joe with the CEO

Tuesday, March 22nd @ 4 pm
Mitchell Home Dedication

Thursday, March 24th @ 4 pm
Hunter Home Dedication

Friday, March 25th @ 9 am
McLeod Home Dedication

Monday, March 28th @ 9 am
Middlebrooks Home Dedication

Monday, March 28th @ 3 pm
Gibbons Home Dedication

Monday, March 28th @ 4 pm
Myers Home Dedication

Tuesday, March 29th @ 9 am
Eddy Home Dedication

Strategic Pillars

	<i>Apply</i>
	<i>Donate</i>
	<i>Volunteer</i>
	<i>Shop</i>
	<i>Advocate</i>

Save the Date: Signature Events

Roaring 20's Prohibition Party - Spring Gala
April 1st, 2022 | 6 pm – 9 pm
The Vinoy® Renaissance St. Petersburg

Community Builders Hours

New Port Richey
Thursday, March 31st | 7:30 am
Spartan Manor

St. Petersburg
Thursday, April 28th | 7:30 am
Hilton Carillon

Clearwater
Thursday, May 12th | 11:30 am
Ruth Eckerd Hall



visit us

Clearwater ReStore & Truist Education Center
13355 49th St N, Suite B Clearwater, FL 33762

Administrative HQ
14010 Roosevelt Blvd, Suite 704 Clearwater, FL 33762

St. Pete Resource Center
1350 22nd St S, St. Petersburg, FL 33712

(727) 536-4755 | habitatpwp.org

Palm Harbor ReStore
31541 US Highway 19 North Palm Harbor, FL 34684

New Port Richey ReStore COMING SOON!
6431 US Highway 19 North New Port Richey, FL

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