



Habitat
for Humanity®
of Pinellas &
West Pasco Counties

The Community Builder
SPRING 2022 | VOL. 11



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A Note from Mike Sutton, President & CEO



Dear Habitat supporters – you are receiving the eleventh 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.

With the end of our our fiscal year approaching in June, there are no shortage of ways to connect to the Habitat mission. In the next two months, we will celebrate with 12 homeowner partner families as they complete the Habitat program; we will open our New Port Richey ReStore location, and we will host three Cup of Joe with the CEO events to engage Pinellas and Pasco community leaders in the affordable housing conversation.

I invite you to join us this month for any of the following events:

New Port Richey ReStore Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting

Friday, May 13, 2022 – 11am
6431 US Highway 19, New Port Richey

Bingham Family Home Dedication (sponsored by Raymond James)

Thursday, May 19 – 9am
6255 67th Way North, Pinellas Park

Cup of Joe with the CEO Series - Pinellas

Monday, May 16 – 8:30am
Truist Education Center 13355 49th St N, Ste B, Clearwater
RSVP to jgonzalez@habitatpwp.org

Edwards Family Home Dedication

Monday, May 23 – 9am
414 S Levis Avenue, Tarpon Springs

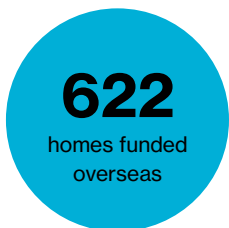
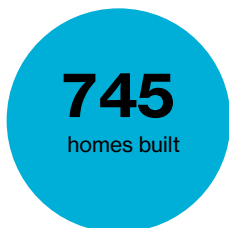
Cowan Family Home Dedication (sponsored by Lokey Automotive)

Tuesday, May 17 – 4pm
602 Alden Avenue, Clearwater

Cup of Joe with the CEO Series - Pasco

Tuesday, May 24 – 8:30am
Oasis Coffee Spot – 9213 Little Road, New Port Richey
RSVP to rliska@habitatpwp.org

Our impact as of today:



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.

Community Builders Hour

Our second Community Builder's Hour of the year was a success! Community members in St. Pete joined together at the Hilton Carillon to hear about the impact Habitat for Humanity is making on families throughout the service area. The event raised \$188,000 to support building more affordable housing in our community.

Families like the Baxters and the Earleys, who shared their story that morning, had the opportunity to achieve homeownership through Habitat - a dream that once seemed out of reach. Now, they continue to share their stories with others to help advocate for Habitat and affordable housing in our community so that other families can achieve the same dream of homeownership they once had.



thank you to our community builders society members

Alfredo Anthony
Aubrey Posey-Hitchcock
Barbara Wilhite
Brad Grossman
Brandon Brayboy
Bruce Terwilliger
Carlos Yepes
Carol Hague
Carolynn Rosse
Cary Johnson
Charles and Mary Franckle
Charlie Rogers
Cheryl Henry
Chris Majeski
Chris Roddey
Chuck Warrington
Craig and Jan Sher
Craig and Joan Conrad
Dana and Charlene Mayo

David and Nancy Ridenour
Dean and Diane Gobo
Debbie Cooley-Guy
Don Cadle
Doug Bray
Doug and Gwen Campbell
Dr. Fred and Emily Gurtman
Dwight Miller
Elizabeth Sellers
Ellen Hirsch de Haan
Elodie Dorso
Eric Seidel
Erik Fruland
Frank Starkey
Frank Torre
Gaby Camacho
George and Carolyn Cretelos
Heather Ford
Hollyanne Nuss

Jaime Girgenti
Jarrett Dixon
Jeff and Brandy Fishman
Jenny and Brad Gonzalez-Bohnert
Jim and Allie Cantonis
Joe and Angelina Jimenez
Jordan and Melissa Myers
Julia Pauls
Karl Nurse
Ken and Kelly Ginel
Ken Rush
Kevin Hawkins
Kristin Downer
Leo Govoni
Linda Cliborne
Mark Davis
Mark and Mary Roberds
Marlene Spalten
Matt Erickson

Michael Wood
Mike Sutton
Morgan Brochetti
Nancy Marques
Pamela Lee
Pastor Elizabeth Siplin
Patrick Blyeth
Patti Templeton
Randy Ware
Robert and Priscilla Hoag
Robin Waugh-Castle
Ronice Barlow
Scott and Julie Klavans
Sean and Ellen Bunner
Stephanie Woods
Steve and Cathy Collins
TJ Haynes-Morgan
Todd St. John-Fulton
Zhong (June) Cao

Community Events

2022 Habitat National Affiliate Conference

Last month, 12 members of the Habitat Pinellas & West Pasco team travelled to Atlanta to attend the 2022 Habitat affiliate conference. This year's theme was **"Build More. Serve More. Be the Change."** Throughout the week, staff attended presentations and heard from experts focused on these three areas. A few members of our staff even had the opportunity to present on various topics. When they returned, a debrief was held where each staff member gave their perspective on the conference and lessons learned while attending. Each person shared two to three takeaways that they plan to use in their professional and personal growth.

There is no doubt there is a larger need more than ever for obtainable, affordable housing. Our staff continues to reflect on the theme of the Habitat National Conference of "Build More, Serve More, Be the Change". As we wrap up our fiscal year, the entire Habitat staff continues to commit to our mission and to be the change that many families need in our community.



Homeowner Candidate Celebration HOC Picnic

On Sunday, May 1st, Habitat Pinellas & West Pasco held the first Homeowner Candidate Picnic in over two years and it was a major success! Over 200 people, including homeowner candidates and Habitat staff, came out to enjoy a day of games, grilling, and fun! Thank you to all the families who came out to celebrate with us and to our staff volunteers who helped cook and serve delicious food.



Vinoy Business Alliance with Mike Sutton

Last month, Habitat Pinellas & West Pasco's President & CEO, Mike Sutton, sat down with Mike McNally and the community to discuss his early influences, education, and growing up in Tampa Bay. He was able to share what Habitat is doing in the community and the importance of affordable home ownership.



“ We are seeing the workforce unable to afford to live here. They are moving to Pasco, moving to Hernando, moving to Manatee. They're leaving Florida. - Mike Sutton



State of Business

Preparing for a Post-Pandemic Economy

Tampa Bay Business Journal & TD Bank hosted a panel on the “State of Business: Preparing for a Post-Pandemic Economy”. Habitat's President & CEO, Mike Sutton was a featured panelist alongside Dr. Cynthia Johnson, Director of Pinellas County Economic Development and Cammie Chatterton, Owner, CEO, and President of Bay Food Brokerage. This live panel discussion shared current and timely perspectives on Tampa Bay's businesses and how they are preparing for a post-pandemic economy.



Habitat Celebrations

Staff Expansion

New Hires & Promotions

As our affiliate continues to grow, we have been looking to bring new staff members on in various positions to support our goal of serving more families. Join us in welcoming five new hires to the Habitat team and congratulating two employees on their recent promotions.

New Hires

Hannah Eddy
Compliance Specialist

Tocarra Moore
Office Coordinator

Brian Amison
ReStore Donation Driver I

Mike Kinzig
ReStore Associate - Clearwater

Chris Torello
Multimedia Manager

Sonja Felton
Director of ReStore Operations

Andro Popoviq
ReStore Donation Driver I



Promotions

Sean King
Vice President of Government Relations

Jayden Koepke
Field Supervisor I

Homeownership Program

6 New Candidates Accepted Last Month



When a homeowner candidate is accepted into the program, a surprise meeting is set up resulting in reactions that are both emotional and inspiring! Our team works with the individual directly or with their employer to set up a meeting to "complete final paperwork". Instead of paperwork, these individuals are surprised with a special certificate recognizing their hard work to be accepted into the program.

The journey begins...

Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay Partnership

On Tuesday, April 26th, Habitat Pinellas and West Pasco celebrated their newest partnership with Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay with an open house and ribbon cutting ceremony. Both non-profit organizations have collaborated on a co-branded office in South St. Petersburg to better serve the affordable housing crisis in our county.

The newly rebranded facility, located on 14th Avenue and 22nd Street South in the culturally significant area of St. Petersburg known as the Deuces, combines Habitat's homebuilding and ownership efforts with Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay's (RTTB) mission to keep families in their existing homes. Skyrocketing costs, barriers to access, systemic inequities, and a need that far exceeds the current supply are just some of the major issues at the heart of the affordable housing crisis in our communities. This partnership will bring more visibility to the office and allow for greater impact in the affordable housing space.



National Volunteer Week

This year, National Volunteer Week took place April 17th to the 23rd. To show our appreciation for our volunteers, Habitat staff brought treats to volunteers out on our build sites, shared volunteer spotlight blogs, and even hosted a "Tellor Estates Chalk Day". At our chalk event, children and families in our Tellor Estates development created sweet messages of appreciation for our volunteers on their driveways and in the street with chalk.

Habitat would not be the organization it is today without members of our community coming out to swing a hammer, help in our offices, or work in the ReStores every year. We thank you for your donation of time!

Upcoming Initiatives

Cup of Joe with the CEO: Pinellas

Since the beginning of the year, Habitat has been hosting monthly breakfast meetings in Pasco county that have been a big success. This month, we are expanding these sessions to Pinellas. At these events, community members can expect to join together with President & CEO, Mike Sutton, to learn about the impact Habitat is making in our service area. Great discussion is 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 Jenny Gonzalez-Bonhert at jgonzalez@habitatpwp.org for our next event, with details below.



May 16th, 2022 | 8:30 am - 9:30 am
Habitat Homeowner Education Center
13355 49th St. North, Suite B
Clearwater, FL 33762



ReStore Updates

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.

FRIDAY, MAY 13TH

9 AM Store Opens
11 AM Ribbon Cutting with the Greater Pasco Chamber
All day - Food trucks, outdoor games, raffles and more!

SATURDAY, MAY 14TH

9 AM Store Opens
12 PM - 2 PM HITS 106 Live Remote
All day - Food trucks, outdoor games, raffles and more!

The Habitat ReStore home improvement centers are affordable and unique spots for shoppers looking for great deals on new and gently used furniture, appliances, home décor, and building materials. Those looking to donate to the ReStore are able to schedule contactless pick-ups online at habitatpwp.org/restore or via phone at 727-209-2199.

GRAND OPENING WEEKEND

MAY 13TH & MAY 14TH

6431 US Hwy 19 N, New Port Richey





Dedications & Events

Monday, May 16th @ 8:30 am

Cup of Joe with the CEO - Pinellas

Monday, May 17th @ 4 pm

Cowan Home Dedication

Thursday, May 19th @ 9 am

Bingham Home Dedication

Monday, May 23rd @ 9 am

Edwards Home Dedication

Tuesday, May 24th @ 8:30 am

Cup of Joe with the CEO - Pasco

Strategic Pillars

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

Save the Date: ReStore Grand Opening

New Port Richey ReStore
6431 US Hwy 19 N. New Port Richey, FL

Friday, May 13th @ 11 am

New Port Richey ReStore Ribbon Cutting

Saturday, May 14th @ 9 am - 6pm

NPR ReStore Grand Opening Festivities
featuring HOT 106 Live Remote



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

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

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

(727) 536-4755 | habitatpwp.org

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