



Habitat
for Humanity®
of Pinellas &
West Pasco Counties

The Community Builder
JUNE 2023 | VOL. 22



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A Note from Mike Sutton, President & CEO



Dear Habitat Supporter,

Welcome to the twenty-second edition of The Community Builder newsletter!

This exclusive communication is 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 monthly communication is to provide you with insight into current and upcoming projects, events and initiatives designed in support of our mission.

As we close out the last month of the 2022-2023 fiscal year, our affiliate remains determined and focused to build strength, stability, self-reliance and shelter for deserving families in our community. We are scheduled to host seven home dedications in the month of June over the span of ten days starting on June 13th. This will bring our total number of homes built this year to 73, once again a new record for our organization. We invite you to come out and celebrate these families as they receive the keys to their new homes.

What have we accomplished this year? A record amount of safe and affordable homes for hardworking individuals in our community. Check out a sneak peek of our fiscal year impact report to see the accomplishments the Habitat team has pushed for in order to better serve our community:

73

HOMES FUNDED
LOCALLY

73

HOMES FUNDED
INTERNATIONALLY

800th

HOME BUILT AND
DEDICATED

116

BIKES DONATED TO
HABITAT KIDS BY
KIDS PEDAL POWER

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.

On the Road to 73 Homes

End of Fiscal Year

Habitat to Close on 73 Homes in the 2022-23 Fiscal Year

As we approach the end of June, our Habitat affiliate is once again completing a record-breaking fiscal year with 73 new homes constructed in our community. With only five home dedications to go, we invite you to join us for the best 15 minutes of your day when our new homeowners open their front door for the first time.

The Middleton Family Home Dedication

June 15th | 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM
2521 Langdon Ave. S., St. Petersburg, FL

Double Dedication: The Woodbury & Mercurio Families

June 16th | 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM
2238 13th Lane SW, Largo, FL

The Foster Family Home Dedication

June 15th | 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM
2501 Langdon Ave. S., St. Petersburg, FL

The Shannon Family Home Dedication

June 23rd | 9:00 AM - 19:30 AM
2764 Grove Park Ave. N., St. Petersburg, FL



Graduation Spotlights

Over the last month, Habitat homeowner candidates have shared photos of their children who are celebrating their graduation from school. They also shared what their plans are for the next year. We know that a safe and stable home provides kids with the foundation to grow and learn. From dreams of becoming police officers, doctors, zookeepers, video game designers, and even tooth fairies and princesses, we look forward to celebrating with this next generation of Habitat homeowner children on their future successes!

“ Education is very important to our family because it’s a solid foundation for a stable future. Brayden is already saving for college. He watches me take classes at night so my family has been instilling how important education is since he was a little guy.” - Jill Mello



Home Dedication

USF President Presents Keys at Habitat Home Dedication

On Saturday, May 27th, University of South Florida President Rhea Law, presented the keys to the Louch Family at their home dedication. President Law was named Overall Winner at the 2023 Tampa Bay Business Women Awards in April. Many of the finalists came out to volunteer and swing a hammer alongside Cheetara during her build process and some joined her at the dedication. Thank you to this incredible group of women for their support of our mission!



2023 Slate of Officers

Our Board of Directors recently elected the slate of officers to begin their service on July 1st, 2023. These individuals will all serve on the Executive Committee of the Board for the next twelve months.

- **Chair – Heather Ford**
- **Vice Chair – Frank Starkey**
- **Treasurer – Ken Ginel**
- **Secretary – Chris Hackney**
- **Immediate Past Chair - Brandon Brayboy**
- **At-Large - Ian Peterson**
- **At-Large - Chris Majeski**
- **At-Large - Lynn Skelton**
- **Mike Sutton (CEO, non-voting)**

Incoming Board Members

Our affiliate will soon announce five new additions to the Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas & West Pasco Board of Directors. These four individuals will begin their first term as a board member on July 1, 2023.

- **Carolina Conner - Luxury Real Estate Advisor, Engel & Volkers**
- **Jose Gomez - Associate, Harvard Jolly Architecture**
- **Iris Gonzalez - Founder/Principal, Links-G Consulting**
- **Alicia Tennell - Digital Strategy & Fintech Analyst, Americas Franklin Templeton**



Carolina Conner



Jose Gomez



Iris Gonzalez

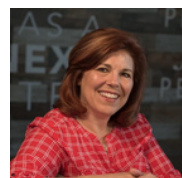


Alicia Tennell

Our organization will also be thanking four individuals who are leaving the board this year: [Alfredo Anthony](#) and [Patti Templeton](#), who have both served on our Board of Directors for seven years, as well as [Jarrett Dixon](#), who has served two years, and [Rebecca Watson](#) who has served four. All have been instrumental in Habitat's growth and ability to serve families in our community over the years.



Alfredo Anthony



Patti Templeton



Jarrett Dixon



Rebecca Watson

*Thank you for your service
to our organization!*

Habitat Homeowners

Mortgage Burning Ceremony held for Mary Scott-Taylor

On Wednesday, May 31st, Habitat Homeowner, Mary Scott-Taylor officially paid off her mortgage. Mary purchased her home through the Habitat program in 2001. Now, 22 years later, Mary was able to celebrate her paid-in-full home through a Mortgage Burning Ceremony held at the Habitat Admin Offices. Staff gathered with her in the parking lot to watch her burn all of her mortgage documents and celebrate this amazing accomplishment. Mary was able to pay off her mortgage three years early and we are incredibly proud of her.

Mary's home was the first that Habitat Pinellas & West Pasco built in Tarpon Springs. Her home has been a safe space for her family to grow over the years. She has gone through many hardships, including battling and surviving Breast Cancer over the last few years. However, Mary always had a forever home that she could go back to and be surrounded by her friends and family. We are overjoyed for Mary and wish her many more years of happiness in her Habitat home.



ReStore

**FATHERS DAY
TENT SALE
Saturday, June 17th**

**15%
off**

**all merchandise for fathers
(excluding purchased flooring & paint)
Cannot be combined with any other offer.**

**CHANCE
DRAWING**

**Receive 1 raffle ticket per \$20 spent.
Enter to win prizes including Innisbrook golf
certificates, outdoors equipment and more!**

Habitat Celebrations

2023 Best Places to Work

Nearly 900 people showed up Wednesday at George M. Steinbrenner Field in Tampa to celebrate workplaces they love. The Tampa Bay Business Journal's annual Best Places to Work program, now in its 17th year, comes at a time when business owners and employees across the Tampa Bay region are experiencing talent shortages. That makes turnover more costly than ever. The retention of good people is a critical priority. The 60 companies honored this year scored highest among all the employers participating in Omaha, Nebraska-based Quantum Workplace's annual employee engagement survey.

TAMPA BAY BUSINESS JOURNAL



2023 BEST PLACES TO WORK

The results are quantitative, based on survey responses from employees themselves rather than a panel of outside judges. The results are clear: The companies honored in 2023 invested heavily in their people by providing valuable perks and benefits, flexibility, remote work, good leadership, a fun culture and more.

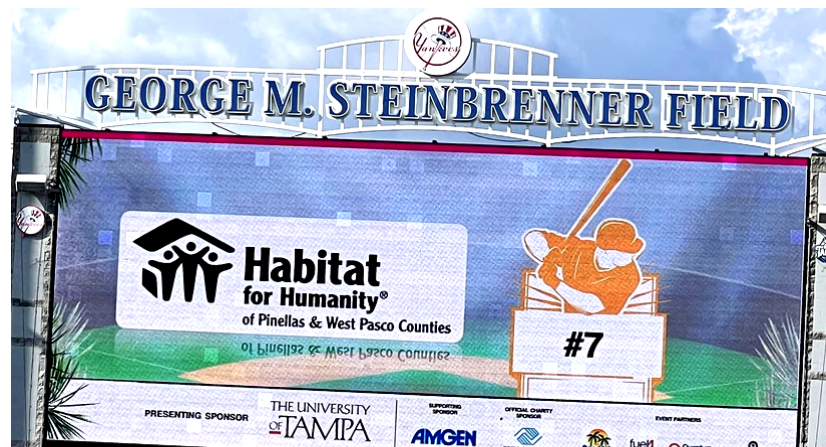
Each of the top 15 companies in four categories was honored at the stadium field level while teams gathered, partied and relaxed with food, drinks and games. Habitat Pinellas and West Pasco is grateful to have received #7 in the Large Category – 50-99 employees.



Employees were asked to evaluate their employers on these areas:

- Team effectiveness
- Retention risk
- Alignment with goals
- Trust with coworkers
- Individual contribution
- Manager effectiveness
- Trust in senior leaders
- Feeling valued
- Work engagement
- People practices

Their answers were strictly confidential and anonymous.





**Habitat
for Humanity®**

of Pinellas & West Pasco Counties

ADMINISTRATIVE HQ EXPANSION **OPEN HOUSE**

FRIDAY, JUNE 30TH, 2023

JOIN US ANYTIME BETWEEN 1 PM - 3 PM

Airport Business Center

14010 Roosevelt Blvd, Suite 704

Clearwater, FL

Celebrate with us as we complete a record-breaking fiscal year with 73 new homes constructed in our community!

Join us at our newly expanded administrative headquarters. Enjoy refreshments, networking and tours of this exciting new addition of offices, meeting and collaboration space for the Habitat team and community.

Please RSVP online at

BIT.LY/3NF6VY1



SCAN ME

Habitat Celebrations

Staff Highlights

Promotions & New Hires

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 congratulating four employees on their recent promotions and welcoming two new hires to the team.



Promotions



Camila González
Vice President of
Mortgage Servicing



Justin Haley
Senior Pre-Construction
Manager



Will Deason
Senior Procurement
Manager



Amanda Arnone
Communications
Manager

New Hires

Jeremy Jones
Project Scheduling Coordinator

Debbie Chong
Pre-Construction Coordinator

Aram Salazar
Construction Crew Leader

Homeownership Program

7 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...](#)



Upcoming Events

The Middleton Family Home Dedication
June 15th | 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM
2521 Langdon Ave. S., St. Petersburg, FL

Father's Day Tent Sale
June 17th | 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Clearwater & New Port Richey ReStores

The Foster Family Home Dedication
June 15th | 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM
2501 Langdon Ave. S., St. Petersburg, FL

The Shannon Family Home Dedication
June 23rd | 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM
2764 Grove Park Ave. N., St. Petersburg, FL

Double Dedication: Woodbury & Mercurio Families
June 16th | 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM
2238 13th Lane SW, Largo, FL

Administrative HQ Expansion Open House
June 30th, 2023 | 1 PM - 3 PM
Airport Business Center
14010 Roosevelt Blvd, Suite 704 Clearwater, FL

how to get involved

	Apply
	Donate
	Volunteer
	Shop
	Advocate



	CLEARWATER	NEW PORT RICHEY
ReStore	13355 49th Street North, Suite B	6431 US Highway 19 North



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
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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