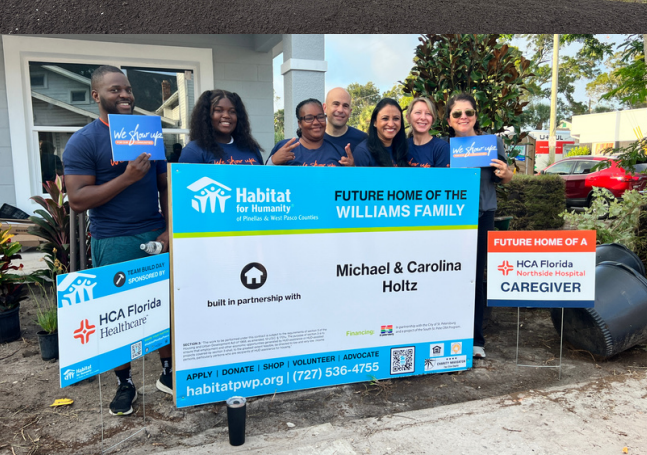




Habitat
for Humanity®
of Pinellas &
West Pasco Counties

The Community Builder
OCTOBER 2023 | VOL. 24



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A Note from Mike Sutton, President & CEO



Dear Habitat Supporter,

Welcome to the twenty-fourth 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.

The first quarter of FY 2023-2024 was a huge success as Habitat completed 15 homes (up from 7 homes this time last year!) as we watched these families become homeowners for the first time. Each home celebration is symbolic of breaking the cycle of poverty for a family so we celebrate each family in this occasion. I'm excited to share that we are on pace to complete 80 homes in 2023. This work is only possible because of the generosity and support of our community.

In addition to the program success we have experienced over the past few months, our organization has also had the privilege of being recognized with different awards from across Pinellas and Pasco counties.

- **Named a Tampa Bay Business Journal One Tampa Bay Honoree for the fifth consecutive year in a row.**
- **Recognized with the Environmental Steward Award at the 2023 Amplify Clearwater Stellar Awards.**
- **Named the winner of the Tampa Bay Times Best of the Best Awards in the new home building category.**
- **Mike Sutton, President & CEO, was recognized as a USF Fast 56 honoree, which recognizes and celebrates the world's fastest-growing USF Bull-owned or Bull-led businesses.**
- **Celebrated as a finalist for the Business Impact award from the Pasco EDC.**

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mike Sutton'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a white background.

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.

Habitat Staff

Habitat Staff Busch Gardens Day

On October 10th, the Habitat team came together for a staff outing at Busch Gardens for the third year in a row. The day was filled with rides, fun, and lots of staff bonding! This year, all staff members were asked to wear green in support of Mental Health Awareness month and were provided with a small green ribbon to wear around the park. Wearing green was a small gesture that symbolizes our commitment to supporting one another and promoting mental health conversations.



USF Fast 56 Awards

Mike Sutton Recognized as a USF Fast 56 Honoree

Last month, the USF Alumni Association recognized President & CEO, Mike Sutton, as a USF Fast 56 honoree. The Fast 56 identifies, recognizes and celebrates the world's fastest growing USF Bull-owned or Bull-led businesses. Habitat is extremely proud to have such a mission-driven and successful CEO leading our organization. Go Bulls!



Habitat Celebrations

Special Home Dedication

Warrick Dunn Charities Surprises Homeowner with Furnished Home

On October 17th, 2023, we celebrated an extra special home dedication with Nate Johnson and his son Nathan. Warrick Dunn Charities partnered with Habitat to surprise the family with a fully furnished home as part of their "Home for the Holidays" program. This is home #219 for the Warrick Dunn Charities organization and we are forever grateful for our continued partnership that allows for single parents in our community to receive this life-changing gift. The Milkey Family Foundation also sponsored this home and Aaron's graciously donated all of the furniture for the home.



Habitat Groundbreaking

Habitat Breaks Ground on The Greenway

On Friday, October 6th, Habitat for Humanity, the community, and 12 deserving families gathered at a brand new development in St. Petersburg to break ground on one of our latest projects: The Greenway. This property in the Lealman community will soon be the home to many families in the Habitat program. We expect for these families to be moving into their new forever homes in early 2024.



Signature Event

Golfing Fore Habitat

On Monday, October 2nd, we held our sold out 13th Annual Golfing Fore Habitat Partner Tournament at Innisbrook Resort. Thanks to the support of our community, more than \$150,000 was raised towards the Habitat mission of providing safe and affordable homeownership opportunities.

Over 100 golfers, sponsors, and vendors had a great round on the course, followed by an impactful testimonial from this year's Golfing Fore Habitat homeowner recipient, Gregory Collins and his family. The father of three expressed that all he has wished for is a safe home for his children to grow up in. The family will officially move into their new Habitat home on Halloween day, October 31st, in New Port Richey.

Here at Habitat, we want to send a huge thank you to all of our sponsors and vendor partners, including our presenting sponsors at Alvarez & Marsal. With your support, we were able to raise enough money to provide another family with a safe and affordable home in our community.

Our annual tournament will return next year on October 7th, 2024 at Copperhead Course at Innisbrook Resort. We hope to see you out on the greens!

“ Our family will always hold you in our hearts. Every drive, every chip, every putt, and every dollar raised has helped us achieve our dream of becoming homeowners.

- Gregory Collins



Tampa Bay Business Journal One Tampa Bay

Habitat recognized as a One Tampa Bay Honoree for the fifth consecutive year

Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas and West Pasco Counties is once again recognized by the Tampa Bay Business Journal as a One Tampa Bay honoree for the fifth consecutive year in a row, which honors the businesses and organizations that stand out for their work in the community and their fiscal management. We are so honored to be recognized alongside our community partners and fellow Tampa Bay nonprofit organizations.

[Click here to view the full list of winners.](#)



Homeowner Celebrations

Georgette Davis celebrates Mortgage Burning Ceremony



On Friday, October 6th, Habitat Homeowner Georgette Davis officially paid off her mortgage! She and our staff got to celebrate with a ceremonial mortgage burning ceremony. Georgette has been in her Habitat home in St. Petersburg for 24 years and we are so happy that she was able to pay off her mortgage early.

Congratulations!

Habitat Achievements

Davisha Earley Receives Lightning Community Hero Award

On Saturday, October 21st, we celebrated our very own Lightning Community Hero, Davisha Earley! A mother, Habitat Homeowner and Board Member, Davisha is a dedicated advocate for the Habitat mission and a true hero in our community.

Davisha is joined by two fellow Habitat Homeowners who are Community Hero alumni: Susan Canty & Tamara DeBose! She became the 550th Community Hero and the \$50,000 Lightning Foundation grant will be donated to our Habitat affiliate!



SAVE THE DATE



Presented By
CROWN
AUTOMOTIVE CHARITIES
Hawkins Family Foundation

4.5.24

THE VINOY RENAISSANCE HOTEL

LEARN MORE AT HABITATPWP.ORG/GALA



Upcoming Events

Double Dedication: Armstrong & Collins Families

October 31st | 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM
6426 Santee Ct. New Port Richey, FL

The Bradley Family Home Dedication

November 13th | 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM
3901 50th Ave N., St. Petersburg, FL

Spooktacular Sales Event

October 31st | 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Habitat ReStores

The Martin Family Home Dedication

November 15th | 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM
6781 51st Way N., Pinellas Park, FL

The Ford-Garvin Family Home Dedication

November 13th | 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM
6476 30th Way N., St. Petersburg, FL

The Verschate Family Home Dedication

November 15th | 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM
6761 51st Way N., Pinellas Park, FL

how to get involved

	Apply
	Donate
	Volunteer
	Shop
	Advocate

Habitat for Humanity | ReStore

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL SPOOKTACULAR SALES EVENT!

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31ST

TRICK OR TREATING, IN-STORE DISCOUNTS, AND MORE!



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

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