



**Habitat  
for Humanity®**  
of Pinellas &  
West Pasco Counties

*Serving Pinellas, West Pasco,  
& Hernando Counties*

**The Community Builder**  
JULY 2024 | VOL. 29



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# A Note from Mike Sutton, President & CEO



*Dear Habitat Supporter,*

Welcome to the twenty-ninth 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 wrap up our 2023-2024 fiscal year, I have been reflecting a lot over the last 12 months. I am so proud of our organization – for the culture we have built and continue to refine; for the team’s focus and determination to serve more families; and for the work we’ve done to establish Habitat Pinellas & West Pasco as the leader in affordable housing in our region.

We finished off the fiscal year with 81 homes built in our community. The 81 homes this year sets another record for the number of homeowners served in a fiscal year over our 39-year history. In addition to 81 homes, we raised more than \$35M in revenue and celebrated our 900th home (we are now at 910!), while setting the stage for Habitat into the future.

Here is a snapshot of Habitat’s accomplishments over the past 12 months:



I am looking forward to another fantastic fiscal year in 2024-2025 serving even more families in our community and providing them with safe and affordable homeownership opportunities that they deserve.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership. Together, we will continue to move the mission forward to build more 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.

# Habitat Milestones

## Habitat Celebrates 900th Home Dedication

Congratulations and welcome home to our 900th Habitat Homeowners, The Jones Family! Xavier and his three children received the keys to their new home this morning in Ridgecrest with overwhelming support from the community.

The Jones Family home was built on property that was bought by two of the earliest settlers in Largo in 1936 - Chester and Corrine Gooden. We thank the Gooden Family for continuing this couple's legacy of helping other achieve the dream of homeownership.

Over 100 community partners came together to sponsor this family's home. Solar Bear generously donated and installed solar power onto the home, which will be a huge saving for the family. St. Petersburg College surprised Xavier with a \$1,500 scholarship so he can achieve his dream of receiving a degree. Thank you all for your continuous support and for helping us celebrate this exciting milestone.

Thank you to Murph Coffee Company for providing coffee and lemonade to guests and to Dialed in Golf Solutions for sponsoring. Also, thank you to DonutNV Seminole for serving up yummy donuts.

900<sup>th</sup> home



### Thank You to our Community Partners:

GFWC North Pinellas  
Woman's Club

Largo Cracker Quilters

Senator Marco Rubio

Commissioner  
Charlie Justice

Upper Tampa Bay Chamber  
of Commerce  
with Kids Pedal Power

Feeding Tampa Bay

Pinellas County  
Government

DITEK

Achieva Credit Union

HCA Florida Healthcare

Banning Lumber & Millwork

Friends of Ridgecrest

Greater Ridgecrest YMCA

Pinellas County  
Sheriff's Office

# Habitat Accolades

## Orlando Health

### 2024 Community Partner of the Year

Habitat is honored to have been awarded 2024 Community Partner of the Year by Orlando Health. Orlando Health Bayfront Hospital recently sponsored their second Habitat Home and their staff put in hundreds of volunteer hours to help a family in our community achieve the dream of affordable homeownership.



## City of Largo

### Homeownership Month Proclamation



Habitat received a proclamation from the City of Largo in recognition of National Homeownership Month. Habitat dedicated four homes in Largo this past month, including our 900th Home in the Dansville-Ridgecrest community on Gooden Crossing. Thank you to the city for its continued support of the Habitat mission.

## Upper Tampa Bay Chamber of Commerce

### 2024 Large Business of the Year

Our Habitat affiliate has been recognized with the Large Business of the Year award by the Upper Tampa Bay Regional Chamber of Commerce for the second year in a row. We are proud to receive this honor from a community partner who has provided over 400 bikes to children of Habitat families through their charitable arm - Kids Pedal Power.



# Staff Accolades

## USF Alumni Association

### Mike Sutton recognized as USF Fast 56 Honoree for Second Year in a Row

For the second year in a row, the USF Alumni Association has recognized Habitat 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!





PRESENTED BY



**MONDAY, OCTOBER 21ST, 2024**

**12:00 PM - 4:00 PM | TOPGOLF ST. PETERSBURG**



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**MaintenX**  
Total Facilities Repair Experts

**FRIDAY, APRIL 4TH, 2025**

**THE VINOY RESORT & GOLF CLUB**



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**LEARN MORE AT [HABITATPWP.ORG/GOLF](https://HABITATPWP.ORG/GOLF)**



# Habitat Celebrations

## Staff Highlights

### New Hires

### 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 three employees on their recent promotions and welcoming two five hires to the team.



## Promotions



**Xavier Oliver**  
Director of Corporate  
Partnerships



**Dalton Shibe**  
Warehouse Inventory Lead



**Kevin Dorsey**  
Programs Manager

## New Hires



**Skylar Alexander**  
Government & Community  
Relations Manager



**Ibeliz Flores**  
Grants & Foundations Manager



**Brit Maxwell**  
Development Manager



**Serenity McRorey**  
Architecture Intern



**Arie Fry-Eastin**  
Construction Intern



# Upcoming Events

**The Peterson Family Home Dedication**  
July 8th | 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM  
6434 29th St. N., St. Petersburg, FL

**The Cowan Family Home Dedication**  
July 29th | 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM  
1122 LaSalle St., Clearwater, FL

**The Batten Family Home Dedication**  
July 26th | 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM  
9331 Teak St., New Port Richey, FL

**The Ayala Family Home Dedication**  
July 31st | 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM  
6541 Orange Blossom Trail, New Port Richey, FL

**The Lemon Family Home Dedication**  
July 26th | 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM  
9350 Teak St., New Port Richey, FL

how to get involved



Apply



Donate



Volunteer



Advocate



**Habitat  
for Humanity**  
of Pinellas & West Pasco Counties

*Women Build 2024*

**The Habitat Women Build brings together female leaders from across the region to build a home for a local single mother.**

We invite female leaders seeking a life-changing opportunity to support the homeownership dreams of a deserving family to join the 2024 Women Build launching this Fall!

*Get Involved*

[habitatpwp.org/womensbuild](https://habitatpwp.org/womensbuild)



## visit us

**Construction Warehouse & Education Center**  
13355 49th St N, Suite B Clearwater, FL 33762

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

**Hernando County Office**  
15588 Aviation Loop Dr, Suite 2 Brooksville, FL 34604

**(727) 536-4755 | [habitatpwp.org](https://habitatpwp.org)**

**Pasco County Office**  
7237 Little Road, New Port Richey, FL 34654

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

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