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Habitat for Humanity of DeKalb County
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Website: www.hfhdCillinois.org



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Raising the Roof

Winter 2012 Volume 16, Issue 1

MISSION

Habitat for Humanity of DeKalb County unites God's people to provide decent, affordable housing for families in need.



October 29, 2011



October 21, 2012

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE LARSEN FAMILY!

On October 21, 2012 we dedicated our 11th home, which now belongs to Kelli Larsen and her family. This build was different than all our others—this was our first rehabilitation. Work began on the home on October 29, 2011 and continued every Saturday through October 20, 2012. The project included many volunteers and in-kind donations. We would like to thank the following people/businesses/organizations for their assistance and donations through this process:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Horst Builders, John Horst | C&H Plumbing |
| Theisen Roofing/GAF program | Stran Landscaping |
| Craig Weeks | EcoWater |
| DeKalb Mechanical | Jack Slingerland |
| Waste Mangement | Jim Dombek |
| Sipes and Sons | Monsanto Corporation |
| Hermann Countertops | Kohl's |
| John Nadig | Thrivent Financial for Lutherans |
| Elliott & Wood | Sycamore Ladies Club |
| Frank Skelton & Sons | NIU ETA Service Sorority |
| Hanna Surveyors | Northern Illinois Reading Council |
| Dave Wiley | John Chapman |
| Italian Dreams | Brown's County Market |
| Ski's All American Pub | |

Special thanks to EVERY volunteer who helped during this build.

BOARD UPDATE

As with many non-profit organizations, we operate with a Board of Directors (the Board). The Board is responsible for the functioning of our affiliate including deciding if families qualify to partner with us, where we build, and how we build among many other things. We have a part-time Administrative Assistant that keeps the daily workings of the affiliate running whom reports to the Board.

We are currently seeking board members. Some of the responsibility of the Board is to act on building decisions, seek out and approve the purchase of land or homes to rehab, assist during the building process as supervisor on the job site, help with fundraising activities, and assist in making any other crucial decisions that may arise or be presented to the board.

Habitat for Humanity of DeKalb County functions as a 'mortgage' holder to our partner families through a no interest mortgage. There is a process that a family must go through in order to see if they qualify. Once they qualify they assist in the building/rehabbing of their home by being on-site during the build process. The Board functions as mentors through that process and guides them in the steps they need to complete once they partner with us. After their home is built we function as support as needed and offer advice as questions arise. We are not a 'landlord' to the families but a support system.

If you are interested in getting involved but don't think you can because you have no building qualifications—please don't let that scare you away. Many of our board members, past and present, had no building experience when they came on the board. They wanted to be involved with an organization that was making the difference in their community. Please attend one of our next meetings. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at 6:30pm in the conference room next to our office. For office directions please call during office hours or check out our website at www.hfhdcillinois.org.

PARTNER FAMILIES NEEDED

As we look to embark on our next build, the 12th for our organization, we are seeking families that are looking to see if they qualify as a partner family. If you know of someone who might be interested in seeing if they qualify, please have them leave us a message with their mailing information or direct them to our website where they can find the information and download an application. They can go to www.hfhdcillinois.org and click on Homeownership.

THANK YOU DEKALB COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AND IDEAL FOUNDATION

This year we have been blessed in many ways as we finished our 11th home in October. On top of that we were blessed with some wonderful donations and grants. We'd like to thank the Ideal Industries Foundation for a wonderful donation. We'd also like to thank the DeKalb County Community Foundation for a grant that we received. Without these funds we would have a very difficult time meeting the needs of our county in trying to purchase and build or rehab a home and meeting the needs of our affiliate guidelines. These funds allow us the ability to keep our affiliate running and keep providing a service to families in our county. We receive no federal or state funding and are a fully functioning affiliate by donations only. We watch our dollars like everyone else, seek donations on building supplies as we can, and function through volunteers as much as possible. Without your help we wouldn't be able to do this—
THANK YOU!

November 2012

Habitat for Humanity of DeKalb County has continued to build throughout the years despite the lagging economy. In October we finished a brand new project for us—a home rehab. We are now ready to gear up for our next build, which will take place beginning in the spring. The cost of land is still high and we continue to struggle to find buildable lots that we can put a decent, affordable home on for a family in need. Your past generosity has helped us to find buildable lots and build a home for a local family in need. This year is no different.

As we are all aware, our current world economic turmoil continues to bring affordable housing out of reach for many DeKalb County families. The need for our services is increasing daily for many residents. Your contributions are still needed in order to continue building in DeKalb County for those in needs. Our ministry, with your help, has changed the lives of 11 families. And there are so many more families to serve, so many more homes to build or rehab!!

We believe that every person deserves to live in decent, affordable housing. Please help us help others by donating to the **GIFT FROM THE HEART** program. Your donation stays here in DeKalb County. Thank you for your past, current and future generosity.

God Bless you all during the upcoming year,

Jennifer Mescher

President, Board of Directors

Please detach and return with your donation.

Enclosed is my gift of: ___\$500___\$200___\$100___\$75___\$50___\$25___Other

Please make checks payable to HFHDC and mail to address below.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

(All donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law)

Mail to: Habitat for Humanity of DeKalb County
PO Box 503
DeKalb, IL 60115

Office Hours: Hours will change in 2013.
Call Office for Updated Hours