



future home owners



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**Vote**  
to make the  
**#CostOfHome**  
**affordable**

## Construction Update

Using a mix of volunteers, subcontractors, and experience, the construction department at Habitat has been making the most of Covid-19 related manpower restrictions. Our team is currently maintaining **three active renovation builds** in Spokane and **two active new construction builds** in Deer Park. Both construction leads, Jonathan Balazs and Tony Monroe, have been working extremely hard to keep all volunteers safe and have done an *outstanding* job. In addition to Covid-19, there are many challenges currently affecting the construction industry; **Lumber prices have soared** beyond record highs, **labor rates have gone up** accordingly, and the Spokane housing market has such a high demand it has been **difficult to find reliable and affordable subcontractors**. Despite these hurdles, *Habitat-Spokane will not compromise the quality of the houses we build*. The construction department has done a great job working diligently to leverage community partnerships, volunteers, and our experience, to continue building decent and affordable places for the families that partner with Habitat-Spokane.



2 YRS AGO	TODAY
COST TO BUILD A HOME IN 2018:	COST TO BUILD A HOME IN 2020:
<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>\$217,000</b>



Amica Mutual Insurance has dedicated their last three Wednesdays to building future homes out in Hope Meadows. Their team has filled every shift with excited volunteers ready to get back onto the jobsite and swinging those hammers! Thank you, Amica, for all of your efforts in making sure that everyone has a decent place to live. Because of your team, we're getting closer and closer to dedicating two more homes in Deer Park!

♥ we love our volunteers!



## How can you use your voice?

Join our **Cost of Home Campaign** and get involved:

- Use the power of your voice to make sure that zoning reform in our communities is equitable.
- Contact your city council member and let them know you support 1590 which will generate local funding to build more affordable housing.
- Tell your council member you support the West Quadrant TIF extension which will generate funding for affordable housing in West Central.
- Contact your state representatives and tell them to make a strong investment in the Washington State Housing Trust Fund.
- Take the pledge to VOTE to make the cost of home affordable.

There is so much that goes into building a Habitat home. Partnering with families, community members, and donors to raise hammers and funds make up the most of these efforts.

As 2020 has shown us, affordable housing is part of every conversation and concern in our community. What does that mean? It means that affordable housing and homeownership is not just a "dire need" in Spokane, but it is also an incredible opportunity.

I hear from our partner families their concerns on safety, health, education, retirement, transportation, employment, food insecurity, displacement...the list goes on. All of these are part of thriving communities, opportunities that are grown from the seeds of what affordable housing can provide.

So, what does this mean and how can Habitat help? Habitat relies on the hands and hearts of its supporters. We also rely on the voices of people like you to advocate for policy change so Habitat can build thriving communities.

Habitat homeowner, Bright Brown, said it best: *"Voting decides the fate of our future... Let us make a conscious effort to exercise this power and create a better future for all."*

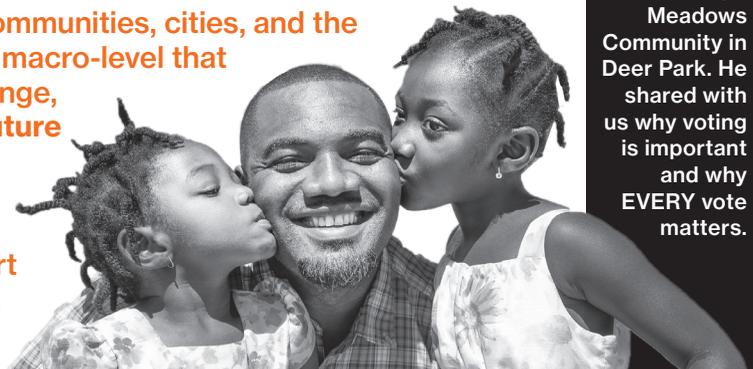
Michelle Girardot, CEO - Habitat for Humanity-Spokane

# Every candidate should prioritize making the #CostOfHome affordable



“Owning a home has made me realize that this is now my community, and I must get involved in making it better. When I purchased my home, my community already consisted of other homeowners like me who wanted to protect the community’s property values, enhance its quality of life, and make it a desirable place to live - both now and in the future. I realized that these goals would be nearly impossible to achieve without members engaging in decision making. I kept asking myself, *“How can I have a say in my community if I do not participate?”* I realized that every homeowner has a voice. When you get engaged in the community, by serving or attending meetings, your voice can turn into an action that can also lead to the community you so desire.

**Voting is a right and a power that needs to be exercised to make future changes in our immediate communities, cities, and the nation. It may be easy to think on a macro-level that just a vote would not make any change, but our vote always matters. Our future generations, our community, and even our lives depend on your decision to either vote or not vote. Let us make a conscious effort to exercise this power and create a better future for all.** ”



## WHY I VOTE

Bright Brown is a Habitat homeowner and the President of Hope Meadows Community in Deer Park. He shared with us why voting is important and why EVERY vote matters.



Thanks to our sponsors and partners - through shelter, we empower!



Because of YOU, Habitat for Humanity-Spokane's new event was a major success. After rescheduling twice (first due to Covid, second due to hazardous smoke) every participant showed up and proved to us what true advocacy can look like in the face of adversity.

We were able to raise over \$50,000 for our first ever Over the Edge event. Future homeowners were there to cheer every participant on and many of you gathered on your computers to watch and donate!

THANK YOU to everyone involved. All of our sponsors, volunteers, donors, and future families are helping us build a stronger, safer and more equitable #spokane.



### upcoming events

- OCT 26 - Home Dedication
- NOV 3 - ELECTION DAY
- NOV -TBA - Home Dedication
- DEC 1 - GIVING TUESDAY + Home Dedication
- DEC - TBA - Home for the Holidays Dedication!



Meet Michelle, soon-to-be new Habitat homeowner! In just a little over a year of being in the homeownership program, Michelle saved her full \$4,000 for closing costs, completed all required financial workshops, and worked her 200 hours of sweat equity, all while working M-F at a private school. She's been a huge help with events – being a face of future homeowners at Women Build 2020 and the last 2 Blitz Builds.

She is currently in the home stretch of closing and she and her Chihuahua, Licky Lu, will be in their home by Thanksgiving. She is super excited to have outdoor outlets so she can string up Christmas lights and already has a vision of where her Christmas tree will be in her new home.

## Homeowner Services Update 🔑

44



The current number of families that have passed the application process and are enrolled in our homeownership program! They are working hard on their 200 sweat equity hours, saving up their down payment, taking financial courses and looking forward to the day they will be able to buy their Habitat home.

6



The total number of families that will be in their new Habitat homes by the end of 2020, despite Covid-19 difficulties!

16



The number of homes we are hoping to finish in this next fiscal year. It is our goal to have at least half of our current families signing papers to buy their Habitat home within the next year.

**Homeownership  
Informational  
Videos are now  
available online!**

[habitat-spokane.org/  
virtual-info-video](https://habitat-spokane.org/virtual-info-video)

Homeowner Services Department  
(509) 534-2552 x237  
[homeownerservices@habitat-spokane.org](mailto:homeownerservices@habitat-spokane.org)

**everyone**

deserves a safe, decent, and  
affordable place to call home.



1805 E Trent Ave  
Spokane, WA 99202



(509) 535-9517  
habitat-spokane.org

SHOP

DONATE

VOLUNTEER

## store + you

The Habitat Store is open and going strong, but we still need your support! With colder weather on the horizon, we need to keep our donations coming in. We accept all sorts of construction material and household goods.

### current donation needs

#### APPLIANCES + CABINETS + FURNITURE + LAWN AND GARDEN ITEMS

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR ITEMS ARE CLEAN AND IN GOOD WORKING CONDITION!



In addition, keep us in mind for those unique and/or higher-value donations that you may be considering taking elsewhere - we are working on getting an **e-commerce** platform up and running! This has the potential to be a HUGE revenue generator for our mission which will help us build more houses and serve more families.

*And, as always, we need YOU! The Store is ALWAYS looking for people willing to volunteer their time!*



## get involved!

Sign Up Online:  
[habitat-spokane.org](http://habitat-spokane.org)



mask

bandana

neck gaiter

scarf

*Face coverings are **REQUIRED** to shop, work, volunteer or donate at the Habitat-Store!*

Our team takes everyone's health and safety very seriously. We have put together an in depth **Safety Procedure Guide** that all employees and volunteers are required to read through before returning back to work at Habitat-Spokane. You are more than welcome to view this booklet online, and if you have any questions regarding our guidelines, feel free to reach out to us.

<https://habitat-spokane.org/safety-procedures>