

Because of YOU, 25 Habitat families closed on their homes in 2025!



**Your support builds impact!**

**Inside...**  
Sandra's story (pictured here)  
Construction highlights  
Ways to engage  
and more!

*Dear friend of Habitat,*

Every time I walk a job site or step into a Habitat home, I'm reminded why this mission matters. A safe, affordable home changes what's possible for a family—health, stability, school, work, and the ability to plan for the future. Thank you for choosing action and partnership—because that's how affordable homeownership becomes possible here.

In a chaotic world, Habitat offers something steady: we build stability. We remove barriers to affordable homeownership, and we create real pathways for families across Spokane County to thrive.

That is also where our roots meet this moment. Habitat was never meant to be convenient. It was built for times when the need is real, the obstacles are stubborn, and the community has to decide whether we will simply name the problem—or do something about it. This mission asks people to show up, keep showing up, and build anyway. It isn't always easy. It is always worth it.

That commitment shows up in how we widen access to homeownership—not only by building, but by helping more families get to the starting line. As we recognize Black History Month, we're focused on widening access in practical ways. In 2025, in partnership with Black Homeownership Spokane, we supported 52 families through curriculum, credit counseling, homebuyer education, and down payment assistance—helping more families move from preparation to possibility. We're excited to welcome the next cohort in 2026 and continue building pathways to homeownership here in Spokane County.

This winter, I'm also excited to share momentum that will help scale what's possible across the county. Across Spokane County, local municipalities secured major state investments for affordable homeownership development, and Habitat for Humanity-Spokane is partnering with them to turn those awards into real homes. Together, these funds will support the construction of nearly 100 homes throughout Spokane County—and provide down payment assistance to help more families purchase a home and stay rooted here.

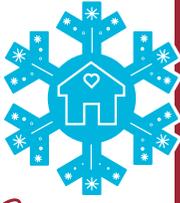
Looking ahead, there is a place for you in what comes next—through Women Build, the Hope Builders Luncheon, and Blitz Build. Volunteer, bring a team, sponsor a build, shop at the Habitat Store, or share our mission with someone who hasn't found Habitat yet. However you engage, you help keep progress moving forward.

Thank you for believing in this work—and for being part of what we can build together.

*With gratitude and hope,*



*Michelle Girardot  
Chief Executive Officer  
Habitat for Humanity-Spokane*



# home for the holidays

recap

On Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, Habitat-Spokane celebrated a special Home for the Holidays home dedication with Kate and her two daughters in their newly built home in the Highland Village neighborhood of Airway Heights, just in time for the holidays! A few years ago, homeownership felt out of reach for Kate. As a single mom and sole provider, the rising cost of housing in Spokane County pushed the idea of owning a home further and further away. Through Habitat for Humanity-Spokane's homeownership program, she applied, qualified, and then committed to the long, steady work of preparing to become a homeowner.

"I'm most excited to be able to bake in my kitchen, and when my girls are arguing, to be able to send them to their own rooms," Kate joked with a smile on her face at the dedication.

Kate's home is one of the units in Phase III of the Highland Village Development and was built in collaboration with the City of Airway Heights, Spokane County, Habitat for Humanity-Spokane, Community Frameworks, and Greenstone Homes. Thank you to all who joined us for a celebration of Kate's family!



# Be a Table Host & Build Hope—One Seat at a Time!

At Habitat for Humanity-Spokane's Hope Builders Luncheon, our largest fundraiser of the year, we gather a community to create life-changing impact for families striving for stability and homeownership. As a Table Host, you play a crucial role in bringing together people who believe in building a future where everyone has a safe, decent place to call home!

## Why Be a Table Host?

⇒ **Make an Event Bigger Impact**—By inviting friends, family, or colleagues, you're helping expand the movement for affordable homeownership by leveraging your networks in support of our mission! Your table represents a group of people who can collectively change lives.

⇒ **Be Part of Something Transformational**—While the luncheon is our most impactful fundraiser of the year, it's more than that—it's a moment of inspiration and the chance to be a part of a movement.

⇒ **A Powerful Commitment**—By filling a table of 10, you're broadening our audience for support by connecting us with people who care about making a difference! Habitat provides all the tools you need to engage your guests.

⇒ **Lead by Example**—Through stepping up as a host, making a meaningful personal gift, and helping Habitat expand our reach, you are a champion for change. You demonstrate leadership in your community while helping ensure Habitat can continue building homes, communities, and hope.

## What to Expect as a Table Host

✓ **A Front-Row Seat to Impact**—You and your guests will experience the heart of Habitat's mission through powerful stories, interactive exhibits, and engaging presentations.

✓ **Personalized Support**—We provide email templates, talking points, and RSVP tracking so inviting guests is easy and seamless.

✓ **Gratitude & Recognition**—Your dedication as a Table Host will be celebrated because YOU are an essential part of making this event a success.



## Together, We Build More

When you become a Table Host, you're not just filling seats—you're igniting a movement. Each guest at your table represents another potential supporter, volunteer, or donor who can help us build and fund homes for families in need. Join us in creating a future filled with hope. Step up as a Table Host today and be a part of something truly life-changing!

[habitat-spokane.org/hbl](https://habitat-spokane.org/hbl)

← Sign up now and let's build hope, together.

Habitat for Humanity Spokane continues advancing policies and funding that make affordable homeownership possible across Spokane County: removing cost barriers, securing infrastructure dollars, and shaping land-use decisions that allow more homes to be built.

## **Infrastructure & Housing Funding Secured**

We're excited to share significant public funding awards that will directly support the construction of more than 100 permanently affordable homeownership units across Spokane County. Habitat Spokane received major investments through both the Connecting Housing and Infrastructure Program (CHIP) for \$2.3M and the Washington State Housing Trust Fund for \$4.2M; two critical state tools that help reduce development costs, deliver essential infrastructure, and expand access to homeownership.

## **Connecting Housing and Infrastructure Program (CHIP)**

Administered by the Washington State Department of Commerce, CHIP funds roads, utilities, and other essential site improvements needed to unlock housing development:

- \$1M for Carnahan (Spokane Valley)
- \$1M for Highland Village (Airway Heights)
- \$336,432 for Riverton (City of Spokane)

## **Washington State Housing Trust Fund**

These awards support both construction and direct assistance to Habitat homebuyers:

- \$800,000 for Carnahan (construction)
- \$1.2 million for Highland Village (construction)
- \$2.26 million for Down Payment Assistance available for Habitat homebuyers across Spokane County



*Habitat Spokane's Government Affairs team advocating in Olympia*

Together, these investments lower upfront costs, strengthen long-term affordability, and make it possible for more families to achieve stable, permanent homeownership.

## **State Legislative Engagement**

Actively engaged in the Washington State legislative session with a focused advocacy agenda aligned with Habitat Spokane's long-term homeownership strategy:

- Advancing a \$100 million capital investment in the Housing Trust Fund's Homeownership Program
- Supporting enabling legislation for Land Banks to expand access to affordable land for development (HB 1974)
- Promoting authority for local jurisdictions to waive local sales tax for affordable housing projects (HB 1717)

This agenda directly addresses the structural cost drivers of homeownership and improves feasibility for mission-driven development.

These wins reflect the power of strong advocacy, and bring us closer to a future where homeownership is within reach for more Spokane County families.

## Stepping Forward Together in Faith and Service

The Habitat for Humanity-Spokane Faith in Action Committee gives thanks for a year rooted in service and looks ahead with hope and purpose to where God is calling us next.

In 2025, Faith in Action embraced the call to love our neighbors through faithful partnership and hands-on service. Alongside congregations throughout our community, we strengthened relationships, served shoulder to shoulder, and continued the work of building safe, affordable homes grounded in dignity and compassion. Every act of service, on the build site and beyond, reflected our shared commitment to putting faith into action.

As we move into 2026, we are stepping forward into new opportunities to serve more deeply and more broadly. This spring, we will launch the **Habitat for Humanity Community Pantry**, an expression of care designed to meet immediate needs while honoring the dignity of families in our community. The pantry will be located inside the Habitat Store. Also launching in spring 2026 is the **Youth in Action Committee**, inviting youth under 18 to grow in leadership, service, and faith as they join this mission alongside their families and faith communities.



*Volunteers at a recent Faith Build*

Throughout the year, Faith in Action will bring together congregations for **five Faith Build events**, offering meaningful opportunities to build homes, strengthen relationships, and live out shared values through service. In September, a four-day **Interfaith Build** will unite people from many faith traditions around a common purpose, to serve, build, and seek justice together.

Whether you feel called to pick up a hammer, serve with your congregation, mentor young leaders, or take the next step in faithful service, there is a place for you in Faith in Action.



*Summit Church members volunteering at September's Faith Build*

Together, we are not only building homes, but we are also building hope, community, and a living witness of faith at work.

We invite you to prayerfully consider how you or your congregation can join us in this work through service, partnership, or participation in a Faith Build in 2026.

**For more information about Faith in Action please contact:**

**Gloria Penaflor** - Volunteer and Faith Outreach Manager  
[gpenaflor@habitat-spokane.org](mailto:gpenaflor@habitat-spokane.org) | (509) 824-2595

*Visit our website for more info* 



**every faith**  
can be put into action.

# welcome home Sandra!

Sandra was the first participant to successfully transition from the Black Homeownership Spokane Cohort, created in 2022, into Habitat-Spokane's Advancing Black Homeownership program.

While attending Black Homeownership Spokane's homebuyer education classes, Sandra realized that purchasing on the open market might not be the best path for her. She began exploring Habitat-Spokane's affordable homeownership program, and through the strong partnership between

Black Homeownership Spokane and Habitat-Spokane, Sandra was able to make a successful transition into the Advancing Black Homeownership program.

Over the past year, Sandra has worked diligently to prepare for homeownership and is excited about the miracle this is for her family. Because of her hard work and commitment to complete program requirements, she was able to close on her home just in time for the new year.

Sandra shares, "With God, all things are possible." This year is especially meaningful as her daughter is also moving into a home just down the street, keeping their family close and allowing her to spend plenty of time with her grandkids. Together, they are eager to get involved in their blossoming Airway Heights community.



 **Welcome home! Together, we build stronger communities.**



Melissa



Marshon



### **Winter Work is in Full Swing!**

Winter may be here, but thanks to our mild weather, volunteer activity is thriving—both indoors and out! Across our communities, dedicated volunteers are making incredible progress on homes that will soon be filled with new memories.

### **Spokane—Cleveland Ave**

In Spokane, volunteers are hard at work adding siding and putting the finishing touches on the interior of a home on E. Cleveland. It's exciting to watch this project come together as it gets closer to becoming a place a family will soon call home.

### **Spokane Valley—Collins Lane**

Meanwhile, there's lots of momentum in our Collins neighborhood in Spokane Valley. Volunteers have been pitching in with siding, landscaping, painting, and trim work. These hands-on projects offer a wonderful opportunity for families to volunteer together while making a meaningful impact in their community.

### **NEWTech Partnership—Hillyard Neighborhood**

Over in the Hillyard neighborhood, students and volunteers at the NEWTech Skills Center are making great strides on a home rehabilitation project. With the exterior already complete, the team has moved indoors to focus on painting and trim work. Even better—this site will offer more family-friendly volunteer opportunities when spring arrives!

Thank you to all our volunteers who continue to give their time, skills, and heart to these projects. Your work is building more than homes—it's building community.



*Volunteer at Collins Lane in Spokane Valley*



*thank you*

for joining us for a Team Build in the Spokane Valley!



# calling all **volunteers**

We are in tremendous need of willing hearts to come out and help us build homes on the construction job site and help around the Habitat Store. Join us by making a difference in our community building homes and hope!

[habitat-spokane.org/volunteer-opportunities](https://habitat-spokane.org/volunteer-opportunities)



*JustServe volunteers at the Collins Lane job site*



*Bank of America staff volunteering at the Store*



*Gonzaga Law School students volunteering at the Store*



*Amica staff volunteering at the Collins Lane job site*

20  
26

# upcoming events & sponsorship opportunities



## women build

MARCH  
18-21

REGISTER  
TODAY  
*spots are  
limited!*

Women Build is a twice-a-year tradition in Spokane. Each March and October, women and community partners come together to build affordable homes, open doors to homeownership, and create lasting change for families. Whether you've built before or this is your first time, your hands, your voice, and your fundraising will make a difference—**no experience is necessary to help build!**

*save the date!*



## hope builders *Luncheon*

MAY  
7

sponsorships  
available!

## BLITZ BUILD

JUNE  
3-12

sponsorships  
available!

## pride build

JUNE  
26-27

Align your business with Habitat's mission and SPONSOR an event!  
Reach out for more information:

**Zach Ficenec** - Community Relations Manager  
zficenec@habitat-spokane.org  
(509) 601-0493

# store update



## Warm Up Spokane—One Donation, One Purchase, One Volunteer Shift at a Time!

The Habitat Store needs YOU this winter. When you shop, donate, or volunteer at the Habitat Store, you're doing more than clearing space or finding a great deal—you're helping create safe, affordable homes for local families during the season when housing matters most.

## Volunteer & Spread the Warmth

Looking for a meaningful way to give back this winter? Our Habitat Store volunteers make a real impact every single day. Whether you're organizing donations, helping customers, or putting your skills to use, your time directly supports housing solutions right here in Spokane. Bonus: it's a fun, welcoming environment, and a great way to connect with your community.

## Donate & Declutter for Good

We're currently accepting new and like-new items, including:

- Washers & Electric Dryers
- Refrigerators & Electric Stoves
- Tools & Hardware
- Furniture
- Flooring
- Cabinets
- Doors & Vinyl Windows

**BIG items? We've got you covered!**  
**We offer FREE donation pickup for qualifying items:**

*To schedule a free donation pickup, scan the QR code!*



**(Some restrictions apply.)**

Easy drop-offs: Visit us at 1805 E. Trent Avenue, Monday-Saturday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM. Just head to the donation area on the west side of the building.

## Shop Local & Shop with Purpose

Every purchase at the Habitat Store helps build affordable housing in our community. From unique furniture finds to quality appliances, tools, and building materials—there's always something new waiting for you. Save money, reduce waste, and help build homes all in one stop. Together, we're building more than houses—we're building hope this winter.

**SIGN UP TODAY!**  
**\$50 registration**



**March 18-21, 2026**

# women build

Women Build is a twice-a-year tradition in Spokane. Each March and October, women and community partners come together to build affordable homes, open doors to homeownership, and create lasting change for families.



*You're invited to join us  
on the build site.*

*No experience needed!*

Presented by:



Habitat for Humanity-Spokane  
PO BOX 4130 - Spokane, WA 99220

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become a  
**monthly  
donor**

Automatic monthly donations help Habitat for Humanity-Spokane plan long-term, budget more efficiently, and create more life-changing outcomes. **Donate monthly and help solve the affordable housing crisis we are currently facing in Spokane.**

[habitat-spokane.org/donate-now](https://habitat-spokane.org/donate-now)