



Building houses, building hope

Tri-Cities Area Habitat for



Volunteer Information

Questions or comments, please contact Katie at katieh@tricityshabitat.org or call at 616-846-1505

Introduction to Habitat

Tri-Cities Habitat for Humanity is an ecumenical Christian ministry that partners with area churches, businesses and individuals to build simple, decent houses that will become homes for our Partner Families in the Tri-Cities area. Habitat is built on the principle that all God's people deserve a decent place to live and that our community is a better place when this occurs.

Habitat For Humanity is not a give away program. Houses are sold to Homeowner Partners without profit and without interest through a no down-payment/no interest loan paid over 20/30 years. These payments, together with donations, support the construction of homes for more Habitat partners.



Who Can Help

Everyone can help! Whether it be helping on the build site, in the office, at a special event, fundraising, spreading awareness, or supporting other volunteers, everyone can help in some way.

On the build site there are some restrictions for minors.

- Any volunteers under the age of 18, must have their 'Waiver of Liability' signed by a parent before they can come to the site.
- Any volunteer under the age of 16, must also be accompanied by a responsible adult.
- And no one under the age of 14 is allowed onsite during heavy construction (but they're more than welcome during days that don't involve machinery: like landscaping, and brush clean-up).

Ways to Help

Standard Builds (2-4 Months)

- **Excavation / Clean Up:** Clearing brush, debris, and preparing the site for the build.
- **Framing:** Frame basement, floors, walls, roof, porches, sheds
- **Exterior:** Roofing, trim, siding, doors, and windows
- **Interior:** Drywall, cabinets, finishing
- **Insulation:** Walls and ceiling
- **Painting**
- **Landscaping:** Final grade, leveling dirt, clearing debris, raking, designing layout for yard, and planting trees, flowers, and shrubs
- **Food:** Providing meals and refreshments for crews

Blitz Builds (1-2 Weeks)

- **Construction:** Framing, trim, insulation, porch/deck crew, painting, and landscaping
- **Runners:** fetching items, bringing water, holding beams, assisting in any way needed
- **Clean up:** Daily clearing of the build site of debris, trash, and supplies
- **Food:** Providing meals and refreshments for crews

How to Know When Help Is Needed

- The easiest way to know what's going on is to be on our email list. We send out a monthly newsletter and an occasional update if something comes up unexpectedly. We will never sell or give out the email addresses to any third parties. This is also the easiest method for us because it's free (unlike regular postage) and is more time effective than individual phone calls.
- We have a website! www.tricityshabitat.org and we are also listed on the local United Way volunteer center website (www.gouwvc.org), or www.volunteermatch.org where it will also be posted
- We also have a Volunteer Hotline that is updated each week that lists the coming week's volunteer needs: (616) 847-2266
- **Call our office and talk to the Volunteer Coordinator! (616) 846-1505**

If we don't know you want to be involved, we can't know how or when to contact you.

Support

- **Foodcrew;** for any/every build day that we work through a meal time, we need to have that meal provided whenever possible.
- **Join the Board of Directors**
- **Join one of the committees:** Public Relations, Family Selection, Construction, Nurturing, Fundraising, & Church relations



Donations

- Beverages/water for build site
- Financial support
- Gifts of land
- Materials and tools

Special projects

- Events
- Mass mailings
- Childcare
- Workshops