

2022-2023 Annual Report

NAME OF

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends,

I am so pleased to share with you the impact you have had in ensuring that more families have safe and affordable housing.

You know that a home is more than four walls. It's a haven at the end of a long day; it's a place where your kids can do their homework every night; it's a cozy nook where you can share a meal with those you love. When a family doesn't have a reliable place to call home, they can't think about moving forward with their lives.

But, with your support, five more families were welcomed in partnership and are working hard on their new energy-efficient, affordable homes. Twenty-five more families have new roofs, safe porches, accessible bathrooms, and working wells. And thanks to you, each one can now look to a brighter future full of possibilities.

Safe and affordable housing is critical to every other aspect of life, but it's not an easy or quick fix. We are so grateful that you have seen the value of investing in a foundation that will have a positive impact for this generation and those to come.

As you read about the work we've accomplished in the past year, know that you are part of the community that made it possible. Together, we are building a brighter future for our neighbors – thank you!

Gratefully,

Jara M. Hill

Tara M. Hill Executive Director

OUR MISSION

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Portland envisions a world where everyone has a decent place to live.

We help families achieve affordable homeownership and provide low-cost critical home repairs to homeowners in Cumberland County.



A YEAR OF GROWTH

In the past few years, it's been hard to miss the impact of the skyrocketing cost of homes. More and more families watched their dream of homeownership move further out of reach as they focused simply on affording the rent each month. At the same time, the soaring cost of materials and the lack of contractors meant existing homeowners watched helplessly as their homes fell into disrepair. We all agree that everyone deserves a warm and safe place to call home, and because of you, we have been able to increase our response to this unprecedented need. In the past year, both our homeownership and critical home repair programs have expanded allowing us to serve even more families at a time when they most need a safe home.

Thanks to your unparalleled support and belief in our mission, we're helping more neighbors get on their feet and build equity for future generations. We can't wait to show you what we've been up to.



The affordable housing crisis facing Greater Portland will not go away on its own. But thanks to support from federal, state and community sources, as well as hundreds of individuals, we are projected to dramatically increase our output, building 20 homes by the end of 2025.

Our homeownership program is one-of-a-kind, partnering with families who know that this opportunity will change their lives forever. Habitat homes are energy-efficient and have recently been valued at about \$400,000; however a partner family's monthly housing payment is capped at 30% of their income. The average mortgage is \$150,000 with the remainder held by a Habitat mortgage that is only due upon the sale of the home. Any equity that accrues over time is theirs to keep, building generational wealth for their children and grandchildren.



median sale price of a home in Cumberland County



Liz and her son, Daunte, at their home dedication event last summer.



Future South Portland homeowners David and Luvia completed their community service hours at the South Portland Food Cupboard.



Critical Home Repair is our newest program and launched in 2019 with the support of Cumberland County's Community Block Grant funding.

In early 2023, we hired an additional staff member to help us serve even more families in need of low-cost home repairs. Together, our two staff members routinely repair rot, heating and water systems, doors, roofs, and more! All of these services are offered at an affordable rate so that all homeowners in Cumberland County have the opportunity to live safely in their homes. We couldn't have grown this program so quickly if it weren't for Cumberland County and many generous foundations and individuals. **Thank you for caring for your neighbors!**



Meet Jeanette

Years ago, Jeanette volunteered for Habitat for Humanity of Greater Portland building homes in Scarborough. She didn't expect to ever be a recipient of Habitat's services, but enjoyed helping to make a difference in someone else's life.

Jeanette worked hard as a single mom to buy a house 30 years ago. In that time, she has meticulously cared for her home, doing many repairs herself.

That was until she found rot in her home due to a small leak in her roof. Jeanette was devastated knowing this wasn't a repair she could fix herself.

Thankfully, she asked for help from Habitat. This repair has given her peace of mind and "a lot of emotional comfort to know that even if you can't do some job, I can come to you [for a referral]."



The past two years have been record-breaking for the ReStore, even when the economy lost strength and home renovations slowed down. Thanks to your donations and patronage, the ReStore continues to provide affordable building materials, furniture and appliances to the community while keeping useable goods out of our landfills.

We are so grateful to all of you because the proceeds from the store contribute to our mission of building and repairing homes for low-income families in Cumberland County.





917

households & businesses used our free donation pickup service



pounds of materials kept out of landfills



Between swinging a hammer, organizing incoming ReStore donations, or doing administrative tasks, our volunteers are contributing to every facet of our mission. While this year brought many new faces to our build site, especially through our Women Build series, we also have many dedicated volunteers who have been with us for decades!





697

first-time donors

103

Part of what makes our organization successful is our diverse revenue stream.

This past fiscal year, we gained many first time donors with the expansion of our Women Build program and the participants' peer-to-peer fundraising efforts.



CONTINUE YOUR SUPPORT



HABITATPORTLANDME.ORG

Visit www.habitatportlandme.org to make a donation or learn about our programs and volunteer opportunities. You can make a one-time gift or show your support year-round by becoming a monthly donor.



DONATE YOUR STUFF

Give your gently-used furniture, appliances, cabinets, and more a second life by donating to the Habitat ReStore. You can drop off your donations during store hours, or we'll pick up in Cumberland County. Visit www.habitatportlandme.org/restore for more information or to schedule a donation pickup.



SOCIAL MEDIA

Let your family, friends, and followers know that you support Habitat for Humanity of Greater Portland! Share photos of your favorite ReStore find in your home, take a photo during your volunteer shift, or even just share what we're posting!

You can find us on Facebook (Habitat for Humanity of Greater Portland), Instagram (@habitatgreaterportland), YouTube, and LinkedIn.