



BUILDING STRONG AND STABLE COMMUNITIES THROUGH SHELTER

DECEMBER 2017

How You Help Us Change Lives

Our belief at Wild Rivers Habitat for Humanity (WRHFH) is that when everyone pulls together in their areas of strength, and applies even a small amount of faith, mountains can be moved. We have witnessed this many times since 1997, as members of our communities have pulled together from all faiths, all neighborhoods around a simple call to help hard working families have a simple, decent, and affordable place to call home.

We take our mission of eliminating poverty housing very seriously, not only as we build new and renovate existing homes, but as we advocate for just practices that will assist the hard-working members of our community who need that hand up so they can sustain themselves. As part of the global movement of Habitat for Humanity International, we celebrate that this same mission is being accomplished on continents across the world, having impacted over 1.75 million people.

Since 1997, WRHFH has had the privilege of helping over 1,184 people obtain a safer place to sleep at night, along with the strength, stability, and independence to build better lives. To date, WRHFH has completed 46 new home construction projects, as well as repaired and rehabbed over 400 homes through their Home Preservation program.

For every hour and every dollar you commit to our mission, we pledge ourselves to monitor

and evaluate our process to best leverage these resources for the deepest impact for those earning between 30-60% of the median income, making safe shelter a matter of conscience and practice.

We can't do it without faithful supporters like you, and we are grateful for your time, your prayers, your efforts and your donations. Together we are Habitat. Together we build.

In partnership,

Jennifer Johnson

Executive Director



A Hand Up, Not a Handout

Wild Rivers Habitat for Humanity knows that safe, decent, and affordable housing plays an absolutely critical role in helping families create a new cycle, one filled with possibilities and progress. Giving them a hand up through affordable homeownership frees families and fosters the skills and confidence they need to invest in themselves and their communities.

With just a little help, Habitat homeowners are able to achieve the strength and self-reliance they need to better themselves and their families. They are empowered to overcome the barriers that so often stand between their families and better, healthier, more financially stable lives.

Through this hand up, WRHFH is working to create strong and stable communities right here in Burnett, Polk, Rusk, and Washburn Counties.

Room to Grow

Kids who grow up with their own space are better able to be themselves, says recent Habitat homeowner Mark. With his family of five living in a two bedroom apartment, his three kids were unable to have the space they needed to become who they want to be.

Until they built their Habitat house, they lived in a rough neighborhood, with an overcrowded school. Mark's three kids, 10-year-old Danielle, 8-year-old Landon, and 4-year-old Dustin, now attend a great school where their bus isn't overcrowded, and where the teachers work hard to provide a safe and encouraging environment for all the kids.

Space gives the kids the opportunity to grow. With their own rooms, the responsibility is all their own. When kids have space to grow in, they grow up to be well rounded adults, who are more likely to continue creating new progress and possibilities.

The option of safe, decent, and affordable housing can transform lives. It brings opportunities that weren't there before, and provides families with stability. It's the platform on which a family lives out today's realities and prepares for tomorrow's transformations. Every Habitat house changes lives: those of the families who help build them and pay an affordable mortgage or



loan and all those who offer them a hand up in a time of need.



FAMILY ROOTS

"A house is to a family what soil is to a plant. A plant needs to be rooted. A family is like that. If a family is not rooted, it will not flourish. But once a family is well-rooted, all kinds of wonderful things will begin to happen."

- MILLARD FULLER



"The reality is that if children don't live in decent homes, the odds of their staying healthy plummet. If they're not healthy, they don't get educated; and if they don't get an education, they don't get decent jobs, meaning they won't be able to care for their families or break out of the stranglehold of poverty."

JONATHON RECKFORD, CEO, HABITAT FOR HUMANITY INTERNATIONAL

Solid Foundations

Because of a new Habitat house, 7-year-old Ivy has a strong and stable future. Her parents, Christina and George, say that being in town, near better school systems, will help her have the bright future they always imagined for her.

Christina says "For every parent, it is important that their child gets a good education. I'm happy about her future, because once you provide a future for your child, life will be easier from that point on."

That strength and stability is what Wild Rivers Habitat for Humanity strives to help families build. With a little hand up, everyone has the potential to stand on their own. Every child deserves a stable start in a home where they feel safe and secure. Every parent deserves to know they

have the power to take care of their families and to build their own future.

There are many ways in which Habitat works to be this kind of stabilizing force for families and communities all over the world. We know that a decent home with an affordable mortgage builds stronger, more stable families. And those strong and stable families build strong and stable communities.

This holiday season, help kids in your community grow up with the solid foundation that a house can provide. Your donation to Wild Rivers Habitat for Humanity will help build or repair a home for a family looking for a solid foundation, and a place to grow.

- All names and identifying details have been changed to protect the privacy of the individuals